

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

December 31, 2023

MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE – 10:30 A.M.

Theme: First Sunday after Christmas
“How will we know.... Who Knows?”

Worship Leader: Curt Lichtenfels

Music: Stahl Musicians

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting the Peace Lamp

Summary Statement

Gathering Song: “Wait for the Lord” – VT 228

Words from the Prophets: Isaiah 61:10–62:3

Call to Worship

Opening Prayer

Singing: “With Mary Sing Magnificat” – VT 208
“Hark! the Herald Angels Sing” – VT 247

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

Singing: “It Came Upon a Midnight Clear” – VT 248
“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly” – VT 243

Scripture: Luke 2:25-27, 36-38

Reading 1: from PREPARING FOR JESUS. by Walter Wangerin Jr

Singing: “Away in a Manager” – VT 257

Reading 2: from PREPARING FOR JESUS by Walter Wangerin Jr.

Scripture: Luke 2:28-35

Response

Sending Song: “Go Tell it on the Mountain” – VT 252

Sending Words:

Leader: Together we rejoice!

Congregation: Our waiting is over!

Leader: We’ve seen the One, the light to all peoples,
who grew in strength and is filled with wisdom.
The favor of God is upon him! Go! Rejoice! God is here!

Bulletin Editor for January: Shana Lichtenfels – 814-288-0171

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

Offering: 12/24/2023 – \$2,038.70 – General Fund
425.00 - Mennonite Disaster Service
\$2,463.70

December Mission Offering: Mennonite Disaster Service
Mon., Dec 25-Wed Jan 3: Jayne taking holiday and vacation time
Mon., Jan 8-Wed Jan 10: Jayne at Shalom Academy (Pastor's week)
at EMS
Wed., Jan 10, 7:00: Church Council
Sat., Jan 13: Saturday's Kitchen meal
Sun., Jan 14: Annual Reports due
Sun., Jan 21, 12:00: Annual Business Meeting
Fri., Jan 26-Sat., Jan 27: Hosting AMC Leadership Council

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

Happy Birthday: Wish the following a Happy Birthday today or by sending them a card this week: Today, Dec..31 – Devin Cable

Jayne will be taking holiday and vacation time this week. In an emergency contact one of the Lay Leaders (Sonya Horsley, Joy Cotchen, Neil Lehman).

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

Annual Reports are due on Jan 14. If you are chair of a committee please have your report to Shana Lichtenfels by then. **Our Annual Business meeting will be the following Sunday on Jan 21 following a potluck meal.**

We will be serving a meal at Saturday's Kitchen on Jan 13. Stay tuned for sign up sheets to help.

Offering envelopes for 2024 are on the table in the foyer. If you are interested in using an envelope for your offering, please pick up a pack of numbered envelopes and sign your name on the sheet listing the numbers. If you have any questions, contact Kathy Thomas.

Please see the coming Church Directory and Birthday/Anniversary list for 2024 in the foyer. Check for misspellings, and incorrect information. Add any missing information.

Stahl Mennonite Church Advent 2023

How will we know?



December 31, 2023

Don't forget about the **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.

Our December Mission Offering is Mennonite Disaster Service. 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. Following hurricanes, floods, tornados, and wildfires, MDS is currently working in 13 locations throughout the US.

The fiscal year is coming to an end. Thanks to all 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.

As Covid and other respiratory virus increase over the winter, 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*******

Charles Lambert Family (Death) Mark Mishler Family (Death)
Ruth Kaufman Family (Death) Jane Kuchman Family (Death)
Richard Todero Family (Death) Ellen Lehman Lydia Lehman
Shelly Kerchner Ron Telenko Dan & Deb Gates (traveling)
Matt & Linda Scislowicz Gaza/Israel War in Middle East

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