

New Holland Mennonite Church

February 7, 2021 • Volume 66, No. 9

Congregational Meeting: 9:00 a.m. & Worship: 10:00 a.m.



Gathering & Praising God

Jesus calls us here to meet him (SJ 3)

Matt Beckingham

Call to Worship/Prayer

Sue Martin

Jesus, be the center (SS 31)

Hearing God's Voice

Children's Time

Dawn Kaczor

Scripture: Mark 1:21-39

Sue Martin

Sermon: "A Day in the Life of Jesus"

Pastor Dawn Ranck-Hower

Responding

All hail the power of Jesus' name (WB 285)

"This is Us"

Seth Lantz & Steven Lantz

Sharing and Announcements

Dawn Ranck-Hower

Congregational Prayer

Steven Lantz

Prayer for Tithes and Offerings

Sending

Jesus loves me (WB 341)

Benediction

Sue Martin

Upcoming Events

All activities are on zoom unless otherwise stated.

Wednesday, February 10: "Shine Bright Club", 7 p.m.

Sunday, February 14

No Sunday School

Worship: 10:00 a.m.

Worship Leader: Dawn Ranck Hower

Sermon: Nofika Indriyatno

Congregational Prayer: Ray Hurst

Children's Time: Jen Morales

Wednesday, February 17: Ash Wednesday Service (for children and adults)

Saturday, February 20: Dessert and Games (zoom edition)

January 31 (Zoom)

Attendance: 36 • Church Offering: \$2,950.00

As you are able, please mail your offerings to the church office.

Church News

Betty Martin passed away on Tuesday, February 2. Please hold her family in your prayers. A funeral is being planned for Sunday, February 21, 1 p.m. A live stream link will be emailed later.

Ash Wednesday: (for children, youth, and adults), February 17, 7 p.m. (Zoom link will be emailed) The beginning of Lent brings a new invitation—an invitation into a deeper life of faith, an invitation to renewed spirituality, and an invitation into deeper awareness of God and self. This child friendly worship service is designed to carve out space for personal reflection and intention setting at the start, knowing that the more honest we are with our hopes for this season, the more meaningful this season can become.

"Dessert & Game Night" Zoom Edition: You are invited to join with other folks from church for dessert on Saturday, February 20th, 6:30-7:15 p.m. Several people will make and deliver desserts to others who want to participate. Then, everyone will join on Zoom! You will be put into smaller groups (like we do for Sunday School) to play "2 Truths and a Lie" (see email for additional details). RSVP to Pastor Dawn by Friday, February 12th to be included.

This Is Us: Wish you knew people at church better? During 2021, two people from our congregation will have 5 minutes each to introduce themselves to the rest of the congregation with words and/or photos. Contact Pastor Dawn with the date that you would like to share.

“Love for Others”: During February we will be collecting food for CrossNet Ministries Food Pantry. You can learn more about CrossNet’s food ministry and their current needs by going to: elancocrossorg/what-we-do/food-nutrition-programs. Drop off donations before **February 28** at the ELC (main door at the carport) from 6:15 a.m.-9 a.m. or 3:30-5:30 p.m. or contact Pastor Dawn to arrange a time between those hours. Contact Lois Zimmerman with questions.

Community News

MC USA Convention: The MC USA Executive Board decided that this year's delegate assembly will be scaled back and held virtually on July 10. The plan for a hybrid convention July 6-9 remains in place.

February is Black History Month. Celebrate and learn about Mennonite Church USA’s African American Mennonite history through a timeline that highlights the people, events and work of the church from 1886 to today. www.mennoniteusa.org/black-history-mennonite

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Leadership Team: Wade Esbenshade, Steven Lantz, Lois Zimmerman

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Lent 2021

*(begins February 17
with Ash Wednesday)*



In Lent, we’re reminded that, again and again, suffering and brokenness find us. We doubt again, we lament again, we mess up again. Again and again, the story of Jesus on the cross repeats—every time lives are taken unjustly, every time the powerful choose corruption and violence, every time individuals forget how to love. With exacerbation we exclaim, “Again?! How long, O God?”

And yet, in the midst of the motion blur chaos of our lives, God offers a sacred refrain: “I choose you, I love you, I will lead you to repair.” Again and again, God breaks the cycle and offers us a new way forward.

This theme provides a clear invitation in a time when much is unclear. Even when worshiping apart, we come to God again and again with our prayers, our dreams, our hopes, and our doubts. Even if from a distance, we continue to be community to one another—especially when it’s hard—by choosing each other over and over again. We will continue to love God with the same persistence God chooses and claims us.

Our sub-theme, A Lenten Refrain, speaks to the ways God can make music of our lives. “Refrain” also reminds us that Lent is a season of abstaining from certain or harmful practices in order to take on new rhythms and habits.

In this season, we need rituals—both old and new—to remember and be transformed. Embodied practice builds muscle memory. Repetition helps retrain our neural pathways. We need the 46 days of Lent because this season shapes us into more faithful disciples. Join us this Lent as again and again, we bring all of who we are to God and trust that God will meet us, time and again, along the way.