

About the Cover: This week's image from MennoMedia's *Leader* materials invites us into Advent through a quiet night sky, where golden branches reach in like whispers of light. The artwork echoes the series theme, *Be Amazed!*, reminding us that God's presence often shimmers at the edges of our vision before we fully see it. As we continue this season of watching and waiting, the cover draws us to look up, look around, and notice the light already breaking into the darkness.

Attendance: December 21 — 85

North Goshen Mennonite Church

501 N. 8th St., Goshen, IN 46528

Mailing address: P.O. Box 505, Goshen, IN 46527

574-533-4255 | office@northgoshenmc.org | northgoshenmc.org

9:00 AM Sunday school | 10:15 AM Worship services

Pastoral Team

Becky Helmuth 574-370-0767 | rebeccahelmuth@gmail.com

Becky's office hours: Tues. and Thurs., 9 am to 2 pm

Sabbath day: Friday

Izaete Nafziger 574-202-4344 | Izaete@northgoshenmc.org

Office Administrator

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Church Council

Kathy Nofziger Yeakey

Belen Robledo

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North Goshen Mennonite Church

Sunday After Christmas

God Among Us

John 1:19–34

December 28, 2025

Focus Question: *The dove lands where there's gentleness.*

Where is there gentleness in your life this week?

Gathering *To Us a Child of Hope Is Born* VT 259

Welcome & Announcements Kathy N. Y.

Doorway Scripture

Call to Worship

Candle lighting Elaine & Victoria T.

Candle lighting Litany

Many: Ven, Luz del mundo. ¡Asómbrenos!

Come, Light of the world. Amaze us!

***All: May your light shine through the dark,
illuminating your path,
illuminating our souls.***

Song *Hope is a Candle* VT 211

Good Christian, Friends Rejoice VT 261

Offering Prayer

Song *El Burrito Sabanero*

Children's Story Alies A & Izaete

Children are dismissed to go to Children's Church.

Scripture Reading John 1:19–34 Belen R., & Erika B.

Message *Where the Dove Lands* Becky H.

Song *Longing for Light* VT 715

Prayers of the People Becky

Blessing

Sending Song *O Beautiful Star of Bethlehem* VT 275

Next Sunday, January 4 - Epiphany Sunday

Worship Focus: Stranger Who Came to See

This **Epiphany Sunday**, we'll focus on *El Día de los Reyes Magos* — the *Day of the Three Kings* — a tradition deeply meaningful to many in our Latino community.

Instead of a traditional sermon, members of our congregation will share their stories and memories of Three Kings Day through a panel discussion led by Nick King. They'll tell us how they learned the story as children, how they celebrate now, and what this tradition teaches about faith, generosity, and welcome.

The Magi in the Bible were foreigners who traveled far to meet Jesus. As we hear from those in our community who have also journeyed far from home, we'll discover how their stories connect to the ancient story of the wise ones following the star.

Koinonia Kafé

Join us in the fellowship hall between Sunday School and worship for coffee, juice, light refreshments, and conversation. It's a simple way to connect with each other before we gather for worship. All ages welcome. Come for 5 minutes or stay for the full time!

Epiphany Sunday Details

9:00AM Sunday School

9:45 AM Koinonia Kafé

10:15 AM Worship Focus: *Strangers Who Came to See*

Scripture: Matthew 2:1-12

Worship Leader: Daisy L.

Nursery: Belen R., Jeff U., Jenny G.

Children's Church: Bonnie C., Joan U., & Kristina Be-Mo

Upcoming Events

- 1/4 Epiphany Sunday
Koinonia Kafé, Fellowship Hall (Sun., 9:45 AM)
- 1/6 Día de los Reyes | Three Kings' Day
Women's Prayer Group, Manor 4 (Tues., 9 AM)
- 1/11 Small Group Kick-Off, Carry-in Lunch (Sun., 12 noon)
- 1/13 Church Council Meeting, Fellowship Hall (Tues., 6:30 PM)
- 1/21 January Community Meal (Wed., 6 PM)

Small Groups

Our small groups are ready to begin! Participation is always an invitation, not an obligation, but we want to be sure no one is carrying life alone.

Join us for our Small Group Kickoff on Sunday, January 11.

We'll share a carry-in lunch, sit with our small groups, get to know one another, and begin imagining how each group might gather and support each other in the year ahead.

NGMC Council members are: Kathy N., Jan L.,
Belen R., Robert M., and Nick K.

Pastoral Availability

Becky and Todd will be out of town from **January 2–7**. During that time, if any pastoral needs or concerns arise, please reach out to **Izaete Nafziger**, who will be available to offer care and support

A Note of Gratitude

Thank you for the ways you showed up for us during Sharon's illness and after her death. The meals, cards, phone calls, visits, and prayers made these heavy days feel less lonely. We are also grateful for everyone who helped with the visitation and funeral — your care and work mattered more than you know. We are thankful to be part of this community — the Helmuth family

Ways Children Worship With Us

At North Goshen, we celebrate children as full participants in our worship life, and we offer several options to support them — and their grown-ups — on Sunday mornings.

Children's Church is available for ages 3 through grade 4 during the second half of the service, giving kids a space to learn, play, and explore the story of faith together.

Nursery care for infants through age 3 is offered throughout the service by our team of caring adults and youth.

Buddy Bags with quiet activities, books, and art supplies are available in the narthex for children who prefer to stay in the sanctuary.

Wherever children choose to be — up front, in a pew, downstairs, or moving between spaces — their joy and presence are a welcome part of our worship.

Calling All Artists (and Secret Artists, Too!)

This winter, we'd love our bulletin covers to be filled with the creativity of this community. If you have an artwork we could photograph or scan — a drawing, painting, quilt square, photograph, collage, wood carving, weaving, poem in beautiful lettering, or anything else that feels like art to you — we would love to see it.

If you're willing to share, please let Belen or Becky know by **Wednesday, January 7** so we can plan ahead. These covers become small windows into who we are, and we can't wait to see the many ways beauty lives among us.

**Anniversaries &
Birthdays This Week**
12/31 Quinn Stoltzfus
Michael Y. & Kathy N.Y.

9:00 AM Sunday School Classes

Pathfinders

- Intergenerational Bible study using the Mennonite "Builder" curriculum
- Location: Curtained classroom next to kitchen in the fellowship hall
- All are welcome

Contemporary Issues and Christian Faith

- Explores current events through a Christian lens using "The Wired Word"
- Location: South corner of fellowship hall
- All ages welcome

Clase de los Amigos (Latino Bible Study)

- Bible study in Spanish
- Location: Large classroom at bottom of basement stairs
- Todos son bienvenidos

Youth Class (Grades 6-12)

- Location: Basement classroom (follow posted signs)
- All youth are welcome to attend!

Today's Volunteers

Children's Church: Michael Y., Daisy L., & Jenny G.

Nursery: Deena B., Alan L., & Kristina Be-Mo

Tech Team: Jose J., Greg S & Tim N.

Translator: Erin Be-Mo

Speaker: Becky H.

Music Leader: Todd H.

Worship Leader: Kathy N.Y.

Candlelighters: Elaine & Victoria T.

Children's Story: Alies A. with Izaete

Sunday School Greeter: Terry P.

Worship Greeter: Lola J.