Willow Springs Mennonite Church

http://willowspringsmennonite.church

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Christmas Sunday

9:30 **WORSHIP**

Prelude singing
Gathering/Confessing/Reconciling with candle lighting

Worship in song
Children's time

Scripture: Isaiah 40:27-31, Luke 2:1-12
Sermon: *Edge of the Eagle's Nest -*
Receiving the Gift of Christmas
Song

Sharing and Pastoral Prayer
Offering – Offertory by Ellie Gale
Announcements
Sending

Welcome to Christmas Sunday with the theme "The Holy Way: Walking in the way of God's Heart." God comes directly to us to impact our walking through life. Today's focus statement: Jesus is born! Come, walk in the way of God's heart. A special welcome to sisters and brothers from Plow Creek.

The plastic bank passed during the offering time is for coins (50 cents or so). This symbolizes our desire to combat world hunger. Proceeds are divided between MCC hunger projects and the local food pantry.

Enjoy a time of fellowship following the service; we will not have Sunday school this morning.

Sermon summary:
From the edge of the eagle's nest, we "lock in" our wings.
God will give us:
- joy and hope in God as we walk forth like Mary.
- his presence for commitment as Joseph received.
- a voice to follow as the shepherds received.
- direction as the wisemen received.

Next Saturday, December 31 – New Year's Eve Candlelight Communion, 7 pm in the basement. Please bring table games, finger foods and cookies for a time of fellowship following the service. We will not plan to stay until midnight since Sunday morning we will be gathering for worship.

We are all invited to the Adams Adoption Celebration/Blessing of Onnesty and Jonathan, Tuesday, January 3, 2017, 4-6 pm at Plow Creek Church. RSVP to Camille Walker at 815 646-1134.

End-of-year matching fundraiser! Please consider a gift to the youth group as they raise money to go to the Mennonite Youth Convention next summer in Orlando, Florida. This fundraising goal of $2500 will be matched by a donor for a total of $5000! So far $450 has been contributed.

Upcoming winter events at Menno Haven:
January 6-8 Young Adult retreat
January 20-21 Junior High retreat with Jon & Lindsey Birkey
January 27-29 High School retreat with Kristin Jackson
Go to mennohaven.com for cost and registration details.

Apply now for a college scholarship. If you or your parents are Everence members and you'll attend an accredited undergraduate or trade program for the next academic year, apply for an Everence College Scholarship. Deadline is Feb. 28. Learn more at everence.com/college-scholarships.

CALENDAR
January 15 Amela Puljek-Shank, area director of Europe and Middle East MCC here
January 22 Congregational meeting

Worship Leaders: Zehr family
Song leader: Elaine Good
Children's story: Lori Boekeloo
Message: Cal Zehr