## Menno Bulletin Weekly

## **Bulletin Announcements for December 25, 2016**

Wishing you...
The Spirit of Christmas which is peace,
The Gladness of Christmas which is hope,
The Heart of Christmas which is love.

## Witmer Heights Church Life Activities Calendar

Jan. 4 – Community Night – meal at 6:15 – Children and adult activities at 7:00.

Jan. 18 – Elder Team meeting – 7:00 pm.

Message

Feb. 1 - Community Night – 6:15 meal -- Care Package night for college students.

Sunday, December 25Sunday, January 1Scripture readings and SingingRandy Keener

Greeters Chris and Rose Kennel Becky Nolt and Becky Rutt

- **~There is no Sunday school** scheduled for December 25. We will have a time for **worship from 10:30-11:30**.
- **~Starting Jan. 1, 2017**, an intergenerational Sunday school class "Share, Prayer, and Fellowship" will begin. The sessions will include sharing about our personal lives, current events, and where we see God at work in our midst. The class will meet at the end of the fellowship hall where the couches are located. (Room 5) and meet at the same time (9:30) as the other adult class, which meets in Room 12 to continue their study of the Fall quarter uniform series Sunday school lessons.
- **NOTICE:** An updated Church Directory will be coming out in January. Please give attention to the form in your mailbox and return it to Esther Mast's mailbox ASAP. **If you mark "No changes" please put your name on the paper.**
- ~Save the date: February 1 will be the date when our congregation will assemble care packages for the 8 college students.
- **~Remember to continue to bring to church, donations for the CVCCS Food Bank.** Boxes are provided in the East hallway. There continues to be a need. The following items (**with unexpired dates**) are suggestions: rice, pancake mix, syrup, oatmeal, jam/jelly, canned fruit, detergent (laundry or dish), toothpaste, bath soap. Your donations are appreciated.

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~Joy at Christmas! Christmas reminds us that like a tiny child, Love's touch is gentle, its smile warms hearts. It reminds us to accept what life brings, to find the gift in every event, to allow non-resistance to direct all our choices, to embrace the Joy of being what we are chosen to be and to rest in the Beauty and Love which never forsakes us.

Fred and I were blessed with our eleventh grandchild, fourth grandson, this year. His father, our son Stefan, has completed radiation, three surgeries and 18 weeks of chemotherapy for a sarcoma of the left thigh, which showed up last November. The last medical report we received the 20<sup>th</sup>. Stefan's scan and MRI six weeks after chemo show no recurrence of cancer in his leg or lung. A spot in the liver that was questionable, turned out not to be a tumor. We consider this our best Christmas gift. Thank you, thank you, giver of all that is good and perfect! Pray for Stefan as he builds strength to return to work in January. This adventure challenges us to find the meaning of today, trust in the power of best outcomes, and to let go of self-invented worry and despair which demands to know.

The Christmas gift is the call to open our hearts to Life knocking at our door, already pulsing within us, to open our eyes to see Love shining in those we meet and our ears to hear the ever-lasting Voice of gentleness, strength and assurance. Be comforted this Christmas. Peace on earth. It is God's Good Will. ~Love from Lois and Fred Gascho (Arizona)

~A Christmas letter from Nancy Marshall (Belize) was forwarded to the WH email list on Dec. 22. Remember to check it out!