

January 7, 2024
10:30 AM Service of Worship
Baptism of the Lord
The Lord's Supper

Gathering Around the Word

WELCOME

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Jon Cantagallo-Rohm

Leader: We have seen a star in the East!

People: God is with us. Light has come!

Leader: We have heard the songs of the angels.

People: God is with us. Love has come!

Leader: Now we follow the light into the world.

People: God is with us. Christ has come!

Leader: Let us worship the Lord our God!

*HYMN #127

Jesus, the Light of the World

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God,

From the very beginning,

you breathed life into us and called us good.

However, somewhere along the way,
we replaced "good" with "not enough."

Somewhere along the way, we turned the volume up
on that phrase and began to doubt our own self-worth.

Forgive us, for this is not what you have taught us.

For when the world tells us we are not enough,
you call us beloved.

Show us how to return to that truth.

Show us how to let go of our weariness
and rest in that good news.

*SILENT CONFESSION

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*RESPONSE #59

The Steadfast Love of the Lord

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases;

God's mercies never come to an end.

They are new every morning, new every morning;

Great is your faithfulness, O Lord, great is your faithfulness.

*THE PASSING OF GOD'S LOVE AND PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you all ... **And also with you.**

Proclaiming the Word

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Nancy Sampson

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 43:1-3a

p. 718

This is the Word of the Lord ... **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

In the Bleak Midwinter

Choir with Catie Jewell

SECOND LESSON

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

p. 1016

This is the Word of the Lord ... **Thanks be to God.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON

"In Line"

Pastor Stephen Choi

Responding to the Word

*DECLARATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN #525

Let Us Break Bread Together

The Lord's Supper

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

COMMUNION PRAYER

**We give you thanks and praise, O God, that you have fed us
with your mercy and poured out your Spirit in this place.**

**Continue to nourish and fill us each day, that we may live as
your beloved people; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Amen.

Bearing and Following the Word

*HYMN #547

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE #753

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

Make me a channel of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let me bring your love.

***Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord,
and where there's doubt, true faith in you.***

*POSTLUDE

*Please stand if able

Stewartsville Presbyterian Church

The Ministers: All the Members

The Rev. Stephen Park Choi, Pastor

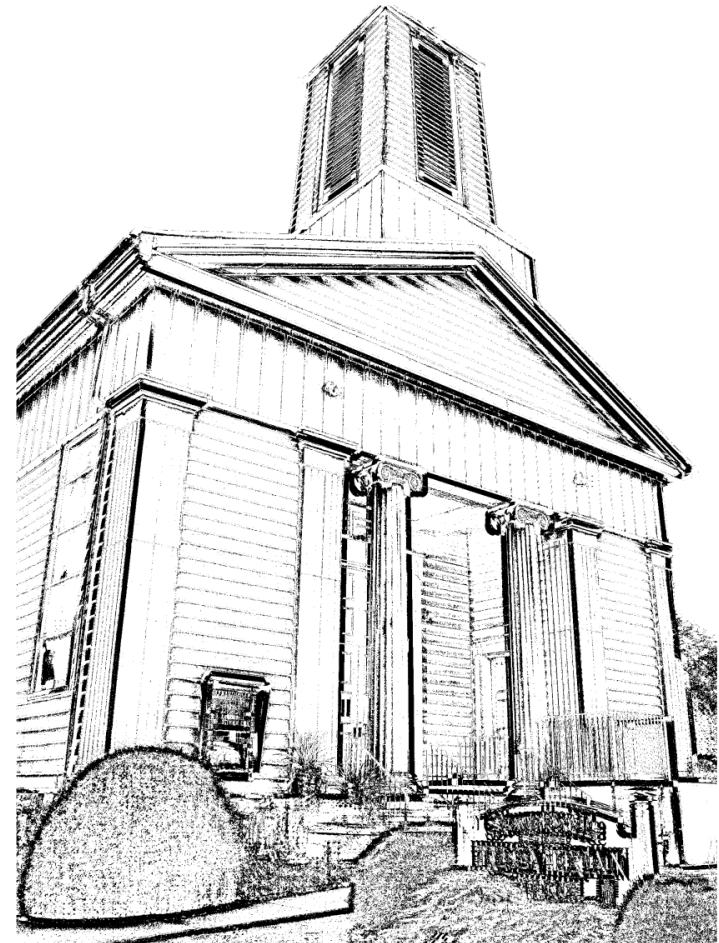
Brian Ballentine, Music Director

Denise DeMasi, Choir Director

Laura Choi, Christian Education Director

Renée Herb, Office Manager

STEWARTSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



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Amateur Photographers Needed. We are looking for people to take photos of church events for our Newsletter. Anyone with a smart phone is qualified!

Upcoming events include taking photos of our new members on Sunday, Jan. 21, and the Pot Luck Lunch on Sunday, Jan. 28.

All you would need to do is take a few photos and email them to the office, or you can text the photos to Renée Herb, our Office Manager.

We would like to get a group of volunteers that can rotate taking photos throughout the year.

If you would like to help, please contact the church office.

Inclement Weather. If you are unsure if we will be worshipping in person on a Sunday when there is severe inclement weather, please call the church at 908-859-1399. There will be a special outgoing message if church is cancelled. You can also check the church Facebook page.

In addition, any closings or delays will be announced on wfmz.com and may be displayed on Channel 69 News.

Devotionals. The following daily devotionals are available on the table in the back of the sanctuary:

- “Our Daily Bread,” Dec./Jan./Feb. issue.
- “Today,” Jan./Feb. issue.
- “Our Daily Bread,” large-print edition, Jan./Feb./March issue.

Pray for This Week’s Mission Partner: Catholic Charities Food Pantry. The Catholic Charities Food Pantry in Phillipsburg is a safety net to individuals and families with limited resources who search for the everyday means of sustenance – food. The food pantry is the largest in Warren County, servicing more than 1,000 households. The food pantry maintains an inventory of the recommended dietary nutrients of grains, vegetables, fruits, dairy and protein products. We donate food and toiletries to Catholic Charities through our collection each month.

OUR CONGREGATION IN MINISTRY

Assisting in Worship Today	Jon Cantagallo-Rohm
Greeter Today	Brad and Lisa Fry
Broadcast Team	Alan Deak and Bill Fleming
Nursery Today	Nancy Sampson and Sarah Sampson

Week Ahead at Stewartville Presbyterian Church

Today, 1/7: AA, 6:00 p.m., Roan Hall

Monday, 1/8: Pastor Stephen away through Thursday, January 11

Wednesday, 1/10: AA, 7:00 p.m., Roan Hall

Thursday, 1/11: Adult Lunch Group, 11:30 a.m., Pizza Village Café
Deacons, 7:00 p.m., Library
Grange, 7:00 p.m., Roan Hall

Friday, 1/12: Friday Devotional Group, 8:00 a.m., Library
Needlecraft Group, 9:30 a.m., Library

Saturday, 1/13: Samplemakers, 10:00 a.m., Roan Hall

Sunday, 1/14: Sunday School, 9:20 a.m.

Worship Service, 10:30 a.m.

Time for Fellowship after Worship Service

AA, 6:00 p.m., Roan Hall

This Week’s Birthdays & Anniversaries

Tuesday, 1/9: Nicole Ham

Wednesday, 1/10: Pastor Jack & Linda Roan – Anniversary

Thursday, 1/11: Gracelyn Banghart

Saturday, 1/13: Vanessa Poremba

Announcements

Welcome. Thank you for choosing to worship with us today. We invite you to sign the pew pad as they are being passed. Restrooms are located downstairs in Roan Hall. We hope that the service is a blessing to you, and we look forward to seeing you again soon.

Elder on Call. Pastor Stephen will be attending a Synod Retreat from Monday, Jan. 8 through Thursday, Jan. 11.

If you are in need of pastoral care while he is away, please contact the Elder on Call: Kathy Montgomery at 908-674-0654.

Announcements (continued)

It's a Boy! Gabby Poremba and Derek Bussaglia welcomed a son, Elliott Paul Bussaglia on Dec. 28, 2023. He weighed 8 lbs. 5 oz. and was 21.5" long.

Elliott's grandmother is Vanessa Poremba, and his great-grandparents are Paul and Linda Williams.

Prospective New Members If you are interested in learning more about the Stewartsville Presbyterian Church or in becoming a member, please contact Pastor Stephen.

We will be receiving new members on Sunday, Jan. 21.

Adult Lunch Group. "Grazing with Grace," our Adult Lunch Group will meet this Thursday, Jan. 11 at 11:30 a.m. at Pizza Village Café, 665 Columbus Ave., Phillipsburg.

We are encouraging participants to bring a can of soup or \$1 to the luncheons to donate to NORWESCAP Food Bank.

In 2023, we donated \$440 to the Food Bank and \$230 to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

If you plan to attend the luncheon, please call Louisa Miers at 908-763-3861 by tomorrow, Jan. 8 to make your reservation.

Friday Morning Devotional Group. The Friday Morning Devotional Group will resume meeting each Friday at 8:00 a.m. beginning on Jan. 12. We meet in person in the church library and on Zoom.

For our next study, we will read "When God Interrupts: Finding New Life Through Unwanted Change" by Craig Barnes.

Women's Circle. The Women's Circle will meet on Friday, Jan. 26, at 6:00 p.m. at Williams Family Restaurant, 3630 Williams Penn Highway, Easton, PA.

All women are invited to join us for a meal, good conversations, and the opportunity to encourage one another.

For more information or to make a reservation, please call Linda Williams at 908-454-8104.

Women's Circle Theater Event. The Women's Circle will be going to see "Menopause: The Musical" at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 10, at the State Theatre in Easton.

Tickets are \$45. If there is a group of more than 10, there will be a discount.

Tickets are open to anyone. If you are interested, please contact Kathy Montgomery by tomorrow, Jan. 8 at 908-674-0654 or katleemont@gmail.com.

Annual Congregational Meeting. Our Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, Jan. 28, immediately following the 10:30 a.m. worship service.

After the meeting, we will have a Pot Luck Luncheon in Roan Hall. Please see the insert in today's bulletin to sign up.

For more information, contact Linda Williams at 908-454-8104.

Per Capita Offering. Every Presbyterian church is apportioned a share of the expenses of the Presbytery, Synod and the General Assembly based on church membership.

The Per Capita apportionment for 2024 is \$42.50 per confirmed member.

Please prayerfully consider contributing your portion so that it does not come out of our General Fund Budget. Our church pays Per Capita for each of our members, regardless of whether or not you give.

There is an envelope for Per Capita in your 2024 offering envelope box. To give Per Capita online, go to the church website (www.stewartsvillepc.org), Give Now, General, and specify "Per Capita" in Notes.

2024 Offering Envelopes. The 2024 Offering Envelopes are available on the table in the back of the sanctuary.

If you would like envelopes but don't see your name, please contact the church office. Also contact the office if you need your envelopes mailed to you.

Cuba Mission Trip. Pastor Stephen will be visiting a partner church in Cuba in early April 2024.

If you are interested in going or have questions, please speak with Pastor Stephen.

Catholic Charities Food Pantry. We continue to donate food and toiletries to the Catholic Charities Food Pantry.

At this time, the food pantry is in particular need of peanut butter and jelly, Knorr's side dishes, canned stews, hearty soups, pasta and pasta sauce, and canned fruit, as well as grocery bags.