

**Steel City Mennonite Church**  
**Mid-Week Connection**  
**December 23, 2020**

You are invited to join a virtual **Christmas Eve** gathering this Thursday evening. Pastor David will be leading this time reflecting on Christ's birth. It will be available on our SCMC Facebook page and on our YouTube channel beginning at 4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve.

Please join us for worship either this **Saturday evening at 7:00 p.m. or Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m.** These two options provide you the opportunity to gather for worship in a Covid safer environment and as your schedule mandates.

**Tara Willard** is looking for 2 people to help her serve pizza and salad at the **Bethlehem Emergency Shelter** next Wednesday, December 30. You would need to arrive by 5:00 p.m. and complete a volunteer application and Covid screening form prior. Please contact Tara if you are available to help.

**SCMC's "21 Days of Prayer and Fasting"** will begin on Monday morning, January 4 and we will break our fast the morning of January 25. Please use this time to prayerfully seek God's direction for you during this season of prayer and fasting. Many will be participating by using a "Daniel" fast. Others will be involved by "fasting" from television or social media. More information will be available this weekend.

A new **Bible Reading plan for 2021** will be included in next week's Midweek Connection.

As you are taking your **family Christmas photos** this week, it would be a good time to update your **church directory photo**. Please log on to your account to update your picture or email or text a picture to Sheryl Richards. Thank you!

Any weather-related delays and/or cancelations affecting **SCMC worship services or events** will be posted on the SCMC Facebook page, WFMZ-channel 69 and emailed out. Decisions to delay or cancel will be made not later than one hour prior to gathering.

**You, as a congregation, have been very generous with your 2020 giving!** You have exceeded budgeted projections for 2020. The Finance Commission recommended to Church Council that the amount given over budgeted amount for offerings be divided into thirds. One-third going to **Mennonite Central Committee (MCC)**; One-third given to help our **Nicaraguan brothers and sisters**, who have lost most everything through the hurricanes Eta and Iota; the last one-third being earmarked to **assist individuals/ministries** hardest hit by pandemic stresses. As you continue to give throughout the end of the month, may you be a blessing to these needs.

Even in the midst of a global pandemic, homeless people still need shelter and food during the cold months of winter. Therefore, the **Bethlehem Emergency Shelter** will be again providing shelter and meals to people out of Christ UCC Church, 75 E. Market St. Bethlehem. **As we have partnered with them in the past, we have chosen 4 dates this winter (Dec. 30, Jan. 27, Feb. 17, and March 31)** to provide dinner and a light breakfast that you can take with you that staff can serve the next morning. They are only allowing 5 ADULTS in the kitchen at one time and no one under 18 is allowed.

For December 30th, we plan to serve pizza from Al Forno's and salad. **If anyone would like to contribute money to help in the purchasing of the meals, please put in offering and mark it BES Dinners or you can contribute online through Pushpay.**

Please see the Sign-Up Genius link below to sign up for an available slot. If you cannot attend the full time, please write in the comments the hours you can attend.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F094AAEAC22AAF49-bethlehem1>

Any questions, please ask Tara Willard

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.

**Church Elders:** Bill Litke, Joel Mohler, Scott Richards, Bob Walters, Randy Willard.

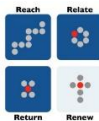
**Please Pray For . . .** Those in **authority over us** (government leaders); **Diego Torres, Bart & Jessica Tossenou, and Jim & Cathy Troxell.**

**Offering YTD:** \$294,973.73

**Budget YTD:** \$279,480.00

**Happy Birthday Wishes To:** Keira DeToma - December 23; Shirley Ferreri - December 24; Harold Lehman - December 26; Dan Reed - December 28; Ron Faust - December 29.

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



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