

Announcements
Springdale Mennonite Church
December 17, 2017

Please pray for Kathy Poindexter (see note); Johnny Stoll, Marian Mininger & Kim Powell (all recovering from surgery); the Badal family (see note); Ben Showalter; and those who struggle during the holidays (because they are alone, away from home, dealing with depression/anxiety, or other reasons).

Please keep Kathy Poindexter & her daughter Sarah (& husband James) **in your prayers**. Gordon was relieved of his pain & suffering and passed away peacefully on Wed., Dec. 13. A memorial service will be held in early January.

You are invited to **help sing at Augusta Health** today at 4 p.m. Please note: Springdale will not be singing at The Meadows next Sun., Dec. 24.

Christmas Events:

- **Wednesday, Dec 20:**
 - Women's Bible Study Brunch (10 a.m.);
 - Primary Sunday School Christmas Party (3-5 p.m.);
 - Making Christmas Greenery Baskets (4-5 p.m.);
 - All-Church Soup Supper (5-6 p.m.);
 - Christmas Caroling (6 p.m.), with donuts & hot chocolate following.

Please sign up in the church foyer for each of these events!

- **Saturday, Dec. 23:** MYF Christmas Party (6 p.m., Dale/Paula's home).
- **Sunday, Dec. 24:** Regular schedule for Menno Bucks, Sunday School & Worship (no singing at The Meadows); Christmas Eve Service (7 p.m.) - Infant kits will be collected for MCC & an offering received for WARM. Kit content lists/blankets for wrapping the kits are available in the foyer.
- **Sunday, Dec. 31:** Continental Breakfast at 9:30 a.m. and Worship at 10:30 (No Menno Bucks Café or Sunday School that morning.) *Please sign up in the foyer indicating food items you are willing to bring for breakfast that morning (breakfast casseroles, donuts/scones, fruit).*

Financial Update (through Nov. 30, 2017)

Budgeted Income: \$64,085; Actual Income: \$46,070

(Over)

Pastors Kevin & Denise will be **out of the church office** the week between Christmas and New Year's Day. Please pray for rest/refreshment for them.

Please pray for **Oliver and Fadila Badal and their family**, as Oliver recently lost his job. (For those of you who are not aware, Springdale sponsored the Badals when they first moved to the United States from Sudan approximately 12-13 years ago, and contact has been maintained with them over the years.) This family is planning on visiting our area for Christmas and will be at the Christmas Eve service. If anyone feels led to assist with their travel expenses, please talk to Dave Powell.

Congregational Council is in the final stages of assembling **the Listening Team** who will work with consultant Barbara Robbins and the Springdale congregation during the upcoming Conflict Transformation Process. The purposes of this process include: 1) Facilitating a fair and transparent listening process regarding the divisive issues of Springdale's relationships with Eastern Mennonite University and Mennonite Church USA; and 2) Working at finding ways to restore trust within relationships. Please pray for those who will be serving on this team.

The next **men's coffee & conversation gathering** will be held in January. There will not be a gathering on Dec. 26.

As a possible cost-saving measure, Springdale is trying a **new way of hosting our Prayer & Information Line**. Please dial 416-1446 to access this line. Your feedback regarding this new line is welcomed, especially if you regularly use it.

A **puzzle table** is now set up in the Fellowship Hall downstairs for all to enjoy whenever you have a free moment here at the church! Thanks to the Library Committee for this initiative.

Springdale continues to **collect paper products** (paper towels, Kleenexes, napkins & toilet paper) for Love INC, and will now also be **collecting batteries** (AA, AAA, 9V) for them. Items should be placed in the marked containers in the entrance foyer. Thanks for sharing in this way!

Items on the Bulletin Board or Under Church Mailboxes

(Check Springdale's website for a full list of Conference announcements.)

- Shenandoah Valley Choral Society concert, today, 3 p.m., Bridgewater Church of the Brethren (*Christine Fairfield, soloist*).
- Christmas on the Square, today, 5 p.m., Court Square, Harrisonburg.
- Shenandoah Valley Men's Chorus practices beginning in Jan. (to sing in Feb.). If you enjoy singing men's a cappella music, you are invited!