

WELCOME TO  
**STAHL MENNONITE CHURCH**

1201 Soap Hollow Rd, Johnstown, PA 15905

**Pastor:** Jayne Byler

**Lay Leaders:** Sonya Horsley, Joy Cotchen, Neil Lehman

**Pastor Cell Phone:** (330) 224-3944

**Church Phone:** (814) 288-5523

**E-Mail:** [stahlmennonite@gmail.com](mailto:stahlmennonite@gmail.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

**March 5, 2023**

**MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE – 10:30 A.M.**

**Lent 2: “Shaped by New Birth”**

**Created in the Image of God, Shaped by Jesus**

**Worship Leader:** Sarah Barrett

**Music Leader:** Rachel Allen & Elizabeth Dunmore

**We Gather:**

Prelude Music: “When I Am Afraid” The Soil and The Seed vol 6

Welcome and Announcements

Music/Song

Call to Worship and Prayer (*based on Psalm 121*)

Leader: Lift your eyes to the hills—where does your help  
come from?

**People: Our help comes from the Lord,  
the maker of heaven and earth.**

**All: *Let us worship our God, who watches over us  
now and always.***

Sharing Ourselves

Music/Song of Praise

**We Hear God’s Word:**

Old Testament Reading: Genesis 12:1–4a

Confession and Silent Reflection

Leader: Lord, we need new birth.

Paralyzed by doubts, dead in our stubbornness  
and guilt,  
walking in blindness, our hearts are hardened to  
your love.

We confess to the Lord . . .

*(silent prayer)*

Leader: Jesus, you have come to put the world right,

to give life to the dead,

and to call into existence a people born from above.

**All: *Break in by your creating Spirit.***

***Send forth your fresh wind.***

***And open the way to real life, eternal life. Amen.***

New Testament Reading: John 3:1–17

Message: “Shaped by New Birth” - Jayne

**We Respond:**

Music/Song

Testimony

Guiding questions:

1. When someone encounters Jesus, they will not be the same person. Briefly share with the congregation how this transformation happened to you. Why did your encounter with Jesus make such a dramatic difference in your life?
2. Have you ever doubted whether your new birth in Christ is real? Why or why not?
3. As a reborn person, in what way has your worldview been transformed in relation to such things as wealth, success, family, and so forth?

Shaping the Clay



\*\*\*\*\*NOTES & ANNOUNCEMENTS\*\*\*\*\*

**Happy Birthday:** Wish the following a Happy Birthday today or send them a card this week: Saturday, March 11 – Richard Kaltreider

**Jayne plans to be in the office on Wed and Fri.** She can be contacted at any time by calling 330-224-3944 or emailing [stahlmennonite@gmail.com](mailto:stahlmennonite@gmail.com).

**Hearing assistance headphones** are available at the back of the sanctuary.

**Our Mission Offering for March is Lahash: Rice and Beans.** During the month of March (or the 40 days of Lent), your participation in Rice & Beans Month will directly impact the nutritional needs of vulnerable children across East Africa. Since the first Rice & Beans Month in 2010, three central themes have guided this experience:

Simplicity - We alter our diets to emphasize basic and inexpensive meals, choosing to reduce the diversity and excess often present in our food choices.

Solidarity - We stand in unity with our brothers and sisters in East Africa who have limited resources and inadequate nutrition.

Sharing - We donate the money we saved by eating simply, so that vulnerable kids and their families can receive much-needed nutritional support.

**Laurelville Retreat Center has a vibrant camp ministry** and is looking for Jesus-loving folks who want to share God's love with kids and youth. If you've never worked at camp, it is a BLAST! We have full-summer positions open for camp counselors as well as week-long positions for camp nurses, Bible teachers, craft directors, and more. Want to learn more? Know someone who might be a good fit? Go to <https://laurelville.org/employment/> or call 724-423-2429.

**Service Adventure participants and leaders are planning a trip** at the end of their year together. The participants wish to earn funds for the trip and are offering their services in exchange for a donation. Mel and Mimi have offered babysitting services, and Daniel is very skilled in photography. Cleaning and yard work are also available. If you could use some help or know of someone who does you may contact Stefanie Musser at 540-801-1312.

**Thank you so much for the care package!!** I really appreciate it. Being a busy college student, it gets hard to keep stocked up on snacks and your package made my week! I hope all is well back at home! I for sure miss the small town life. Tori Dombrosky

**Wednesday Night Bible Study will resume during Lent** (Mar. 1-Apr. 5) using a Lectio Divina format. We will read through the scriptures to be used in the coming worship and reflect on their meaning for our lives today. Join at 6:30 pm, following Soup.

**We will begin collecting empty prescription bottles for Highland Health free Clinic.** When you are done with a medication, remove the label and put them in the box in the foyer.

**A sign-up sheet** is posted on the bulletin board to help with the church sign and the front table.

**There are many ways to give to Stahl Mennonite Church.** Sharing your time and talents on Sunday morning and throughout the week help keep our ministry alive. We also count on the financial support of those able to give. Because of rising costs, our giving will need to increase. By adding a few dollars each time you give, we will be better able to meet our expenses. **Thank you for the generous giving of your finances.** Without each of you we would not be able to do the work of the church. An easy way to make sure your offering is not missed, when you are away is through the electronic giving option on our webpage. (Remember that you can cover the cost of processing the donation as well.). However, you give, know that **the work of Stahl Mennonite Church cannot happen without you!**

**Covid numbers are ever unpredictable. If you feel the need to mask for your own health or to protect the health of others, you are encouraged to do so.** Lay Leaders will continue to monitor. Thanks, again, for your patience and care for one another's health.

\*\*\*\*\* PRAYER REQUESTS\*\*\*\*\*

Jayne Byler	Mike Lappi	Safe travels for the Cotchens
Tracy Tredennick	Paul Thomas	Olga Roman (praise)
Shelly Kerchner (praise)	Jerry & Barb	
Jerry & Barb		

