



# Hutterthal Mennonite Church

Christ Centered –

Living, Relating, Serving

Sunday, January 5, 2025

9:45 a.m.

Epiphany Sunday

Prelude

Call to Worship & Prayer

Lighting the Advent Candles

\*Welcoming One Another

\*Gathering and Praising

*Arise, Your Light Is Come!* VT #273

*As with Gladness* VT #277

Scripture Reading

Psalm 2:7-8 Pew Bible p. 288

Sharing Time and Prayer

Time for the Young and Young at Heart

Scripture Reading

Luke 2:41-52 Pew Bible p. 541

Message

Nurturing Faith

Offering Prayer

\*Responding and Sending

*In the Beginning* VT #270

*God of Grace and God of Glory* VT #716

\*Benediction

Postlude

\*please stand if you are able

View today's service here:

[www.HMCFreeman.org](http://www.HMCFreeman.org)

**TODAY January 5, 2025 9:45 a.m. Epiphany Sunday**

**Worship Leader:** Charlene Friesen

**Candlelighters:** Isabel Waltner; Alyssa Hofer

**Accompanist:** Paige Hofer

**Song Leader:** Morgan Koehler

**Time for the Young & Young at Heart:** Suzanne Koerner

**Message:** Pastor Randall Koehler

**Coffee Time:** Lyndon & Barbie Hofer

**Children's Sunday School after the worship service.**

**Adult SS following coffee time in the Education Wing.**

**NEXT SUN: January 12, 2025 9:45 a.m.**

**Worship Leader:** Kenneth Birkey

**Accompanist:** Amy Hofer Vetch

**Song Leader:** Suzanne Koerner

**Worship Music:** Shane & Amy Hofer Vetch

**Children's Time:** Joline Thomas

**Scripture:** 1 Corinthians 3:10-11

**Message:** "Anabaptism at 500 - Renewal through  
Story" - Pastor Randall Koehler

**Coffee Time:** Alvina Hofer

**Children's Sunday School after the worship service.**

**Adult SS following coffee time in the Education Wing.**

**Calendar:**

Jan. 8 at 7 PM on zoom & in-person: Midweek Winter  
Bible Study of The Bible Unwrapped

Feb. 2: Communion at HMC; Anabaptist World  
Fellowship Sunday

Feb. 9: Sermon Series on the Sermon on the Mount  
begins

March 5: Ash Wednesday beginning of Lent and final  
Wednesday evening of midweek study

**Call to Worship:**

Leader: Jesus, grant that we may learn from you as  
long as we live,

**People: that we would mature in wisdom and years.**

Leader: Just as you listened and questioned, grant us  
humility

**People: that we would sit among the teachers.**

Leader: We look to you, Emmanuel.

*All: Jesus, teach us how to learn.*

**Lighting the Advent Candles:**

Reader 1: We never stop facing opportunities to  
learn.

Reader 2: We learn through successes and  
achievements; we learn through mistakes and  
failures.

Reader 1: In our learning, we can also mentor others  
and model wisdom along the way.

*(Lighting the Advent Candles of Hope, Peace, Joy, and  
Love and the Christ Candle)*

*All: Like a tree, may we grow in faith and wisdom with  
roots spreading deep to provide grounding, and  
rings of growth showing our continued  
learning.*

**Prayer Requests and Praises:**

- **Birthdays:** Brandon Waltner on January 5 (today), Amy Hofer Vetch on January 7, Egan Mettler on January 8, Ethan Waltner and Reinhardt Hofer on January 10.
- Together we give thanks for the pastors and lay leaders who have so faithfully served congregations in Central Plains Mennonite Conference in this past year. We give thanks to God for providing able shepherds to lead our congregations.
- Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for the Nigeria Mennonite Church and the Nigeria Anabaptist Peace Center, as they work for peaceful communities in their multi-cultural context, where Muslim-Christian relations are often challenging.
- Additional Requests during sharing time: \_\_\_\_\_  
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**HMC Congregational Ministry Project for January:**  
**Blankets and Soap for MCC**

Please place items in the bin in Sunday School room 1.

**Pastor Randall's contact information:**

**Pastor Office Hours: call or email to make an appointment**

Phone - 309-208-6032

Email - [pastorrandallhmc@gmail.com](mailto:pastorrandallhmc@gmail.com)

**Office Administrative Assistant: Aprille Birkey**

Church Email: [hutterthal@goldenwest.net](mailto:hutterthal@goldenwest.net)

Church Website: [www.hmcfreeman.org](http://www.hmcfreeman.org)

**Anabaptism at 500:** On January 21, 1525, a small group of Christians secretly gathered in Zurich for a worship service. There they renounced their baptism as infants and experienced voluntary baptism as adults, now in the full understanding that this decision implied a transformation of life in the way of Jesus. For many, this decision led to imprisonment, torture, and even death. But this gathering also marked the beginning of the Anabaptist movement that continues today in the form of the Amish, Hutterites, Mennonites, Church of the Brethren, and many other related groups. During these first few weeks of the year, we walk in the renewal of our anabaptist forebears and seek God's continued leading in this season for our church, conference, and denomination.

All are invited to join the deacons and pastor for **winter midweek Bible Study**, starting Wednesday, January 8. We will be studying Meghan Larissa Good's book, The Bible Unwrapped. If you are planning on participating in midweek winter Bible Study in January, it will be offered in a **hybrid format (meaning both in-person and online at the same time)**. Our gathering will still be on Wednesday evenings at 7 PM, starting January 8, but you will be able to join virtually via a zoom link in the bulletin and weekly emails or in-person by coming to the upper room of the Et Cetera Shoppe, above the church office in Freeman. All of the zoom participants will join the conversation on their computers, and then will appear on one computer alongside those gathered in person like we do for annual meeting and church board meetings.

If you are not yet a member at Hutterthal, have you considered joining a **membership class**? Pastor Randall will be leading a class in the new year about what it does and does not mean to make this particular commitment to our congregation and the wider church. If you are interested in joining this class in January, contact Pastor Randall or one of the deacons (Amy, Lyndon, or Suzanne).

Everyone enjoys **coffee time** at HMC. It's a great chance to meet visitors and connect with regulars. Today is the last Sunday for you to contribute to the cost by making a donation in the designated "gift box" located in the Fellowship Hall during coffee time. Thank you! - Coffee Time Committee

The **Freeman Network for Justice and Peace** will meet Wednesday, January 8 at 11:30 A.M. in the Freeman Public Library. All are welcome.

**Registration for Mennonite Church USA's Follow Jesus '25 convention** will open Jan. 6, 2025, for early-bird pricing. The denomination's biennial faith formation gathering will take place at Koury Convention Center, in Greensboro, North Carolina, July 8-12, 2025. Learn more here:

[mennoniteusa.org/news/registration-jan6](https://mennoniteusa.org/news/registration-jan6)

Register here:

[convention.mennoniteusa.org/](https://convention.mennoniteusa.org/)

View the PDF here:

[mennoniteusa.org/follow-jesus-early-bird-pdf](https://mennoniteusa.org/follow-jesus-early-bird-pdf)

View the PowerPoint slide here:

[mennoniteusa.org/follow-jesus-early-bird-slide](https://mennoniteusa.org/follow-jesus-early-bird-slide)