

January 14, 2024
10:30 AM Service of Worship
2nd Sunday after Epiphany

Gathering Around the Word

WELCOME

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Bill Nixon

Leader: We come today still recovering
from the holiday season.

**People: We come today looking forward
with hope to the new year.**

Leader: We come remembering the promise
of light in the darkness.

**People: We come wanting to learn more
about how to be light.**

Leader: Let us worship the Lord our God!

*HYMN #39

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God,

**We sit here acknowledging we spent time and energy caught
up in the rush and tension of Christmas.**

**We admit we sometimes missed the birth of your light in our
world and overlooked the coming of the Prince of Peace.**

**We admit we too often get caught up in the glitz and glamour
of the season, in the carols and the gifts and the lights,
missing your still small voice.**

**As we move into this new year,
we ask humbly for the courage and commitment to stay
focused on the light that has come again into our world.**

**Help us not get distracted by the darkness that
surrounds us. We pray all of this in Jesus' name.**

*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

Mary Lou Gary

FIRST LESSON

Psalm 139:1-5, 13-18

p. 618-619

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

ANTHEM

In the Bleak Midwinter

Choir with Catie Jewell

SECOND LESSON

John 1:43-51

p. 1050

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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON

"Where Did You Get That Idea??"

The Rev. Byron Leasure

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.**

*HYMN #720

Jesus Calls Us

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

Bearing and Following the Word

*HYMN #634 *To God Be the Glory*

*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

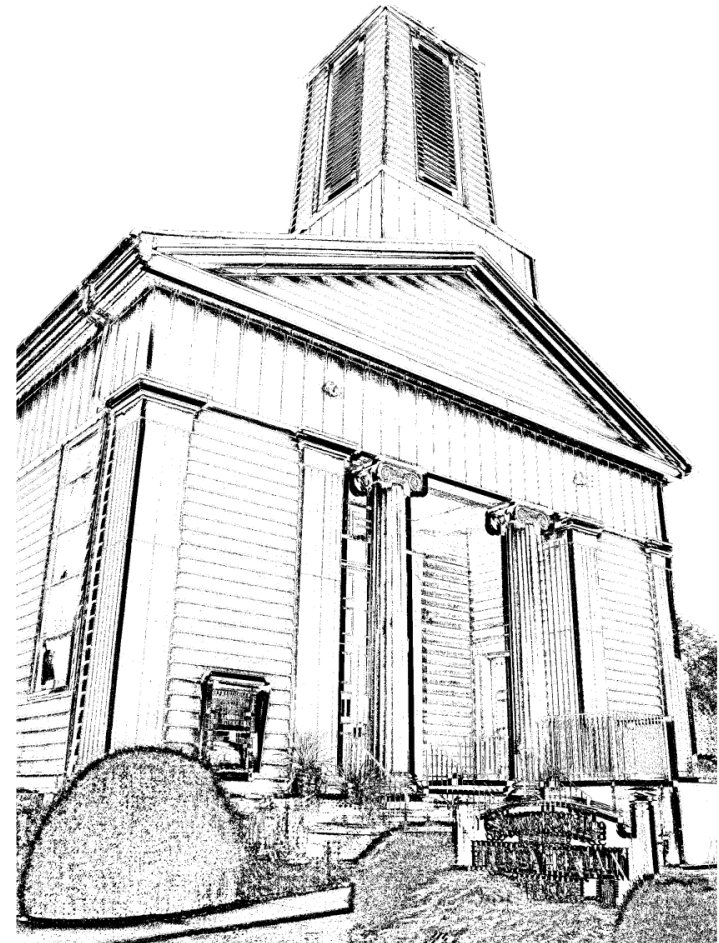
Laura Choi, Christian Education Director

Renée Herb, Office Manager

Mary Lou Gary, Treasurer

Sarah Sampson, Treasurer-Elect

STEWARTSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



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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: Family Promise of Warren County. Family Promise is a community initiative that achieves sustainable independence for homeless and low-income families, and individuals by mobilizing community resources to provide shelter, meals, re-housing, training, and support services leading to permanent housing and lasting self-sufficiency.

OUR CONGREGATION IN MINISTRY	
Assisting in Worship Today	Bill Nixon
Greeter Today	Kathy Montgomery
Broadcast Team	Alan Deak and Bill Fleming
Nursery Today	Janis Clark and Carol Nixon
Hosting Time for Fellowship	Fellowship Committee

Week Ahead at Stewartville Presbyterian Church

Today, 1/14: Time for Fellowship after Worship Service
AA, 6:00 p.m., Roan Hall

Monday, 1/15: Helen Hawk’s Funeral, 11:00 a.m., Sanctuary

Wednesday, 1/17: AA, 7:00 p.m., Roan Hall

Friday, 1/19: Friday Devotional Group, 8:00 a.m., Library
Fiber Arts, 9:30 a.m., Roan Hall

Sunday, 1/21: Sunday School, 9:20 a.m.
Worship Service, 10:30 a.m., with Reception of New Members
AA, 6:00 p.m., Roan Hall

This Week’s Birthdays and Anniversaries

Monday, 1/15: Laura Morris

Tuesday, 1/16: Dale Alpaugh
Bill Nixon

Thursday, 1/18: John Evans

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.

Time for Fellowship. Please join us for Time for Fellowship after our worship service today in Roan Hall. This is an informal time where we can share refreshments and conversations with one another.

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.

Announcements (continued)

Guest Minister. Today we welcome the Rev. Byron Leasure to our pulpit. He is a retired PC(USA) pastor who lives in Riegelsville, PA. Pastor Leasure spent his career in transitional ministry, working specifically with churches in crisis. He has 3 grown children and 4 grandchildren living near him in Bucks County. He loves the Delaware River Valley and its history, scenery, arts, and theater.

With Sympathy. Helen Hawk, a long-time member of our congregation, passed away on Friday, Jan. 5.

Her funeral service will be held at 11:00 a.m. tomorrow, Jan. 15, in our sanctuary. Visitation will be from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Please keep Helen's family in your prayers.

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our sorrows, so that we can comfort others in their sorrow, with the consolation we have received from God."

2 Corinthians 1:3-4

Friday Morning Devotional Group. The Friday Morning Devotional Group has started a new study. We meet in person and on Zoom at 8:00 a.m. each Friday.

We are reading "When God Interrupts: Finding New Life Through Unwanted Change" by Craig Barnes.

If you are interested in participating, please speak with Pastor Stephen.

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.

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

All you need to do is take a few photos and email them to the office.

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.

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.

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.