

Sunday, December 18, 2016

Sunday School –82

Worship –153

Offering

Spending Plan	\$5,566.38
Manna for Many	\$50.00

White Gift Offering - 12-18

Manna for Many	\$2,300.00
Mennonite Disaster Service (region 2)	\$1,475.00
Central Christian Student Fund	\$3,700.00
Oak Grove Exterior Sign Project	\$6,600.00
Open Arms Ministry	\$200.00
Spending Plan (outreach)	\$5,700.00
Spending Plan (undesignated)	\$8,755.00
Total White Gift Offering to date	\$29,230.00

STEWARDSHIP/GIVING MESSAGE:

The best thing about giving of ourselves is that what we get is always better than what we give. ~ *Orison Swett Marden*

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 29 –Annual Congregational Meeting/Carry-in meal

Pastoral Staff

Pastor: Douglas J. Zehr pastor@oakgrovemc.org
Associate Minister of Worship and Education:
Miriam R. Zehr miriamzehr@oakgrovemc.org

Choir – “Rejoice! Christ is Born!”

– *Dora Short*, director; *Kathy Smucker*, piano

Carols: HWB#194 “Away In A Manger”

HWB#206 “Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”

– *Brett Buller, Jenna Ramseyer*, violin;
Mary Ramseyer, viola; *Elise Bontrager*, cello

Scripture: Luke 2:1-20

Jr. Church – Birthday Party for Jesus

All Primary Children are invited to participate

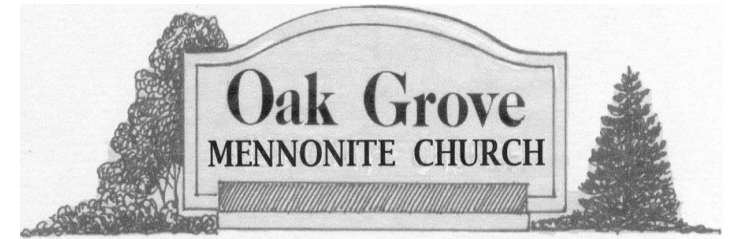
Sermon: “Jesus Is Born” - *Pastor Doug*

Carol of Response: HWB#318 “Joy to the World”

Benediction

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. 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. If you would be interested in a paper copy please call the church office.

The Upper Room for January & February is on the table in the foyer. Please feel free to take on for yourself or a friend.



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Sunday, December 25, 2016

Christmas

Focus statement: Jesus is born!

Come, walk in the way of God’s heart.

Prelude – *Dora Short*

Welcome – *Miriam Zehr*, Worship Leader

Call to Worship

Leader: Rejoice in the Lord! The fullness of time has come.

People: As the earth brings forth its shoots,

Leader: so God sent the Son, born into humanity,

People: to show us God’s heart.

All: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Lighting of the candles

– *Steve, Debbie, Alex, Elise & Christiana Murray*

Carols:

HWB#197 “Angels We Have Heard on High”

HWB#201 “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

HWB#191 “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

HWB#195 “It Came Upon A Midnight Clear” (vs. 1, 2, 4, 5)

– *Matt Wenger*, song leader

Community Life Announcements

Pastoral Prayer

Offering

Offertory: *Dora Short*

Continue on back

THIS WEEK AT OAK GROVE
10:00 a.m. – Worship – Pastor Doug

Greeters: Dave & Sue Herman

Nursery:
10:00 a.m. – Tom & Kathy Smucker

NEXT SUNDAY – January 1, 2017
New Year's Day
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
Message: “A Light Has Dawned!”
Scripture: Isaiah 60:1-6; Matthew 2:1-12

Greeters: Bruce & Donna Kindy

Nursery:
9:15 a.m. – Gloria Miller & Rindy Morphew
10:30 a.m. – Von & Rita Schrock

ANNOUNCEMENTS

White Gift Offerings 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 afternoon, December 30, and Monday, January 2 and will re-open on Tuesday, January 3. 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.

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 through December 26. Thank you for sharing Christmas love and joy!

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.

OrrVilla Events:
A special evening of music will mark the Feast of the Epiphany at OrrVilla Retirement Community when accomplished local pianist Peter Douglas performs for residents and guests on Friday, Jan 6, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. in OrrVilla's Maple Terrace. The concert, celebrating the arrival of the Three Magi, will include sacred and classical music in addition to audience carols. Free and open to the public, the event takes place at OrrVilla's Maple Terrace, 333 E. Sassafras Street, Orrville. For more information please call 330-683-4455, visit www.orrvilla.org or follow us on Facebook at OrrVilla Retirement Community.

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.

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 or contact Amber Falcón at 574-534-4133.

The Depot MCC Thrift Shops in Goshen, Indiana, is seeking a full-time general manager. Applications will be accepted until January 2, 2017. Send resume and cover letter to: Search Committee, email brshirk69@gmail.com; or C/O Ben Shirk 63341 CR 33, Goshen, IN 46528. For more information, see the notice on the bulletin board.

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.



Birthdays this week

December 27 – JoElla Swinehart
29 – Nathan Stein
30 – Kaden Schrock
31 – Clarence Stutzman (89)
Linda Jaquet
January 1 – Olivia Wenger

Anniversaries

December 26 – Steve & Debbie Murray
28 – Dennis & Karen Ramseyer (35)
30 – Scott & Jolene Jaquet
31 – Dave & Sue Herman (47)