

**8WELCOME TO
STAHL MENNONITE CHURCH**

1201 Soap Hollow Rd, Johnstown, PA 15905

Pastor: Jayne Byler

Lay Leaders: Glenn Lehman, Bill Hunsberger, Sonya Horsley

Pastor Cell Phone: (330) 224-3944

Church Phone: (814) 288-5523

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November 28, 2021

MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE – 10:30 A.M.

THEME: Advent 1: Dare to imagine God’s goodness!

Worship Leader: Joy Cotchen

Music Leaders: Rachel Allen & Leah Rittenhouse

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting the Peace Lamp

Gathering Music

Psalm 25:1-10

Call to Worship

Advent Candle:

Leader: We light a candle of hope.

And we imagine:

People: God’s righteousness, God’s steadfast love, God’s justice.

Leader: We light the candle to see God’s goodness in us, among us.

People: Imagine that . . . we are God’s wonders, blessed wonders.

“He Came Down” using “hope” – SJ 31

Prayer

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

Music

Imagining

Scripture: Jeremiah 33:14-16

Message: “Imagine” – Jayne

Confession and Assurance:

Leader: You may have heard it said children grow taller at night—while at rest—bones quietly stretch, and bit by bit their bodies grow.

Trees grow silently, too—from deep inside—energy is released.

Branches reach for the light.

People can grow silently, too.

**People: We confess that all too often we stifle
the growth God inspires deep inside of us,
preferring the immediate, the good enough,
the comfortable.**

Leader: In Advent—O God—cause us to get up on our tiptoes, lean forward, and extend our gaze.

**People: Surely God, who caused the righteous Branch to
spring up, will enliven our imaginations in
this season of hope.**

(silence)

Leader: The kingdom of God is near.

Listen—can you hear it?

Look—can you see it?

Our God says, “Surely the days are coming—
they are already here!”

Sending Music

Sending Words

Bulletin Editor for December: Shana Lichtenfels – 814-288-0171
Church Sign for December:
Front Table for December: Worship Committee
St. Francis Sharing & Caring Item for December: Toilet Paper
Offering: 11/21/2021 – \$958.70 = TOTAL

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

Mission Offering for November: Benevolence Fund
Wed, Dec. 1, 7:00 p.m.: Stewardship Committee
Sun, Dec. 5, 6:00 p.m.: Voices Together and MCC Fundraiser
Tue, Dec. 7, 6:30 p.m.: Lay Leaders
Wed, Dec. 8, 7:00 p.m.: Church Council
Wed., Dec. 15–Wed., Jan. 5: Jayne taking vacation and holiday time for son’s surgery recovery in Ohio.
Fri., Dec. 24, 11:00 p.m.: Christmas Eve Candle Lighting Service

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

Happy Birthday: Wish the following a Happy Birthday today or send them a card this week: TODAY, Sun., Nov. 28 – Arlene Moser; Wed., Dec. 1 – Brooks Cotchen; Wed., Dec. 1 – Lovea Lehman; Wed., Dec. 1 – Lynn Moser

Happy Anniversary: Wish the following a Happy Anniversary today or send them a card this week: Fri., Dec. 3 – Dwight & Linda Gindlesperger

Jayne will be in the office this week on Wed. and Fri. She is available via texting or phone at any time by calling 330-224-3944 or send an email to stahlmennonite@gmail.com.

ATTENTION: If anyone wishes to order or has already ordered **poinsettias for the holiday season**, please notice that the cost is now \$10.50 since we have chosen to support SEADS nursery. If you wish to change your order because of this cost difference, please talk to Joyce Telenko ASAP. Phone 814-322-2932 (cell) or 814-479-7092 (home). Colors available are red or white.



STAHL MENNONITE CHURCH



Johnstown, Pennsylvania

November 28, 2021

Can we, dare we, embrace hope once more?
We can when we remember God's steadfast goodness
and the goodness of learning and walking in God's ways.

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.

Our Mission offering for November will be for our Benevolence Fund. This fund is used to help with crisis needs that arise within the congregation

GIVING TUESDAY, November 30th, is only two days away!

Giving Tuesday means supporting one of your favorite ministries.

ALLEGHENY MENNONITE CONFERENCE is seeking 40

persons who will donate \$25 by using our “Donate” button on

Giving Tuesday. **Are you in?** You will support our pastors, summer

camping programs for children & youth and other ministries with

your generous gift! If interested please contact AMC Office at

office@alleghenymennoniteconference.org to receive a special

invitation and link on November 30th.

The **Conemaugh Township “Meals on Wheels”** is in need of volunteer drivers to deliver on Fridays. You can volunteer for one or more Fridays each month, whatever suits you best. The delivery time frame is one hour (11:00 p.m.-12:00 noon). Questions? Please call Betty Spory at 814-479-4640.

A Voices Together and MCC Fundraiser is planned for Sun.,

Dec. 5, 6:00 p.m. This will also be a way to participate in the Advent

Season through music and support Worship Committee’s efforts to

purchase the new Voices Together hymnal for our congregation as

well as the work of Mennonite Central Committee. If you would like

to help in any way, let Rachel know ASAP. It will be a Facebook live

event, so stay tuned for more information how to access it.

Covid 19 protocols are constantly changing. Because of the increase of cases and the Delta variant, the CDC is recommending increased use of masks when inside public spaces, even if vaccinated.

Lay Leaders discussed this change and recommend complying with these new guidelines. We know it is not convenient

or popular to do so. However, we choose to error on the side of

caution guided by medical professionals. Please visit outdoors

following worship, weather permitting, where you can remove your

mask. Thanks so much for your patience and willingness to care for

the safety and health of one another. We will continue streaming our

worships via Facebook Live.

We are hoping to have a Christmas Eve Service again this year. If you or someone you know would like to share a musical piece, please let Jayne know soon. All skill levels welcome! Or if you would like to participate in some other way, either with a reading of your choosing or helping in other readings, let Jayne know as well. The more musical participation and variety the better the celebration!

Christmas Angel Gift Project: Once again St. Francis Sharing and Caring is asking for sponsors for our annual Christmas Angel Gift Project. Applications for Christmas gift requests were given to Food Pantry families in the October Food Boxes. We have the specifics of some of these people on the tree in the foyer. Please take a tag and purchase the gift then return it to the church. If you want to participate but are not able to do the shopping, take a tag and a monetary donation and put it in an envelope together and give to Sharon Shetler. Have gifts to the church or to Sharon by Sunday, Dec. 12. Any questions please see Sharon or Jayne.

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. You can give in the offering plate in the back of the sanctuary on Sunday mornings, or mail your offering to Sharon Shetler. You can also give electronically on our website. (Remember that you have the option to cover the cost of processing the donation as well.)

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

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| Walter Bodziak | Chris Miller | Riley Allen |
| James Gates | Bob Fix | Jacob Horsley |
| Shelly Kerchner | Chris Liechty | Jeanette & Bill Hunsberger |
| Linda Gindlesperger | Joy Cotchen | Whitey Gindlesperger |
| Ron's two friends with COVID | | Sarah Barrett's Grandmother |
| Krista Rittenhouse & Michael Good | | |