

December 17, 2017

3rd Sunday of Advent

Pianist: Geoffrey Zimmerly • Organist: Phyllis Snyder

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude: *Angels, from the Realms of Glory* - piano/organ

Lighting the Third Advent Candle

Dale & Donna Ru Lon

***Song:** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* pg. 245 vs. 1, 2, 3

Scripture: Matthew 1:18-25 (pew Bible pg. 1497)

Ministry in Music: *In the First Light* - choir

Prayer

Our Worship in Giving:

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel - piano/organ
(First-time guests, please do not feel obligated to give.
Your presence with us today is gift enough.)

*Doxology pg. 166

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all
creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Song: *Joy to the World!* pg. 270

(Children ages 3-6 dismissed to the back of the sanctuary.)

Message: Unwrapping Christmas Gifts: The Holy Spirit

***Song:** *O Little Town of Bethlehem* pg. 250 vs. 1, 4

*Closing Prayer & Response

Emmanuel pg. 243

_____ the _____ of the Holy
Spirit.

Flowers on the communion table are given by Lyle Schrock
in memory of Marilyn.

*If able, please stand

December 17, 2017

First Time @ Smithville Brethren?

Welcome, we are thrilled to have you as our guests today. Here is some information you will find helpful.

First, there is a gift waiting for you at our welcome center in the main lobby. Please stop by so we can give it to you.

Second, we would like you to know that we have two worship services here at Smithville Brethren. We have a 9:00 am service in the Sanctuary with a traditional feel and an 11:15 am service in the Upper Fellowship Hall with a contemporary feel.

Third, we believe that the responsibility to support the church financially rests upon the members and friends of this church and not on you, our guest. Please do not feel obligated to participate in the offering today.

Fourth, we love children here at SBC so we have a nursery which is open for children from birth to two years old. You may bring your child to the lower level for either service and Sunday school. Our nursery is staffed by loving people who would enjoy caring for your child. If you desire to keep your child in the service, that is perfectly fine also.

Fifth, during both services we also have Jr. church for children ages 3-6. Jr. church begins partway through the service and allows your child a chance to learn about God in a more age appropriate environment. Jr. church is located in the lower level, room #117. You will see a slide on the screen that tells when to send your child out for Jr. church, if you desire to do so.

Volunteers for Today:

9:00 Children's Church: Sara Beichler
Nursery: April & Beth Pearce, Jessica Dravenstott
11:15 Children's Church: Russ King, Rebekah Carr
Nursery: Sylvia King, Sue Roe

Sunday, Dec. 17

6:00 Youth Hangout (6th-12th grade)

Wednesday, Dec. 20

6:30 Blanket Ministry
6:30 Time of Prayer
7:00 Choir practice

Saturday, Dec. 23

9:00 Bell Choir practice LFH

Prayer

- Betsy West - Apostolic Nursing Home
- Bertha Rudy - Apostolic Nursing Home
- Walt & Gail Sniff
- Bill & Glenna Mast
- Charles & Edna Fleming - Danbury Senior Living
- Hilda Flory
- Doris Morrison - Wayne County Care Center

Friends Club! (age 5-5th grade) Next up: A Friends' Club caroling outing! Bring your family and join us as we go Christmas caroling with the young adult Sunday School class! We will meet at the church today at 4:30 pm and head out to spread a little Christmas cheer. We will meet back at the church about 6:00 pm for pizza and cookies. Call Jennifer Carr 330-262-3358 or Melissa Underwood 216-387-4802 for more information and to let us know you will be joining us.



Board Meeting *Official Board* is meeting Monday, Dec. 18, at 6:45 pm.

Food Distribution We will be distributing food to local needy families. We need people to help organize the food on Monday, Dec. 18, 9:00-10:30 am. We also need people 2:30-4:00 and 6:00-7:30 pm, (the same day) to help distribute. Please sign the sheet on the Information table.

Christmas Challenge! This year's Christmas Challenge will go to Camp Bethany. The Lodge has a new two-story expansion and needs furniture! Camp Bethany, and the Lodge in particular, are used year round for many events; enhancing this building opens the door for Camp to be accessible for many different groups. As part of our multi-phase project, we are first adding four new bedrooms and two new bathrooms on each floor. Doing so will allow the Lodge to be more appealing for small family retreats. Please mark your checks for "Christmas Challenge."



*O come, let us
adore him!*

Christmas Eve Service Invite family and friends to the Christmas Eve Services, Sunday, December 24 at 5:00 & 6:30 pm. The 5:00 pm service will be in the upper fellowship hall with our worship team. The 6:30 pm service will be in the sanctuary with a more traditional feel. Both services will include a special time for children and a message.

Deadline for the January Forward Look is next Sunday, Dec. 24. Please put news articles in the black office box on the Information table, or email to sbrethren@earthlink.net.

For weather-related cancellations at Smithville Brethren Church listen to 104.5 FM WQKT and check our website at smithvillebrethren.org.

Pastor Art Carr • e-mail: artcarr@earthlink.net
Pastor H. Ray Aspinall • e-mail: hrayaspinall@earthlink.net
Ted Peplowski, Contemporary Worship Leader • tpeplowski@aol.com
Carol Horst, Secretary • e-mail: sbrethren@earthlink.net

Flower Donations If you would like to sign up to donate flowers for the 9:00 am worship service in 2018, the flower chart is located near the Information table. Cost is \$30 and checks can be made out to Smithville Brethren Church marked "flowers" and placed in the offering.

Thank you for your continued support of the four orphans that our church supports in Rajamundry, India! Please continue to pray for them. If you would like to write to them, I can give you the address of the orphanage. Cards may also be sent with the group traveling to India at the end of December. Contact Sue McConahay to send them. There is more information in the December newsletter.

Church Mailboxes Please check your mailboxes for any Christmas cards or other information, especially during this holiday season. Your mail is in the box BELOW your name.

Cookies for Breakaway! Breakaway is a time-released Christian education class at Smithville. Our church has been asked to donate cookies for 2 weeks in January. A total of 16 doz. cookies are needed. The cookies can be homemade or store bought. Sign up sheet is located at the Information table. Cookies can be left in the upper kitchen marked "Breakaway" by January 7.



The 2018 Offering Envelopes are ready for pick up and are in the upper fellowship hall on the table against the north wall. If anyone is interested in getting envelopes, please contact Dee Durbin at 330-262-4525.

Mark Your Calendars! Installation of new officers for the 2018 year will be held January 14 during our combined worship service. A Soup and Sandwich Luncheon will follow the service.

Handel's Messiah You are invited to hear selections from Handel's Messiah performed at Oak Grove Mennonite Church, 7843 Smucker Rd., Smithville, today at 2:30 pm.