

# First Mennonite Church

566 West Main Street, Berne, Indiana 46711  
260-589-3108



Trust in the LORD  
with all your heart  
and lean not on your  
own understanding;  
in all your ways  
submit to him,  
and he will make your  
paths straight.

Proverbs 3:5-6

## TODAY'S SERVICE

December 28, 2025

9:00 a.m. Sunday School - - - 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship

Morning worship is broadcast at 10:00 a.m.

No Evening Service

Radio – 1440AM, 100.9FM; Scanner – frequency 161.76

Online – [www.firstmennonite.org](http://www.firstmennonite.org); guest Wi-Fi password – fmcguest

Jeff Linthicum – Senior Pastor

Jim Schwartz – Care & Visitation Pastor

Brent Hyman – Music & Worship Ministries

Chris Hyman & Debby Neuenschwander – Children's Ministries

WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP SERVICE  
ORGANIST --- Scott Lehman ✚ WORSHIP LEADER --- Brent Hyman

Prelude *Good People All, This Christmas Time*/Tucker

Welcome Brent Hyman

*\*Holy Forever*

*\*A Christmas Hymn*

*\*O Come, Let Us Adore Him* (v. 1)

Necrology Pastor Jim Schwartz

#193 [blue] *Silent Night, Holy Night* (vs. 1,3)

#194 [blue] *Away in a Manger* (vs. 1,3)

Children may come forward for the Children's Story during *Away in a Manger*.

Children's Story Gwen Habegger

After the story, children ages 4-Kindergarten may walk to Children's Church.

Intercessory/Offering Prayer Ernie Steiner

Offertory *Christmas in Heaven*/Keverin

Scripture: Proverbs 3:5-6 Ella Bluhm

Message *Be Prepared to Be Surprised*/Pastor Jim Schwartz

*\*He Shall Reign*

Commissioning of Camden Hyman Pastor Jeff Linthicum

Announcements

\*Benediction Pastor Jeff Linthicum

\*Postlude *Praise Ye the Lord of Hosts* from "*The Christmas Oratorio*"/Saint-Saens

If you would like someone to pray with you following the service, please go to the chapel, as someone is waiting to pray with you.

## TODAY AT FIRST MENNONITE

**9:00 a.m.** Sunday School (chapel): Heidi Lehman  
**NO EVENING SERVICE**

**The flowers** on the organ this morning are in honor of Roy & Karen Lehman's 70<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on Dec. 31.

**Today** is Project Share. This month our church is requested to provide beans; however, all donations are appreciated.

## ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

**MONDAY – December 29**  
**MINISTRIES COUNCIL**

**TUESDAY – December 30**  
Sunshine Hour

**WEDNESDAY – December 31**  
**CHURCH OFFICE CLOSING AT NOON**  
**NO EVENING MEAL/ACTIVITIES**

**THURSDAY, JAN.1 AND FRIDAY, JAN 2**  
**CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED**

**SUNDAY – January 4**

**9:00 a.m.** Sunday School: Marcia Cressman  
**10:00 a.m.** "Encouragement": Pastor Jeff Linthicum  
**6:30 p.m.** Revelation 6: Dr. Kent Lehman

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Communion:** We will be celebrating communion together next Sunday, Jan. 4, during our worship service. Please take time to reflect on the meaning of communion and come ready to celebrate the sacrifice Jesus has made for us. **Swiss Village Residents:** For members of First Mennonite living at Swiss Village who wish to participate in communion next Sunday, the elements will be available at the front desk the day before communion.

**Year-End Reports:** Treasurers of Sunday School classes, Chancel Choir, and Mennonite Choral Society, please turn in your year-end reports by this Wednesday, Dec. 31.

**Annual Business Meeting Reports:** Year-end reports for Ministries Council, Spiritual Guidance Cabinet, Stewardship/Facilities (Trustees), Adult Ministries Committee, Endowment Board of Trustees, Care Commission, Disciple Commission, Witness Commission, Worship Commission, and pastors are due to the church office no later than this Wednesday, Dec 31.

**Individual Year-End Giving:** In order for year-end contributions to be credited to this year's giving, they must be received at the church office, or postmarked, by this Wednesday, Dec. 31, (the church office will be open until noon that day). Contributions received after Dec. 31 will be posted as 2026 giving.

**Sunday Evening Chapel Services in January:** We will continue the study of the book of Revelation during the month of January. Dr. Kent Lehman will be teaching.

**Children's Ministries Openings:** We have these openings this winter: 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> grade Sunday school (once a month); K-2 Wednesday night teacher (every week for the quarter); and Wednesday baby/toddler nursery volunteers. Please contact Chris Hyman at [chris@firstmennonite.org](mailto:chris@firstmennonite.org) or call her at (260) 525-9967. You may also use the church app to let us know of your interest!

**Funeral Committee:** **Ladies, we need your help!** The Funeral Committee needs ladies to step up and chair the meals. We have enough ladies to help prepare the meals, but need more people to be in charge. If you are interested in helping, please call the church office.

**MCC Meat Canner:** Mark your calendars! The MCC meat canner will be here at First Mennonite on **Friday, Jan. 23, and Saturday, Jan. 24, 2026**. Also, the Meat Canner Committee is looking for housing for two canner boys during their stay in Berne. The canner boys will be in town from **Thursday, Jan. 22, to Monday, Jan. 26, 2026**. For more information, please contact Paul Bluhm at (260) 223-2142.

**Hope Clinic Baby Shower:** We love babies! And we love their Moms and Dads! In support of Sanctity of Human Life, we are asking you to purchase **new** items for the Hope Clinic. We are hosting a church-wide baby shower so that we can bless those who have chosen life for their child. The following are **new** items that are always needed: **New baby equipment:** cribs/mattresses, pack 'n plays with bassinet, swings, bouncer seats, highchairs, baby gates, strollers, car seats/booster car seats, high back booster seats, potty chair or ring, baby monitors; **baby care items:** baby wash/shampoo/lotion, formula (especially Enfamil), baby food/toddler snacks, laundry soap, infant care kits (clippers, medicine dispenser, suction bulb, etc.), crib and pack 'n play sheets, baby wash cloths/hooded towels, baby bathmat/tubs; **supplies:** bottles, teething and baby toys, diapers (newborn, 3, 4, 5 & 6), wipes, pull-ups (2T-3T, 3T-4T, 4T-5T), sippy cups/baby tableware, clothes/coats (newborn through 7T), toys/games (newborn to age 5), backpacks/school supplies, children's books (infant to age 5), baby blankets. For our mothers we need used maternity clothes, adult hats and instant pot cookers. **Note: Items NOT needed at this time include burp cloths, diapers in sizes 1 and 2, baby powder and baby oil.**

**Marriage Conference:** Are you serious about your marriage.....or maybe just trying to keep your head above water these days? Work, kids' sports, groceries, gas, repairs—whew! Life is a lot. If you're ready for a breather...and a chance to rediscover your marriage partner, we've got you covered. Please join us at the Adams County Fairgrounds on **Feb. 13 & 14, 2026**, for fun, food, fellowship—and a fresh start! You can register at [adamscountystrong.org](http://adamscountystrong.org).

**Congratulations** and best wishes of the congregation are extended to Stan & Dianne Von Gunten, who are celebrating their 57<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary today; to Malcolm and Jeanne Stauffer, who are celebrating their 51<sup>st</sup> wedding anniversary today; to Warren & Pat Willie, who will be celebrating their 53<sup>rd</sup> wedding anniversary on Dec. 29; to Roy & Karen Lehman, who will be celebrating their 70<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on Dec. 31; to Paul & Evelyn Norr, who will be celebrating their 61<sup>st</sup> wedding anniversary on Jan. 2; and to Ernie & Janice Steiner, who will be celebrating their 56<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on Jan. 3.

## **YOUTH**

**Ski Trip:** Join us on **Saturday, Jan. 24, 2026**, as we experience Midnight Madness at Mad River Mountain, located in central Ohio. Please sign up in the Youth room.

**Winter Retreat.** The Youth Winter Retreat is scheduled for **Jan. 30-Feb. 1, 2026**. Please sign up with the QR code in the Youth room.