

Please pray...

*If you have a prayer request or praise item that you would like shared in the bulletin, please let Cara Speros know, or email her at [secretary@friendmc.org](mailto:secretary@friendmc.org).*



## Friendship Mennonite Church

Changing Lives Through Jesus Christ

March 13, 2011

But you have upheld me because of  
my integrity, and set me  
in your presence forever.- Psalms 41:12

### Gathering

Welcome and Announcements  
Call to Worship

### Praising

Songs of Praise  
Confession

Time of Silent Prayers of Confession

### Hearing

Children's Moment

*Children are dismissed for Children's Church*

Scripture Reading: I John 4:7-16

Sermon: "God's Pursuit and Initiative" Nan Kanagy

### Responding

Responding Song  
Offering

Congregational Sharing & Prayer

### Sending

Sending Song

### Welcome to Friendship Mennonite Church! Visiting this week?

We are so glad you've joined us for worship! We hope you find a place to belong here. We together are searching for Jesus in our lives. You will receive a visitor packet in the service and we hope you can fill out the info card so we can get to know you better. Please place it in the offering plate. May you be blessed today!

## Announcements

- **Annual Conference Assembly - Kevin, Nan, Anita Hooley Yoder, Katherine Harris and Amy Gingerich** attended Ohio Mennonite Conference Assembly this weekend. Kevin, Anita and Katherine were delegates for our church and will be bringing a report in coming weeks. The theme of the weekend was "Doing Together What We Cannot Do Apart" from John 15.
- **One Psalm a day for 150 days!** Many people began reading the Psalms last month. It's not too late to join us! Let's join together as a church to read these poetic prayers in the Scriptures and put God at the center of our lives. A reading log is available from Cara Speros.
- **Baby Shower!** All ladies are invited to join us as we celebrate with **Amy Gingerich** at a baby shower in her honor on Saturday, March 19, at 6:00 pm at Shirley Coblentz's home. More details to come on what to bring. Please RSVP to Shirley or Cara Speros by March 13 if you can attend. For gift ideas, see Cara or Shirley. Light refreshments will be served.
- **Ruth Baxa has a new phone number:** contact the church office if needed.
- **Building Fundraising.** Our church is working on several improvement projects this year, including: (1) the new entryway arch, (2) renovating the room next to the pastor's office, and (3) re-paving the driveway and parking lot. Overall we need to raise \$15,000 to pay for these projects. Please consider how much you can contribute toward this goal -- every little bit helps. Please put your contributions in the offering labeled "Building Fund." For more information or questions, see Jonathan Witmer-Rich.
- **Thanks to Kayley Nickless, Karen Ruff, and Rachel Loomis** (Kayley's friend) for painting the nursery! They spend a day this week taking care of this room for our little ones. We appreciate your work!
- **Save your egg cartons!** MCC Connections in Kidron collects them to sell to local farmers. **Joe Kotva** will take them down once a month to donate. See Joe for more information.
- **Additional Giving for last Sunday:** Sunday School: \$13.00; LOVE Fund: \$25.00; Eastern European Mission: \$25.00; Meals on Wheels: \$5.00; Building Fund: \$50.00; MCC Meat Canner: \$20.00.

## Serving Our Church Today

*Worship Leader:* April Mather      *Song Leader:* Jonathan Witmer-Rich  
*Piano:* Rhonda Savage      *Usher:* Melvin Honsaker  
*Sunday School Nursery:* Todd Miller      *Greeters:* Melvin & Parsilla Honsaker  
*Sound:*      *PowerPoint:* Ben Yoder  
*Worship Nursery:* Kayley Nickless & Karen Ruff

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## Serving Next Sunday

*Usher:* Chris Coblentz      *Greeter:* Chris Coblentz  
*Preaching:* Kevin Kanagy      *Sunday School Nursery:* Kayley Nickless  
*Worship Nursery:* Jonathan & Diana Hartzler

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## Looking Ahead

Tuesday, March 15	Administrative Team Meeting 6:30 pm
Wednesday, March 16	Family Fun Night 5:30 pm
Saturday, March 19	Elders' Meeting 8:00 am
	Baby Shower at Shirley Coblentz's 6:00 pm
Sunday, March 27	Sojourners Small Group 4:30 pm
Saturday, April 2	Youth Room Work Day 10:00 am

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## Giving for Last Sunday

Church Offering:  
\$1742.05

Weekly Budget:  
\$1371.00

### Friendship Mennonite Church

21881 Libby Road      (216)662-6788  
Bedford Heights, OH 44146      www.friendmc.org

**Pastors:** Kevin Kanagy (pastor@friendmc.org)  
Nan Kanagy (pastor@friendmc.org)

**Contact Information:** Kevin (440-591-4072)  
Nan (330-201-3418)

**Congregational Counselor:**

**Secretary:** Cara Speros (secretary@friendmc.org)

*Changing Lives Through Jesus Christ!*

### *Announcements Continued*

- **Sign up to Serve!** Today in your mailboxes there is a list of potential areas of ministry to serve in this coming fall. In the next month, we invite you to prayerfully discern how God may be calling you to help build our church. Turn in your sheets by April 10 to the gifts discernment box or offering plate. More details to come!
- **“Bridges to the Cross”** is the theme for Pittsburgh 2011, MC USA’s biannual Convention. It will be held this July 4-9. You can find more information at [www.mennoniteusa.org](http://www.mennoniteusa.org). Several families and some of our youth are planning to attend – see Pastor Nan if you are thinking of attending!
- **Been to the church library lately?** We have a children's book called "The 23rd Psalm", it might be a way to engage your young readers with our Psalm reading. For those of you who like romance novels- stop by and check out our collection. Also, author Shelly Shepherd Gray, author of several Amish romance novels, will be at the Parma-Snow Cuyahoga County Library Branch on Monday March 14th, from 7-8:30 pm. Call 216.661.4240 for details. If you have suggestions for books you'd like to see in the library, let April Mather know.

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#### Christian Education for Adults and Children of all ages!

**We began a new quarter of Sunday School today! The children and youth will continue their study of the Gather ‘Round curriculum from Mennonite Publishing Network.**

#### **Adults have 2 choices this quarter:**

Join **Dean Burden** in the fellowship hall as he leads discussion on the Adult Bible study, a New Testament survey reflecting on worship in the early church. Hymns, prayers, apocalyptic visions and letters of instruction reveal the spiritual culture and practice of the first Christians.

All women are invited to join **Pastor Nan Kanagy** in the conference room for a 10-week series studying the book One Thousand Gifts by Ann Voskamp. As a writer, mother and farmer, Ann writes about every day wonder at [www.aholyexperience.com](http://www.aholyexperience.com). Her compelling stories of gut-wrenching pain and exuberant joy will draw us closer to the most Holy of Holies as we journey together. (See the insert for more details.)

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Experiencing God and Becoming Human:  
Called and shaped by Jesus  
Lent 2011

**What is Lent?** A period of time, 40 days before Easter, when people prepare for and anticipate the death and resurrection of Jesus.

**Lent is marked by a time of prayer and preparation to celebrate Easter.** Since Sundays celebrate the resurrection of Jesus, the six Sundays that occur during Lent are not counted as part of the 40 days of Lent, and are referred to as the Sundays in Lent.

**Christians today use this period of time for introspection, self examination, and repentance.** This season of the year is equal only to the Season of Advent in importance in the Christian year, and is part of the second major grouping of Christian festivals and sacred time that includes Holy Week, Easter, and Pentecost.

**Our theme at FMC this year is “Experiencing God and Becoming Human: Called and Shaped by Jesus.”** We will be participating in studying the book Experiencing God by Henry Blackaby with 6 other local churches, including two pulpit exchanges. We are also looking forward to our Maundy Thursday Love Feast and service, as well as our annual Easter Breakfast and Worship celebration together. We pray that all of us can draw closer to Jesus while being our true selves God has made us to be.

**Let us hold one another up in prayer as we journey to the Cross together during this season of Lent.**



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