
OPPORTUNITIES OF THE WEEK- DECEMBER 11-17

Monday

9:00 a.m. MOM's Group (*Crossroads Ministry Center*)

Wednesday

9:00 a.m. Mom's Gym Playtime (*Gym*)

- You are invited to join with other Moms in need of some fellowship and a place to let their kids use up some energy.

6:00 p.m. Family Meal (*Crossroads Ministry Center*)

- Menu: walking taco and fruit
- Gluten-free options available

6:30 p.m. Kids JAM Choir Practice (*Sanctuary*)

7:00 p.m. Wednesday Night Kids JAM Caroling

7:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study (*Library*)

7:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study (*103*)

7:00 p.m. Middle School Small Groups (*Schoolhouse*)

8:30 p.m. Youth Dodgeball (*Gym and Fellowship Hall*)

Thursday

7:15 a.m. Youth Breakfast (*Shaner's House- 515 Greeding St., Bluffton*)

6:15 p.m. College & Career Small Group (*489 Cherry St. Bluffton*)

- College students and young adults are welcome to this small group. This week, the group will serve by setting up for the Christmas Tea.

Friday

6:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study (*Fellowship Hall*)

Sunday

4:00 p.m. Trustee Meeting (*Conference Room*)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec. 14 Men's Basketball- 8:30 p.m. (*Gym*)

Dec. 17 Youth Christmas Caroling- 5:00 p.m.

Dec. 24 Christmas Service

- Celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ with a special service, concluding with a candle-lighting. There will be no Christmas Eve evening service or Sunday School for the morning service, instead a connection and snack time will precede the morning service.

Dec. 27 Youth Ice Skating- 12:45 p.m.

- All Middle School and High School students are invited to join this event. Individual cost for skating is \$5.

Dec. 31 Communion Celebrated

Jan. 7 & 18 Children's Ministry Volunteer Training- 7:00 p.m.

Jan. 12-14 Middle School Ice Camp

December 10, 2023



Ebenezer Mennonite Church

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QUESTIONS FOR CHRISTMAS

Is Baby Jesus... **GOD?**

OPPORTUNITIES OF THE DAY

9:00 a.m. Sunday School/Adult Bible Studies (*Various Classrooms*)

10:00 a.m. Children's Church (*Ages 2-6, B10 & B11*)

10:15 a.m. Worship Service- Pastor Nick Ringger (*CMC*)

Message- Is Baby Jesus God?

Scripture- Isaiah 9:6-7 and Luke 1:26-38

11:30 a.m. Congregational Meeting (*CMC*)

Welcome! We are so happy you are here to worship with us this morning. If today is your first time joining us, please pick up a gift at the Welcome Center. For more information about the church and its ministries, text "new" to 419-792-3625, and a member of the church staff will contact you.

Contact Cards are available at the Welcome Center or by scanning the QR code to the right. Please update any new information or share any praises and prayer requests. If you are new, please complete a card so we may stay connected.



ATTENDANCE AND GIVING

Attendance on December 3:

Sunday School/Adult Bible Fellowship	(9:00 a.m.)	208
Worship Gathering	(10:15 a.m.)	317

Opportunities

Family Assistance: If you had taken a card for a gift item, the last date to drop off the donations to the church office is today by 4:00 p.m. Contact Beth Bish or Jady Meyer with questions.

Coat and Blanket Drive: New and gently used blankets and winter coats (all sizes) are needed for our newly arriving Haitian families to the Allen County area. Please consider helping in this season of giving. Donations will be collected in the Foyer. Contact Bev Stockman or Saun Niswander for more information.

Meal Train Sign Up: The Meal Train team at church has provided over 70 meals for individuals experiencing difficult times due to illness or other life situations. If you like to cook and bless others by providing meals from time to time, please email the church office (info@ebenezymennonite.org) and put Meal Train in the subject line and you will be added to the list for email and text notifications of future Meal Trains.

Men's Basketball: Come out to the gym at 8:30 p.m. on Thursday evenings for a game of basketball with other men. For more information, contact Gabe Meyer for more information.

Mystery Dinner: A special Christmas Women's Mystery Dinner is scheduled for Thursday, December 21. After dining at a secret location in Lima, we will experience the "Bright Lights" drive-through at the Allen County fairgrounds. Meet at the church at 5:00 p.m. Ladies of all ages are welcome, and feel free to invite a friend! Please make your reservation by contacting Kathy Brauen or calling the church office.

Chair Setup Teams: Volunteers are needed for the 2024 chair setup teams. The chair schedule will be continued in 2024 following the same pattern as 2023. We need volunteers to set up and put chairs away for Sunday service. If you are interested, please text or email Trevor Meyer for more details. (trevormeyer28@gmail.com)

Information

High School Small Groups: There will be no High School Small groups tonight. The Middle School and High School students will leave the church to go Christmas caroling at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 17. Please contact Pastor David for more information.

The annual congregational meeting will be held today, December 10, after the Worship gathering. We will discuss the 2024 General Fund, Building Fund, and Christian Education Fund proposed budgets, and elections will be held. Informational packets are available at the Welcome Center. If you are a member, please make every effort to attend this important meeting.

Faith Promise Commitments: Faith Promises will continue to be received until the end of this year. Cards are available at the Welcome Center or in the church office. Talk to a member of the staff for the current totals for the Mission Faith Promise goal.

The Pearl Valley Cheese Sale to support the Youth Missions Trip has concluded. You can purchase additional cheese in the kitchen window.

Advent Devotionals: Copies of the book, *Who is Jesus?* published by Langham Ministries have been made available to the Ebenezer family at the Welcome Center during these weeks leading up to Christmas. Now is the perfect time to have conversations with people in your life about the person of Jesus Christ and the hope and faith we have in Him.

Thank you to all the individuals and families who participated in the float for the Blaze of Lights parade. Special thanks for assistance with the float creation itself goes out to Bob Holt, Stacey and Ron Koontz, Katie Kruse, Leslie & Gavin McKinley, Bruce and Cindy Moser, Jared Meyer, Ron Meyer, and Clyde Wireman. It was a great community outreach event. -The Engage Committee

Ice Camp Registrations: Ice Camp registrations for Middle School (January 12-14) and High School (February 23-25) are available on the Church Center App and on the church website. The deadline for registrations is January 7 for Middle School and February 18 for High School.

Last Sunday, we welcomed three new members to the church: Deb Luginbuhl, Cam Warner, and Emily Warner. Please continue to welcome them to our church family. If you are interested in becoming a church member, contact one of the pastors or contact the church office.

