

**Steel City Mennonite Church**  
**Mid-Week Connection**  
**August 26, 2020**

**“Back to School” Sunday** this week. We want to pray over our students and dedicate this year to the Lord’s providence. See you this Sunday at 10:00 am!

**Baptism Preparatory class** will be held Wednesday, September 9, at 7:00 pm. The same class will be offered again on Monday, September 14, at 7:00 pm. This class is for anyone considering baptism or transfer of church membership to SCMC. Please inform Pastor David of the date you will be attending.

This coming **Sunday, August 30**, masks are not required, but are encouraged. Please see the letter below that was e-mailed out yesterday. Also starting this Sunday, **SCMC North will not be meeting until further notice**.

**Dear Congregation,**

The first tweet on my Twitter account this morning (Tuesday) was from Ken Byler of Souderton, PA. It read, “The very best teams are taking advantage of today’s volatile circumstances to capture the essence of what is working while learning and adapting from every obstacle or challenge.”

By Mr. Byler’s definition, **SCMC has a “best team” in our Church Council!** Last night (Monday), Church Council wrestled with and wept over how the COVID-19 pandemic has affected life in general, but more specifically, SCMC fellowship, congregational unity, and worship gatherings. We are extremely concerned about how the issue of face masks has kept some from meeting in person for worship. If there ever has been a time to meet together for encouragement, it is now.

**Coming out of our Council meeting, we will be experimenting\* with the following:**

- August 30 and September 13 Sunday mornings, the use of face masks will not be required. However, the wearing of face masks is encouraged. There will also be designated seating for “high-risk” individuals/families who desire to worship weekly.
- September 6 and 20 Sunday mornings, the wearing of face masks will be required just as we have been doing for weeks.
- September 27 Sunday morning will be our Baptism/Church Membership. Lord willing and weather permitting, this will be an outdoor service. More details will be given as the date gets closer.

\*Viewing this as an experiment, gives us the freedom to fail, learn from what has been tried, and make changes in the future to best draw us together.

None of us have ever been confronted with such uncertainty as we are now, and we, as SCMC leadership, covet your prayers and need your patience as we figure out what brings us together as the body of Christ.

If you have thoughts, concerns, or ideas, please forward them to me (Pastor David – [scmc4me@gmail.com](mailto:scmc4me@gmail.com)) or a member of Church Council (Marc Newcomer – [newcomer77@msn.com](mailto:newcomer77@msn.com); Ryan Walters – [rtw204@hotmail.com](mailto:rtw204@hotmail.com); Rachel Feenstra – [thefeenstrass@hotmail.com](mailto:thefeenstrass@hotmail.com); Richard Freed; Bobby Kempf – [bobbykempf@hotmail.com](mailto:bobbykempf@hotmail.com); Katrina Schmidt – [schmast@yahoo.com](mailto:schmast@yahoo.com); Danette Walters – [danettewalters@gmail.com](mailto:danettewalters@gmail.com)).

I love you, Pastor David

There will be a **Good News Club Campfire** at Tara’s house, 308 Kromer Rd. Wind Gap, on Saturday, September 19, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. **Youth Group, 6-12th grade** will begin on Wednesday, September 9, from 6:30-8:00 p.m. and continue biweekly.

Also, we are in the process of planning **backyard Bible clubs outdoors for children in lieu of Sunday School**. If you would like your children plugged into a group, please let Tara know.

Our devotional booklets, **“The Upper Room”** and **“Our Daily Bread,”** are available upon request. Due to COVID-19 precautions, they cannot be placed out for self-pick-up.

**This Week & Next Week’s Bible Reading Plan: Week 35:** - John 11, Matthew 21:1-13; John 13; John 14-15; John 16; Matthew 24:1-31. **Memory Verses:** John 13:34-35; John 15:4-5.

**Week 36:** - Matthew 24:32-51; John 17; Matthew 26:35-27:31; Matthew 27:32-66, Luke 23:26-56; John 19. **Memory Verses:** Luke 23:24; John 17:3.

**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); **Bob Fernsler, Tom & Shirley Ferreri**, and **Juan & Jenny Forero**.

**Offering YTD:** \$191,031.87

**Budget YTD:** \$186,320.00

**Happy Birthday Wishes To:** Charlotte Walters – August 19; Larry Pound – August 19; Hunter Walters – August 20; Britney Kempf – August 24; Randy Willard – August 25; Jim Troxell – August 25; Diego Torres – August 28; Stuart Shank – August 31; Rebekah Brooks – September 1.

**REACH** those far from God  
**RELATE** to those near to God



**RETURN** blessing as blessed  
**RENEW** a right spirit within