

Cover Art: *Christ in the Rubble*, 2023, by Kelly Latimore. Red Letter Christians partnered with the artist to create this new icon, which illustrates the prophetic message that if Jesus was born today, he would be born “under the rubble.”

“Kelly wants his art to be a ‘holy pondering’—a process that potentially brings about a new way of seeing.

“Our hope is that this icon will create more dialogue among Christians in the United States during this holy season about the ways our beliefs and actions—or lack thereof—contribute to the violence we’re currently witnessing in Gaza. How can we shape a culture of Christianity where love truly has no boundaries? How do we create a world where our poor, homeless, refugee, Palestinian savior—born to a teenage mother and later condemned to death—would be cherished had he been born today?”

Proceeds from the purchase of digital copies and signed prints will be donated to trusted Red Letter Christians partners working for peace on the ground in Gaza.



Christ in the Rubble

WEST SWAMP MENNONITE CHURCH

Epiphany Sunday

January 14, 2024

10:30 A.M.

Preludes Forever Reign *with* Jesus Shall Reign ~ *arr. V. Labenske*
Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne *with* What Child Is This
~ *arr. Alex-Zsolt*
The Kings ~ *arr. Gordon Young, Tim Doran*

We Gather around the Word

Opening Song He came down

Welcome & Prayer

Songs of Praise Here I am to worship
Worship the Lord in the beauty #220
See whose glory fills the sky

We Hear God's Word

Scripture Isaiah 60:1-6

Worship Music Oh, Beautiful Star of Bethlehem *Chimin' In*

Offering Love Came Down at Christmas ~ *Robert W. Thygeron*

Scripture Matthew 2

Sermon God's love is for everyone *Pastor Michael*

We Respond to the Word

Song What child is this/Helpless and #215
hungry Screen

Sharing & Prayer

Sending Song Solemn stillness, weary streets

Benediction

Postlude Glorious Light ~ *arr. Larry Shackley*

This Sunday

Worship Leader: Katie Mood
Greeter: Don & Nancy Jacobs
Pianist: Joan Hallman
Musician: Brenda Landt, Lynne Rush
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: Tomorrow, we remember Martin Luther King Jr., who followed Jesus' way of nonviolent civil disobedience by bringing hope to people who have been denied justice. Pray for Mennonite Mission Network's ministries of dismantling racism in the United States and around the world.



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

Welcome to West Swamp Mennonite Church

January 14, 2024

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

Calendar

Jan. 14, 9:30 am	Prayer Breakfast
Jan. 18, 12 pm	Senior Luncheon
Jan. 21, 12 pm	Sunday Lunch Bunch
Jan. 21, 3-6 pm	WSMC Winter Open House
Jan. 24, 6:30 pm	Chimin' In Practice
Jan. 24, 7:15 pm	Choir Practice
Jan. 28, 1 pm	Annual Business Meeting

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* ~

Mark your calendar! Our **Annual Business Meeting** is **Jan. 28**. All members and attenders are encouraged to stay after the service for a Fellowship meal and the meeting. A baked potato bar with toppings will be provided, along with beverages. Please sign up in the Fellowship Room, so we know how much to prepare. Also, indicate if you are able to bring a dessert or side dish.

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 or have any changes to your information, please contact Lynne ASAP.

If you would like to **recycle/repurpose your Christmas cards**, please consider donating the front portions to be used for Christmas Cookie boxes next year. We attach a ribbon and an invitation to our Christmas Eve service, and give the boxes to the Salvation Army Christmas Carnival for distribution. Please place your used cards in the box provided in the Fellowship Room. Thank you!

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).

Mission Commission invites you to take part in Care & Share's **Volunteer Night** on the last Wednesday of every month. Next one is **Jan. 30** from 5-8 pm. Questions? Ask Karen Parzych.

This year's **service day trips** to the **Ten Thousand Villages Warehouse** in Brownstown have been switched to Wednesdays to avoid conflicting with Senior Luncheons. We serve by pricing and packaging arts & crafts for display and sale in Ten Thousand Villages stores, which helps artisans in developing countries earn a sustainable living. The Wednesday dates are Apr. 17, July 17 and Oct. 16. Mark them on your calendar. If you have questions

about these trips, contact Les Rice.

MCC Great Winter Warm Up Challenge is next month—and the knotters are short on tops! Two sewing parties are planned in January: Wednesday, Jan. 17, 6:30-9 pm and Thursday, Jan. 31, 4-8 pm. You don't need to know how to sew to help. If you can iron, cut patches, use scissors, or organize stacks, there is something for you to do. Another option: design your own pattern! Let's make sure we supply our knotters with enough "ammo" for the challenge!

~ *What's Happening in the Community* ~

All Mosaic congregations are invited to pray for Mosaic staff member **Stacey Mansfield** this week. Stacey has recently joined the staff as the Administrative & Hospitality Collaborator. Pray for guidance for Stacey as she supports the work of credentialing leaders and Assembly planning.

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).

Women's Retreat on Saturday, Feb. 17, 9 am-3 pm. Ladies, we want to bless you and enrich your lives with a one-day retreat reflecting on our theme for this year, loving God "With All". Join us at **Camp Men-o-lan** with Elizabeth DeFrain, who has served as Director of PennDel Women. \$45 cost includes continental breakfast and lunch. Doors open at 8:30. We'll gather in the Auditorium for breakfast, worship, and sharing. Lunch will be in the Dining Hall. Find more information online at menolan.org, Camp Men-O-Lan's Facebook, email or call 215-679-5144 x320.

Church Office Hours

Pastor Michael: Monday-Thursday, 9-4.

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