

SPRINGS MENNONITE CHURCH

January 2, 2022

10:30 AM

Focus- Imagine a dance that includes all peoples and nations coming together, praising God for Jesus. Just imagine: God chooses and lavishes grace on us, a dancer who is both intimate and inclusive, living among us, revealing God's glory in the Word made flesh.

Welcome

Call to Worship

Leader: Come and join in a holy dance—a dance God has been imagining since the beginning.

People: We come, weeping.

Leader: Join in God's comforting dance.

People: We come with nothing.

Leader: Join in God's dance of abundance.

People: We come, feeling disconnected.

Leader: Join in God's intimate dance.

People: We come, although we do not know how to dance.

Leader: Will we dare to learn the moves? Do we dare step onto the dance floor?

People: We will join in God's daring dance.

Candle Litany

Leader: We light the Christ candle to honor Jesus and listen as all creation joins in praise.

People: Imagine that . . . we are God's wonders, blessed wonders.

Songs: *To us a child of hope is born* HWB #189
It came upon a midnight clear HWB #195
Angels we have heard on high HWB #197

Confession

Assurance (Psalm 30: 8, 11-12)

All: To you, Lord, I called; to the Lord I cried for mercy. You turned my wailing into dancing; you removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, that my heart may sing your praises and not be silent. Lord my God, I will praise you forever.

Offertory prayer

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Songs: *The first Noel* HWB #199
O little town of Bethlehem HWB #191
What child is this? HWB #215

Scripture: *John 1: 1-13*

Song: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xkk0YodJqH8>

Scripture: *Luke 15:11-27*

Songs: *Silent Night* HWB #193
Away in a manger HWB #194
O come, all ye faithful HWB #212

Benediction

Move your feet to the rhythm of the seasons;

Let your praises be seen in your movement.

Use your imagination.

Join in God's daring dance, the dance that began with the light.

Song: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6oOwa0CWVVQ>



Worship Leader: Phoebe Wiley

Scripture Reader: Molly Piwonka

Accompanist: Byron Miller

Sound Room: Noel Livengood

Song Leaders: Ron Beitzel, Melinda Gibson, Rich Beitzel

Video: Reuben Tice

Church Information: Phone: (814) 662-4201

Pastor: John Verburg

Office hours: Generally Monday-Thursday: 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
or by appointment

Cell phone: (256) 624-7252

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Secretary: Wendy Brenneman

Email: office@springsmc.org

Cell Phone: (814) 279-8637

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and otherwise
by appointment



Springs Mennonite Church is Handicap Accessible

A restroom and elevator are available on the main floor. There is also a restroom located downstairs in the basement. There are also large print song books and hearing devices; please ask an usher for assistance with these items.

AED (Automated External Defibrillator) is located at the back of the church near the elevator.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

January 4- Byron Miller

January 5- Aubrey McNeill

January 6- Kearstin Klein

January 7- Todd Gibson, John Verburg

January 8- Richard Yoder

Calendar of Events

January 2- Carol Singing Service

January 4- Council Meeting, 7:00 PM

January 5- Daughters of Dorcas, 9:30-3:30 PM

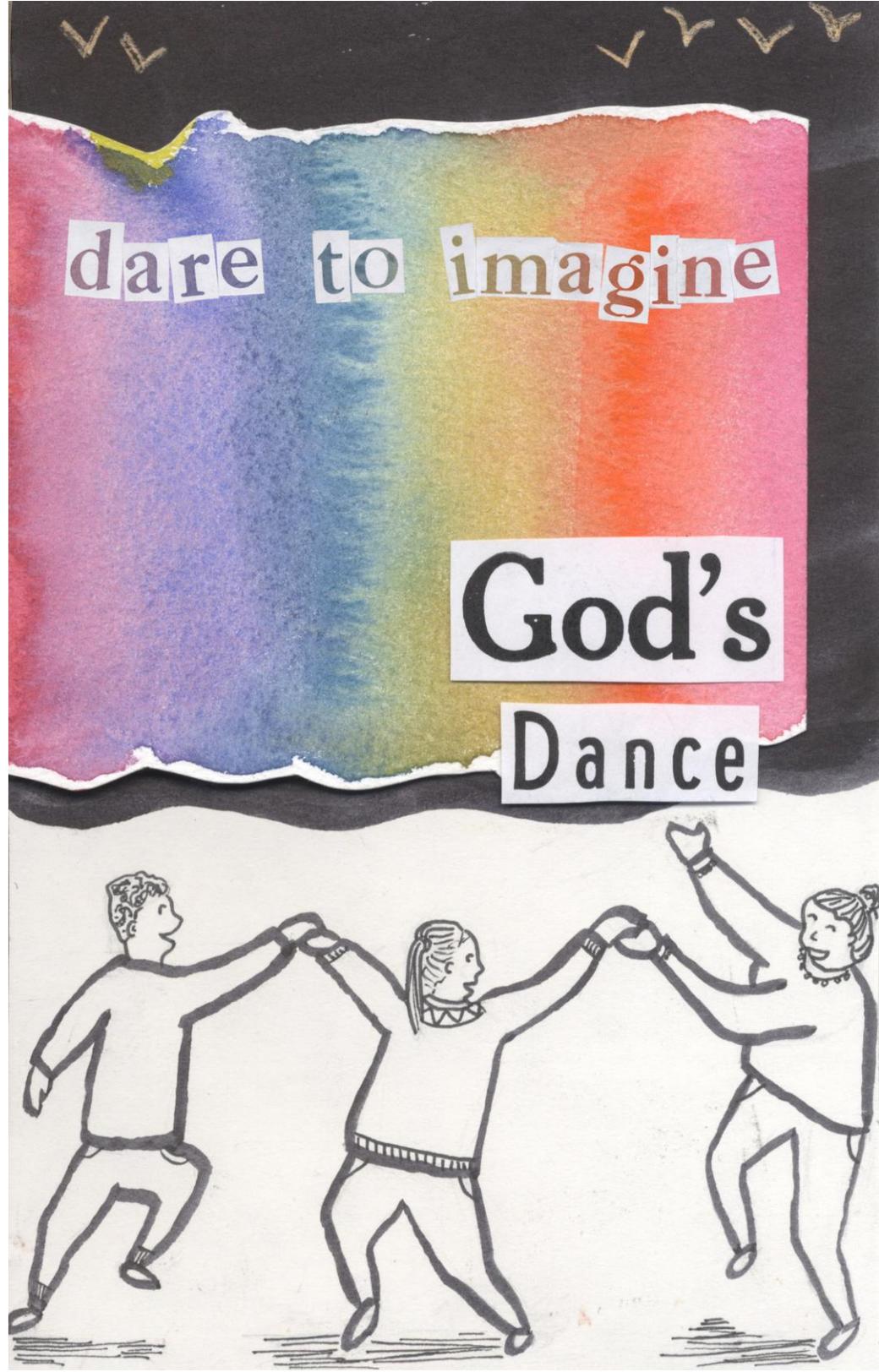
January 10- Worship/Music Committee

January 12- Elders' Meeting- 6:30 PM

January 16- Allegheny Conference Offering

January 21- Kids Night, 5:00-7:00 PM

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The second quarter Allegheny Conference Offering will be taken on Sunday, January 16th.

Thank you to all my church friends that sent me Christmas cards. Please keep in touch either by phone or by mail. Happy New Year!
Love to all! - Audrey Kinsinger

Read in the New Year! *Walking on Water; Reflections on Faith and Art* by Madeleine L'Engle has been added to our church library. The author explores the mysterious relationship between art and faith, offering a gentle invitation to believe, celebrate and create.

Our Christian Sympathy goes out the family of Dick Berg (Doug's brother) who passed away on December 27, 2021.

A public memorial service will be held via YouTube on Sunday, January 9 at 7 pm EST for **Sara Wengerd** who passed away on December 15. Sara was a former long-time member of our congregation, and was a relative and friend and of many current members. A live Zoom session will follow the service for sharing memories of Sara. Attendance and participation are welcomed. Links for the service and Zoom session will be forthcoming at Sara's CaringBridge site. The link to the CaringBridge site is: <https://www.caringbridge.org/public/sarashospicejourney>

The Elders would like to resurrect the Mentor Program at the church in early 2022. If you would like to be a mentor please let an Elder know. We have several young individuals interested in having a mentor.

Springs Mennonite Church Vision Statement

We, the Springs congregation, have been changed by Jesus Christ. Saved by His love and forgiveness, we are empowered to carry forth His ministry through obedience, teaching, service, and healing. Reaching out to all people, by faith we journey together praying, worshiping, and making disciples. By our living in the Spirit, we reflect His love, joy, hope, and peace.

December 26, 2021 Totals

General Offering	\$4,312.00
Attendance	43

Luke 15:11-27

¹¹ Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. ¹² The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them.

¹³ "Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living.

¹⁴ After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶ He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

¹⁷ "When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death!

¹⁸ I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.' ²⁰ So he got up and went to his father.

"But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

²¹ "The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

²² "But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. ²⁴ For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate.

²⁵ "Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. ²⁷ 'Your brother has come,' he replied, 'and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.'