

WELCOME 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

E-Mail: stahlmennonite@gmail.com

December 12, 2021

MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE – 10:30 A.M.

THEME: Advent 3: Dare to imagine God's song!

Worship Leader: Jayne

Music Leaders: Rachel Allen & Leah Rittenhouse

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting the Peace Lamp

Gathering Music

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Call to Worship

(adapted from Zephaniah 3:14-20; Philippians 4:4-7)

Leader: Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say:
Rejoice!

People: **Shout for joy, rejoice with all your heart!**

Leader: God sings over you. Fear not, for God is in
your midst.

People: **Shout for joy, rejoice with all your heart!**

Leader: Sing praises to God—shout aloud and sing for
joy.

People: **God is in our midst.**

Leader: We listen.

People: **We strain to grasp the sound of God's song.**

Advent Candle:

Leader: We light a candle of joy.
And we imagine:

People: Jubilation! Rejoicing! Do not fear!

Leader: We light the candle and join in God’s song,
singing loudly, singing fiercely, singing
together.

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

“He Came Down” using “peace” STJ 31

Prayer

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

Music

Imagining

Scripture: Luke 3:7-18

Message: “God’s Kind of Song” - Dave Mishler

Response

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: 12/05/2021 – \$1,456.70 - Regular

45.00 – MDS

 62.66 – Voices Together

\$1,564.36

Happy Birthday: Wish the following a Happy Birthday today or
send them a card this week: None this week.

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

Mission Offering for December: Mennonite Disaster Service

Wed., Dec. 15–Wed., Jan. 5: Jayne taking vacation and holiday time for son's surgery recovery in Ohio.

Fri., Dec. 24, 9:30 p.m.: Christmas Eve Candle Lighting Service
(note time change)

Jan. 2 - Annual Reports due to Joyce Telenko

Jan. 12 - 7:00 p.m.- Church Council

Jan. 16, 12:00 p.m. - Annual Congregational Business Meeting

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

Jayne will be taking vacation and holiday time for her son's surgery recovery in Ohio. For emergencies contact a Lay Leader (Glenn Lehman (until Jan 1), Bill Hunsberger, Sonya Horsley or Joy Cotchen (after Jan 1). If you have info or prayer requests for the Phone Tree contact Sonya Horsley. If you have information for the bulletin please contact Shana Lichtenfels or Ellen Lehman.

Thanks to everyone who participated in the Voices Together and MCC Fundraiser last weekend. It was a fun time to hear some great music. If you missed it, you can go to our Facebook page or webpage to check out a recording. Thanks to everyone who gave financially to the work of MCC and to acquiring the new Voices Together hymnal for our congregation. You can still donate to either or both of these by going to our website, Stahlmennonite.org. or by designating your donation in the offering plate.

Thank you to everyone who helped in the discernment process for finding persons to serve in various positions. The Personnel Committee recognizes that many of us live very busy lives or are feeling the effects of aging on our energy and abilities. So, to each person who said "yes" and to those who gave suggestions, we are grateful. We have one crucial position to be filled. **We still need someone to serve as Congregational Secretary.** This involves taking minutes at monthly Council meetings and distributing them, as well as preparing the booklet and taking minutes for the annual business meeting in Jan/Feb. If you are willing to take on this position, or even a portion of it, let Cindy Lehman, Shana Lichtenfels or Jayne know sometime soon. Thanks for your consideration.



STAHL MENNONITE CHURCH

.....
Johnstown, Pennsylvania

December 12, 2021

***Singing together causes great joy and jubilation.
But, even more, our hearts exult and swell
as we imagine God singing over us.***

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.

Mission offering for the month of December is Mennonite Disaster Service.

We are planning to have a Christmas Eve Service again this year. If you or someone you know would like to share a musical piece, please let Rachel Allen 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 Joy Cotchen know as well. The more musical participation and variety the better the celebration! We will be **moving the time from 11pm to 9:30 pm** to accommodate more families.

Our annual congregational business meeting is set for Jan 16 following worship. Please have any annual reports to Joyce Telenko **by Jan 2. Thanks.**

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.

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.)

Everence offers a recorded webinar dealing with Senior Fraud Prevention. Check it out at

[https://www.everence.com/resources/stewardship-advocates/advocate-webinars/senior-fraud-prevention.](https://www.everence.com/resources/stewardship-advocates/advocate-webinars/senior-fraud-prevention)

Mission offering for the month of December is Mennonite Disaster Service.

We are planning to have a Christmas Eve Service again this year. If you or someone you know would like to share a musical piece, please let Rachel Allen 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 Joy Cotchen know as well. The more musical participation and variety the better the celebration! We will be **moving the time from 11pm to 9:30 pm** to accommodate more families.

Our annual congregational business meeting is set for Jan 16 following worship. Please have any annual reports to Joyce Telenko **by Jan 2. Thanks.**

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.

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.)

Everence offers a recorded webinar dealing with Senior Fraud Prevention. Check it out at

[https://www.everence.com/resources/stewardship-advocates/advocate-webinars/senior-fraud-prevention.](https://www.everence.com/resources/stewardship-advocates/advocate-webinars/senior-fraud-prevention)

You are invited to a Christmas Eve service, *Come and See, Go and Tell*, at 7pm at Kaufman Mennonite Church. The program includes music with narration, carols and candle lighting. All are welcome.

On the bulletin board in the foyer are sign-up sheets for the church sign and the front table. If you would like to volunteer to do these please sign up! Thanks!

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

Walter Bodziak	Chris Miller	Riley Allen
Linda Manges	Traveling Mercies – Neil and Ellen L.	
Shelly Kerchner	Chris Liechty	Deb Gates Mom
Linda Gindlesperger	Joy Cotchen	Whitey Gindlesperger
Chris L. friend- Scott		Amy Yoder’s Mother
Krista Rittenhouse & Michael Good		Carol Boborski
Dean – Joy Cotchen’s Brother-in-Law		Abe Lehman and Family
Gaynell – Gege’s friend		

You are invited to a Christmas Eve service, *Come and See, Go and Tell*, at 7pm at Kaufman Mennonite Church. The program includes music with narration, carols and candle lighting. All are welcome.

On the bulletin board in the foyer are sign-up sheets for the church sign and the front table. If you would like to volunteer to do these please sign up! Thanks!

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

Walter Bodziak	Chris Miller	Riley Allen
Linda Manges	Traveling Mercies – Neil and Ellen L.	
Shelly Kerchner	Chris Liechty	Deb Gates Mom
Linda Gindlesperger	Joy Cotchen	Whitey Gindlesperger
Chris L. friend- Scott		Amy Yoder’s Mother
Krista Rittenhouse & Michael Good		Carol Boborski
Dean – Joy Cotchen’s Brother-in-Law		Abe Lehman and Family
Gaynell – Gege’s friend		