

Welcome Newcomers!

We hope you sense God's presence and enjoy your time of worship with us today. We have a staffed nursery, Children's Church for ages 3 – 5th grade, which will be dismissed during the worship service, and Sunday school for all ages. If you need assistance in finding any of these areas, an usher or greeter will gladly help you. Please take time to sign in on the red attendance register in your row.

Contact Us

Community Mennonite Fellowship

2985 Broadway Road, Milton, PA 17847

570-742-7315

www.cmfmilton.org



Sunday worship service: 9:15 AM Sunday school: 10:45 AM

Our church office is open
M-F, 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM

Timothy Darling
(Lead Pastor)
tim@cmfmilton.org

Jim Hostetter
(Pastor of Youth and Young Adults)
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Amy Goodwin
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Nigel Fulmore-Smith
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(Finance)
finance@cmfmilton.org

Tammy Trate
(Administrative Assistant)
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Looking Ahead

December 21	Zesty Zenior Christmas Caroling
December 24	Morning Christmas Worship Service
December 24	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
December 25-26	Office Closed
December 31	2024 Budget Ballots Due
January 1-2	Office Closed



"Joy: It's Not Just for Christmas"

Luke 2:8-11, Philippians 3:1-9

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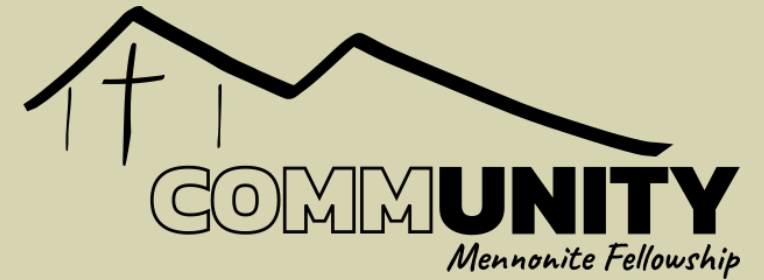
Does some part of your life make you feel like nothing good could ever come from you? Were you ever told that by someone else?

If righteousness is supposed to bring joy, why do you think doing the right thing is so hard sometimes?

How does Jesus in your life bring victory over sin?



An electronic version of Pastor Tim's Advent devotional is available. Scan for an online version. Hard copies are on the lobby table along the wall by the bulletin board.



December 17, 2023



Joachim Wtewael, *The Annunciation to the Shepherds*, 1606

*Together,
pressing in toward Christ;
reaching out to the world.*





Today is the third Sunday of Advent. Adult Advent devotionals, written by Pastor Tim, are still available in the lobby. Please help yourself. Children are encouraged to use the *goodkind* Advent blocks they received last year.

Thank you, Carrie Beachy for putting together today's CC Boom Bell Choir! We love it when our kids can help us "ring in Christmas!"

Would you like to be prayed for today? Every Sunday, after the sermon, an Elder is available at the front of the auditorium to anoint you with oil and pray for your needs. We encourage you to partake of this special time of prayer.

2024 Offering envelopes have been placed in church mailboxes. The envelopes are for your convenience and help keep giving confidential. They also make it easier to track tax receipts. If you received envelopes in your mailbox but don't want them, please return to Erv Blank's church mailbox. If you did not receive envelopes but want them, please contact Erv at finance@cmfmilton.org.



It's Giving Tree Day! "Thank you!" to everyone who helped families in need from the Milton School District! Gifts can be placed on the table in the lobby and will be delivered to White Deer Elementary this week, just in time for Christmas!



Zesty Zeniors Christmas Caroling: If you or your spouse are 55 or over, join us at the church at 1:30 PM **this Thursday, December 21**, from where we will leave to carol at two area nursing homes. Afterward, we will return to the church for hot chocolate and cookies. Please sign up in the lobby to let us know you will be coming.

Join us at 9:15 AM, next Sunday, December 24, to celebrate the birth of our Savior. There will be no Sunday school that day, to allow more time for families to visit during the Christmas holiday.



Join us today for an adult Sunday school class:

Room #	Name of Class	Teachers
Rooms 201/202	<i>Ruth: Faithfulness in Famine</i>	Norman & Dorothy Hoy
Room 203	<i>Letting Go and Letting God Lead</i>	Nancy Magargle
Room 305	<i>Redemptive Compassion</i>	Julie Tyson



A Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will be held next Sunday, **December 24**, at 6:30 PM. Join us for this special time of worship to celebrate the birth of our Savior. Note: Childcare will not be provided, but the nursery will be open for parents to use.

Church offices will be closed December 25-26 and January 1-2. If you have a pastoral emergency during this time, please contact a CMF elder: Ken Bergey, Norman Hoy, Barry Nolt, Chris Long, or Rod Yoder; or Pastoral Care: Pamela Jablonski or Reba Yoder.

Ballots for the 2024 CMF Budget were placed in members' mailboxes last week and are due no later than **December 31**. See Josh Blank or Ervin Blank with any questions. (No large outdoor play structure for children is being pursued for 2024.)

A fishing rod building class will begin in the New Year. If interested, contact Larry Seibert, at 570-850-8946, **by December 31**, so supplies and components can be ordered in time to start in early February.

Super Sunday School is coming! Watch for details of exciting new Sunday school classes in the New Year for adults and youth combined. Teens and adults together. Multiple generations sharing and learning God's Word together...join the excitement! Watch for more information coming soon!

Special thanks to Betty Ayers & Shelly Feerrar for providing a card-making Christmas ConNect class for our children last Sunday! Now they will have special cards to give out this Christmas!

Winter Cancellations: In case of inclement weather, check **CMF's website** or **WGRC's website: wgrc.com**, for possible cancellation.

Young Adults

Wednesday Group-Time: Connect with others on Wednesdays, at 6:45 PM, in Room 305. See Max Kennel, Mike Yoder, or Jim Hostetter to learn more.



Christmas Party - Grad Reunion: Catch up with all your friends and meet new ones at this year's big Christmas Break Get-Together held in the Refuge at CMF, Thursday, **December 21**, at 7:00 PM, until whenever.



Grad Panel: Last year's Grads are invited to share on the "Youth Grad Panel Event," on **December 20**. Share what you've learned about college, work, and pursuing God after High School. See Jim if interested.

New opportunity: All Young Adults are welcomed to come hang out to watch the Grad Panel and afterwards to hang out with C4 for "Late-night Youth."

Children's Ministry



Advent Blocks: We hope everyone is enjoying using their Advent Blocks to keep Jesus at the center of the Christmas season! If you'd like, email or text a picture of your kids or family using the blocks to Amy Goodwin, at amy@cmfmilton.org or 570-490-6217, so we can post it on our Children's Ministry Board.



Children's Check-In: Parents, please check in your kiddos (age 3 through second grade) at the table by the gym doors. 3rd through 5th grade kids do not need to check in. Children and parents will receive dual-numbered bracelets to be checked when kids leave the gym. Although this adds a step to your routine, we care about your kids and want to keep them safe.

Youth Ministry

"Embrace and Pursue Christ"

Ignite* (Grades 6-8) and C4* (Grades 9-12):

Wednesday Youth: Lots of fun things going on in **December!** Check it out:

- 13th** - Ignite Small Group. C4 Christmas Party. Christmas worship. Normal times.
- 20th** - Ignite Christmas Party 6:00-7:15 PM. C4 Grad Panel 7:30-9:00 PM (altered times).
- 27th** - C4 Lock-In (overnighter at the church). Ignite, see the note Online and get back to Jim.

Pot Pie Event: The best fundraiser of the year! We will cook up big batches of this amazing soup on **February 2 and 3**. Mark your calendars!

Our online newsletter has more information about events or contact Jim Hostetter at 570-238-2250 or jim@cmfmilton.org for questions.

See youth event details at:
<https://newsletter.dymapps.com/featured/2142>

Parents: Not getting REMIND messages? Text @cmfparents to the number 81010.



Last Week's Offering: \$12,547

Last Week's Attendance: CMF Worship: 275 (237 in person, 38 online)
Sunday school: 134

