



The

Metamora Mennonite

WEEKLY

Following Jesus together.

Vol 6. No. 12

Metamora, IL

February 18, 2018

1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

THIS WEEK

Tuesday & Saturday

9 am to noon Open Arms
Food Pantry
Distribution at the
OAFP

Wednesday

5:30 pm Elders;
6 pm Pantry Team;
7 pm Missions Team

Friday - Saturday

MMC Leadership Retreat

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, February 25

Noon Singles to
Bernardi's in Washington

Monday, February 26

4 pm Growth for Service
at Et Cetera

6 pm Snackpac Packing
at the OAFP

Wed., February 28

6 pm Prayer Gathering at
MMC

IN THE LIBRARY

Mennonite World Review

IL Mennonite Heritage
Periodical



MARY of BETHANY

Everyday Christian Spirituality

Between God & us

Then the devil takes him along into the holy city, and sets him upon the pinnacle of the temple, and says to him, "If you are Son of God, throw yourself down. For it stands written that, 'He shall command his angels concerning you, and on hands they shall carry you, lest you strike your foot against a stone.'"

Jesus said to him, "Again, it stands written, 'You shall not subject (the) Lord your God to proof.'" Mark 4:5-7 AT

For Henri Nouwen, *In the Name of Jesus - Reflections on Christian Leadership*, Jesus, in this second enticement, is being tempted to go it alone, to be a solo provider. In contrast, servant leadership is mutual, communal, vulnerable - a two way street of giving, receiving and accountability. After all, Jesus is the real provider of love for all of us. Like Jesus, we want to honor God. It's about God, and the kingdom of heaven, not us.

I think the underlying issue here is trust. Jesus decided, by the Holy Spirit, to trust the Lord God. Jesus did not acquiesce to the tempter's "If you are Son of God" language. Jesus was not afraid. He did not need to subject God to proof. Jesus' "temptation went to the core of who he was and what he was about." (Richard B. Gardner, *Matthew BCBC*)

Some of us have or will receive a message we don't want to hear. Perhaps a physician or nurse will begin by saying, "You many want to write this down." By means of the Holy Spirit and Jesus' faithfulness, we will trust that God is at work in ways we don't comprehend.

"I will trust, and will not be afraid," (Isaiah 12:2 NRSV).

Peace and All Good!

Pastor Jon

METAMORA MENNONITE CHURCH: NEWS, EVENTS, SERVICE

INVITATION TO PRAY THE SCRIPTURES DURING LENT

Come away to The Seasons Retreat for Lent on each Wednesday from **February 21-March 28**. We will sit together for Praying the Scriptures from 8-9 am. You may then seek a quiet place at the retreat until noon to pray, journal, reflect, and return to the Lord. Come anytime during the morning. Reservations not required. 954 W Center, Eureka. [309-224-0056](tel:3092240056).

“Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart... for he is gracious and merciful.”
Joel 2:12-13

SINGLES

Singles will meet at Bernardi's in Washington/Sunnyland after Sunday School on **February 25**.

SNACKPAC PACKING

We will be packing the Snackpac lunches **Monday, February 26** at 6 pm, again at the Open Arms Food Pantry. We need your help.

RELIEF SALE PIES

We will need help prepping and baking blackberry pies for the Central IL Mennonite Relief Sale, held this year on March 17 & 18. A sign-up sheet for Thursday afternoon **March 15** and Friday morning **March 16** is available in the narthex. Please sign up to help out in the Metamora Mennonite Church kitchen on one or both of those half days. Thank you in advance; this is my first year organizing this and I will need all the help I can get! Kate Kortemeier

WIDER CHURCH: NEWS, EVENTS, SERVICE

2018 WOMEN'S RETREAT

Join us for a Women's Retreat at Menno Haven Camp & Retreat Center, Friday - Sunday, **April 6 - 8**, where our speaker, Jane Roeschley, will help us re-walk a most ancient of spiritual pathways: that we are born blessed and beloved, that we are invited to conversion and transformation through encounters with JESUS, and that God works in the world through us as we are, and as we are becoming. Come expecting to hear stories, learn about a powerful tool for spiritual transformation, engage in creative reflection activities, and prepare to live your calling with God in the world.

Register online at:

<https://www.illinoismennonite.com/2018-womens-retreat/>

Or **Mail registration form to:** Menno Haven, 9301 1575 East Street, Tiskilwa, IL 61368. Make checks payable to "Menno Haven"

Contact Person: Shannon Unzicker – 309.369.8088, unzickers@gmail.com

Early Registration received / postmarked on or before March 7, 2018

- Friday – Sunday (2 nights lodging) \$110.00
- Friday – Saturday (1 night lodging) \$70.00
- Friday – Sunday (no lodging) \$55.00
- Friday – Saturday (no lodging) \$46.00
- Saturday ONLY (no lodging) \$40.00

Registration after March 7, 2018 add \$10.00

- Registration is guaranteed for the first 60 women, after that is based on housing availability.
- Registration fee is per person and includes meals and lodging.
- All lodging is shared.
- Our program & input will conclude on Saturday afternoon. If you desire more time for rest & recharge, you are welcome to stay through Sunday morning.
- Worship & music will be lead by women from Roanoke Mennonite Church

WEEKLY PRAYER AND CARE LIST

Please pray for the following requests:

Metamora Mennonite Church

- Robert Adams, Steve's father
- Ruth Dick
- Bill Hockenbury
- Betsy Lewandowski, Don Schertz' daughter
- Bob and Marilyn Shepard
- Don and Jan Unzicker
- Steve Zoss
- Snackpac
- Travelers
- Those in hospitals, nursing homes, and the home bound
- Those recovering from procedures and medical treatments
- The local food pantry and the needs of the people that serve and are served through that ministry

Wider Church

- Illinois Mennonite Heritage Center
- A year in prayer for Menno Haven

Our World

- Those who are unemployed or underemployed.
- Those who are lonely and/or homebound.
- Our Nation's leaders
- The ongoing wars and the continued strains of war on soldiers, families, children and nations.
- Victims of violence, terrorism, and natural disasters.
- Pray for Peace. Act for Peace.

Open Arms Food Pantry

Concerns:

Employment

- Kim
- Juan

Health

- Carla

Responsibility

- Steve

Family

- Diane

Mennonite Mission Network

Mark and Mary Hurst of Mennonite Mission Network serve as resource people and pastors with the Anabaptist Association of Australia and New Zealand. Pray for them as they build relationships with people seeking God and a way of living that centers on Jesus' justice and shalom.

Mennonite Education Agency

Pray for Goshen area youth and their families as they consider schooling options for next year and the benefits of Christian education at Bethany Christian Schools.

Friends To Remember

Please remember our members who are not able to worship with us regularly. They value their share in our faith community.

Thank you for your kindness.
Pastor Jon

Let us continue to pray for one another. *Psalm 147:3*

He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

PRAYER LISTS AND PRAYER CHAIN

If you have an emergent need and want it on the confidential prayer chain, please contact the church office, Pastor Eric, or Pastor Jon, and we will get your request on the prayer chain as soon as possible.

If you would like your request on the Weekly Prayer and Care List, contact the church office before 9 am on Friday of each week. *Requests remain on list for 2 weeks unless we receive word otherwise.*

SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULES**TODAY**

Greeter: Marty and Mel Fischer
John and Karen Garber

Nursery:

Worship: Barb Sutter
Sunday School: Gail Neumann

Worship Leader: Randall Koehler

FEBRUARY 25

Greeter: Nell Schertz
Bill and Judy Wyatt

Nursery:

Worship: Sherry Rogers
Sunday School: Sherry Garber

Worship Leader: Anna Tieman

OFFERING**FEBRUARY BY SUNDAY**

<u>2/04</u>	\$4,799.25
<u>2/11</u>	\$4,349.85

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

<u>2/11</u>	Snackpac	\$1,000.00
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CONTACT INFORMATION

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Secretary

Michelle Burns
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309.367.4892 office
309.367.4121 fax
309.397.0938 (cell)
Office Hours:
Tues. — Fri. 9 am - noon

Pastoral Staff

Eric Potter, Lead Pastor
ericmmc@mtco.com
309.648.6895
Office Hours:
Mon. — Thurs.; best reached by
appointment; feel free to text, call,
or leave a message

Jon Byler, Associate Pastor
jdblyer@mtco.com
309.444.9407 (home)
309.360.1787 (cell)
Office Hours:
Tues. 10:30 am - 1 pm

WEEKLY WORSHIP

We worship each week on Sunday morning at 9:30 am. Our worship consists of singing, scripture reading, prayer and sharing and preaching. After **the Children's story**, children 6 months to 4 years may go to the **nursery**. Following **the sermon response song**, children in K-5th grades and 3-4 year olds are dismissed to attend **Children's Hour/Sunday School**.

SUNDAY SCHOOL OPTIONS

11 am

Adults

- *Uniform Class* in Pastor Eric's study
- *Creation Care*: Focuses on food. Caring for Creation affects what we eat, how we grow food, and who we eat with. Jennifer Imhoff and Jeanne Sears will share. All are welcome to join the conversation in the room next to the kitchen.

Children and Youth

- *K-5th and 2-4 year olds* in downstairs classrooms
- *Jr. and Sr. High* in balcony rooms

**ABOUT OPEN ARMS
FOOD PANTRY**

Open Arms Food Pantry provides food for the hungry in Metamora, Germantown Hills, Spring Bay, Washburn, Lowpoint and Cazenovia, IL.

There are no hoops to jump through, just come to the pantry on Tuesday or Saturday between 9 am and noon.

For more information, please visit the Open Arms page on the MMC website at: www.metmenno.org

CONTACT INFORMATION

1200 W. Mount Vernon Street
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email: openarms@mtco.com
phone: 309.367.4892

To place information in the Metamora Mennonite Weekly, please contact the church office by phone or email. All items must be in the office **no later than noon on Thursday** to help ensure inclusion in Sunday's edition.