

Cover Art: *La presentación de Cristo en el templo*, 2018. A painting panel in Longview, TX, by Kelly Latimore.

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*My eyes have seen
your salvation*

WEST SWAMP MENNONITE CHURCH

Sunday after Christmas

December 31, 2023

10:30 A.M.

Preludes Unto Us a Boy Is Born! ~ *arr. David Paxton*
God's Time Is Best ~ *Bach, arr. Hal H. Hopson*
All Things Bright and Beautiful ~ *arr. Patricia Lou Harris*

We Gather around the Word

Opening Song Let all mortal flesh keep silence #463

Welcome & Prayer

Songs of Praise Joy to the world #318
The first Noel #199
Angels from the realms of glory

We Hear God's Word

Scripture Isaiah 61:10-62:3

Worship Music *Jack & Brenda*

Offering Be Thou My Vision ~ *arr. Hal H. Hopson*

Scripture Luke 2:22-40

Sermon God keeps God's promises *Pastor Michael*

We Respond to the Word

Song God loves all his many people #397

Sharing & Prayer

Sending Song O little town of Bethlehem #191, v. 4

Benediction

Postlude On Our Way Rejoicing ~ *arr. Lani Smith*

This Sunday

Worship Leader: Katie Mood
Greeter: Denny & Jan Wieand
Organist: Joan Hallman
Musician: Brenda Landt
Videographer: Mark Kemmerer
Visual Technicians: Marsha High, Emily Rush
Sound Technicians: Glenn High, Rod Rush, Tim Scheetz

Sunday School Classes for Fall Quarter

How to Read the Hebrew Bible: 8:45 am, Room 104 or join us through Zoom.

West Swamp Mennonite Church

2501 Allentown Road, Quakertown, PA 18951

215-536-7468

E-Mail: westswamp1@verizon.net Website: www.westswamp.org

Pastor: Michael Howes

717-419-4228, howes.michael@gmail.com

Commissions & Deacons:

Ministry Team, Randy Rush

Community, Nancy Jacobs

Discipleship (DISCO), Katie Mood

Mission, Glenn High

Stewardship, vacant

Worship, Joan Hallman

Church Secretary: Lynne Rush

Treasurer: Pat Bevan

Mennonite Mission Network: *Although 2023 is ending with much suffering and violence around the world, join Mennonite Mission Network personnel in proclaiming our hope in Jesus, who has overcome evil and injustice. May each of us continue to “be the Gospel” wherever we find ourselves.*



Continue to pray for those in our congregation who are experiencing illness and ongoing medical treatment.

Welcome to West Swamp Mennonite Church

December 31, 2023

*Discovering together how to follow Jesus
and make our community and the world a better place*

Calendar

Jan. 2, 7 pm	Community Commission
Jan. 7	Epiphany Sunday
Jan. 7, 9:30 am	Prayer Breakfast
Jan. 9, 7 pm	Mission Commission
Jan. 10, 6:30 pm	Chimin' In Practice
Jan. 10, 7:15 pm	Choir Practice
Jan. 21, 3-6 pm	WSMC Winter Open House

We would like to thank everyone for their prayers, cards and support during Mary's illness and passing. — ***the Family of Mary Bittenbender***

~ *What's Happening at West Swamp* ~

Directory Updates: The secretary is deeply embarrassed that she never got the 2023 updates done, so wants to get a good jump on 2024 ones. If you need a picture taken for the directory, please contact Lynne ASAP.

Prayer Breakfast, Jan. 7: Join us at 9:30 am for food, fellowship and a time of prayer.

Save the date: Pastor Michael and Sue invite the congregation to a **WSMC Winter Open House** on Jan. 21 from 3-6 at their home (114 Chestnut Drive, Quakertown).

After a December hiatus **Knotting** resumes on Jan. 9. Join the fun anytime between 8 am and noon.

Reminder from the Cemetery Committee: If you are an active member of the church and would like to reserve a plot in the WSMC cemetery you have until **today** to reserve a plot at no cost. Beginning on Jan. 1, 2024 the cost to reserve a plot will be \$500 for active members. Each plot can contain 1 full casket, 1 casket with 1 cremation, or 1 cremation or 2 cremations. To choose a plot or if you have any questions please contact John Gwilliam at gwil@comcast.net or 215-260-1291 (cell call/text). If you have already chosen a plot it has been recorded and there is no need for further action.

~ *What's Happening in the Community* ~

All Mosaic congregations are invited to pray for **Mosaic staff member, Jennifer Svetlik**, this week. Jenn has been working temporarily for the communication team this fall but will be continuing as a member of the communication team and serving as the editor of the Mosaic newsletter in 2024. Pray for guidance, insight, and clarity for Jenn as she serves the Conference in this way.

2024 Summer Camp registration at Camp Men-O-Lan is open! If you register now through the end of 2023, you will pay 2023 pricing!! Find online registration at menolan.org under Summer Camp or call Beth at 215-679-5144 x321 for details and more information.

The Philadelphia Chapter of the American Guild of Organists will sponsor the **January Tuesday at Noon Organ Recitals** at Zion Mennonite Church (149 E Cherry Ln, Souderton, PA). The following talented organists are scheduled to perform featuring Zion's Fisk Organ. These free recitals are presented at a different church each month from October through May. For more information call Jon Leight at 215.368.2884.

Join the Mennonite Heritage Center (565 Yoder Rd., Harleysville) for a rousing evening of singing at our **Winter Hymn Sing**, Jan. 25, from 7-8:30 pm! We'll gather in the Rosenberger Meeting-house Room and sing together from the red Mennonite Hymnal (1969).

Church Office Hours

The church offices are closed Monday for New Year's Day.

Pastor Michael: Tuesday-Thursday, 9-4.

Lynne: Tuesday, Thursday, 8:30-1:30.