



Friendship Mennonite Church

Changing Lives Through Jesus Christ

November 29, 2009



Coming to God

Welcome and Announcements

Advent Skit

Advent Candlelighting

Opening Song

Call to Worship

Singing Our Praise

Penny Power Offering

Offering

Children are dismissed for Children's Church

Learning about God

Scripture Reading: Matthew 3:1-12

Sermon: "John the Baptist: Preparing for the King" Kevin Kanagy

Responding to God

Responding Song

Congregational Prayer

Closing Song

Benediction

Serving Today

Worship Leader: Anita Hooley Song Leader: Rachel Miller

Yoder Piano: Rhonda Savage

SS Nursery: Alice Patton Usher: Tim Savage

Worship Nursery: Kayley Nickless Greeter: Marge Meuti

Children's Church: Karen Speight Sound: Jerry Ruff

Upcoming Events & Meetings

TODAY

- Wed. Dec. 2 Practice Begins for Children's Christmas Play
- Wed. Dec. 2 Worship Committee Meeting 7 pm
- Thu. Dec. 3 Women's Time Out 5:30 pm
- Thu. Dec. 11 Southgate Group 11 am
- Sat. Dec. 12 Elders' Meeting 8 am
- Sun. Dec. 13 Youth Group Gathering after Worship
- Sat. Dec. 19 Children's Christmas Program Rehearsal 9-11am
- Community Meal 4-6 pm
- Sun. Dec. 20 Children's Christmas Program 10:45 am

Giving for November 22, 2009

Church Offering:
\$811.27

Weekly Budget:
\$1448.00

Announcements:

- **Welcome to Friendship Mennonite Church! If you are visiting us this week, thank you!** We have a visitor packet for you that will be passed out during the announcements. This will give you information about our Church and a visitor information card for you to fill out and place in the offering so that we can get to know you. We are so glad to worship with you!
- **Today is the first Sunday of Advent.** Advent is a season in the church year that we prepare ourselves for the coming of Jesus. The word "advent" is Latin for "a coming or arrival" God came to earth and lived among us in Jesus. This is a time to celebrate, rejoice, confess and ask God to prepare us for Jesus' coming into our lives again and again.
- **Additional giving for November 22:** Sunday School: \$13.00; Fall Missions: \$200.00; Eastern European Missions: \$52.00.

Announcements Continued

- **Attention youth!** Our next youth group activity will be on Sunday, Dec. 13, at the church. We will be baking lots of Christmas cookies to share with our congregation. Lunch will be provided. Feel free to bring friends (of junior high and high school age) and your favorite Christmas music. We will start after church and finish around 3 p.m. See Ben or Anita Yoder with any questions.
- **Just a reminder:** If you have borrowed a book from our church library, don't forget to return it and check out something new!
- **Attention adults:** We are looking for someone to teach or lead a second Sunday School class beginning in January. If you are interested, please see Cara Speros or Pastor Nan!
- **Recycling is more than a slogan.** Recycling is a part of stewardship. And stewardship is a caring way of life. How are you making an effort to REDUCE, REUSE and RECYCLE? Have a special passion or interest in this area? You could help set up a viable recycling organization here at our church for the daycare. Boxes, aluminum cans, paper and plastic bottles are thrown into the trash for the landfill every day here at our church. How can we help? Talk with Pastor Nan if you have an interest in this ministry possibility!
- **Advent Day Apart** - Break out of the busy-ness of your Christmas preparations to see where God is bursting in to your life. December can quickly become filled with tasks of the holidays - shopping, cleaning, visiting, singing, cooking, parties and school concerts - to name but a few. These are all wonderful things and we want to participate in as much as we can. Sometimes we don't find the time to prepare our hearts and souls for Christmas – the in-breaking of God into our world and our lives. **Consider setting a day apart** to prepare your spirit for this Holy Season. **The Advent Day Apart** is a day-long retreat held in the quiet setting of Camp Luz on Wednesday, December 9, 2009 from 9:00 am until 3:00 pm. The retreat will be led by Norma Duerksen and Rachel Siemens. The registration fee is \$15, which includes lunch. Please register with and make checks out to Ohio Conference by December 5. Be sure to ear mark the check with "Advent Day Apart".

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Advent Sunday School/

Beginning this morning, and continuing throughout the Advent and Christmas season, Adult Sunday School classes will be combined. We will spend time together focusing on the Christmas Story and what it means to us today.

Make plans now to participate during Advent as we prepare for the coming of our Messiah!



Advent Readings ~ Week 1

Psalm 25:1-10; Jeremiah 33:14-16;

Luke 21:25-36; 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

As we begin preparations for the birth of our Savior, take time this week to focus on what God wants to show you during this Advent season. We anticipate God's bursting in and breaking out in our lives during this time!

God, we thank you for the gift of Jesus! We long for his coming at Advent, and pray that you give us the strength and wisdom to live in joyful expectation.

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