

## Welcome to Hively Avenue Mennonite Church

### For guests and attenders

- There is an opportunity for introductions of guests early in the worship service.
- Please sign the attendance registry during the offering time.
- Large print hymnals and bulletins and hearing devices are available.
- Ask an usher for assistance.

### Fellowship time and Christian education

- Coffee and goodies are available from the kitchen window following the worship service.
- Christian education classes for all ages begin at 11:00 am
- Children meet in the educational wing of the church.

### Caring for the children

- During the worship service, experienced staff provide care for children ages four years and younger in the lower level of the educational wing.
- During the children's time in the service, children are encouraged to come to the front of the sanctuary.
- Snacks are provided for children in the educational wing between the worship service and Christian education.

**Our Vision:** Because we worship and serve as disciples of Jesus Christ, we walk with our neighbors to build a diverse community that embodies God's hospitality, reconciliation, healing and hope.

Pastors  
Jake Hess 970-215-4547, [jhess@hivelymennonite.org](mailto:jhess@hivelymennonite.org)  
Tim Stair 574-320-6265, [tstair@hivelymennonite.org](mailto:tstair@hivelymennonite.org)  
Administrative secretary: Mary Klassen [office@hivelymennonite.org](mailto:office@hivelymennonite.org)  
Office hours Monday-Friday, 8:00 am-noon  
Office telephone 574-294-3423

Cover: Word art this season will include all the Advent and Christmas worship themes, emphasizing those that shape the service for each Sunday.



[www.hivelymennonite.org](http://www.hivelymennonite.org)  
800 E Hively Avenue  
Elkhart, IN 46517



## Hively Avenue Mennonite Church

**Our Mission:** To know and make known God's love as we follow Jesus into the world.

December 23, 2018

December 23, 2018  
Worship: 9:30 am  
Christian education: 11:00 am

## GATHERING

Prelude Beth Suderman

Welcome, announcements, introductions

Call to worship

Leader: Mary is with child! God's long-awaited promise is being fulfilled!

**People: Rejoice in his name! Emmanuel, God be with us!**

Leader: The little baby in his mother's womb, he will be the Savior of this hurting world,

**People: Bringing us new life, filled with joy and peace, calling us to faith and action.**

**All: Praise be to God. Alleluia! Amen!**

\*Hymns *Blessed Savior, we adore thee* HWB 107

## CONFESSION

Confession HWB 699

Prayer

Lighting the Peace Candle Greg Suderman

God of Peace, Christ of Peace, Spirit of Peace, you are calling us to be peacemakers. Today we light this candle as a reminder of our calling.

Dios de paz. Cristo de paz. Espíritu de paz. Tú nos llamas para ser pacificadores. Hoy encendemos esta candela para recordarnos de este llamado.

Hymn *Longing for light*, vv. 1,2,5 SJ 54

## LISTENING

Children's time Elya Hess

\*Hymns *Blessed Assurance* HWB 332  
*Blest are they* SJ 94

Scripture Micah 5:2-5, Luke 1:39-45  
Rhonda Landgraf, Hugo Robles

Sermon **Immanuel—Where hope and history rhyme**  
Jake Hess

## RESPONDING

\*Hymn *Come, thou long expected Jesus* HWB 178

Responding in testimony and sharing Tim Stair  
What spoke to you this morning? What joys and concerns would you share? (Please be brief and focused.)

Prayer

Special music Yukino Ohyama

Offering

(Please sign the attendance register at the end of the row)

Offering prayer HWB 749

\*Hymns *My soul is filled with joy* SJ 13

\*Benediction

\*Postlude

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

\*Please stand if you are able for items marked with an asterisk.

Children grades K through 5 are invited to the playground at the back of the sanctuary for quiet activities after the children's time.

Please return your hymnal(s) to a cart in the hallway.

December 23, 2018

**Assisting in our worship today**

Worship leader John Vargas  
Pianist Beth Suderman  
Song leader Walter Sawatsky  
Ushers Leanne Farmwald, Elaine Frey  
Rich Preheim  
Childcare Melanie Quinn, Lucile Odhiambo  
Sound system Mary Klassen

Snacks Amanda and Marlyn Fast

**Next Sunday** Tim Stair, preacher  
Lane Miller, worship leader

**Attendance, December 16** 87, including 3 guests

**Birthdays this week**

Billi Jo Grouette (28)

**Calendar for the week**

Tues, Dec 24, 6:30 pm Christmas Eve service  
Thurs, Dec 27, 6 pm Rios de Agua Viva  
Sat, Dec 29, 7-9 am Rios de Agua Viva

**Upcoming calendar items**

Mon, Dec 31, 6:30 pm New Year's Eve service  
January 16 and 23 Spiritual Emphasis evenings,  
focusing on spirituality and economics

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Hats, mittens, gloves:** We are collecting hats, mittens and gloves (primarily for children) in the manger near the Christmas tree at the front of the sanctuary. After Christmas these will be distributed to The Window, CAPS (the Joy Rose Center) and Emerge Ministries.

**The banners hanging in the foyer windows** are shared by Crystal Underwood and were created by her sister.

**Christmas Eve service:** All are invited to come to the Christmas Eve service and to bring family, friends and neighbors. The service begins at 6:30 pm and will include a retelling of the Christmas story and a candle-lighting service. It will end with our traditional carol singing in the round and a fellowship time. **Bring some Christmas baking or treats to share.**

**New Year's Eve service:** The deacons are planning the New Year's Eve service, which will include reflections on several Scripture texts, communion and anointing. The service begins at 6:30 pm.

**Spiritual Emphasis evenings:** Mark your calendars for our annual Spiritual Emphasis evenings—Wednesdays, January 16 and 23. More information will come soon.

**Lacasa is always looking for volunteers** to help with remodeling tasks, and right now has a job in downtown Elkhart. An apartment on Main Street needs to be scrubbed down in order to be “flipped” for a new tenant. We can use help on any of these days:

Dec. 26, 27, 28 or 29

Jan 2, 3, 4, 5

Jan. 7, 8, 9, 10, 11

We use volunteers any period of time between 8:30 am and 3:30 pm on weekdays or on Saturdays from 8:30 to noon. To volunteer, email [kate.irelan@lacasainc.net](mailto:kate.irelan@lacasainc.net), fill out the form at <https://lacasainc.net/volunteer>, or call 574-533-4450 ext. 17.

**Mennonite Central Committee Meat Canner:** The MCC meat canner will be at The Depot in Goshen from January 7 to 18. Hively workers are encouraged to come on Monday, Jan. 14, to assist with cutting and preparing the meat for canning. Donations to help with the purchase of meat can be sent to the MCC Great Lakes office, 1013 Division St., Goshen, IN 46528. Make checks payable to Foreign Relief MCC and designated for Goshen Meat Canning.

**Central District Conference Regional Gathering:** January 26 at Assembly Mennonite Church, hosted by Open Table Fellowship. Beginning at 9:45 am, the day will include updates from the conference and stories from Open Table and Morning Star Church. Please let the conference office know you will attend: [office@mcusacdc.org](mailto:office@mcusacdc.org); Phone 800.662.2264.

### Christmas greetings from Mennonite agencies:

Follow these links for Christmas and holiday greetings:

Mennonite Mission Network:

<https://www.mennonitemission.net/Christmas>

Adnet (Anabaptist Disabilities Network)

<https://bit.ly/2RaC6nX>

Mennonite Central Committee

<https://bit.ly/2V2TF8T>

Mennonite Church USA

<https://bit.ly/2EIVbNk>

(See Glen Guyton, MC USA executive director, as an elf!)

### Christian education today

**Adults** will continue the study of *Pathways*, working with the Mennonite Church USA Journey Forward goals.

**Children and youth** will meet in their classes as usual.