

# Prayer Requests

- Pray for S, a friend of S, and S's brother, who is going through a difficult time right now.
- Pray for J, the daughter of M & P. J is in treatment for leukemia.
- Pray for G, the adult daughter of S's friend, who is ill with mesothelioma.
- Pray for Marion Beyeler, Pastor Nan's father, who underwent triple bypass surgery recently. Pray for healing and comfort as he recovers.
- Pray for those who are dealing with stress that is overwhelming at times, that God will comfort them.
- Pray for individuals and families who are being displaced as a result of war in Syria, and for those who are helping.
- Pray for Pastor Nan and Girl Talk members as they learn about life skills of communication and conflict resolution.
- Pray for Ohio Mennonite Conference.

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## Advent at Friendship

We celebrate Advent for the four Sundays before Christmas. "Advent" is a version of a Latin word that means "coming." We set aside this time to prepare ourselves to celebrate the coming of Jesus to the world. For many people Advent (like Lent) is a time of spiritual renewal and refocusing. It can also be a time of repenting, as John the Baptist called people to do to "prepare the way of the Lord."



Happy Birthday!



*Keep these people in your prayers as they celebrate another year of life!*

**\*Contact the church office for a list of upcoming birthdays\***

# Friendship Mennonite Church

**Advent Week 4**

**December 20, 2015**

Welcome

Opening Song – Praise Dance

Call to Worship

Advent Candle Lighting

Songs of Praise

Special Music – “We Three Kings”

Scripture Reading – Micah 5:2-5a and Luke 1:39-56

Children's Christmas Program

Congregational Prayer

Offering – Callie Speros, Piano

Announcements

Sending Song and Benediction

**Visiting this week?**

**Welcome to Friendship Mennonite Church!**

We are so glad you've joined us for worship! We hope you find a place to belong and consider joining us in God's mission. We are looking for people to join us who are interested in learning more about Jesus, becoming a disciple and finding out God's purpose in life!

## Announcements

- **2015 Christmas program:** Thank you to all of the children, youth and adults who worked hard to bring us the Christmas program this morning! This year's play is written by our own Eric Miller.
- **Christmas Eve Service** Join us THIS Thursday for our traditional Christmas Eve service at 6:00 pm. Bring some cookies to share after the service for a time of fellowship.
- **Mother-Daughter Retreat** Save the date! January 22-23, 2016 will be the Mother-Daughter Retreat at Camp Luz. All ages of mothers and daughters are invited to this retreat. See Pastor Nan or Cara Speros if you are interested in attending.
- **Mennonite Central Committee** alternative Christmas giving catalogues are available in the foyer. What a great gift to give to someone in need, instead of purchasing things we "want" in our culture of consumerism. Please consider giving in the name of Christ this season.
- **Advent worship arts:** This Christmas season, Advent worship arts in the front of the sanctuary are a representation of the Advent theme, "Freedom Bound." In the center of the sanctuary is a painting that was made by many congregants during a recent Service and Learning Hour. This image, first made by an anonymous artist and then recreated at FMC, reminds us of vulnerability, both of the holy family and in this world in general. Surrounding the image are "bursts of light," which come in many forms, most notably in the form of candles, a star, and a lantern, all symbols from the Christmas story. As you contemplate these images, our prayer is that you would be moved to remember those who are vulnerable in the world and in our midst, and also to notice the "bursts of light" that Jesus brings to shine forward even in the darkest of times.
- **Additional Giving for last Sunday:** Sunday School: \$9.00; : MCC Meat Canner: \$30.00; Meals on Wheels: \$10.00; Peru Missions: \$20.00.

## Serving Our Church Today

*Worship Leader:* Anita Hooley Yoder *Song Leader:* Jonathan Witmer-Rich  
*Piano:* Callie Speros & Rhonda Savage *Usher:* Jonathan Hartzler  
*Sunday School Nursery:* Steve Mather *Greeter:* Bill Speight  
*Worship Nursery:* April Mather *A/V Team:* Ben Speros  
*Sunday Building Trustee:* Witmer-Rich

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## Serving Next Sunday

*Worship Leader:* TBA *Song Leader:* Rhonda Savage  
*Usher:* Bill Speight *Greeter:* Chris Coblentz  
*SS Nursery:* Rudy Coblentz *Worship Nursery:* Sue Schmucker Coblentz  
*A/V Team:* None *Sunday Building Trustee:* Chris Coblentz

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## Looking Ahead

TODAY	Children's Christmas Program 10:45 am
Thursday, December 24	Christmas Eve Service 6:00 pm
January 22-23	Mother-Daughter Retreat at Camp Luz

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## Giving for Last Sunday

Church Offering:  
\$2303.00

Weekly Budget:  
\$1371.00

### Friendship Mennonite Church

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**Co-Pastors:** Kevin Kanagy (kevin@friendmc.org) Cell: (440)591-4072  
Nan Kanagy (nan@friendmc.org)

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

**[www.friendmc.org](http://www.friendmc.org)**