

Benton Mennonite Church

May 2 2021

Worship leader: Jerrol Shaum **Song leader:** Lyn Buschert
Preacher: Doug Kaufman **Scripture Reader:** Susana Stinson
Peace prayer: Dee Swartz

Today

- 9am: Brenda will host a 25-minute Sunday school for children in grades 1-5. Families will receive a Zoom link.
- 9am: For young children, Rachel Yoder Penner will host a Zoom check-in. Families will receive a Zoom link.
- 9:30am: Worship through Zoom. Follow the invitation found in the email. Contact Doug for assistance.

Order of worship

Gathering

VT 6 *Let's Walk Together*

Peace prayer

Welcome and invocation

Call to worship

VT 644 *Healer of Our Every Ill*

Reading *Psalm for those living with mental illness*

Confession

Scripture Psalm 102

Sermon *Pouring out our worries to God*

Song of response

VT 623 *What Comfort Can Our Worship Bring*

Congregational sharing and prayer

Birthday recognition

Announcements

VT 828 *There's a Wild Hope in the Wind*

Benediction

Breakout rooms

Next Sunday

- Nata Fontan, hybrid case manager at Oaklawn, will be preaching on “A cry for help - Looking at Psalm 121 from a mental health perspective”, connected with Psalm 121:1-8.
- Worship leader: Ruth Mischler Song Leader: Lyn Buschert
- Children’s focus: Rachel Versluis

Upcoming event

- **May 23 is Pentecost Sunday**, the birthday of the church. We will celebrate by meeting in person for outdoor worship at the Greencroft Goshen pavilion at 9:30am. For this one-time event there will be no Zoom option. Masks are expected. More details to follow.

From the pastor - Brenda:

What’s happening at BMC this summer? The big thing we DON’T know is how we’ll be meeting. We have agreed we won’t activate our plan for in-person worship until Elkhart County numbers come down into the Indiana State Department of Health “blue” designation for two weeks, and so far we haven’t come close. But these things we DO know: Our Zoom connection will continue even after we begin gatherings in person. DJ Construction will be working on our new fellowship hall, kitchen and restrooms – the work began this week. Pastor Doug will be on sabbatical from mid-May to mid-August, and during his absence you will be the storytellers!

As part of our “pursuing God’s peace at the river” theme, we will hear from each other on navigating the river of faith and church connection. Who or what encouraged you to embark on this river, pursuing God’s peace? What beliefs and practices and connections have kept you afloat? Did you inherit beliefs or practices that you have decided to throw overboard? Are there times you have needed to leave the river for a portage, or felt the need to paddle against the current?

The series will be loosely based on the book of Philippians, which includes these encouragements from Paul: “*work out your own salvation in fear and trembling, for it is God who is at work in you...*” (2:12) and “*I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion...*” (1:6). I look forward to this chance to encourage each other with our reflections and stories.

The pastors are not keeping regular office hours. Feel free to call with pastoral care concerns, prayer requests, personal updates, and announcements. Steve Johns is in the office on Fridays.

Brenda is traveling to see family in South Dakota this weekend, returning to work on Wednesday.

Offering, April 25 2021

Weekly received: \$1,983
Weekly expected: \$3,020
Difference: (\$1,037)

YTD received: \$45,184
YTD expected: \$51,340
Difference: (\$6,156)

Building Campaign

YTD received: \$96,676
Total received: \$272,719

Thank you for your continuing support of the work of the church. You can send checks to the church office, authorize automatic payments from your account, or use the donate button on the website.

Estimated attendance for April 25: 79

Announcements can be sent to office@bentonchurch.org or called into the office. All information is due by 7pm, Thursday.



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Pastors:

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***Relying on the Spirit,
we will love as Jesus loves,
pursuing God's peace
at the river and
at the table.***



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