

Announcements
Springdale Mennonite Church
December 24, 2017

Merry Christmas!

Please pray for Kathy Poindexter (see note); Steve & Carol Blair (as they make hard decisions regarding Carol's aunt, Joan McGee); and those serving/being served at Disciples' Kitchen this Sat., Dec. 30.

Pastors Kevin and Denise will be **out of the church office** this week. Please pray for rest and refreshment for them.

A **memorial service** for Gordon Poindexter will be held on Tues., Jan. 2, 11 a.m., at Springdale. A lunch will follow. Please continue to keep Kathy and the rest of their family in your prayers.

Christmas Events:

- **Today, Dec. 24:**
 - Regular schedule for Menno Bucks, Sunday School & Worship (no singing at The Meadows);
 - Christmas Eve Service (7 p.m.) - Come for an evening of music, scripture, and a children's drama as we prepare our hearts for Christmas! Infant kits will be collected for Mennonite Central Committee & an offering received for WARM. Kit content lists and 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

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

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.

(Over)

Please pray for **Oliver & 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 in our area for Christmas and will be attending this evening's 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.



Just a Little Donkey

by Rita Beer

*Just a little donkey, but on my back I bore
The one and only Savior the world was waiting for.
Just a little donkey, but I was strong and proud --
I gladly carried Mary through the chaos of the crowd.
I brought her to a stable where she made a tiny bed...
A place for Baby Jesus to lay His little head.
I pray the world remembers that special Christmas night
When just a little donkey carried Heaven's Precious
Light.*

Items on the Bulletin Board or Under Church Mailboxes

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

- A Christmas card and note from Steve & Carol Blair.
- 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!