

Be Amazed: Love Comes Down
John 1:1 - 18; Psalm 130:5 - 8; Isaiah 9:2, 6

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 14, 2025

Attendance: SS - 57; Worship - 64; YouTube: 21

##### Offering:

Budget: \$ 1,495.00

CCS Tuition: \$ 2,150.00

Maple Syrup Missions: \$ 200.00

**TOTAL: \$ 3,845.00**

- **Scrip sales 12/07/2025: \$1,440.00; '25-'26 Sales: \$50,385.00**
- **Balance in CCS Tuition Fund: \$27,335.62** ; 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.\*\*

#### Ministers: Every Member of the Congregation Sonnenberg Mennonite Church

14367 Hackett Rd., P.O. Box 226, Kidron, OH 44636

Phone: 330/857-8222

website: [www.sonnenbergmc.org](http://www.sonnenbergmc.org)

email (church): [sonnenbergmennonite@gmail.com](mailto:sonnenbergmennonite@gmail.com)

email (Glenn): [sonnenbergpastor@gmail.com](mailto: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

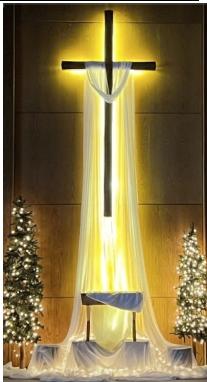


**SONNENBERG**  
MENNOMITE CHURCH

December 21, 2025

Volume LXXII, No. 51

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- John 1:1 - 18

Call to Worship

Prayer

- ♪ *O come, o come Immanuel*
- ♪ *Away in a manger*
- ♪ *It came upon a midnight clear*
- ♪ *Hark! the herald angels sing*

WB 172

WB 194

WB 195

WB 201

Children's Story

Candle Lighting

Message: Be Amazed: Love Comes Down

(John 1:1 - 18; Psalm 130:5 - 8; Isaiah 9:2, 6)

- ♪ *Come Thou Long Expected Jesus*

WB 178

Blessing

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

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** through 7<sup>th</sup> grade only today  
**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.

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## **THE CHURCH THIS WEEK**

### **Wednesday**

6:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Candle Lighting Service

### **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 1:19 - 34; Psalm 32:1 - 2; Isaiah 40:3  
*Be Amazed: God Among Us*

Message: Glenn Nofziger II  
Worship: Don Nussbaum  
Music: Winfred Ressler  
PT Greeter: Lisa Amstutz  
Visual: Donna Johnston  
Coffee Cleanup: Jacob & K  
Greeters: Alice & Trent Metcalf

Multimedia: Ethan & Mattea  
Sound: Brandon King  
Prelude: Winfred Ressler  
Coffee Bar: Steve & Lisa  
Usher: Mike Lehman  
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: recovering well from hip arthroscopy surgery on Monday December 15th.*

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

**WEEKLY PRAYER EMPHASIS:** *Pray for people who have been uprooted from their homes in places like Ukraine, Central America and the Democratic Republic of Congo. We pray for the continued presence of the incarnate God with families searching for a safe place to rest. We pray that this Advent season and Christmas to follow will be one in which Jesus comes to you anew, filling you with hope.*

*-The staff of MCC Great Lakes*

**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.

Our celebration this year includes breakfast together again. Families with 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. If anyone would like to contribute to live music contact Ken Neuenschwander. Donations for the food tables will also be accepted. \$3,900.00 to date has been raised through Alternative Christmas.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** There will be no Adult Sunday School on today, December 21<sup>st</sup> so plan to stay in the fellowship hall to visit until 10:30 worship. We will start breakfast at 9 am this 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. Orders placed after Sunday, December 14 are not guaranteed to get here before Christmas but there are a number of cards kept in stock. See Ellen Nussbaum with any questions or for a list of vendors, or go to [www.raiseright.com/brands](http://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 21<sup>st</sup> 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