

March 1-7, 2024, Vol. 15, Issue 9

Sunday, March 3

9:30 am - **Worship Service** - Josh Meyer will bring the message "Serve Everyone, Always". (Josh will not be joining us for Sunday School this week.)

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

Past week - February 25

Worship Attendance:

Worship	156
Online	39

Offering:

Regular	7,650.00
Electronic	2,410.00
Foundation	300.00
Building Fund	100.00
Other	250.00
Total:	10,710.00

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 Bishop

Dear Church,

Covenant is a challenge.

Far too often, we think of covenant as "contract." We take a theological concept about God's grace and turn it into a human performance. We think of Covenant as the goodies we deserve to get if we don't get caught doing naughty stuff.

Abraham, the traditionally recognized founder of monotheistic faith, failed frequently at Covenant with God. In Genesis 12, the middle-aged Abram (aka "The Exalted Father") is promised by YHWH ("The Lord God") blessing and personal greatness if he would uproot his family and become a wandering immigrant. But as soon as things got tough, Abram took everything he owned, went to Egypt, and committed fraud by suggesting to Pharaoh that his wife Sarai was his sister. Then Abram's family splits up and his nephew Lot, seeing that his uncle was a bit of a hypocrite, took his share of the family wealth, and made a beeline for Sodom. Failure #1. ... [READ THE FULL BLOG HERE](#)

(Note: Jeff will not be at the A&N Diner on Monday, March 4.)



Reminder: My Coins Count

The 2024 My Coins Count project wraps up on March 4 - please bring your final contributions this Sunday and place them in the jugs by the sanctuary entrances. Checks should be made out to "MCC-MRC" with "For My Coins Count" on the memo line.



Lent & Easter @ BGMC

* **March 6-20** (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, March 10

9:30 am - **Worship Service**
- Jeff Wright will bring the message "Christ Among Us, The Merciful Way", based on Ephesians 2:1-10.

Upcoming Speakers

March 17 - Jeff Wright
March 24 - TBD
March 31 - Jeff Wright

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

Gifts Discernment Process

The deadline for submissions in our Gifts Discernment Process is this Sunday, March 3. We are looking for recommendations to fill the following openings:

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

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.



Membership Classes

A three-session membership class will be held Sunday, March 10, 17, and 24 at 3:30 pm. The text we will be reading and discussing is "*What We Believe Together*" by Alfred Neufeld. The book is available from Pastor Jeff. The class will be held on Zoom (you must be logged in to participate).

* Zoom link: [click here](#) Meeting ID: 824 3471 6148 Passcode: 016667

Join us if you are interested in seeking membership at Blooming Glen, or simply want a refresher on Anabaptist-related faith convictions.

Opportunity for Anointing

On Sunday, March 17 at the mid-point of the Lenten Season, we will take time in Sunday worship for the Elders to offer anointing to those in attendance. The gift of anointing with oil is for our healing (James 5:13-20). We offer it at Blooming Glen on occasions such as Lent to symbolically stand in solidarity and encourage one another in healing and hope. Let Pastor Jeff, Pastor Michael, or Elder Tamara Denlinger know if you have any questions.



Help Needed

We are looking for volunteers to help clean and polish the sanctuary pews on Monday, March 4, 10:00 am to noon. If you can help, please sign up [here](#) or [email Michelle](#).

Sup and Sing

You are warmly invited to a Hymn Sing in the sanctuary on Wednesday, March 13 at 7:00 pm following the Lenten Meal which starts at 6:00. Come for one or both! If you have any questions, talk to Robin Schilling or Brent Alderfer.



Sr. High Youth:

Weekly Sunday School in the
Sr. High Classroom

- ◆ **March 3 - MYF Parent & Youth meeting** during Sunday School in the MYF room
- ◆ **March 9 - Care & Share, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm**

Jr. High Youth:

Friends welcome at all events!

- ◆ **March 8 - Late Night Blast**
- ◆ **March 12 - 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

- ◆ **March 16 - Pajama Party, 4:00 pm**

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



Melodious Accord Lenten song service

Our Lenten song service will be held Sunday, March 24 at 6:00 pm. Leaning into Lenten themes of praise, confession and faith journey, the musical and poetic work that is Melodious Accord (thirteen American 19th century folk hymns arranged by recently departed Alice Parker) will be presented. Our intergenerational choir will share this grand collection with vocal soloists, harp, and the Red Barn Quintet. Congregational singing will be woven into our time together. Offering baskets will be available in support.

Kids Easter Celebration

We are excited to invite you, our friends, and neighbors to our Easter Celebration: A Community Event at BGMC on Saturday, March 23 at 9:30 am. We are on a mission to gather 30 dozen hard-boiled eggs for this event - if you are able to donate and drop off on Friday, March 22, please [click here](#) to sign up. We're also collecting donations of candy for this event, which can be placed on the table in the Welcome Center **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!



Children's Ministry Volunteers Needed

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.

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.



Our Church Family

In Our Thoughts & Prayers - John Grasse, Clyde Landes, Don Moyer

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.

** Note: Pastor Jeff will be away February 29 - March 6.*

- ♦ **Sunday, March 3 - 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
- ♦ **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
- ♦ **Monday, March 4, 10:00 am-12:00 pm - pew-cleaning/polishing**; see page 2
- ♦ **Monday, March 4, 7:00-8:30 pm - Intergenerational Choir**; new singers welcome
- ♦ **Wednesday, March 6, 9:00 am - Women's Bible Study** in the Welcome Center
- ♦ **Wednesday, March 6, 6:00 pm - Lenten Meal (hosted by Jane & Joy) & Devotions**; meals will be held each Wednesday through March 20
- ♦ **Sunday, March 10, 3:30 pm - Membership Class on Zoom**; see page 2. Sessions will also be held March 17 & 24.
- ♦ **Wednesday, March 13, 7:00 pm - Hymn Sing** in the sanctuary; see page 2
- ♦ **Wednesday, March 20, 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, March 23, 9:30 am - Kids Easter Celebration**; see page 3
- ♦ **Sunday, March 24, 6:00 pm - Melodious Accord Lenten song service**; see page 3
- ♦ **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)
- ♦ **Wednesday, April 10, 9:00 am-12:00 am - Women's Bible Study group knot-tying & quilting** at MCC Material Resource Center. For more info, contact Rose Lambright.

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

Inclement Weather?

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

* [BGMC Facebook page](#) * [BGMC website](#)

* recorded message at 215-257-3431

