

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Open Arms Spring Banquet: All are invited to a spring banquet on March 27 at the Kidron Community Center beginning at 6:00. The meal will be a catered taco bar and the Open Arms staff will give you an update on the exciting things that are happening in our community.

Jenifer Hartzler invites you to 8400 E. Pleasant Home Road, Sterling 44276 for donuts at 9:00 AM on Saturday March 15. After Michael's donuts, Jenifer has a few boxes and furnishings to load on a truck. Jenifer is moving to 2570 Peach Lane, Wooster. She would appreciate help in unloading the truck at Peach Lane around 12:30 PM. Pizza will be shared for lunch. Thanks!

GUESS WHO'S COMING TO DINNER? The form in your mailbox today enables you to participate in this fun, get-to-know-you activity on Sunday, **April 6**, at 12:30 p.m. Choose to be a guest or a host to learn to know other Oak Grove persons in a comfortable home setting. Complete the form & return it to the box in the foyer by **March 23**. Direct any questions to Donna Kratzer.

The Endowment Committee has approved the following grant: \$3900 to Raleigh Mennonite Church and Mennonite Action. They are working to encourage those with diverse voices and cultures to attend a summit devoted to bringing peace to Palestine. Contact any of the following committee members with comments or questions: John Lyons, BJ Gerber, Jen Hartzler, Mark Stutzman, Wanda Beattie or Linda Jaquet.

Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) Great Lakes is seeking a Material Resources Associate: This part-time position will be based at the new MCC Material Resources Center (MRC) in Kidron, Ohio. This role provides administrative support for the MRC and serves as the office manager for the office and staff located in the Kidron building. For more information and to apply by March 11, visit mcc.org/gl-mr-associate.

Message from MCC Connections: We are planning an open house for people who have any interest in volunteering now, in the future, or are just curious about the Thrift store and how we contribute to MCC's work. It will be held on the afternoon of Wednesday, March 19 from 1:00 - 3:00. There will be a brief presentation, a tour, refreshments, and time for questions.

Suit to Protect Religious Freedom: Homeland Security actions to rescind guidelines in carrying out deportation raids in "sensitive locations" could interrupt church religious services. In response, Mennonite Church USA, along with dozens of other denominations, have filed a lawsuit to protest the actions. Scripture, teaching, and traditions call us to embrace and serve refugees, asylum seekers, and immigrants in our midst without regard to documentation or legal status. If you would like to know more about this action, the initial press release, as well as testimonials have been posted on the bulletin board in the foyer lobby. You can also visit: mcc.org/immigrant-neighbors

Current Status of Immigrants: As a way to help process the implications of immigration disruptions, Elvis Otieno (IVEPer) along with some area pastors have planned an event at Orrville Mennonite Church entitled, "The Current Status of Immigrants" (focus text will be Matthew 25:40). It will be a round table forum on March 16, from 5-7pm. There will be a meal provided with an opportunity to donate to help defer the cost of food.



Sunday, March 9, 2025

Week 4: Renewed by the Vine

On January 21, 1525, a small group of Christians secretly gathered in Zurich for a worship service. They renounced their baptism as infants and experienced voluntary baptism as adults, now in the full understanding that this decision implied a transformation of life in the way of Jesus. For many, this decision led to imprisonment, torture, and even death. But this gathering also marked the beginning of the Anabaptist movement that continues today in the form of the Amish, Hutterites, Mennonites, Brethren and other related groups.



Worship Service

Prelude: *Rita Schrock*

Welcome: *Dottie Hathaway*, worship leader

Call to Worship

Hymns: VT 80 We Sing to You O God

VT 480 I Am the Bread of Life

- *Matt Wenger*, song leader

Community Life Announcements – Please sign the welcome pads

Children’s Time: *Jolene Jaquet*

Congregational Prayer

Offering

Hymn: VT 477 Seed, Scattered and Sown

Scripture: John 15:1-17

Sermon: Renewed by the Vine

-*Pastor Seth*

Hymn of Response: VT 478 I Come with Joy

Benediction

Postlude

This Week:

- Today, 9:30am Education Hour; 10:30am Worship: *Renewal by the Vine*
- Sunday, March 16: Pastor Seth
- Thursday, March 13: Board Meeting – 7 PM

Upcoming Events:

- April 13: Hillcrest Academy Choir & Carry-in lunch
- April 27: Membership Interest Meeting during SS

Sunday March 2, 2025

Worship: 155

Offering:

- \$6,575.00 Spending Plan
- \$10,000.00 HVAC/Roof Renovation
- \$100.00 Mennonite College Assistance Fund
- \$100.00 Relief Canning
- \$500.00 Outreach
- \$100.00 Builders
- \$ 1.75 Pr/Jr SS.

THIS SUNDAY, 3.9.25

Greeters: 9AM: Chuck & Wanda Hostetler 10AM: Jess & Beth Hamman
Nursery: Aaron/Elise Bontrager & Molly Conrad

NEXT SUNDAY, 3.16.25

Greeters: 9AM: Paul & Sherry Miller 10AM: Mark & Sean Stutzman
Nursery: Olivia Wenger & Kristen Conrad

Happy Birthday!

9 George Bixler

9 Bruce Kindy

14 Clair Hostetler

Happy Anniversaries!

10 Ron and Kathy Ramer

16 Herb & Gladene Hershberger

Please Remember in Prayer:

- Velma Zook and family as they grieve the loss of John.
- Family of Reed Hostetler, grandson of Clair Hostetler, nephew of Brian and Reneda Miller, as they grieve Reed’s death.
- Steve Gill for ongoing rehabilitation.
- Mission Associates supported by Oak Grove
 - Kate Widmer (MMN) - France
 - Matthew and Toni Krabill (MMN) - Ghana, West Africa
 - Austin and Griselda Zuercher (EMM) - Honduras

Oak Grove Mennonite Church: 7843 Smucker Rd, Smithville, OH; 330.669.2697
www.oakgrovemc.org

Pastor Seth Miller: seth.miller@oakgrovemc.org

Church Office: office@oakgrovemc.org