

Be Amazed: Joy in the Desert

Isaiah 55:1 - 13; Psalm 42; Isaiah 40:1 - 5; John 4:13 - 14

Theme verse:

So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.

Colossians 2:6 - 7 NIV

OFFICE SCHEDULE:

Pastor (Glenn Nofziger II)

- Off Tuesdays

Secretary (Chip Coleman)

- Tuesday
1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- Friday
7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

LOOKING AHEAD

Alternative Christmas - November 30 - December 21

Longest Night Service - December 21

Christmas Eve Service - December 24

All Adult Enrichment Weekend January 16-18

Winter Wednesdays - Jan 21; Feb 4 & 18, March 4 & 18
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(SOS) Sonnenberg Out Serving: Gordie Amstutz, 330/465-8007



**LAST SUNDAY'S RECORD - December 7, 2025**

Attendance: SS - 89; Worship - 111; YouTube: 5

**Offering:**

Budget: \$ 5,212.00  
CCS Tuition: \$ 1,461.67  
Maple Syrup Missions: \$ 40.00  
MCCUSA Executive Board: \$ 170.00  
Alternative Christmas Breakfast: \$ 50.00

**TOTAL: \$ 6,933.67**

- **Scrip sales 12/07/2025: \$6,095.00; '25-'26 Sales: \$48,945.00**
- **Balance in CCS Tuition Fund: \$28,056.95** ; Payments on the 15th of each month include \$2,900 (Fair Balance Tuition) + \$1,433 (additional contribution) = \$4,333/month or \$52,000 total for the 2025-2026 academic year. *Your continued support of the CCS Tuition Fund is much appreciated!*

***\*\*If you are interested in being a part of a small group, please contact the church office. \*\****  
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**Ministers: Every Member of the Congregation
Sonnenberg Mennonite Church**

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Phone: 330/857-8222

website: www.sonnenbergmc.org

email (church): sonnenbergmennonite@gmail.com

email (Glenn): sonnenbergpastor@gmail.com

PASTORAL TEAM

Glenn Nofziger II, Pastor, cell 419/ 572 - 0706
Jeremy Patterson, Leader
Lisa Amstutz, Secretary, Barb Ressler, Mutual Caring Fund
Michelle Steffen, Visitation



December 14, 2025

Volume LXXII, No. 50

Please place your regular offering in the container provided inside the Sanctuary as you arrive for the worship service; bulletins are also available to pick-up on the table outside each week.



Prelude

Drawing into the story- Isaiah 55

Call to Worship

♪	<i>O Come All Ye Faithful</i>	WB 212
♪	<i>O Beautiful Star Of Bethlehem</i>	SS 32
♪	<i>Come Thou Long Expected Jesus</i>	WB 178

Children's Story

Candle Lighting

♪	<i>Joy To The World</i>	WB 318
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Message: Be Amazed: Joy in the Desert

(Isaiah 55:1 - 13; Psalm 42; Isaiah 40:1 - 5; John 4:13 - 14)

♪	<i>You Shall Go Out With Joy</i>	WB 427
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Blessing

Message: Glenn Nofziger II

Worship: Phil Raber

Music: Alice Metcalf

PT Greeter: Jeremy Patterson

Visual: Advent Team

Coffee Cleanup: Jude & Cora

Greeters: Alice & Trent Metcalf

Multimedia: Levi & Mattea

Sound: Ron Taylor

Prelude: Pam Taylor

Coffee Bar: Phil Raber

Usher: Mike Lehman

Advent Candle: Levi Amstutz

Children's Story: Cora Patterson

The oil lamp at the front of the church is a Peace lamp.
As followers of Jesus we embrace Christ's way of Peace.

Today’s Activities:

8:30 AM Prayer - Young Adult Sunday School room
8:50 AM Alternative Christmas
9:30 AM Sunday School
10:20 AM Prelude
10:30 AM Worship
11:45 AM Scrip Sales in the foyer following the worship service. See Ellen Nussbaum to purchase Scrip.

THE CHURCH THIS WEEK

Wednesday

11:30 a.m. **Women’s Fellowship Lunch @** Dravenstotts
7:00 p.m. **MYF Christmas Party**

Friday

1-3:00 p.m. **Venture Club Swimming @** Evergreen Park

Next Sunday

8:30 AM Prayer - Young Adult Sunday School room
9:00 AM Alternative Christmas
9:30 AM Sunday School
10:20 AM Prelude
10:30 AM Worship
John 1:1 - 18; *Psalm 130:5 - 8; Isaiah 9:2, 6*
Be Amazed: Love Comes Down

Message: Pablo Delgado
Worship: Michelle Steffen
Music: Joanna Sidle
PT Greeter: Michelle Steffen
Visual: Advent Team
Coffee Cleanup: Kate & Ezra
Greeters: Alice & Trent Metcalf

Multimedia: Steve & Lukas
Sound: Jude Patterson
Prelude: Pam Taylor
Coffee Bar: Ken & Connie
Usher: Dan Gault
Advent Candle: Hannah Amstutz
Children’s Story: Lucas Miller

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

IN OUR PRAYERS:

REMEMBER: *Rich Horst: pray for recovery from foot surgery this past week.; Blaine Amstutz: the Pituitary is resisting earlier treatments so with insurance approval he’ll start new treatments. They are thankful Blaine is feeling better than he has in some time; Kerrilyn Neuenschwander: she continues physical therapy to regain strength and endurance, hoping to return to regular activities by mid-May. Ask God to give her joy and help her be a supportive teammate during this season; Marjean Lehman: for healing from her latest fall and against bouts of confusion; Mabel Gable: seeks healing for the wound on her leg; it is showing some healing; Ella Amstutz: as she keeps improving at home after her heart surgeries; Silas Coleman: set for Hip arthroscopy surgery on Monday December 15th*

THOSE IN MISSION: *José/Alfonsina Oyanguren family, Argentine Chaco; Austin & Griselda Zuercher, Honduras*

WEEKLY PRAYER EMPHASIS: *Jeunes Espoir d’Afrique (Youth-Hope of Africa) was founded to help child soldiers find a healthier way of life. Pray that the organization will have all the necessary resources to offer life skills, job training and spiritual renewal to youth in Ivory Coast.*

ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS: Continues each Sunday through December 21, from 8:50-9:30 a.m. Everyone is encouraged to join in this time of fellowship and enjoy the Alternative Christmas displays. We are using the MCC 2025 Christmas Giving Guide. Choose a project or projects you would like to support, fill out the form and give it to Ed at the welcome center or drop it into the offering basket. Use an ornament off the tree to give to the person in whose name you have donated.

Families with last names beginning with A-N should bring breakfast casseroles, pastries and fruit on Sunday December 14; last names beginning with O-Z are assigned to bring food on Sunday, December 21. The Coffee Bar will be serving hot drinks and cold drinks will be provided. Donations for the food tables will also be accepted. \$2,300.00 to date has been raised through the Alternative Christmas campaign.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS: There are 8 extras; 4 red, 2 pink & 2 white that you are able to take after today’s service. Place 10\$ in the offering.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: There will be no Adult Sunday School on Sunday, December 21st so plan to stay in the fellowship hall to visit until 10:30 worship. We will start breakfast at 9 am that morning instead of 8:50. If you have any interest in contributing some live music please contact Ken.

COMMUNITY LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE: Dec. 21, 7:00 at Sonnenberg Mennonite Church. Dec. 21st is the winter solstice (the longest night of the year). Darkness is all around us and on that evening we want to acknowledge the hardships we experience in our world and our lives during this season associated with joy. There are so many reasons we feel this darkness: loss of health, jobs, homes, loved ones and dreams; injustices, wars, natural disasters, loneliness, financial stress, anxiety and exhaustion. Come at 7:00 to Sonnenberg Mennonite for an evening of gentle worship and thoughtful litanies as we find hope together in the darkness.

SCRIP GIFT CARDS: Make great Christmas gifts as stocking stuffers and are available at the Welcome Center from Ellen Nussbaum each Sunday following the worship service. Place your orders with payment by Sunday, December 14, to be sure to get any cards you want before Christmas. See Ellen Nussbaum with any questions or for a list of vendors, or go to www.raiseright.com/brands. The rebate we receive from your purchases will go to support the Oyanguren's as they serve the people in the Argentine Chaco.

SONNENBERG PURPOSE STATEMENT T-SHIRTS: Were a hit! Since we ran low on a few sizes, a small order has been placed and should be on hand around the first week of January. They are totally by donation. You can memo donation checks "T-shirts." If you have your own items you would like the image on anyone can go to Shoemaker in Holmes County and take care of that individually. -PT/CLT

ENRICHMENT WEEKEND 2026: Plan to participate in a weekend of learning , discussion and fellowship. Activities will start Friday January 16 with the topic of “Being The Church in The 21st Century” with speaker Dr. John Byron, New Testament professor at the Ashland Theological Seminary. There will be sign ups on the Welcome Center for anyone planning to attend as well for the catered lunch (by donation) on Saturday. Otherwise , there is no cost for the weekend and will be open to the greater community. - Adult Ministries