Learning to Lean
Writer John Stallings

The joy I can’t explain fills my heart,
Since the day I made Jesus my King;
His blessed Holy Spirit is leading my way,
He’s teaching and I’m learning to lean.

There’s glorious vict’ry each day now for me,
Since I found His peace so serene;
He helps me with each task, if only I’ll ask;
Ev’ry day now I’m learning to lean.

Chorus
I’m learning to lean, learning to lean,
Learning to lean on Jesus.
Finding more power than I’d ever dreamed,
I’m learning to lean on Jesus.

You are invited to join the Zoom meeting of the Living Faith ABF class. You do not have to belong to this class to join. Come join us for prayer and study in Ephesians.

Topic: Living Faith ABF on Line
Time: May 17, 2020 10:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82592608073?pwd=SkdiQnArcVFhTlFScHNNVml3cGpNZz09
Meeting ID: 825 9260 8073
Password: 251816

Because of the COVID-19 outbreak at Mennonite Memorial Home the staff there are grieving, tired, and understandably exhausted as they continue to care for the residents. A couple of donated meals could lift their spirits and we can show our gratitude and support. If you’d like to contribute even $5 or $10 or more, you can email fritsch.kim@gmail.com or drop a check in the mail to Kim Fritsch at 95 Richland Drive, Bluffton. Thanks for your consideration and especially your prayers! Also, if you really want to roll up your sleeves, they are working on a list of yard work they could use help with. Email Kim directly so she can put your name on that list, if you are interested in helping spruce up MMH.

~ EBENEZER MENNONITE STAFF ~
James King, Senior Pastor jim.king@ebenezermennonite.org
David Glick, Pastor of Student Ministries david.glick@ebenezermennonite.org
Kerry Wright, Jr., Director of Children & Family Ministries kerry.wright@ebenezermennonite.org
Richard Potter, Pastor Emeritus dick.potter@ebenezermennonite.org
Kathy Brauen, Church Administrator kathy.brauen@ebenezermennonite.org
Deb Hilty, Secretary deb.hilty@ebenezermennonite.org
Doug Messinger, Custodian doug.messinger@ebenezermennonite.org

We hope you are benefiting from the daily devotionals provided by our pastors and deacons. Check your email each day for a short devotional to assist you in staying encouraged and connected to the Lord. You may also use social media (go to Facebook and ‘like’ Ebenezer Mennonite Church and our church website (www.ebenezermennonite.org) to hear our pastor share a weekly message. If you would like to be added to our all church email group, have any prayer requests, concerns, or needs, please let us know by calling 419-358-8588 or email kathy.brauen@ebenezermennonite.org.

The Ebenezer church pastors and staff have returned to their regular office hours. Please call 419-358-8588 or email at info@ebenezermennonite.org if you would like to schedule an appointment with any of the staff.

We want to thank the Lord for the blessings He has given Ebenezer during this time and ask for prayers for wisdom as we plan for the future. Please contact any of the Deacons or Pastors with any needs.
~ GIVING ~

(During church closure due to COVID-19)

Giving for May 4-10: $18,440.00
- Building Fund/HVAC Project: 7,605.00
- Christian Fund: 85.00
- General Fund: 6,605.00
- Missions Fund: 3,145.00
- Youth Fund: 1,000.00

We are working on putting together our 2020 high school graduates Bibles, and we are hoping to include notes inside the Bible from you! Please write an encouraging note or a favorite Bible verse with which we can encourage our graduates. Feel free to email them to david.glick@ebenezermennonite.org or drop in his mailbox at the Glick house (165 N. Jackson, Bluffton) early this week! Let us encourage our graduates with God’s Word!

~ CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER REQUESTS ~

Elders located in area nursing homes, isolated in their rooms without visitors. Special prayer for Mennonite Memorial Home.

Persons diagnosed with and fighting the coronavirus.

Missionaries, local and around the world.

We need each other now more than ever!

With that we encourage you, if you are healthy and do not have any underlying health conditions, to join others in a small group. This can be another family, a couple, or some friends. Please read the guidelines below. Discussion questions that correlate with the Sunday message are available upon request from Pastor Jim and also will be posted on Facebook and sent by church email. We also have a guide for what to do with children in a small group setting. Just ask for it and we will email to you. Any questions, contact Pastor Jim. Together we live out Acts 2:42!!

The Church Meets in Small Groups – Life Groups

With Ohio moving to “Make Ohio Safe,” we will be able as a church to meet in small groups in homes. What follows is a plan for this to happen. We have attempted to keep this as simple as possible so small groups can gather and function. The small groups are based on Acts 2:42, “They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.” The word “devoted” means to give constant attention to. There are four main components which we are to be devoted to as we meet in small groups: teaching – scripture, fellowship, hospitality, prayer.

Guidelines for Small Groups
1. Ten people or less.
2. You must be comfortable being in a small group. If you have underlying health conditions or do not feel comfortable in meeting with a small group, please stay at home. No judgment.
3. You must be healthy. If you feel sick in any manner, please do not attend.
4. The host will provide a room which is clean and big enough to allow some separation between people.
5. Meet weekly. The small group can meet anytime from Sunday through Saturday.

What Happens at Small Groups
1. Watch the message provided by the church. Either watch the message together or before your group meets.
2. A discussion guide along with message notes will be provided for the group by church email. The facilitator will guide the discussion.
3. Kerry Wright will provide resources for children.
4. Have conversational prayer time.
5. Discuss any needs the group or the community at large may have.

Our goal as a church is to have at least twenty (20) functioning small groups. If you would like to host a small group, contact Pastor Jim jim.king@ebenezermennonite.org or call 419-296-0885. There is also the expectation each small group leader will report to Pastor Jim after your small group meets, indicating the group met and who was in attendance. This way we can chart our progress. Any questions may also be directed to Pastor Jim.

Start-up date is now! But begin when you can!! At this point we do not know how long this will be necessary. We are in uncharted waters. We want to keep ourselves healthy and be informed by governmental guidelines.

~ HIGH SCHOOL OR COLLEGE GRADUATES ~

Please send information and a photo of your high school or college graduate to Pastor David via email. His email address is david.glick@ebenezermennonite.org. We would like to make sure that we can recognize your student in the Emissary next week.

~ APRIL 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT ~

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General</th>
<th>Missions</th>
<th>C. E.</th>
<th>Building</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Budgeted YTD</td>
<td>180,400</td>
<td>112,985</td>
<td>18,200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expenses</td>
<td>176,152</td>
<td>71,776</td>
<td>14,396</td>
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<tr>
<td>Actual Income</td>
<td>170,126</td>
<td>96,446</td>
<td>13,786</td>
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<tr>
<th>Fund Cash Balances as of 3/31/20:</th>
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<tr>
<td>General (10,615)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capital Exp. &amp; HVAC Loan Pmts.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cemetery Restoration Project Balance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Estate Gifts – Shelterhouse Projects</td>
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<tr>
<td>Benevolent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Van</td>
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<td>Youth</td>
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Original (2019) HVAC Project Financial Status as of 3/31/20:
- Given/designated to HVAC Project: $274,901
- Draws from HVAC construction loan: $135,000
- Payments for HVAC expenses to date: $(374,331)
- HVAC loan payments on principal/interest: $(45,003)
- 2019 HVAC Project Balance: $(7,869)

Outstanding HVAC loan balance: $99,443

Thank you for your faithful and generous giving over the past two months. God is clearly working in and through you as you sacrificially give. With reduction of some expenses, to date our giving is keeping pace sufficiently. We continue to look to the Lord for His supply of our needs. Again, thank you!

~ Ebenezer Mennonite Church, a stone of help for such a time as this. ~