

**About the Cover:** Marian Hostetler, a member of North Goshen Mennonite Church since 1967, is generously offering her artistic gifts to guide us through this season of Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany. Her work as a calligrapher is nothing short of extraordinary, each piece a blend of precision and poetry. Marian's creativity extends to Japanese-inspired water-color paintings, often depicting delicate birds and trees that she sometimes turns into beautiful greeting cards. Her thoughtful sketches and drawings will bring depth and meaning to the stories we are walking with together this season. We are grateful for the care she has poured into this project, which connects us visually to the hope and promise of the Advent journey.

**Attendance: December 1— 64**

**North Goshen Mennonite Church**

501 N. 8th St., Goshen, IN 46528

574-533-4255 | office@northgoshenmc.org

www.northgoshenmc.org

**Pastoral Team**

Becky Helmuth 574-370-0767 | rebeccahelmuth@gmail.com

Becky's office hours: Tues. and Thurs., 9 am to 2 pm

Sabbath day: Monday

Izaete Nafziger 574-202-4344 | Izaete@northgoshenmc.org

**Office Administrator**

Belen Robledo 574-533-4255 | office@northgoshenmc.org

**Congregational Chair**

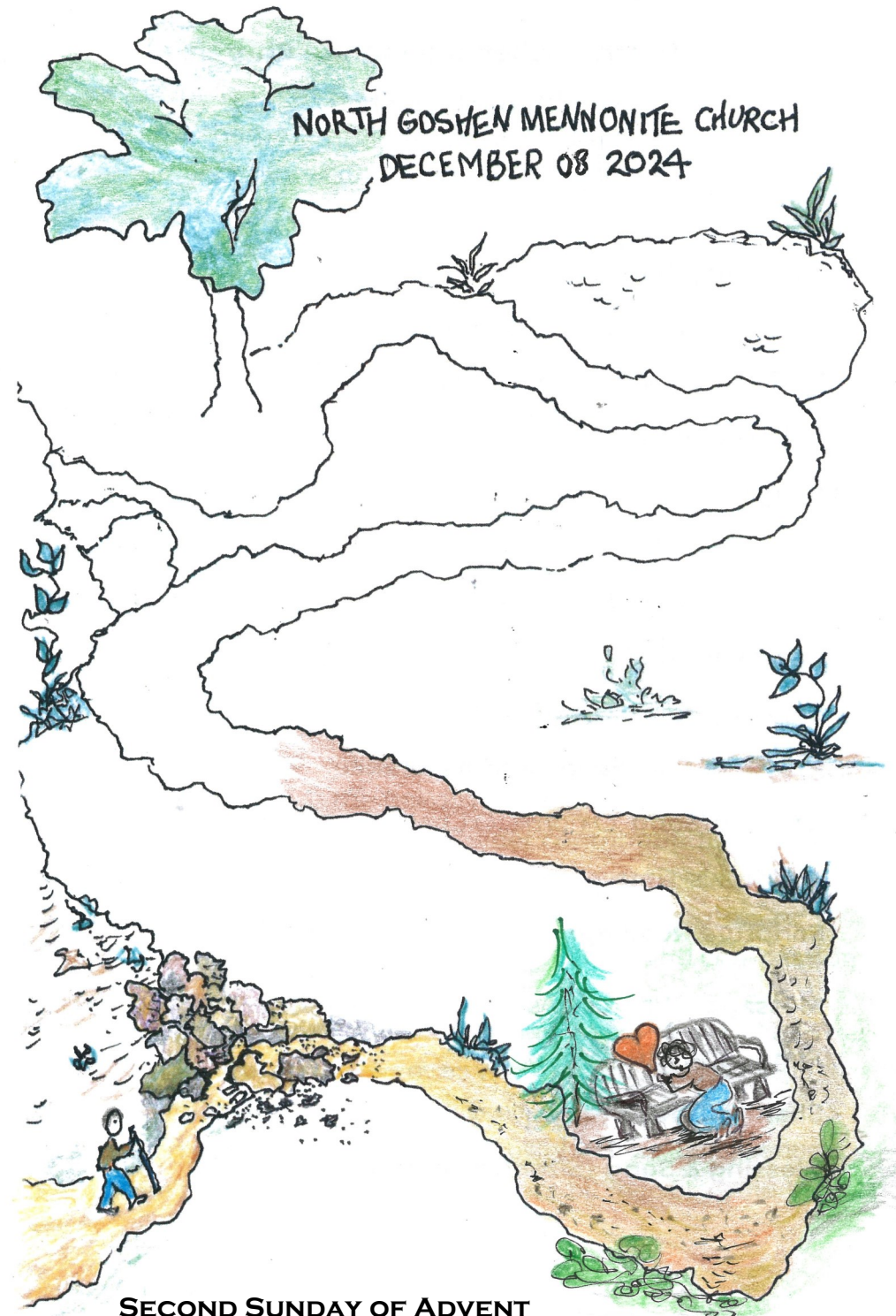
Kathy Nofziger Yeakey kathynofyeak@gmail.com

**Elder Team**

Jerry Wittrig jwtrg@comcast.net

Belen Robledo belen\_2910@live.com

Jan Lehman (Chair) jan.miller.lehman@gmail.com



# North Goshen Mennonite Church

## Second Sunday of Advent

*Opening Hearts: What Do We Ask For?*

December 8, 2024

**Gathering Song** Todd H.  
*Hamba Nathi (Come Walk With Us)* VT 023

**Welcome & Announcements** Sue L.S.

### Call to Worship

**Songs**  
*Holy Spirit, Come with Power* VT 057  
*There Is More Love Somewhere* VT 804

**Candlelighting** Greg S. & Sue L.S.

**Song** *Fluye, Espiritu, Fluye*

### Prayer of Confession and Assurance

**Offering/Song** *To Us a Child of Hope Is Born* VT 259

**Children's Time** Erin B.M., Kristina B.M., & Jenny G.

**Scripture Reading:** Joel 2:12–13, 28–29; Luke 11:5-13  
Mary T. & Alan L.

**Message** *The Season of Asking* Michael Y.

**Song** *Create in Me a Clean Heart* VT 141

### Sharing Time & Prayer

**Blessing & Song** *You Shall go out with Joy* VT 847

## Today

9:00 AM Sunday School

10:15 AM Worship—Second Sunday of Advent

### Today's Volunteers

Children's Church: Daisy G., Joan U., & Kristina B.M.

Nursery: Belen R., Jeff U., & Jenny G.

Song Leader: Todd H. Translator: Erin Be-Mo

### This Week\*\*

Tue., 9:00 AM Women's Bible Study

Wed., 6:30 PM Immigration Workshop with in the Fellowship Hall (Community Event) - Child care provided.

Thu., 7:00 PM Men's Group @ Nick's

Sat., 10:30-2:00 PM Youth Group Cookie Baking @ church

\*\*Becky will be out of town from this evening to Tues. afternoon. Please contact Izaete/Elders for pastoral care needs.

## Next Sunday

9:00 AM Sunday School

10:15 Worship—Third Sunday of Advent

Scripture: Isaiah 61:1–11; Luke 4:16–21

Advent 3 Theme: *Anointing for Justice: Who Belongs?*

Worship Leader: Ronda K. Song Leader: Erica U.

Children's Church: Christmas Program

Nursery: Tony U., Hilda L, & Kristina B.M.

## Second Sunday of Advent

This week, we reflect on *Opening Hearts: What Do We Ask For?* On this second Sunday of Advent, our worship series, ***Together on the Journey***, invites us to return to God with openness and humility, trusting in God's mercy and the Spirit's power to renew us. Together, we pause to seek and receive, making space for God's love to transform our lives and guide our journey.

## Announcements

**Visuals for the Advent Series:** Our Advent visuals, centered on the theme *“Together on the Journey,”* unfold both in the sanctuary and on Marian’s beautifully designed bulletin covers. Her illustration of a winding path progresses each week, adding new symbols. This Sunday, the second Advent candle is adorned with a small heart, representing openness to God’s love and Spirit. Marian’s artwork now includes a figure bowed in prayer beside a heart, reflecting the act of seeking God with humility. These visuals remind us to open our hearts to God’s renewing and transforming presence.

**Sharing and Samaritan Funds:** As we continue through Advent season, we are reminded of the joy and calling to care for one another. At North Goshen, we do this through the Samaritan Fund, which supports those in our community facing financial challenges, and the Sharing Fund, which provides assistance to those within our congregation. With the holiday season upon us, the needs are great, and we invite you to consider contributing to replenish these vital resources. Your generosity allows us to embody Christ’s love and care for our neighbors in meaningful ways. Thank you for being part of this ministry of love and compassion.

**Seeking Greeters for December and January:** We are looking for volunteers to serve as greeters during December and January. This is a wonderful opportunity to embody Christ’s hospitality by warmly welcoming everyone who enters our doors—whether they are long-time members, visitors, or new faces exploring our community. If you feel called to this ministry of presence and connection, please sign up on the sheet hanging on the office bulletin board. Let’s work together to create a space where all are seen, valued, and embraced in love. Thank you for being part of this ministry of welcome

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### **Upcoming Event: Know Your Rights Presentation:**

This Wednesday, Dec. 11, at 7:00 PM, North Goshen Mennonite Church will host a **Know Your Rights** presentation in the fellowship hall. Lisa Koop Liechty and Jherlly Acosta, legal experts from the National Immigrant Justice Center in Goshen will share valuable information about potential immigration changes under the new presidential administration and explain available legal protections for members of our community.

This event is intended primarily for Spanish-speaking immigrant families. Allies are welcome to attend and listen, but the presentation will be conducted in Spanish to ensure accessibility and safety for immigrant families. Please note that for reasons of safety and confidentiality, no specific immigration cases will be discussed.

We are asking for volunteers to help make this event a success. Specifically, we need:

- **Childcare helpers:** to help the youth group to supervise children in the basement during the presentation.
- **Peacekeepers:** to be present in the foyer as a precautionary measure, ensuring a welcoming and safe environment for all attendees.

While we do not anticipate opposition, we want to be prepared. If you are willing to serve as a volunteer or have questions about this event, please contact Pastors Becky or Izaete.

Let's join together to extend hospitality and care to our friends and neighbors in this important time.

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