

# Yes! Let it Be!

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."

**This year's Advent theme is, "Yes! Let it Be!" We are invited to express a sense of prayerful desire to participate in God's activity.**

**This week's Advent Scriptures:** Isaiah 64:1-9; Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-37

**Focus statement:** We awaken to God's purpose, which begins in darkness—whether seed in the ground, child in the womb, or new self in the soul. We are shaking, fearful, and resistant, yet we call upon God to tear open the heavens and be present with us in our uncertainty.

As you travel through the Advent season, look for the ways in which God is calling you to participate in God's activity. Listen for the times when you are called to do God's work.



**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**

**December 3, 2017**

Welcome  
Opening Song  
Call to Worship  
Songs of Praise  
Prayer of Thanks and Dedication for Elders  
Children's Moment  
Scripture Reading: Isaiah 64:1-9; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9  
Sermon: "Let it Be!" Brother Dan  
Responding Song  
Communion  
Congregational Prayer  
Offering  
Announcements  
Benediction  
Sending Song

**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***

- **Church Membership Class!** What does it mean to be a Mennonite Anabaptist Christian and a member at FMC? How can I get to know other attenders better? If you've been worshipping here for years, or are just exploring faith, you are welcome! Please see Brother Dan or Cara Speros if you are interested in learning more about this class, which will begin soon. Thank you!
- **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.
- **Christmas Breakfast** Please join us for a time of fellowship and fun during the Sunday School hour on December 17.
- **FMC Food Pantry** Donations are still being accepted for the FMC Food Pantry. Please bring in non-perishable items with an expiration date of at least 1-2 years out. The items needed are: canned tuna, peanut butter, soups, canned vegetables, pasta and pasta sauce. All non-perishable items are welcome. Please see Angela Thornton for more information.
- **Advent Sunday School** Join us for the Sunday School hour during the Advent Season as we gather for an intergenerational time of sharing. We will meet each week in the sanctuary at 9:30. Also make plans to join us on December 17 as the children and youth share a Christmas program with us!
- **Additional Giving for last Sunday:** Missions Month Offering: \$1175.00; Penny Power Offering: \$37.50; Love Fund: \$80.00.

## ***Serving Our Church Today***

*Worship Leader:* Cara Speros      *Song Leader:* Jonathan Witmer-Rich  
*Piano:* Rhonda Savage      *Usher:* Chris Savage  
*Sunday School Nursery:* Mary Wright      *Greeter:* Rudy Coblentz  
*Worship Nursery:* Angela Thornton      *A/V Team:* Ben Yoder  
*Sunday Building Trustee:* Rudy Coblentz

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## ***Serving Next Sunday***

*Worship Leader:* Anita Hooley Yoder      *Song Leader:* Steve Mather  
*Usher:* Eric Miller      *Greeter:* Ryan Claassen  
*SS Nursery:* Todd Miller      *Worship Nursery:* Maria Witmer-Rich  
*A/V Team:* Nate Arn      *Sunday Building Trustee:* Joe Kotva

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## ***Looking Ahead***

Sunday, December 3	Advent Sunday School 9:30 am
Sunday, December 10	Advent Sunday School 9:30 am
Sunday, December 17	Christmas Breakfast 9:30 am
	Christmas Program 10:45 am
Sunday, December 24	Christmas Eve Morning Worship 10:45 am

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## ***Giving for Last Sunday***

Church Offering:	Weekly Budget:
\$596.00	\$1463.00

### **Friendship Mennonite Church**

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**Interim Pastor:** Dan Hooley (friendhooleydr@gmail.com)  
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**Secretary:** Cara Speros (secretary@friendmc.org)

**www.friendmc.org**