

WELCOME TO
STAHL MENNONITE CHURCH

1201 Soap Hollow Rd, Johnstown, PA 15905

Pastor: Jayne Byler

Lay Leaders: Bill Hunsberger, Sonya Horsley, Joy Cotchen

Pastor Cell Phone: (330) 224-3944

Church Phone: (814) 288-5523

E-Mail: stahlmennonite@gmail.com

March 27, 2022

MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE – 10:30 A.M.

**LENT 4: SEEKING GOD’S WAYS –
From Exceptionalism to Inclusion**

Worship Leader: Sarah Barrett

Music Leaders: Rachel Allen

Recorded Music: “Songs of Confession” from
“The Soil and the Seed Project” by Walking Roots

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting the Peace Lamp - Psalm 32 from “Psalms for a New
World”

Call to Worship

Responsive Reading to “uncover the visual”

Leader: Your ways, O God, are higher than our ways.

People: Your thoughts are higher than our thoughts.

Leader: We seek God’s ways.

(Pause to uncover visual and light the candle)

**All: Lord, move us from our tribal thinking to your
radical inclusion.**

Gathering Music

Call to Worship

Leader: Together we seek the way of God,
People: **rejoicing that we are new creations in Christ.**

Leader: From a human point of view, we demand what is ours,
People: **but through Jesus we learn that all share in God's inheritance.**

Leader: Let us join God's feast,
People: **where all celebrate together.**
All: Let us live out God's way of inclusion.

Prayer

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns: *"God of Love, Hear our Prayer"*

Music

Living the Gospel

Scripture: Luke 15:1-3; 11-32

Message: "Missing the Party" - Jayne

Silent Reflection

Open Responses

Lenten prayer of confession:

Leader: Holy One,
we seek you while you may be found.
People: **We call upon you while you are near.**

Leader: Have mercy on us, O God,
for our thoughts are not your thoughts
and our ways are not your ways.
People: **Forgive us for thinking we deserve special treatment.**
Lead us to radical inclusion.

Leader: As we walk with Christ on this Lenten journey,
let us see your way more clearly
All: and follow your way more faithfully.

Sending Music

Sending Words

**Resource used: Leader Magazine Worship Resources, Winter 2021-22*

Bulletin Editor for April: Ellen Lehman – 814-288-1961

Church Sign for April: Rod and Cindy Lehman

Front Table for April: Worship Committee

St. Francis Sharing & Caring Item for April: Toilet Paper

Offering: 03/20/2022 – \$4,828.70 – Regular

200.00 – Hosanna

200.00 – Lahash

\$5,228.70

Happy Birthday: Wish the following a Happy Birthday today or send them a card this week: Today, Mar. 27 – Floyd Lehman; Tues., Mar. 29 – Deb Gates; Sat. Apr. 2 – Jared Mishler

***** **COMING EVENTS** *****

March Mission Offering: Lahash Rice and Beans

Sun., Mar. 27, 12:00 pm: Rice and Beans meal at the church

Wed, Apr. 6, 7:00 pm: Church Council

Thurs., Apr. 7, 4:00 pm: Lay Leaders

Fri, Apr. 15, 7:00 pm: Good Friday Service

Sun., Apr. 17: Easter Sunday Sunrise Service at Hunsberger’s farm

Apr. 25-28: AMC Pastor’s Bible Study at Laurelville

May 27-30: MCUSA Special Delegate Gathering in Kansas City

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

Jayne will be in the office on Wednesday and Friday and is available other times by texting or calling 330-224-3944 or emailing stahlmennonite@gmail.com

Our Mission offering for March is Lahash Rice and Beans. You will hear a little about this project each Sunday. We will have a rice and beans meal, today, Mar 27 after worship in the church basement.

It is time to order Easter lilies. We will purchase them from SEADS. Lilies are \$14 and daffodils are \$11. See the sign-up sheet in the foyer or Joyce Telenko for more details. Deadline for orders is April 5.



STAHL MENNONITE CHURCH

.....
Johnstown, Pennsylvania

March 27, 2022

*As we seek God's way,
we move from a sense that "we" and "ours"
have special standing
to the knowledge that all are equally part of
God's kingdom.*

We commit to love and obey God, and through the power of the Holy Spirit follow Jesus, sharing the story of God's love, forgiveness, and grace, making God's kingdom of peace and justice more present on Earth.

Respond to the crisis in Ukraine: MCC will be responding to the crisis in Ukraine through its local partners. Russian military forces have invaded the country with missiles striking major cities and casualties continuing to grow. Your prayers and donations will help partners scale up their work providing relief and trauma healing for vulnerable and displaced people. “Ukraine is experiencing major upheaval, but our partners have supplies ready to help vulnerable and displaced people,” says Rebecca Hessenauer, MCC representative for Ukraine. Donate today by visiting mcc.org/ukraine, send donation checks to MCC PO Box 500, Akron, PA 17501 or call toll-free 1-888-563-4676.

We will have a Good Friday Service on April 15 at 7pm. This service will include communion and footwashing. If you would like to participate in a 4 person Reader’s Theater or scripture reading, please let Jayne know.

We will have an Easter Sunday outdoor Sunrise Service at the Hunsberger farm, at 6:30am followed by a breakfast. (687 E Campus Ave, Davidsville) Stay tuned for more details! We will also have our regular worship time at 10:30 at the church.

Ready for Summer? Summer Camp at Laurelville is coming beginning June 20-Aug 5. If you are a young person age 6-17 there is a week for you. The theme is “CLIMBING THE MOUNTAIN: Reaching for Wholeness” based on Matthew 5:33-6:4. If you are interested see Joy Cotchen or Leah Rittenhouse for more information.

The new VOICES TOGETHER hymnals are in the pews! We have a few extra copies if you would like to purchase one to take home with you. They are \$25 each. Also, as you look at the older HYMNAL WORSHIP BOOK in your pew, if it is a bit ragged and worn, there are better copies to exchange it with on the front pew. We also have one large print VOICES TOGETHER available on the front pew. If we need more, let Jayne know.

Respond to the crisis in Ukraine: MCC will be responding to the crisis in Ukraine through its local partners. Russian military forces have invaded the country with missiles striking major cities and casualties continuing to grow. Your prayers and donations will help partners scale up their work providing relief and trauma healing for vulnerable and displaced people. “Ukraine is experiencing major upheaval, but our partners have supplies ready to help vulnerable and displaced people,” says Rebecca Hessenauer, MCC representative for Ukraine. Donate today by visiting mcc.org/ukraine, send donation checks to MCC PO Box 500, Akron, PA 17501 or call toll-free 1-888-563-4676.

We will have a Good Friday Service on April 15 at 7pm. This service will include communion and footwashing. If you would like to participate in a 4 person Reader’s Theater or scripture reading, please let Jayne know.

We will have an Easter Sunday outdoor Sunrise Service at the Hunsberger farm, at 6:30am followed by a breakfast. (687 E Campus Ave, Davidsville) Stay tuned for more details! We will also have our regular worship time at 10:30 at the church.

Ready for Summer? Summer Camp at Laurelville is coming beginning June 20-Aug 5. If you are a young person age 6-17 there is a week for you. The theme is “CLIMBING THE MOUNTAIN: Reaching for Wholeness” based on Matthew 5:33-6:4. If you are interested see Joy Cotchen or Leah Rittenhouse for more information.

The new VOICES TOGETHER hymnals are in the pews! We have a few extra copies if you would like to purchase one to take home with you. They are \$25 each. Also, as you look at the older HYMNAL WORSHIP BOOK in your pew, if it is a bit ragged and worn, there are better copies to exchange it with on the front pew. We also have one large print VOICES TOGETHER available on the front pew. If we need more, let Jayne know.

Thank you for your continued generous giving of your finances.

Without each of you we would not be able to do the work of the church. The beginning of the year, with winter weather and lingering Covid concerns, has us **off to a slow start in our finances.**

Hopefully as we get out more and warmer weather comes, giving will increase. As always, you can give in the offering plate in the back of the sanctuary on Sunday mornings or mail your offering to the church or to Kathy Thomas (our new assistant treasurer). You can also give electronically on our website. (Remember that you have the option to cover the cost of processing the donation as well.) This can easily be set up as a recurring offering, so you don't have to worry about finding the checkbook each week! However you give, know that the work of Stahl Mennonite Church cannot happen without it!

Because of the decline in Covid 19 cases, CDC recommendations for masking have eased. Conemaugh Medical Center has also moved into "green" phase because of low covid numbers. Therefore, **Lay Leaders are recommending we make masking optional in our gatherings.** If you are immunocompromised or are protecting someone in your household, you may choose to continue masking, but we are no longer recommending this for everyone who has been vaccinated. Thanks for your patience and care for one another's health.

***** **PRAYER REQUESTS** *****

Becky Mishler	Emily Gallagher	Dan Gates
Sueanne Sarvis	Ukraine	Pearl – Jeanette's friend
Allegheny Mennonite Conference		Afghanistan refugees
Rachel's sister and family		Ed & Sue Dietle

Thank you for your continued generous giving of your finances.

Without each of you we would not be able to do the work of the church. The beginning of the year, with winter weather and lingering Covid concerns, has us **off to a slow start in our finances.**

Hopefully as we get out more and warmer weather comes, giving will increase. As always, you can give in the offering plate in the back of the sanctuary on Sunday mornings or mail your offering to the church or to Kathy Thomas (our new assistant treasurer). You can also give electronically on our website. (Remember that you have the option to cover the cost of processing the donation as well.) This can easily be set up as a recurring offering, so you don't have to worry about finding the checkbook each week! How ever you give, know that the work of Stahl Mennonite Church cannot happen without it!

Because of the decline in Covid 19 cases, CDC recommendations for masking have eased. Conemaugh Medical Center has also moved into "green" phase because of low covid numbers.

Therefore, **Lay Leaders are recommending we make masking optional in our gatherings.** If you are immunocompromised or are protecting someone in your household, you may choose to continue masking, but we are no longer recommending this for everyone who has been vaccinated. Thanks for your patience and care for one another's health.

***** **PRAYER REQUESTS** *****

Becky Mishler	Emily Gallagher	Dan Gates
Sueanne Sarvis	Ukraine	Pearl – Jeanette's friend
Allegheny Mennonite Conference		Afghanistan refugees
Rachel's sister and family		Ed & Sue Dietle