

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

September 17, 2023

MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE – 10:30 A.M.

Theme: We Belong to God

Worship Leader: Jeanette Hunsberger

Music: Stahl Musicians

Welcome and announcements

Lighting the Peace Lamp

Psalm 103: 11-13

Gathering Songs: Voices Together #5 All People That on Earth
#496 I Owe My Lord a Morning Song

Call to Worship:

Come with your questions, come with your awe!

**For the God who broods over the chaos
meets us in this place.**

Come with your energy, come with your weariness!

**For the God who breathes new life into the dust
meets us in this place.**

Come with your sadness, come with your joy!

**For the God who dared to become human
meets us in this place.**

~ written by Katherine Hawker

Opening Prayer

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns: “*God of love, hear our prayer*”

Singing: VT #595 When the Storms of Life are Raging

Focus Moment

Scripture: Romans 14:1-12

Sitting with the Scripture:

Take a moment to sit in silent reflection of what has just been read.

Let the words and the Spirit settle in your being.

Message: “Accountable to God” - Jayne

Response:

When we look over our shoulders
at fear shadowing us today,
**you go before us into tomorrow,
making a path through the sea of yesterday's doubts.**

When our legs tremble
from the effort of standing up
for what you hope for all creation,
**you stand at our side, offering your hope's strength.
Cloud of Grace, we offer our love to you.**

When we turn our hearts
into deserts of stony bitterness,
you transform them into oases of joy.

When we come up with all sorts of rules
for those who come to us seeking to find you,
**you tear up the list,
stretching wide your arms
in welcoming grace.**

When we would clasp
old worries to our hearts,
**you open our eyes to that hope
which paves the path ahead of us.**

When we spend each day
consumed with doubts and fears,
**you remind us that this day is the time to honor God,
by serving God's children.**

God in Community, Holy in One,
as you are all to us.

We offer all we are to you.

-Thom Shuman, Lectionary Liturgies

Sending Song: VT #540 Will You Come & Follow Me
Sending Words

Bulletin Editor for September: Norma Alwine – (814) 421-1782

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

Offering: 09/10/2023 – \$ 3,138.70 – General Fund

_____ 5.00 – Service Adventure

\$ 3,143.70 – Total

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

September Mission Offering: Service Adventure

Sat., Sep 23: Saturday's Kitchen Meal

Mon., Oct 2-Sun Oct 8: Jayne on Vacation

Wed., Oct., 11, 7:30pm: Church Council

Wed., Oct 18, 4:30-6:30pm: Soup Night returns!

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

Happy Birthday: Wish the following a Happy Birthday today or by sending them a card this week: Mon., Sept. 18 – Elizabeth Dunmore; Tue., Sept. 19 – Paul Thomas

Happy Anniversary: Wish the following a Happy Anniversary today or send them a card this week: Today, Sept. 17 – Adam & Lauren Cotchen

Stahl Mennonite Church

September 17, 2023



Seeking Peace Together

Jayne hopes to be in the office on Wed. and Friday. She can be contacted at any time by calling or texting 330-224-3944 or emailing stahlmennonite@gmail.com.

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

We are trying some new ways to worship during the Sunday morning gatherings. One is an **Activity Table located in the back of the sanctuary, just under the nursery windows.** There are supplies there for children as well as other creative folks to use to help engage the morning worship with paper, color, or other art supplies. Anyone of any age is welcome to see what is there to enhance your worship. Please return any unused supplies to the table after worship ends.

We will be serving the meal at Saturday's Kitchen on Sept 23. See the sign-up sheet in the foyer to see how you can participate.

Our September Mission Offering will be for Service Adventure.

The Service Adventure program has a house in Johnstown that currently has 3 young people participating along with the Leader couple and their 2 children. They will be spending the next 9 months living and learning and serving in the Johnstown area. The unit needed to purchase a new "used" van. This has meant extra expenses. Offerings go to the daily needs for the unit. **A "wish-list" is available on the table in the foyer of items they would like** that we can share with them when they visit our congregation in October.

A huge thank you to Chris and Floyd Lehman for opening their porch for three weeks of gathering. We had a steady attendance of people who engaged in prayer, scripture and praise, while eating some tasty food! **If you would like to host a week or two or three events at your home** (donuts in the dining room, lattes in the living room, cake in the kitchen...) during the coming months before Soup Night begins, please talk to Jayne.

Check out the schedule for Red Cross Blood Drives at St Davids Lutheran Church in Davidsville. The next drive is Sep 25 between 12:00 and 5:30. Call 1-800-733-2767 to schedule an appointment.

Continue to be aware of opportunities to practice Radical Hospitality that you might wish to share with the Vision Team (Neil Lehman, Daniel Dunmore, Rachel Allen, Jeanette Hunsberger, Matt Stahl, or Jayne Byler). The Vision Team will meet in the fall to discern next steps.

Huge gratitude for the continued faithful financial giving to the work of this congregation. Electronic giving has proven to be a helpful way to continue regular offerings, even if you are unable to be here in person. See our website to get started if you haven't used this yet. (Remember that you can cover the cost of processing the donation as well.) As always, you are also welcome to give through the Sunday morning offering plate in the back of the sanctuary. Without the continued sharing of your gifts, financial or in your participation among us, this congregation would not continue.

Covid numbers are rising again. If you feel more comfortable masking to avoid possible exposure, please feel free to do so. We can all support one another in our efforts to remain healthy.

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

Mary Ruth & Rand Zeigler & Family, accident in Belize (Jeanette's sister)
Death of Mercedes Father Dwight & Linda Gindlesperger
Jim Simko Service Adventure Unit Ron Telenko
Gerry Fix (Joyce Telenko's Sister)