

***WELCOME TO ALL** who are guests this morning. We hope you feel warmly received and experience a time of worship. Please feel free to contact Pastor Susan if you would like to visit.*

“YES” CARDS FOUND IN THE BURLAP BAGS on pews may be placed in the offering plates each Sunday. Consider and put in writing the ways you are ready to say Yes to God.

DECEMBER 24 WORSHIP 10 A.M.: All are invited to an informal and festive Sunday morning gathering from 10 to 11 a.m. We will begin in the sanctuary by lighting our 4th Advent Candle and singing Christmas Carols. Then, we will gather around tables in Fellowship Hall and enjoy coffee, juice and rolls while learning about the tradition of Christingles. Assembling the Christingle includes oranges decorated with red ribbon, sweets, dried fruit, and a candle. Come and join us, young and old!

OUR CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE begins December 24 at 6 p.m.

OUR DECEMBER 31 WORSHIP SERVICE will begin at 10 a.m. You are invited to share your Yes! to God this season, or any seasonal thoughts that would be meaningful for you to share.

MAIN STREET MINISTRIES continues to seek an on-site staff person. Keep this need in your prayers as you feel led.

TEN THOUSAND VILLAGES has set up in the balcony above Prairie Harvest in Newton for the holidays. Final date to view is today, December 17, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

OFFERINGS DURING ADVENT will be received per our regular offering schedule. In addition, during the offering time each Sunday, the children will collect infant receiving blankets from those who bring the blankets to the worship service. You may purchase receiving blankets in stores, or you may purchase one or more any Sunday morning prior to worship at a table in the foyer. The blankets will be our contribution to Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) infant kits. **Please note MCC infant kit guidelines:** Receiving blankets must be lightweight flannel and minimum length of 36 inches. Our Christmas Eve offering will be for the work of MCC around the world.

THANKS TO ALL who are sewing and providing the flannel receiving blankets. Donations for the material and to MCC can be placed in the basket in the foyer. (Suggested donation of \$5 per blanket.) Thank you.

POINSETTIAS. Thank you for placing plants in the Fellowship Hall south window/door area. Plants can be taken home after the December 24 Christmas Eve Service.

IF YOU STRUGGLE WITH MORE FEAR, worry or other negative thoughts than you wish you did, you are invited to join a Womens' **Book Read and/or Lunch Break Group** "*Unsinkable Faith*" by Tracie Miles - God-Filled Strategies to Transform the Way We Think, Feel, and Live. The group will meet from 12:30-1:30 for 10 weeks at First Mennonite Church fellowship hall beginning **Jan. 9**. Discussions will be facilitated by Nadine Friesen. Paperback or kindle books can be ordered on-line. If interested, let Nadine know at stillfriesen@gmail.com.

Among Our Friends

We lift these friends in prayer: Marcella Ediger Clariece Schroeder
Lester Funk Joel Klaassen
Julie Anderson Kenny Funk
Harold Woelk Joe Knoll
Janice Goertz

Betty Funk, long-time Hillsboro resident and business person, died unexpectedly on December 7 in Hesston where she was in rehab. The family will have a private internment service for the ashes of Betty and her husband, Ray Funk, who died in 2008. Pastor Susan will officiate. Prayers for the Funk family.

Matilda (Tillie) Jantzen, 99, has taken a turn. Prayers for the Jantzen family

A poinsettia from Ruth Ann Penner has been given in loving memory of her husband Willis and granddaughter Amber.

Lost on December 3. If you find a pink necklace, please turn it in to the church office. Thank you.