Steel City Mennonite Church Mid-Week Connection December 21, 2016

All Nominees Presented for various congregational leadership positions were affirmed this past Sunday. May God bless each one as they willingly serve the congregation.

Planning Ahead for Christmas – The Candlelight Christmas Eve Service will be this Saturday, December 24 at 8:00 p.m. Christmas Sunday Worship will be held at 10:00 a.m. (No Sunday School). The New Year's Day Worship will also be held at 10:00 a.m. (No Sunday School).

Our **December Lunch Bunch** will be held on Wednesday, December 28, at the Golden Corral, 900 Lehigh Valley Mall, in Whitehall. Please sign up on the sheet in the foyer if you would like to attend.

We will be taking pictures for a new Lifetouch Pictorial Church Directory on January 26, 27 & 28. As always, for participating, you get a free 8x10 portrait of your choice. If you decide to order additional portraits you will receive 20% off your order. Please check out the table in the foyer for more information and coupons. If you would like to schedule your appointment online please go to:

<u>https://www.securedata-trans14.com/ap/steelcitymennonitechurch/index.php?page=10</u> and follow the simple stepby-step instructions. We also have a sign-up sheet in the foyer, if you do not have access to a computer. (The online website will be disabled on Sundays to prevent double booking of a time slot.) We would like as many of the congregation in the directory as possible. This is so helpful for people when they first begin attending SCMC to learn to know us.

Our **Bible Reading Program for 2017** will be called, Let's Read the Bible Together. January is part 1 of a 12-part series; this plan leads communities through the whole Bible together in 365 days. Each section includes Old and New Testament chapters, with Psalms scattered throughout. Part 1 features the books of Luke, Acts, Daniel, and Genesis. The plan can be followed either by reading the text listed in the worship folder or by using the Bible app, "You Version". Go to "Plans" and then, "Whole Bible" and find "Let's Read the Bible Together (January). The "You Version" app is available for all tablets, smartphones and computers.

Call to Prayer and Fasting - This time of the Holiday season, fasting is probably the farthest thing from your mind (or maybe not). Pastor David is calling upon the congregation to enter a 21 day season of prayer and fasting. We will begin fasting on January 9, 2017 and conclude with eating breakfast on January 30, 2017. The focus of our prayer and fasting will be spiritual revival and spiritual harvest. More details to follow, but begin praying as to what God would have you to do.

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 Discipleship Journal Bible Reading Plan: December 25, Catch up day; December 26, John 20:19-23, Revelation 19, Job 40, Zechariah 1-5; December 27, John 20:24-31, Revelation 20, Job 41:1-11, Zechariah 6-9; December 28, John 21:1-14, Revelation 21, Job 41:12-34, Zechariah 10-14; December 29, John 21:15-25, Revelation 22, Job 42, Malachi 1-4; December 30, Catch up day; December 31, Catch up day.

This Week: Nursery Staff, Lisa Walters, Becky Bergey (Alt.), Autumn Willard; Greeter, Robert & Beth Bergey; Worship Team Leader, Sandy Faust; Ushers, Greg Feenstra, Bobby Kempf, Scott Richards; Children's Message, None.

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; Jess Bergey, as she serves with Youth With a Mission (YWAM); Chip & Mary Lou Shimko, Dave & Doreen Shosh and Amy Smith.