

**Sunday, December 17, 2017**

Sunday School –98    Worship –185

**OFFERING**

Spending Plan	\$6,004.00
OG Ext. Sign Project	\$300.00
White Gift (MDS)	\$75.00
White Gift (undesignated)	\$600.00
White Gift (Manna for Many)	\$175.00
Messiah Offering	\$1,537.00

<b>2017 SPENDING PLAN</b>	<b>\$306,669.00</b>
<b>2017 INCOME TO DATE</b>	<b>\$268,537.00</b>
<b>FUNDS NEEDED BEFORE YEAR END</b>	<b>\$38,132.00</b>

**STEWARDSHIP/GIVING MESSAGE**

“Christmas is love in action. Every time we love, every time we give, it’s Christmas.” – Dale Evans Rogers

**SAVE THE DATES**

**January 1** – New Year’s Day, OFFICE CLOSED

**January 2** – OFFICE CLOSED

**February 4** – Annual Congregational Meeting

*Great is Thy Faithfulness*

*Celebrating 200 Years*  
**Oak Grove Mennonite Church**  
**1818-2018**

**April 14 & 15, 2018** – Historical Reflections  
**July 14 & 15, 2018** – Hymn Sing & Hymnal Celebration  
**October 13 & 14, 2018** – Homecoming & Concert

**Hymns:** HWB#212 “O Come, All Ye Faithful” (vs. 1, 2, 3)  
HWB#189 “To Us A Child of Hope is Born”  
HWB#209 “Oh, How Joyfully”  
- Gloria Miller, song leader

**Community Life Announcements**

**Pastoral Prayer**  
*Our Father...(sins)*

**Offering** – Spending Plan  
**Offertory:** *Kathy Smucker*

**Choir:** “I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day” – *Dora Short*, director;  
*Kathy Smucker*, piano; *Jolene Jaquet*, *Hannah Miedel*, *Sadie Miedel*, *Rindy Morpew*, hand bells

**Advent Drama:** Junior - *Aaron Miedel*; Sage – *Levi Miller*;  
*Sadie Miedel*, violin

**Hymn:** HWB#194 “Away in a Manger”  
**White Gift Offering**

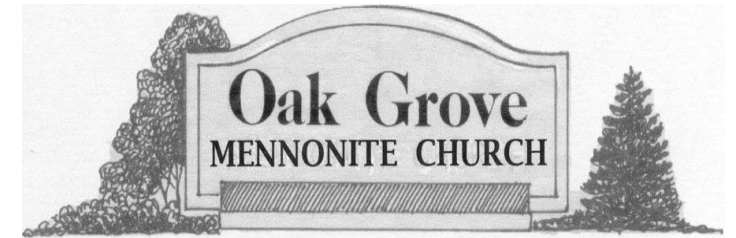
**Jr. Church:** All Primary S. S. children are invited to celebrate a birthday party for Jesus.

**Scripture:** 2 Samuel 7:1:11; Luke 1:26-38

**Sermon:** “Yes! Let It Be Now” – *Pastor Doug*

**Confession**  
**Words of Assurance**  
**Hymn of Response:** HWB#208 “Love Came Down at Christmas”

**Benediction**



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**Sunday, December 24, 2017**  
**Advent 4: Yes! Let it be now**

**Focus statement:** Infused with God’s vision, we proclaim with confidence, “Let it be with us according to your word!”

**Prelude:** *Kathy Smucker*

**Welcome:** *Miriam Zehr*, Worship Leader

**Call to Worship**

**L:** Yes! The invitation to carry Light comes to each of us, no matter who we are.

**All:** ***O God, you choose to dwell within us. You promise to move about with us until we find our rest in you.***

**L:** Your call seems risky; saying yes takes away our breath.

**All:** ***Yet we know your faithfulness and steadfast love endure forever.***

**L:** You are our strength.

**All:** ***Yes! Let it be now.***

**Prayer**

**Lighting of the Advent Candles:** *Ben & Kelsey Troyer*  
We light this fourth Advent candle to remember that God’s loving light in our lives helps us see and love all that God loves.

*Continued on back...*

## THIS WEEK AT OAK GROVE

**8:45am: Spiritual Life Commission Prayer**

**9:15am: Sunday School**

**10:30am: Worship – Pastor Doug**

**Greeters:** Dennis & Karen Ramseyer

### **Nursery:**

**9:15am** – Jennifer Hartzler & Donna Kindy

**10:30am** – Gladene Hershberger & Joanne Murray

### *Today*

Christmas Eve Service, 6pm

### *Monday, December 25*

Christmas Day, OFFICE CLOSED

### *Tuesday, December 26*

OFFICE CLOSED

## **Happy Birthday!**

12.27 – JoElla Swinehart

12.30 – Kaden Schrock

12.31 – Linda Jaquet

## **Happy Anniversary!**

12.26 – Steve & Debbie Murray (30)

12.28 – Dennis & Karen Ramseyer (36)

### **Church Staff**

**Pastor Douglas J. Zehr:** [zehr.douglas@gmail.com](mailto:zehr.douglas@gmail.com)

**Associate Miriam R. Zehr:** [ogpastor.miriam@gmail.com](mailto:ogpastor.miriam@gmail.com)

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**Treasurer:** [treasurer.oakgrove.smithville@gmail.com](mailto:treasurer.oakgrove.smithville@gmail.com)

## **NEXT SUNDAY – December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017**

**8:45am: Spiritual Life Commission Prayer**

**9:15am: Sunday School**

**10:30am: Worship – Pastor Doug**

Christmas: Yes! Let it be new

**Greeters:** Paul & Sherry Miller

### **Nursery:**

**9:15am** – Gloria Miller & Rindy Morphey

**10:30am** – Von & Rita Schrock

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**The family of Clarence Stutzman would like to invite the congregation to an open house-style birthday party reception, December 31, for Clarence's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday.** The party will take place from 2-4pm in the Fellowship Hall.

**The Bicentennial Committee** will meet on January 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm.

**Thank you to everyone who was a part of the 84th Messiah performance** here at Oak Grove last Sunday. There were 106 performers (24 from Oak Grove) and 261 in attendance. The offering was slightly over \$1,500. Also, thank you to those who helped with the set up and the take down!

**If you were involved in this year's Search for the Christ Child and have not turned in your evaluation sheets,** please return these to Deb Kurtz's mailbox as soon as possible. Thanks!

**From Kevin King at MDS:** Friends, thank you for your contribution of \$1,122.50 to Mennonite Disaster Service, designated for 2017 Hurricane Recovery.

**A note from Rita Roberts at Breakaway:** Dear Oak Grove Mennonite, thank you so much for your generous donation of \$307.12 to Breakaway, dated 12/5/17, which covers the cost of the Bibles purchased. Your gift will help us continue our ministry to the students in Green Local Schools who need to hear the gospel and experience the love of Jesus through our dedicated staff. Thank you for continuing to remember the ministry of Breakaway in your prayers and giving.

**A note from Bluffton University:** Oak Grove, your recent gift of \$525 to the Bluffton Fund, as given through Central District Conference, has been received and is deeply appreciated. Bluffton students will benefit greatly from your support. Your generous support helps Bluffton carry on the tradition of highest-quality academic programs and student experience.

### **URGENT NEED FOR COMFORTER TOPS!**

**MCC Connections has an urgent need for volunteers to sew comforter tops.** There are also openings to cut squares for comforters. If you enjoy sewing and working with fabric, please consider giving of your time to help those in other countries who are in need. Both volunteer positions can be done at home, or in the Quilt Room at the thrift shop. Other volunteer opportunities are also available in various departments. Please call 330-857-7802, or stop by for additional information. The gift of time is priceless!