

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

December 18, 2022 – Fourth Sunday in Advent

MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE – 10:30 A.M.

Theme: RESTORATION IS NEAR:
“Do Not Be Afraid”

Worship Leader: Bill Hunsberger

Music Leader: Rachel Allen

Pre-Service Music: “Psalm 96:1-2”

The Soil and The Seed Project, Vol. 5

*O sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.
sing to the LORD, bless his name;
tell of his salvation from day to day.*

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting the Peace Lamp

Scripture: Psalm 80:1-3, 17-19

Gathering Music: “O Come O Come Emmanuel” VT 210

Call to Worship:

Leader: Behold! Do not be afraid; God is with us.
God is our strength and our salvation!

People: Lord, we stand in your presence in faith, not fear.

Leader: God will send angels to keep watch over you,
to comfort you, to keep you.

People: Lord, our strong hope is built on your unfailing love. Our hearts yield to you and trust in your transforming power.

All: Praise ye the Lord!

Lighting the Advent Candles: Psalm 80:3

(Silence as Advent candle is brought to front.)

Litany:

Leader: We cry out for restoration, we call upon God to give us life.

People: Do not be afraid, says the Lord. I have promised to be with you.

Leader: As we hold fast to God's promise, we light this candle as a sign of our joy.

All: Bring your restoration to your people, we pray.

Song: "Hope is a Candle" VT 211

Prayer

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

Music: "He Came Down" VT 239

"Oh How Shall I Receive Thee" VT 215

Scripture: Matthew 1:18-25

Message: Rosalie Danchanko

Response: (*congregation reads in unison*)

We move closer to the coming of our Lord.

Let us go forward in joy.

Sending Music: "Sometimes a Light Surprises"

Sending Words

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

Front Table for December: Worship Committee

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

Offering: 12/11/2022 – \$2,263.70 = General Offering Total

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

December Mission Offering: Mennonite Disaster Service

Sat., Dec. 24, 11:00 pm: Christmas Eve Service. **PLEASE NOTE** that there will be no Morning Worship on Christmas Day.

Jan. 13-15: Stahl hosting the Allegheny Mennonite Conference Leadership Council.

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

Welcome to Rosalie Danchanko, our guest speaker this morning.

Rosalie is the director of the Highland Health Clinic, the local free clinic in Johnstown.

Jayne will be in the office on Wednesday and Friday this week.

Because Jayne's surgery date has been moved to Jan 26, 2023, she will remain available throughout the holiday season. You can reach her anytime by calling or texting 330-224-3944 or emailing stahlmennonite@gmail.com.

It is not too late to talk to Rachel about Christmas Eve music. If you would like to share a musical selection, please let Rachel know ASAP.

The denominational **Advent at Home Worship Guide** is now available. The guide is designed for families and people of all ages, offering weekly Scriptures, background information, prayers, activities and rituals around this year's theme from Leader Magazine, "Restoration is Near." Look for it here: mennoniteusa.org/lentathome

Our December Mission Offering is for Mennonite Disaster Service. Responding to floods, tornados, hurricanes, mudslides, and wildfires is the work of MDS. MDS recruits, organizes and empowers volunteers to repair and rebuild the homes of those impacted by disasters in the United States and Canada. As they respond with Christian love to serve people who would not otherwise have the means to recover, their goal is to restore hope and bring people home.

Sat, Dec. 24, 7:00 pm: You are invited to a Christmas Eve service at Kaufman Mennonite Church.



STAHL MENNONITE CHURCH



Johnstown, Pennsylvania

December 18, 2022

FOCUS STATEMENT:

God has promised to restore us and has acted in Jesus to further God's plan of restoration.

Because of God's promise, we can act by stepping out in faith.

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.

One Day Winter Bible School on Sat., Jan. 7th from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. There will be 2 Youth-Adult classes: "The Unseen Realm" & "Jesus in the Old Testament". Other classes offered are Pre-K through 5th grade. Lunch will be provided/donations accepted. Please RSVP if possible to Kaufman Church by calling 814-479-7813.

The end of the fiscal year is nearing for us as a congregation. Your continued contributions are essential for the work of Stahl Mennonite Church. Thank you for your continued generous giving of your finances. As we settle into Fall routines, please continue to remember 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 have the option to cover the cost of processing the donation as well.) Without each of you we would not be able to do the work of the church. Your commitment to the church through your financial offerings is one way to keep our work as a congregation going here in our community and beyond our local area. 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 this rise. Thanks again, for your patience and care for one another's health.

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

Beth Hillegas	Autumn (Miller)
Chantay Jeffers	TayLee Bush
Shelly Kerchner (praise)	Bill & Maryann Ackman
Rhoda Dillon	Julianne Rice
Hospital Staff	Deb Gates
Rueben & Jeri Hunsberger	Paul Thomas
Carol Knipple	Whitey & Linda Gindlesperger
Don & Marge Auckerman	Shannon Hathaway (praise)
Laura & Jason (Paul & Mary Ellen Lehman's daughter & son-in-law)	
Mary Himlin & Family (death) – Jen Petro's Sister	

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Mike Lovette Family (death)	