

# SPRINGS MENNONITE CHURCH

December 24, 2023

10:30 AM

Welcome

## Call to Worship/Advent Candle Lighting

Leader: God sent the angel Gabriel to a young woman in Nazareth named Mary. He said to her, "Greetings, favored one! God is with you."

**People:** But Mary was perplexed by Gabriel's words, and pondered what sort of greeting this might be.

Leader: The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, for you have found favor with God."

**People:** Like Mary, we are also ordinary. Will God really work through us? (pause)

*All: Together we ponder. Will God really work through us?*

Leader: Do not be afraid! Nothing is impossible with God. The Mighty One has done extraordinary things, and holy is His Name.

## Congregational Singing-

HWB #178 vs. 1 & 2 -Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

HWB #191 vs. 1 & 4 -O Little Town of Bethlehem

HWB #195 vs. 1,3 & 5 -It Came Upon A Midnight Clear

## Affirmation of Faith

## Congregational Singing-

HWB #206 -Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

HWB #215 -What Child Is This

## Offertory Prayer

*\*\*Children will collect coins for My Coins Count\*\**

## Announcements & Sharing of Joys and Concerns

**Scripture-** Luke 2:1-15

**Message-** "Advent –The Wait Is Over... But Is It?"

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BbtEYUmirBE>

## Benediction

## Sending Song-

HWB # 208 -Love Came Down at Christmas

## Calendar of Events

**TODAY-** Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 7:00 PM

**December 27-** NO Daughters of Dorcas

**December 31-** Youth/Family New Year's Eve Party, 4-6:00 PM

**January 2-** Elders Meeting, 6:30 PM

**January 8-** Worship/Music Committee Meeting, 6:00 PM

**January 9-** Council Meeting, 7:00 PM

**January 20-** Bowling at White Oak Lanes, 1-3:00 PM

## Luke 2:1-15

*In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. <sup>2</sup> (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) <sup>3</sup> And everyone went to their own town to register. <sup>4</sup> So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. <sup>5</sup> He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup> While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, <sup>7</sup> and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them. <sup>8</sup> And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. <sup>9</sup> An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup> But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. <sup>11</sup> Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup> This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup> Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup> "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests." <sup>15</sup> When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."*

**Message:** John Verburg

**Worship Leaders:** Doug & Lori Otto

**Worship Planner:** Phoebe Wiley

**Accompanist:** Faith Verburg

**Sound Room:** Byron Miller

**Song Leader:** Karin Miller

**Video:** Reuben Tice

**Live Stream:** Isaac Tice & Preston Maust

**Volume 69 - No. 17**

**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

**Email:** [jlverb@hotmail.com](mailto:jlverb@hotmail.com)

**Secretary:** Wendy Brenneman

**Email:** [office@springsmc.org](mailto:office@springsmc.org)

**Cell Phone:** (814) 579-1774

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

**Elders:**

Don Green (Chair)- (814) 521-5709

Sherry Abel- (814) 233-0510

Rosie Cupler- (301) 697-1772

Ken Detrick- (814) 662-2692

Ed Hoover- (814) 521-7128



**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 songbooks 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!**

**December 25-** Jesus, Hunter Sines

**December 29-** Katelyn Maust

**December 30-** Naomi Tice

**December 17, 2023 Offering Total**

Attendance	115
General Fund Offering	\$3,478.00



Please use blank sheet to write down "a way you have shown or been shown love in an extraordinary way". The children will then collect them following the My Coins Count offering.

Thank you to everyone who ordered poinsettias and has been sharing them with us. If you would like to enjoy your poinsettia at home for Christmas, please feel free to take it (there are sleeves available for its protection). You are welcome to leave it as long as you wish.

The December issue of the Allegheny Miscellany is available in your mailbox. Extra copies are also available on the credence stand.

Thank you all for the beautiful poinsettia and the wonderful gift you sent. -Gary & Greta Miller

I would like to thank everyone for their super kindness in hugs, uplifting words, visits, food, flowers and prayers for me and my family during this extremely difficult time of my sister Judy Hutzell's unexpected passing. We were very close, and this has been a very sad time for me and for my sister's family... grief is real, but having so many kind and sweet friends holding us up in prayer makes each day much easier. I love you all so very much and I thank God for His grace, mercy, and comfort.

Blessings, Diana Detrick

There will be a New Year's Eve party for the children and their families on December 31 from 4-6:00 PM. There will be games and open gym time.

There is a bowling trip to White Oak Lanes in Cumberland, MD, on January 20th from 1-3:00 for anyone interested. Please sign up on the sign-up sheet in the foyer so that we can make sure our reservations are correct. If you have any questions, please see Michelle Maust or Don Green.

The Garrett Christian Community Church Choir and Friends will present their annual Christmas cantata, "Good News from Home," on Sunday evening, January 7, 2024, at 7:00 PM at their church at 800 Walker Street in Garrett, PA. There will be candle lighting, and a time of fellowship will conclude the evening. This is the former Garrett United Methodist Church.

The Daughters of Dorcas will not meet on December 27.

