

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 watercolor 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 8— 71

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

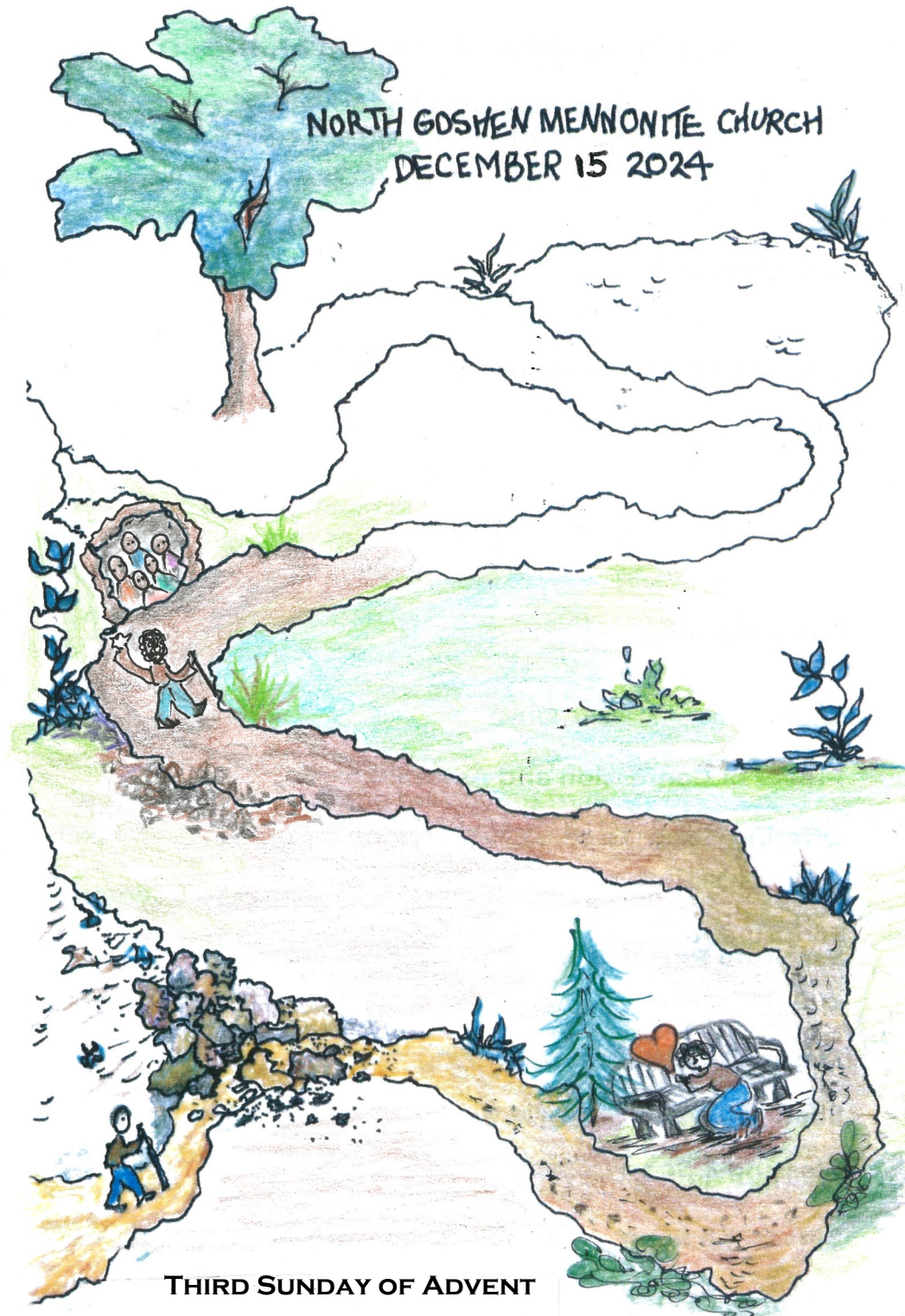
jwtrg@comcast.net

Belen Robledo

belen_2910@live.com

Jan Lehman (Chair)

jan.miller.lehman@gmail.com



North Goshen Mennonite Church

Third Sunday of Advent

Anointing for Justice: Who Belongs?

December 15, 2024

Gathering Song

Bless'd Be the God of Israel

Erica U.

VT 223

Welcome & Announcements

Ronda S.K.

Call to Worship

Children's Caroling

Bonnie & Daisy

Little Drummer Boy

In a Manger

Jingle Bells

Noche de Paz

Candlelighting

Erica , Joel, Leena, Eliza U.

Song *Fluye, Espiritu, Fluye*

Offering/Song *Beauty for Brokenness*

VT 712

Children's Time

Erin Be-Mo, Jordan & Ashlynn R.

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

Ronda & Edith

Reflection *Who Belongs at the Table?*

Becky H.

Song *My Soul Cries Out (Canticle of the Turning)*

VT 412

Sharing Time & Prayer

Ronda

Blessing & Song *Mountain of God*

VT 011

Today

9:00 AM Sunday School

10:15 AM Worship—Third Sunday of Advent

Today's Volunteers

Children's Church: Christmas Program

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

Song Leader: Erica U. /Todd Translator: Erin Be-Mo

This Week

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

*The Women's Bible Study will not meet on Dec. 24 and Dec. 31, and will return meeting on Jan. 7

Wed., 6:00 PM Community Meal**

**Community Meal theme: My favorite holiday meal

Next Sunday

9:00 AM Sunday School

10:15 Worship—Fourth Sunday of Advent

Scripture: Luke 1:26-49; Psalm 113

Advent 4: *Embodying God's Spirit: Who Lends a Hand?*

Worship Leader: Michael Y. Song Leader: Todd H.

Speaker: Nick K.

Children's Time: Erin Be-Mo

Candlelighters: Alan, Daisy, Catalina, & Luca L.

Children's Church: Bonnie C., Harlan S., & Kristina B.M.

Nursery: Elaine Thomas, Kerry Cripe & Jenny G.

Third Sunday of Advent

This week, we reflect on *Anointing for Justice: Who Belongs?* On this third Sunday of Advent, our worship series, ***Together on the Journey***, calls us to extend God's radical love and justice to all. Together, we celebrate the Spirit's anointing to proclaim good news, bring healing, and create a world where everyone belongs.

Announcements

Visuals for the Advent Series: Our Advent visuals, centered on the theme *“Together on the Journey,”* continue to unfold in the sanctuary and on Marian’s illustrated bulletin covers. This Sunday, the third Advent candle is adorned with frayed cloth, symbolizing the call to mend what is broken and extend belonging to those on the margins. The bulletin cover now features figures extending their hands toward others, reflecting acts of healing and justice. These visuals remind us of God’s radical invitation to create a world where all are seen, loved, and included.

December Community Meal: Join us on Wed., Dec. 18, for our monthly **Community Meal** as we celebrate the season with the theme: **“My Favorite Holiday Meal.”** Bring a dish that brings back cherished memories or is a favorite tradition in your household during Christmas. Whether it's Grandma's famous stuffing, a secret family cookie recipe, or that casserole you can't imagine the holidays without, we'd love for you to share it! Come hungry and ready for food, fellowship, and a festive evening celebrating the flavors of the season! All are welcome—bring a friend!

Help Us Fill the Manger with Warmth! Thank you to everyone who has contributed gloves, hats, scarves, and socks to fill the manger in the Gathering Area! These warm items will be distributed to our Food Pantry guests at East Goshen over the next several weeks. If you haven't had a chance to donate yet, it's not too late. Especially needed are items for small children. Let's continue sharing God's love through these small acts of care.

Feedback on Email Newsletters: We'd love to hear your thoughts on how best to communicate with you. Would you prefer two separate emails—one early in the week with prayer requests and announcements and another on Friday with worship service details? Or would you prefer a single, combined email sent on Fridays? Let us know which format works best for you so we can keep you informed in the way that's most helpful!

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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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