

January 10, 2021

Live Stream on our Facebook page

Worship Team Leader: Brian Renno

Worship Leader: Ivan Yoder

Sermon: "God Made it Grow"- Max Zook
Jeremiah 17:5-8 1Cor.3:5-9

LOCUST GROVE MENNONITE CHURCH
ROOTED IN TRUTH GROWING IN LOVE



Welcome to our Worship Service

We are so glad you are here.

For those attending the 9 am service, please exit via the east entrance after the service.

For those attending the 10:30 am service, please enter and exit via the west entrance.

Please wear masks while entering and leaving the building.

January 3, 2021

9:00 Worship Attendance.....	116
10:30 Worship Attendance.....	75
Morning Worship Offering	\$8,276
YTD Morning Worship Offering	\$8,276
YTD Budgeted Worship Offering	\$11,617

Events This Week

Tuesday: DC4K & Divorce Care at Locust Grove, 6:30 – 8 pm.

Upcoming Events:

January 28th: Annual Business Meeting at 7 pm.

Youth Events

Fusion (7th & 8th Grades): Bon fire at John & Sarah Peachey’s **Sunday, January 17th** from 4-6 pm. Drop off & pick up is at the church. Transportation to and from the church will be provided. Please dress warmly. 7th grade, please bring a snack & 8th grade please bring a drink. Also, **Sunday, January 31st,** from 4-6, a light dinner will be provided.

Ignite (9th & 10th Grades): Bible Study led by Kevin Myers, Sunday, January 17th from 4-6 pm. 9th grade please bring a drink & 10th grade please bring a snack.

All Youth Worship Night: An all Youth worship night at the church, Sunday, January 31st, from 6:30 – 8 pm.

Church News

Church Mailboxes: The church mailboxes have been moved to the West Entrance of the church to alleviate the congestion in the hallway by the restrooms.

Genesis/Studies in End time Prophecy Bible Study: Bible Study with **Bob Plank & Greg Allen** is cancelled thru January.

Offering Envelopes: There are new offering envelopes available for your use. They are located with the mailboxes in the last slot on the bottom right. You will receive a detailed letter regarding the envelopes with your year-end receipt in January. If you have any questions, please contact **Heidi Yoder**.

Health & Wellness Information & Events

Ladies Winter Work-out: Winter Workouts this week:

Group 1-Strength & Stretching (Moderate): Mondays & Thursdays 6:30-7:15 pm

Group 2-Modified/Beginners (low impact): Tuesdays & Thursdays 5:30-6:15 pm.
\$5 per session or \$35/month.

Community News

MCC (Mennonite Central Committee): MCC has several projects throughout the year for you to be involved in. They are: sewing kits, school kits, meat canning, My Coins Count, & a work day at their Material Resource Center when it reopens. January & February is sewing kit project months (see attached Sewing Kit flyer). There is a box/basket there for your donated items. February 1st – 4th is their 47th Annual Meat Canning Project at the Chief Logan Fire Company in Lewistown. Information sheets are available in the foyer regarding the new procedures. Please contact **Bruccette Metz** at 717-935-5233 or **Joyce Haire** 570-250-0076 for more information or with any questions.



SEWING KIT



In many places where MCC works, sewing skills open doors to new possibilities, including additional income that can help a family make ends meet.

Contents (NEW items only)

- 3 spools white thread** (all-purpose; cotton/poly or 100% polyester; minimum 250 yds.)
- 3 spools black thread** (all-purpose; cotton/poly or 100% polyester; minimum 250 yds.)
- 1 metric fabric tape measure** (plastic or fiberglass; 150 cm; inch marking optional)
- 1 thimble** (metal; medium size)
- 1 dressmaker shears** (good quality)
- 1 package needles** (minimum 25; assorted sizes)
- 1 pkg straight pins** (minimum 80; round plastic heads preferred)
- Shirt-style buttons** (12; black or white; size ½–1 inch; place loose buttons in a resealable plastic bag)
- Sew-on snaps** (minimum 20; assorted sizes)
- Safety pins** (minimum 10; assorted sizes)

Instructions: Sewing kits are distributed in a useful double-drawstring cloth bag 11¾ x 16¾ in. You may sew the bag yourself, request bags from an MCC collection center or donate contents that we will place in a bag. For bag-making instructions and collection centers, visit: mcc.org/kits/bag



Mennonite Central Committee
Relief, development and peace in the name of Christ

Prayer Guide Prayer Guide

January 10 – January 16

Locust Grove Church Family Prayer List

Home: Danny Peachey; & David, Brandi, Mackenzie, Madison, Caleb & Mallory Peachey

Valley View: Joe Byler, 413A Valley View Haven

Away: Peter Ebersole, PO Box 501, Montoursville, PA 17754

Mission Spot: Wycliffe – C&H in Southeast Asia working in Bible Translation

10 Sunday – *“I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God made it grow. So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow.”*
1 Corinthians 3:6-7

11 Monday – Pray for leaders and participants in this new round of **DC4Kids and Divorce Care** that begins tomorrow night here at Locust Grove. Pray for leaders and participants to experience God’s sustaining and healing grace.

12 Tuesday – Thank God for **David and Sadie Byler**, the longest married couple in our church at 67 years. Let’s pray for them today and celebrate Sadie tomorrow, on her birthday.

13 Wednesday – Pray for **Ivan** as he prepares a sermon for this coming Sunday and pray for **Sherryl** as she prepares to lead our worship team. Pray for continued health and safety for our church family as we meet for worship with no children’s Sunday school classes for at least another week.

14 Thursday – Two weeks from this evening will be our **annual business meeting**. Pray for **Drew Derstein, Chairman of the Elders; Heidi Yoder, Treasurer; Tyler Kauffman, Chairman of the Finance Committee; Ken Yoder, Chairman of the Directors; and Alan Miller, Chairman of the Mission Board** as these leaders prepare for the meeting.

15 Friday – Pray for **Jane Lewis** in the hospital and for residents at Valley View Haven and Terrace, for health, God’s sustaining grace, healing, and peace

16 Saturday – Pray for our **Fusion and Ignite** youth groups that plan to meet tomorrow. Pray for **Kevin Myers** as he prepares to share in the Ignite Bible study. Thank God that these groups can resume meeting again and pray for leaders.

Max's Announcement about Pastoral Transition Sunday

January 10, 2021

One year ago, on January 5, 2020, I announced my request to be released from my responsibilities as Senior Pastor here at Locust Grove sometime in the beginning of 2021. Our leadership team, including the elders and staff, have been discussing, planning, and praying about this transition for two years. That time has now come. Last spring you affirmed Ivan as the next senior pastor. He and Pam were able to have a four-month sabbatical during the last part of 2020 to prepare for this new role. So now we are prepared to announce a transition Sunday is being planned for January 31, in which Ivan will be commissioned as our next Senior Pastor.

I listed several reasons for this transition including the fact that I am getting older, experiencing increasing exhausted, and believe this is the time in our church's life for a leadership transition to younger leaders. During 2020 I have only grown more certain of the need for this change.

Recently several people have asked me about my plans after January 31, 2021. My standard answer is that I plan to reserve six months for my own time of sabbatical rest and refreshment. I plan to spend much of that time in prayer, reflection, counseling, and spiritual direction, seeking God's direction for this next step of my life. I plan to find meaningful fellowship and worship experiences with brothers and sisters in other congregations which may include the churches of which I serve as overseer: Manbeck, Boyer, Buffalo, Word of Grace, and Oak Dale.

For the remainder of 2021 I am choosing to distance myself from Locust Grove. This is the painful part of pastoral transition because I love you all very much. I will not be participating in worship services, leadership team meetings, or ministry of any kind during 2021 unless specifically asked to assist at a funeral or other special occasion. I will be doing this because I affirm, trust, and believe in the leadership integrity and potential of Ivan and the entire leadership team. My absence from Locust Grove means that I fully trust our leaders and believe they will lead better in my absence than in my presence.

I am committed to promoting the success of Ivan's ministry as our next Senior Pastor. I will be available to assist Ivan in private in any way in which he requests my help. And if I am confronted with criticism about his ministry, I plan to redirect those concerns back to Ivan and the leadership team. I want to be a positive influence in this transition and will be in prayer for the health and growth of the congregation.

I am very grateful for the staff we presently have, including Ivan as Senior Pastor, Pam as Women's and Youth Ministry Coordinator, Kara as Children's Ministry Coordinator, Arlene Byler as our Administrative Assistant, and Heidi Yoder as our Treasurer. I also deeply appreciate the godly leadership of the elders, Drew, Neil, Steven, Max, and Greg and believe God has called each of them to their role for this time. I am confident that He will also call a youth ministry coordinator in His time.

My prayer is that we can move forward as a church family affirming Jesus as the Lord of our church and work together to "maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bonds of peace." Eph. 4:3

"Neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything but only God, who makes things grow. The man who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and each will be rewarded according to his own labor. For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building." 1 Cor. 3:7-9