

Steel City Mennonite Church
Mid-Week Connection
January 15, 2020

Fast to Feast 2020 Update - We are over half way through our 21-day fast. It is around this time that people begin to get frustrated at the "going without" in their life whether it be food or social media. Remember, sacrifice is only a sacrifice when it costs us something. Hold firm, press in, don't give up, your breakthrough is on the way.

India 2020 - Pastor David and Bill Litke are planning to travel to **India** on February 1 and return on February 12. Please pray for their ability to encourage the already believers there, the orphans and widows and the over 200 pastors from the region who will gather for the Pastors Conference. Also, pray against the powers of evil that would like to hinder/halt the message of Jesus. Pastor David is going this time with a tremendous burden for the pastors in Pastor John's network of churches. A spoken need they have is for PA systems to loudly broadcast their services into the community. There are 17 churches that need these systems at a cost of \$250 each. Pray for this need. As some of you have asked about donating things to take to the orphans, we plan on taking sports balls, little toys and chocolates. You can also give financially to provide rice/food for the orphans and widows. You can give online or by earmarking your contribution in the offering.

ICYMI - Sunday, Beth Bergey shared she had had a burden to pray for **Philip and Betsy (RI workers in Middle East)**. Pastor David inquired about Phil and Betsy from Rosedale International. Here is the response he received from the HR director:
"Please relay my appreciation to this woman for praying for Philip & Betsy. I'm not aware of any major crisis, but they have been under more scrutiny by local authorities lately (as they allude to in their latest newsletter). They were also traveling in Spain and elsewhere in the past few weeks and had asked for prayer for border crossings, safety, and various people they were meeting up with. Betsy and Renita also traveled to a special education training this week, so Philip was with all of the children by himself for a time. That is all I am aware of, but it's possible there were more things that weren't shared openly on what's app. Perhaps they were spared from something because this woman obeyed and prayed."

The **Youth Group** will be having a **Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser on Saturday, January 25**, for their Missions Trip to the Philadelphia Project this summer. On Sunday, tickets will be on sale in the foyer, or contact Sheryl if you would like to purchase tickets. Please purchase tickets ahead of time if possible as this helps with planning. There are three time slots available for your meal, 4:30 p.m., 5:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. The cost is \$10 for adults; \$5 for children 6-12; and children ages 5 and under are free.

Saturday Night Alive gathers every Saturday evening at 7:00 p.m. for one hour of worship and teaching from scripture.

Discovery Bible Study meets Sunday evening at 6:30 p.m. in the Banquet room of the Hellertown Diner.

The **Good News Club and Youth Group Dinner** on Wednesday, January 22, will be cold Chicken Salad Sandwiches and Chips. Please RSVP through the SCMC App or sign up on the sheet in the foyer. Good News Club and Youth Group will be meeting at 6:30 p.m. that evening.

The **Finance Commission** will be meeting on Thursday, January 23, at 7:30 p.m.

The **Congregational Business Meeting** will be held during the Sunday School time on Sunday, January 26.

2020 Leadership Nominees: The following individuals have been asked to serve SCMC through various leadership and commission positions. Prayerfully consider affirming these nominees presented. The affirmation process will take place during the morning worship on **Sunday, January 26. Board of Elders** – Scott Richards; **Church Council** – Richard Freed, Marc Newcomer, Katrina Schmidt; **Education Commission** – Jazmyn Cunningham, Danette Walters; **Fellowship Commission** – Val Newcomer, Nancy Walters; **Finance Commission** – Britney Kempf, Kevin Olsen; **Outreach Commission** – Toni Cressman, Juan Forero, Anita McSloy; **Technology Commission** – Ryan Walters; **Worship Commission** – Dan Reed. We are grateful to each one who has consented to serve the congregation in these ways.

Instant Church Directory is almost here! If you haven't done so already, please send your picture to be included in the directory. If you do not have a current picture and would like one taken at church, please contact Sheryl. Once the directory is ready, instructions will be sent out with how to access the app or online version.

In response to the **Financial Peace University** discussion related to Long Term Care Insurance, a webinar has been scheduled with Tom Gilmore through Zander Insurance on Monday, January 20 at 7:00 p.m. Tom Gilmore specializes in Long Term Care Insurance. During the webinar, he will address the complexities of this type of insurance. There is absolutely no pressure to purchase through him or Zander Insurance! You can participate in the webinar from your home or office through computer or phone. To access the webinar, go to join.me/scubadivers and enter the conference ID 238-064-956. If you need assistance in joining a webinar, please ask Pastor David.

Our **January Lunch Bunch** will be Wednesday, January 29, at 12 noon. We will be going to Cactus Blue Mexican Restaurant in Bethlehem. The restaurant is located at 2915 Schoenersville Road in Bethlehem. If you would like to attend, please sign up on the sheet provided in the foyer or on the SCMC App.

Valentine's Day Special - The Church Has Left the Building on another endeavor into the community. This time we are going to bless those who may not feel the love on Valentine's Day. We will visit Saucon Manor in Hellertown on Northampton St., Country Meadows in Bethlehem, and St. Luke's Hospice in Bethlehem. We will be distributing a red carnation and a small bag with a few Hershey Kisses and with a card enclosed. We will converse with those we meet and maybe even offer up prayers. Please sign up using Sign Up Genius at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040d4da5ab2aa6fb6-youve> to join in the blessing.

We are still in need of volunteers to serve at **Bethlehem Emergency Shelter** in January, February and March. Please click on the link below to sign up.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F094AAEAC22AAF49-bethlehem>

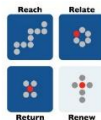
Meet for **Weekly Koffee and Konversation** at the Hellertown Diner on Tuesday mornings at 8:00 a.m. Come and enjoy a great time of fellowship together!

Next Week's Bible Reading Plan: Week 4: - Genesis 27-28; Genesis 29-30:24; Genesis 31-32; Genesis 33,35; Genesis 37. **Memory Verses:** 2 Corinthians 10:12; 1 John 3:18.

This Week: Nursery Staff, Naphtali Walters, Alyssa Richards; **Worship Team Leader,** Dan Reed.

Please Pray For . . . Phillip & Betsy Rhodes Fisher, as they serve in Morocco; **Bart & Jessica Tossenou**, and their work in China; **Nicolas & Jennifer Haddad**, serving in Lebanon; **Rolando & Andrea Zelaya** serving in Spain; Those in **authority over us** (government leaders); **Ben Feenstra, Greg & Rachel Feenstra**, and **Ryan Feenstra**.

REACH those far from God
RELATE to those near to God



RETURN blessing as blessed
RENEW a right spirit within