

Summit Mennonite Church

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Marilyn Rossiter, Pastor

Stan King and Mary Schwartz, Caring Team

Sunday School: 9:30 am

Worship: 10:30 am

Welcome to all visitors! May you feel at ease with us and sense the presence of God.

***Childcare** during worship is available for infants and toddlers (ages three and under) in the nursery through the back doors of the sanctuary*

We follow Christ, offering healing and hope as we serve our neighbors in need

January 3rd, 2016

Focus Statement: The light Jesus brings into the world challenges and illuminates all the distinctions between us that we elevate as ultimate goods. For if the light has the power to draw wise men from afar and overcome barriers of former religious outcasts, what power does it still have to bring new freedom into our church and world?

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Gathering Music

Lighting the Peace Lamp

Welcome and Announcements

Hank Rossiter

Call to Worship

Leader: Arise, shine; your light has come.

People: God's glory has risen upon us.

Leader: Even if darkness should cover the earth, deep darkness cover the peoples,

People: Nations shall come to your light, kings to the brightness of your dawn.

Leader: Nothing can hide God's glorious light.

ALL: Let us look to God and be radiant. Let us reflect the brightness of this dawning.

Opening Prayer

Singing: HWB 189 To Us a Child of Hope is Born

Julia Beyeler

HWB 202 The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy

STS 30 Arise, Your Light is Come!

CHILDREN'S TIME

Suzie Yoder

SHARING OF JOYS AND PRAYER REQUESTS

OFFERING

DOXOLOGY

PASTORAL PRAYER

HEARING GOD

Scripture: Isaiah 60:1-6; Matthew 2:1-12

Sermon: Freedom Bound: The Path of Inclusion Marilyn Rossiter

RESPONDING

Lighting the Epiphany Candle

Responsive Reading:

Leader: Together, we light the Epiphany candle. This light is not just for us. The mystery of God is revealed for all people

People: We celebrate with this candle the way God's light revealed in Jesus bursts the boundaries, overcomes barriers, and is released into the world.

Leader: On this Sunday, we celebrate that justice is stronger than wrong, that God will tumble all dividing walls and bring great things from small beginnings.

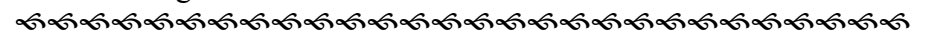
People: Even as the church celebrates its vocation as the bearer of this message, we humbly accept that the scope and reach of God's love knows no bounds. We confess that like others before us in the church we have tried to narrowly define the limits of God's gracious love.

Leader: By lighting this candle, we ask God to enlighten our minds and hearts and cast away the shadows of exclusion and discrimination.

People: As we light this final candle of the Advent and Christmas season, we celebrate the many ways that God's light is embodied in the church and in the world in its rich variety.

SENDING HWB 546 Guide My Feet

Blessing



THIS MORNING

Greeters: Hazel & Ron Boyle

Nursery: Deb Barry & Brenda Lowe

Worship Planners: Hannah & William Troyer

LAST WEEK

Attendance: 25 General Offering: \$1,530

THIS WEEK

Monday, Jan 4, 7 pm: Church Council meets

Jan 8-10: Marilyn gone to worship weekend at Laurelville Retreat Center, PA.

Jan 10: Jeff Wilihite, Director of Family Promise, here at Summit!

COMING EVENTS

Jan 17: Potluck/important Congregation Meeting. Please plan to come for the day, complete with communion, worship, lunch, and family meeting.

Jan 24 (evening)-January 29: Marilyn gone to Pastors' week at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Indiana

Jan 31: Potluck and Trades of Hope presentation

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Marilyn will be in the office Monday from 4 to 9 PM and Thursday from 9 am to 4 pm.

BACM will once again be collecting Bags of Love to distribute to our clients in the spring! Please help us be making Bags of Love for our clients to receive when they visit our pantry. Fill a decorated brown grocery bag with the following items:

- One package of toilet paper (4 rolls)
- Laundry detergent
- Dish soap
- Hand soap
- Deodorant
- Soap/body wash
- Toothbrush/toothpaste
- All-purpose cleaner

Place filled bags by our Giving Tree before the end of February.

MENNONITE MISSION PRAYER REQUEST

Praise God for the Toba/Qom radio station that was inaugurated last month in the Argentine Chaco. Pray that the Christian programming will touch many lives through this ministry that is facilitated by Alfonsina and José Oyanguren, serving with Mennonite Mission Network.