

February 16-22, 2024, Vol. 15, Issue 7

Sunday, February 18

9:30 am - Worship Service
- Jeff Wright will bring the message "Christ Among Us, Repent & Believe", based on Mark 1:9-15.

**All are invited to the
Welcome Center for
coffee before or after
the service.**

To watch the worship
service online, please visit
www.bgmc.net.

Pastoral Care Team:

Contact anyone on this team with pastoral care concerns - Michael Bishop, Pastor, Merrill Allebach, Rose Allebach, Glenda Bergey, Joye Bryan, Mark Derstine, Karen Hunsberger, Betty Kulp (John), Ellen Lacher, Marilyn Nase, Ralph Nase, Sylvia Shelly

If you or a family member are hospitalized, please inform one of the pastors or pastoral visitor team members. Due to confidentiality, hospitals no longer inform congregations when our members are admitted. We appreciate the information you pass along to our team to help us better care and offer support to all our members. Thank you, Michael

Dear Church,

February is a season of many cultures. The Lunar New Year is celebrated by many Asian cultures this week, beginning Saturday, February 10. The year 2024 is the Year of the Dragon, with rituals, food, and symbols rich with the desire for a new life, ushering in good luck, and creating a prosperous future. It is Black History Month in the United States, Canada, Ireland, and the United Kingdom, reminding all of us, regardless of race, of the unique experience of the African diaspora, the Middle Passage of the Slave trade to the Americas, and the post-slavery experience of Emancipation, Jim Crow, and Civil Rights. On top of those cultural and historic celebrations, Lent comes early to the church this year, with Shrove Tuesday/Mardi Gras on February 13 (I hope you had your fasnachts!), and Ash Wednesday on February 14.

It is a time, after the joys of Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany, to reflect, repent, and recalibrate, not with morbid sadness, but in joyous hope. The thread running through the celebrations of Lunar New Year, Black History Month, and Lent is the desire for a new life. Transformation is the theme of these next weeks. The steadfast, unshakable conviction that God is doing a new thing is at the heart of this season which we are now embarking upon. ... [READ THE FULL BLOG HERE](#)



Lent & Easter @ BGMC

*** February 21-March 20**

(Wed. nights), 6 pm -
Lenten Meals &
Devotions

*** March 23**, 9:30 am -
Kids Easter Celebration

*** March 24** - Palm
Sunday
- 9:30 am - Worship
- 6 pm - Melodious
Accord Lenten song
service

*** March 29**, 7 pm
- Good Friday Service
(communion &
foot-washing)

*** March 31** - Easter Sunday
- 6:30 am - Sunrise Service at the
pavilion
- 9:30 am - Easter Worship (no
Sunday School)



Sunday, February 25

9:30 am - Worship Service

- Steve Kriss, Executive Minister for Mosaic Conference, will bring the message.

Past week - February 11

Worship Attendance:

Worship	170
Online	41

Offering:

Regular	4,920.00
Electronic	8,080.69
Foundation	1,000.00
Building Fund	95.00

Total: 14,095.69

BGMC Staff

- [Jeff Wright](#), Interim Lead Pastor
- [Michael Bishop](#), Pastor of Music, Worship & Pastoral Care
- [Michelle Ahn-Doettger](#) - general inquiries, cemetery/burial, worship leader notes
- [Gretchen Cook](#) - facility use, congregant database, Sunday School administration
- [Conrad Martin](#), Bookkeeper
- [Kristine McClain](#) - communications (Glen News, Facebook, graphics)
- [Jen Yoder](#), Senior High Youth Ministries Coordinator

Kids Easter Celebration

We are excited to invite you, our friends, and neighbors to our Easter Celebration: A Community Event at BGMC. This event will be held on Saturday, March 23 at 9:30 am. If you are able to donate candy towards this event, there will be a table in the Welcome Center to place your donations (no later than Sunday, March 10). Monetary donations are appreciated, too; make checks out to BGMC (Easter Celebration in the memo line) and place in Jen Yoder's office mailbox. Please see Jen or Amanda Yoder with any questions!



Gifts Discernment Process

BGMC is beginning our annual discernment process for selecting new members for lay leadership to replace current members of the Congregational Leadership Board (CLB), Foundation Groups, and Mosaic Mennonite Conference Delegates whose terms are ending as of August 31. The term limit for CLB and Foundation Group members is two consecutive three-year terms; conference delegates serve one three-year term. A detailed listing of our openings will be in the church foyers and [on our website](#). We have the following openings:

3 CLB openings | 1 Elders opening | 2 Gifts Discernment openings
1 Stewardship opening | 2 Trustees openings | 1 Conference Delegate opening

As of February 11, you may submit your recommendations using the [online form](#), a hard copy (located in the church foyers on blue paper), or contact Paul Liechty with your recommendations or questions: pwl2pwl@verizon.net or 215-353-2209. The deadline for submissions is March 3. Please prayerfully consider your recommendations as we discern together with the Spirit's leading.

Mentor Program Bowling



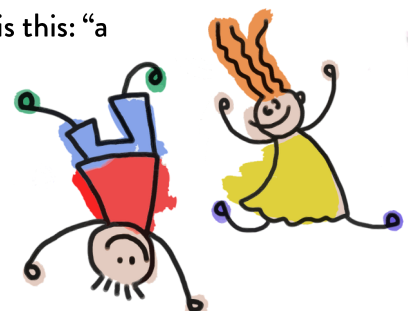
Involved in the BGMC Mentor Program as a mentor or mentee? Then don't miss Bonding With Bowling! Join us Saturday, February 24, 4:00-6:00 pm at Earl Bowl Lanes in Earlington. Please RSVP to [Linda Allebach](#) so we know how many lanes to reserve.

Membership Classes

Do you desire to learn more about becoming a member here at Blooming Glen? If so, please [email Gretchen](#) in the church office to find out more about upcoming membership classes.

Children's Ministry Volunteers Needed

What is children's ministry? One way Google explains it is this: "a children's ministry exists with the goal of communicating the love of Christ to the children of the world." How would YOU answer that question? BGMC is looking for dedicated volunteers with a love for Jesus and Blooming Glen's children to sign up to lead or assist in our Children's Sunday School for the 2024/2025 school year. Please [email Gretchen](#) in the church office for more information.



Sr. High Youth:

Weekly Sunday School in the Sr. High Classroom

- ♦ **March 3 - MYF Parent & Youth meeting** during Sunday School in the MYF room

Jr. High Youth:

Friends welcome at all events!

- ♦ **February 24 - Care & Share service day**
- ♦ **February 27 - Game Night, 7:00-8:30 pm** – drop-off and pick-up at Dave and Lori Bergey's home

Kids Club:

For grades K through 5

- ♦ **February 22 - Lantern Walk & S'mores, 6:15 pm;** [sign up here](#)

Medical Waiver: BGMC's Medical Waiver and Permission form for Children and Youth activities is available [here](#).

Dayspring Counseling Center of Penn Foundation will provide counseling sessions to congregational members and their families at a reduced fee through the Member Assistance Program (MAP). Call 215-257-6551 to schedule an appointment. More details are available in MAP brochures located in the foyers.

CONTACT US

Blooming Glen Mennonite Church
PO Box 238
Blooming Glen, PA 18911
215.257.3431
bgmc.net



Jubilee Funds

Jubilee Fund applications are now being accepted for 2024. Each year BGMC members who are actively involved within the church and in a ministry/program that helps others are eligible to apply for Jubilee funds for the organizations and missions they are involved in. Applications are due by March 31 to the church office and are available [on our website](#), or pick up a paper copy in the church foyers.



My Coins Count



Reminder that we will be taking a special collection for the 2024 My Coins Count project on Sunday, February 25. The general collection of coins or other donations, to benefit Mennonite Central Committee's clean water initiatives around the world, will conclude March 4 - look for the jugs located at the sanctuary entrances, or bring your donations to church on February 25!

Our Church Family

In Our Thoughts & Prayers - Will Grasse, Karin Honeybone, Don Moyer

Lizzie Godshall passed away on Friday, February 2 at Pennsburg Manor; services were held on February 16. [See the obituary here](#).

In Our Community & Beyond

Zion Mennonite Church will begin the spring session of their Grief Share Support Group on Thursday, March 7 at 1:00 pm. These sessions continue weekly until May and you are invited to attend any week. For more information contact the church office at 215-723-3592.

Survivors Safe Haven, a self-help support group for survivors of sexual abuse is meeting virtually on the 2nd Wednesday of every month from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. For the link and more information contact Karen at zehrhead@gmail.com.

Inclement Weather?

Check for Sunday service cancellation info, available by 8 am:

- * [BGMC Facebook page](#)
- * [BGMC website](#)
- * recorded message at 215-257-3431



Upcoming Events

To be certain your news item will be included in the next issue of the Glen News, please submit it to Kristine McClain (Kristine@bgmc.net) by noon on Tuesday of each week. Please note: Groups using the church during evenings and weekends are responsible to lock/unlock and turn off the lights.

- ◆ **Sunday, February 18 - Prayer Time Bible Study**; meets in person in the Prayer Room or the sanctuary, and on Zoom. Prayer time will be 7 to 8, with Bible study from 8 to 9.
* Zoom link: [click here](#) Meeting ID: 883 2558 1982 Passcode: 645177
- ◆ **Monday, February 19, 7:00-8:30 pm - Intergenerational Choir - new singers welcome!**
- ◆ **Wednesday, February 21, 9:00 am - Women's Bible Study** in the Welcome Center
- ◆ **Wednesday, February 21, 6:00 pm - Lenten Meal** (hosted by Gemeinschaft) & Devotions; meals will be held each Wednesday through March 20
- ◆ **Wednesday, February 21, 6:15-8:00 pm - SEEDS** meets on the third Wednesday of the month. For more info or to help, contact Jodi Stewart-Moore.
- ◆ **Saturday, February 24, 4:00-6:00 pm - Mentor Program Bowling**; see page 2
- ◆ **Sunday, March 3, 12:00-2:00 pm - Collaborative Music Ensemble**; meets the first Sunday of the month in the sanctuary - all instruments/skill levels welcome
- ◆ **Saturday, March 23, 9:30 am - Kids Easter Celebration**; see page 2
- ◆ **Sunday, March 24, 6:00 pm - Melodious Accord Lenten song service**
- ◆ **Friday, March 29, 7:00 pm - Good Friday Service** with communion and foot-washing
- ◆ **Sunday, March 31, 6:30 am - Easter Sunrise Service** at the pavilion; **9:30 am - Easter Worship** (no Sunday School)



The Intergenerational Choir providing pre-service music

*Wondering what's going on in and around Mosaic Conference?
See current & past issues of Mosaic News - their weekly e-newsletter - [by clicking here.](#)*