

Sunday, December 11, 2016

Sunday School –100      Worship –190

**Offering**

Spending Plan	\$4,840.00
Manna for Many	\$50.00
Central Christian Student Fund	\$845.00

*Messiah Offering*      \$1807.05

**2016 Spending Plan**

Approved Spending Plan	\$310,927.00
Year to date received	<u>\$266,198.00</u>
Funds needed by year end	\$44,729.00

**STEWARDSHIP/GIVING MESSAGE:**

Do what you can to show you care about other people, and you will make our world a better place. ~ *Rosalyn Carter*

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**December 24** – 6:30 p.m. –Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

**December 25** – 10:00 a.m. – Worship

**January 29** –Annual Congregational Meeting/Carry-in meal

**Mennonite Central Committee Great Lakes is seeking a Program Director.** The person who fills this role will be responsible for the direction and oversight of MCC Great Lakes programs. To see a full job description and apply, visit [mcc.org/gl-program-director](http://mcc.org/gl-program-director) or contact Amber Falcón at 574-534-4133.

**Christian Children’s Home of Ohio** will be offering foster parent training classes at their retreat center located at 2685 Armstrong Rd., Wooster. If this is something you would be interested in, see the poster on the bulletin board. Additional information about foster care and adoption can be found at [www.encompasscenters.org](http://www.encompasscenters.org).

**Pastoral Staff**

**Pastor: Douglas J. Zehr**    [pastor@oakgrovemc.org](mailto:pastor@oakgrovemc.org)  
**Associate Minister of Worship and Education:**  
**Miriam R. Zehr**    [miriamzehr@oakgrovemc.org](mailto:miriamzehr@oakgrovemc.org)

**Children’s Time – Miriam Zehr**

**Hymn:** HWB#206 “Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”

**Scripture:** Isaiah 7:10-16; Matthew 1:18-25

**Sermon:** “Everything Changes” – *Pastor Doug*

**Congregational Response**

Leader: Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel,  
you who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth!

**People: Restore us, O God;  
let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

Leader: Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand,  
the one whom you made strong for yourself.

**People: Restore us, O God;  
let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

Leader: We will never turn back from you;  
give us life, and we will call upon your name.

**People: Restore us, O God;  
Let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

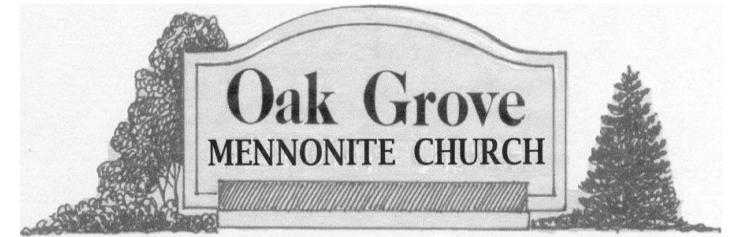
**Hymn:** HWB#202 “The Virgin Mary Had A Baby Boy”

**Benediction**

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**You are invited** to share with our community through gifts of new clothing to People to People Ministries on the **mitten tree**.

Items appreciated are youth and adult size gloves for men & women; socks; underwear for men & women along with children’s hats & mittens. The mitten tree will be available in the foyer December 11 through December 26. Thank you for sharing Christmas love and joy!



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Sunday, December 18, 2016

Advent 4

**Focus statement:** God’s restoration is at hand.  
Come, walk in the way of God’s heart.

**Prelude** – *Angela Buller*

**Welcome** – *Nancy Douce*, Worship leader

**Call to Worship**

Leader: In the nighttime of our longing, we find ourselves far from God’s presence.

**People: Even though we yearn to see God’s face,  
our daily burdens and distractions keep us from coming near.**

**We forget that the truest joy comes from being in God’s presence.**

*All: Come! Walk in God’s presence.*

**Lighting of the Advent Candles**

“Light One Candle for Peace” – Primary S. S. children  
– *Angela Buller*, director

**Hymns:** HWB#212 “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
HWB#201 “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”  
– *Nate Gundy, Craig Mast*, song leaders

**Community Life Announcements**

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Offering**

**Offertory:** *Angela Buller & Jessica Witmer Gundy*

Continue on back

**THIS WEEK AT OAK GROVE**

**8:45 a.m.** – Spiritual Life Commission Prayer

**9:15 a.m.** – Sunday School

**9:30 a.m.** – Worship at OrrVilla

**10:30 a.m.** – Worship – Pastor Doug

**White Gift Offering**

**Greeters:** Bob & Waunita Witmer

**Nursery:**

**9:15 a.m.** – Angela Buller & Linda Schrock

**10:30 a.m.** – Matt & Megan Hochstetler

**Wednesday, December 21**

**7:00 p.m.** – Choir practice

**Saturday, December 24**

**6:30 p.m.** – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

**NEXT SUNDAY – December 25, 2016**

***Christmas Day***

**10:00 a.m.** – Worship –Pastor Doug

**Message: “Jesus Is Born”**

**Scripture: Luke 2:1-20**

**Greeters:** Dave & Sue Herman

**Nursery:**

**10:00 a.m.** – Tom & Kathy Smucker

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**White Gift Offering** is today, December 18. We invite you to share in this special year-end giving opportunity. The Church Board invites you to give in one or more of the following ways: Outreach portion of the *2016 Oak Grove Spending Plan*, Manna for Many, Mennonite Disaster Service or the Central Christian School Tuition Fund. Undesignated gifts will go to the *2016 Oak Grove Spending Plan*. Your gifts for these designations will be received until the end of the year. Extra envelopes are available on the table in the foyer.

**The church office will be closed Friday, December 23, and Monday, December 26** and will re-open on Tuesday, December 27. If you have announcements for next week’s bulletin, please have them in to the office by this Wednesday morning. If you have a pastoral care emergency, please call Pastor Doug at 330-601-6274.

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service** will be Saturday evening at **6:30 p.m.** Come with family and friends for a time of reflection, scripture reading and hymn singing as we celebrate the Incarnation.

**Next Sunday, Christmas Day,** we will gather together at **10:00 a.m.** for a time of celebration for the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. There will be no scheduled Sunday School hour.

**Thank you** to everyone who helped make the 83rd performance of Handel’s *Messiah* a beautiful worship experience for all those in attendance. We are grateful to be able to offer this to our community. ~ The Messiah Committee: *Waunita Witmer, Hannah Miedel, Dennis Ramseyer, Kathy Smucker*

**Worship Prep:** In an effort to enhance our Advent to Christmas worship, Pastor Doug has written a daily devotional to accompany ***The Holy Way: Walking in the Way of God’s Heart***. The devotionals will guide and inform our worship during the six-week celebration of the season of the Incarnation. Since Monday, November 21, a daily devotional blog has been posted at [www.oakgrovemc.org](http://www.oakgrovemc.org). If you would prefer a daily e-mail with the devotional to your mailbox, please sign up for a subscription by e-mailing your request to [pastor@oakgrovemc.org](mailto:pastor@oakgrovemc.org). If you would be interested in a paper copy please call the church office.

**Annual reports from Commissions and Boards** are due by January 8. Please take time to prepare these items and turn them in to the church office in a timely manner. Thank you.

**Camp Luz Retreats:**

**Jr. High Retreat** - January 13-15, 2017

**Mother & Daughter Retreat** – January 20-21, 2017

**Men’s Retreat** – March 31-April 2, 2017

Information for these retreats is on the bulletin board.

**A copy** of “The Hole in My Story” by *Enid Miller Schloneger* is available in the church library. If you would be interested in purchasing a paperback copy of Enid’s book, please call the church office.



**Birthdays this week**

December 19 – Caris Lyons

20 – Willow Baer

21 – Charles Stein

**Anniversaries**

December 19 –Howard & Ellen Nikkel (46)

Bruce & Donna Kindy (45)

Ryan & Kristen Conrad