

Benton Mennonite Church

December 21 2008

Worship Leader: Jill H Kaufman

Stewards: Jr Youth

Song Leader: Brenda Meyer

Skit: Children's Sunday school
led by Martha Williams, Lyn Buschert

Call to Worship

Leader: God is looking for a house, a place to move into, a place to reside.

People: And not just any home. Not just any temple.

Leader: God is interested in flesh-and blood houses, bodies to receive God's presence.

People: Not perfect bodies, but willing bodies, ready to welcome the gift of Divine life.

Leader: The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you.

People: The most High desires us as a house, a place to move into, a place to reside.

All: For nothing will be impossible with God. Thanks be to God.

Invocation

Scripture: Luke 1:26-38

Gathering Songs

WB 278 Come, thou long-expected Jesus

WB 191 O little town of Bethlehem

Confessing

Voice 1: We are afraid that there won't be enough, and so we hold tight to what we have.

All: Remind us of your gift of enough. Open our hands to welcome you.

Voice 2: We are afraid that you will see what is inside us, and so we close our hearts.

All: Remind us that with you there is forgiveness. Open our hearts to welcome you.

Voice 3: We are afraid of what you will ask of us, and so we fill our ears with busyness.

All: Remind us that with you there is fulfillment. Open our lives to welcome you.

Song of response

WB 182 O how shall I receive thee

Offering

Songs of Praise

WB 184 Hark, the glad sound

WB 209 Oh, how joyfully

Christmas Story: Luke 2:8-20

WB 197 Angels we have heard on high

WB 211 Lo, how a rose e'er blooming.

SKIT

Congregational Sharing and Prayer

Sending

WB 181 My soul proclaims with wonder

Benediction

Today

✠ No Sunday School

✠ 6 pm –Attention carolers! Bring your goodies and songbooks to Greencroft Evergreen Place. See Lyn for details.

Next Sunday

✠ Calvin Kaufman, a former pastor at Benton, will preach on “The embracing face of God” based on Luke 2:22-40, Isaiah 61:10-62:3, Galatians 4:4-7 and Psalm 148.

Worship Team for December 28 2008

Worship Leader – Dave Miller

Children's Focus – Donna Risser

Song Leader – Brenda Meyer

AV Technician – Jerry Shaum

Stewards – Jr Youth

Greeters – Sharon & Larry Erb

Announcements and other bulletin information can be sent to bulletin@bentonchurch.org or left in the bottom left drawer of the desk in the secretary's office. All information is due by Thursday evening.

Attendance for Sunday, December 14 2008

Total: 74

Visitors: 4

Please remember in prayer...

- ✝ The five members of CHAK, an Iraqi Kurdish activist group, who were arrested by local police for distributing a flyer protesting the continued bombing of Iraqi Kurdistan by Turkey and Iran.
- ✝ Elizabeth Buschert who will be going to Seattle in the new year to work in Earth Corps.
- ✝ The three Mennonite churches in Hong Kong as next Sunday they consider their decision to join together as one church, strengthening their church ministry and more effectively using their resources.
- ✝ Praise God for the new academic center at the Lancaster campus of Lancaster Mennonite School which is being dedicated today. Pray for students, administration, and faculty as this "green" facility provides not only a place to teach but a place where students can learn how to care for God's creation.

Benton Mennonite Church

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Pastors: Brenda H. Meyer
Doug H. Kaufman

God calls us into a community of faith
forms us into disciples
sends us into the world.

