

**Sunday, December 24, 2017**

Sunday School – 89    Worship – 210

**OFFERING**

Spending Plan	\$3,044.00
Relief Meat Canning	\$50.00
Education/S.S. Materials	\$187.25
MYF (Cookie Sale)	\$10.00

**WHITE GIFT**

Spending Plan (undesignated)	\$16,195.45
Manna for Many	\$2,975.00
MDS (National Relief)	\$4,100.00
OG Mennonite College Fund	\$550.00
OG Compassion Fund	\$500.00
MCC (General)	\$166.00

<b>2017 SPENDING PLAN</b>	<b>\$306,669.00</b>
<b>2017 INCOME TO DATE</b>	<b>\$289,323.00</b>
<b>FUNDS NEEDED BEFORE YEAR END</b>	<b>\$17,346.00</b>

**STEWARDSHIP/GIVING MESSAGE**

Your “Merry Christmas” may depend on what others do for you...but your “Happy New Year” depends on what you do for others.

**SAVE THE DATES**

**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#318 “Joy to the World”  
 HWB#197 “Angels We Have Heard on High”  
 HWB#204 “Gloria”  
 -Ryan Conrad, song leader

**Community Life Announcements**  
**Pastoral Prayer**

**Offering**  
**Offertory:** *Rindy Morphew*

**Children’s Time:** *Miriam Zehr*

**Hymn:** HWB#201 “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

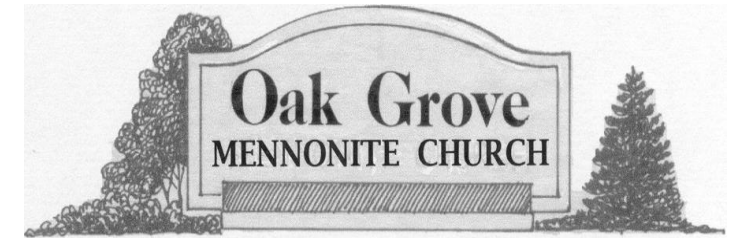
**Advent Drama:** Junior - *Aaron Miedel*; Sage – *Levi Miller*; *Sadie Miedel*, violin; *Gloria Miller*, piano

**Scripture:** Luke 2:22-40

**Sermon:** “Yes! Let it be New” – *Pastor Doug*

**Words of Assurance**  
**Hymn of Response:** HWB#191 “Oh Little Town of Bethlehem”

**Benediction**



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**Sunday, December 31, 2017**  
**Christmas: Yes! Let it be new**

**Focus statement:** We marvel at the vastness of God’s plan. We celebrate in exuberant praise what God has done and will continue to do.

**Prelude:** *Rindy Morphew*

**Welcome:** *Paul Miller*, Worship Leader

**Call to Worship**

L: Yes! We will give thanks and rejoice!  
**All: We will praise the Lord from the heavens, from the heights, and with the angels!**  
 L: We praise the Lord with the sun and moon!  
 We praise the Creator of the shining stars!  
**All: Fire and hail! Snow and frost! Mountains and hills! Fruit trees and cedars!**  
 L: Young men and women alike!  
 Children and the aged ones too!  
 Let us praise the name of the Lord.  
**All: Praise the Lord!**  
 L: Yes! Let all things be new.

**Prayer**

**Lighting of the Advent Candles:** *Anson, Hannah, Sadie, Aaron & Mary Miedel*

As we light this fifth candle, the Christ candle, we celebrate Jesus, through whom God makes all things new.

## THIS WEEK AT OAK GROVE

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

**9:15am: Sunday School**

**10:30am: Worship – Pastor Doug**

**Greeters:** Leonard & Nancy Douce

### **Nursery:**

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

**10:30am** – Von & Rita Schrock

*Monday, January 1*

New Year's Day, OFFICE CLOSED

*Tuesday, January 2*

OFFICE CLOSED

Worship Commission, 6pm

*Thursday, January 4*

Bicentennial Committee, 6:30pm

## **Happy Birthday!**

12.31 – Linda Jaquet

12.31 – Clarence Stutzman (90)

1.1 – Olivia Wenger

1.5 – Wendy Breneman

### **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 – January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018

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

**9:15am: Sunday School**

**9:30am: Worship at OrrVilla**

**10:30am: Worship – Pastor Doug**

**Greeters:** Linda Schrock & Wanda Beattie

### **Nursery:**

**9:15am** – Anita Bixler & Miriam Zehr

**10:30am** – Scott & Jolene Jaquet

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

**Hannah Miedel will be taking orders for Equal Exchange products.** There are order forms on the table in the foyer. Orders should be turned in to Hannah's mailbox by January 14.

**A big thank you to everyone who helped set up and take down risers for the Messiah.** The great help and assistance made the process more enjoyable and was done quickly. Thanks!  
–Property Commission

**Directory Update:** Vic Plessinger's phone number has changed to 330.345.4961.

**From Priscilla Gresser at Green Elementary:** I want to thank you so much for your generosity in helping needy families whose children attend Green Elementary School. Your generosity and caring were greatly appreciated again this year, especially during this time of need for so many families. The families were blessed by your generosity, as I am sure that all of you have been by your giving!

**Spiritual Direction Opportunity:** As part of my seminary studies at AMBS, I will be participating in a course on Spiritual Direction this next semester. Spiritual direction provides a time and place to reflect with another person about your relationship with God and notice where God is at work. One of my assignments is to provide spiritual direction for two or three persons over the course of the next several months. The individual sessions are for one hour every three or four weeks. Although I will need to make reports, all names and what is shared will be confidential. If you, or someone you know, are interested or want more information, please contact me. Thanks for considering. - *Miriam*

**The Endowment Committee has considered and approved the following grant application:** \$1,200 to First Mennonite Church of Wadsworth, who is working with a group of local churches and Malone College to raise funds for an Ohio tour of Ted and Company's production of *Discovery: A Comic Lament*. More information on the presentation is available at <http://www.tedandcompany.com/shows/discovery-comic-lament/>. Comments are welcomed by committee members: George Bixler, Linda Jaquet, Levi Miller, Sherry Miller, Steve Miller and Willie Troyer. The committee will meet after church on January 14 to finalize these requests.

**The Comfort Throw & MCC Comforter Project needs your help as we march toward our 200-blanket goal by October 2018.** For those of you who sew; comforter blocks are cut and put into order by rows, organized for sewing. These are in the "Project Room" on the lower level of the sanctuary. Sign the sheet by the number on the blank(s) corresponding with the number on the packet(s) of blocks you are taking. When the top is sewn, return it and mark the "completed" column on the sheet by your name. There is no limit to the number of packets you take or how often this process is repeated! Thank you for your part in this bicentennial service project.

**Work night scheduled - mark your calendars!** We will gather on **January 10 & 24** to work on the blanket projects. There will be comforters to knot and sewing machines for sewing comforter blocks. We will work from 2:00-4:00 and 6:00-8:00. Plan to join us for an evening of fun as we work together. Questions can be directed to Sherry Miller, Gladene Hershberger, Dan Jaquet, and Krista Mast. We look forward to your participation.