

Our Current Worship Arts Banner

Many have noticed and commented on the banner at the front of the church. Written in Greek, it says “In the beginning was the Word”, or John 1:1a. This is one biblical text I studied when I took “New Testament Greek” when I was younger.

Greek letters are different than Roman ones, but we can transliterate the sounds to a Roman alphabet as follows: Ἐν ἀρχῇ ἦν ὁ λόγος in Greek might have sounded something like “En archē ēn ho Lógos”

For me, there is something wonderful about the mystery of text I cannot read. While traveling or interacting with people from other cultures, there is something wonderful about the complexity of cultures and peoples that speak languages I cannot; people, patterns of thought, and layers of culture that at once are nearby and feel distant and mysterious. For me, that is the start of a small romance with the unknown — I want to know and understand more. Then, as I study the language and culture, and talk to the people, the veil falls, and I get closer to understanding. But for me, that mystery and distance is an important start. As I get to know the people, culture, and language, then I feel like I begin to close a gap.

For the Bible, in always reading the pre-translated version of biblical text, we skip this mystery phase of our relationship with the Word, a mystery which is none-the-less there. By failing to see the gap between us and the culture and meaning of the words, we fail to make an effort to bridge the gap in space, time, and culture that divides us.

A few years back, when asked to create a banner for the church, I created a small mystery: a banner that has but a segment of text. This is a small mystery that calls out to us from John’s pen, a mystery of divine revelation separated from us through space, time, and language. *In the beginning was the word.* – Steve Mather



Happy Birthday!



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

Contact the church offering for a list of upcoming birthdays



Friendship Mennonite Church

February 5, 2017

Welcome
Opening Song
Call to Worship
Songs of Praise
Children’s Moment
Scripture Reading: John 1:35-51
Sermon: “*What Kind of Miracle Do We Need?*”
Brother Dan Hooley
Song of Response
Communion
Congregational Prayer
Offering
Announcements
Sending Song
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

- **Communion** This morning, we will be celebrating communion together. We welcome all to the table to remember the life and death of Jesus. Grapes and a blessing will be available for the children as a special time for them to share.
- **Trouble I've Seen** On January 21st, 7 of us from FMC joined with Lee Heights Community Church on a road trip to Columbus Mennonite to hear Drew Hart speak. Dr. Hart is the author of the book, Trouble I've Seen, which we are studying in the adult education class. If you would like to hear Drew's sermon that he gave at Columbus Mennonite on the 22nd, it is available at: <http://www.columbusmennonite.org/sermons/look-mirror-guest-speaker-drew-hart-22-january-2017>
- **Caregiver Needed** Alyse Ciocca from the Daycare is looking to hire someone to care for her special needs son, 2.5 hrs a day. If you know of anyone who might be interested, please talk with Brother Dan or call Alyse at 216-570-9839.
- **Annual Conference Assembly** Central Christian School in Kidron will host the 2017 Annual Conference Assembly (ACA) of the Ohio Conference on March 24-25, 2017. "Who is my Neighbor?" will be the theme of the 2017 ACA. This theme is based on Luke 10:25-37. A missional conference with Alan and Debra Hirsch will take place March 23-24 at Kidron Mennonite Church immediately prior to ACA. Online registration is now open for both of these events. More information can be found online at <http://ohiomennoniteconference.org/annual-assembly/about-annual-assembly/>
- **Mission Mosaic** Updated copies of Mennonite Mission Networks's mission directory are available in the library. You can use these guides to learn about missionaries throughout the world, in order to pray for them or communicate with them.
- **Additional Giving for last Sunday:** Penny Power Offering: \$17.50; Social Committee: \$10.00.

Serving Our Church Today

Worship Leader: Ryan Hurley
Piano: Rhonda Savage
Sunday School Nursery: Mary Wright
Worship Nursery: Ryan Claassen
Sunday Building Trustee: Speros Family

Song Leader: Rachel Miller
Usher: Chris Savage
Greeter: Mary Wright
A/V Team: Ben Speros

Serving Next Sunday

Worship Leader: Cara Speros
Usher: Elizabeth Jones
SS Nursery: Todd Miller
A/V Team: Eric Miller

Song Leader: Christina Stehouwer
Greeter: Ryan Hurley
Worship Nursery: Diana Hartzler
Sunday Building Trustee: Hartzler

Looking Ahead

March 23-24
March 24-25

Missional Conference @Kidron Mennonite
Ohio Conference Annual Conference Assembly

Giving for Last Sunday

Church Offering:
\$919.00

Weekly Budget:
\$1463.00

Friendship Mennonite Church

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