

# SPRINGS MENNONITE CHURCH

December 22, 2024

10:30 AM

## *Together on the Journey*

### **Embodying God's Spirit**

#### **Who Lends a Hand?**

“Since God exemplifies relationship and covenant, we can trust God to provide companions for the journey. The strength found in community is its own mystery; like a rope of cords braided together, the Spirit entwines us with companions to give us energy, steadiness, and joy as we journey together.”

*Leader magazine, Fall 2024, Menno Media, p.43.*

#### **Welcome**

#### **Lighting of Peace Lamp**

#### **Call to Worship**

*based on Luke 1:26–38*

Leader: The Lord is with us, through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Can you conceive it?

Don't say, “It's all relative.”

**People: It's real! It's right now! It's right here!**

Leader: Come young, come old.

Let us worship in the name of Jesus,

**All: for nothing will be impossible with God!**

#### **Advent Candlelighting**

Reader 1: Mary was told that she would be the mother to the promised Messiah.

Reader 2: And she responded, “I am the Lord's servant. Let it be with me just as you have said.”

Reader 1: With the courage of Mary, we can accept the journey ahead of us.

Reader 2: But we do not need to walk it alone.

Reader 1: We need the support of others.

**All: With Christ as our center, we join hands with others, walking together on the journey.**

#### **Congregational Singing**

#### **Affirmation of Faith**

#### **Offertory Prayer**

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

#### **Children's Story**

#### **Sharing of Joys and Concerns**

**Scripture: Psalm 139: 13,14; Luke 2: 1-20**

**Message: “Lord, help me navigate out of the ruts of my life.”**

#### **Song of response**

#### **Benediction**

#### **Sending Song**

**Message:** Ken Detrick

**Worship Leaders:** Enos & Carolyn Tice

**Worship Planner:** Phoebe Wiley

**Advent Candle Lighting:** Ryan, Brittany & Addy Miller

**Children's Story:** Phoebe Wiley

**Accompanist:** Dixie Otto

**Song Leader:** Lois Hepler

**Sound Room:** Jerry Abel

**Video:** Reuben Tice

**Live Stream:** Isaac Tice

**Volume 70-No. 17**

*Advent Visuals:* The purple cloth, representing the path of our journey of faith and drawing closer to God, continues to the 4<sup>th</sup> Advent candle. The two figures, or journeyers, represent companionship. “We live in a time where we are encouraged to keep all options open, to bail when things get too uncomfortable, to preserve our self-sculpted lives at all costs, and to walk our paths alone. Other people are easily ‘canceled’ and sidelined. However, we sometimes long for God ‘with skin on,’ someone on the ground who can lend a hand, an ear, or an embrace.” The presence of God is recognized when we give and receive mutual support. *Leader, p. 44.*

**Church Information: Phone:** (814) 662-4201

**Secretary:** Sherry Abel

**Office hours:** Monday-Friday: 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

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

<b>Elders</b>	
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

**December 15, 2024, Offering Total**

<b>General Fund</b>	<b>\$3,622.70</b>
<b>Mary's Meals</b>	<b>\$528.01</b>
<b>Total forwarded to Mary's Meals</b>	<b>\$1,908.01</b>
<b>Attendance</b>	<b>77</b>

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

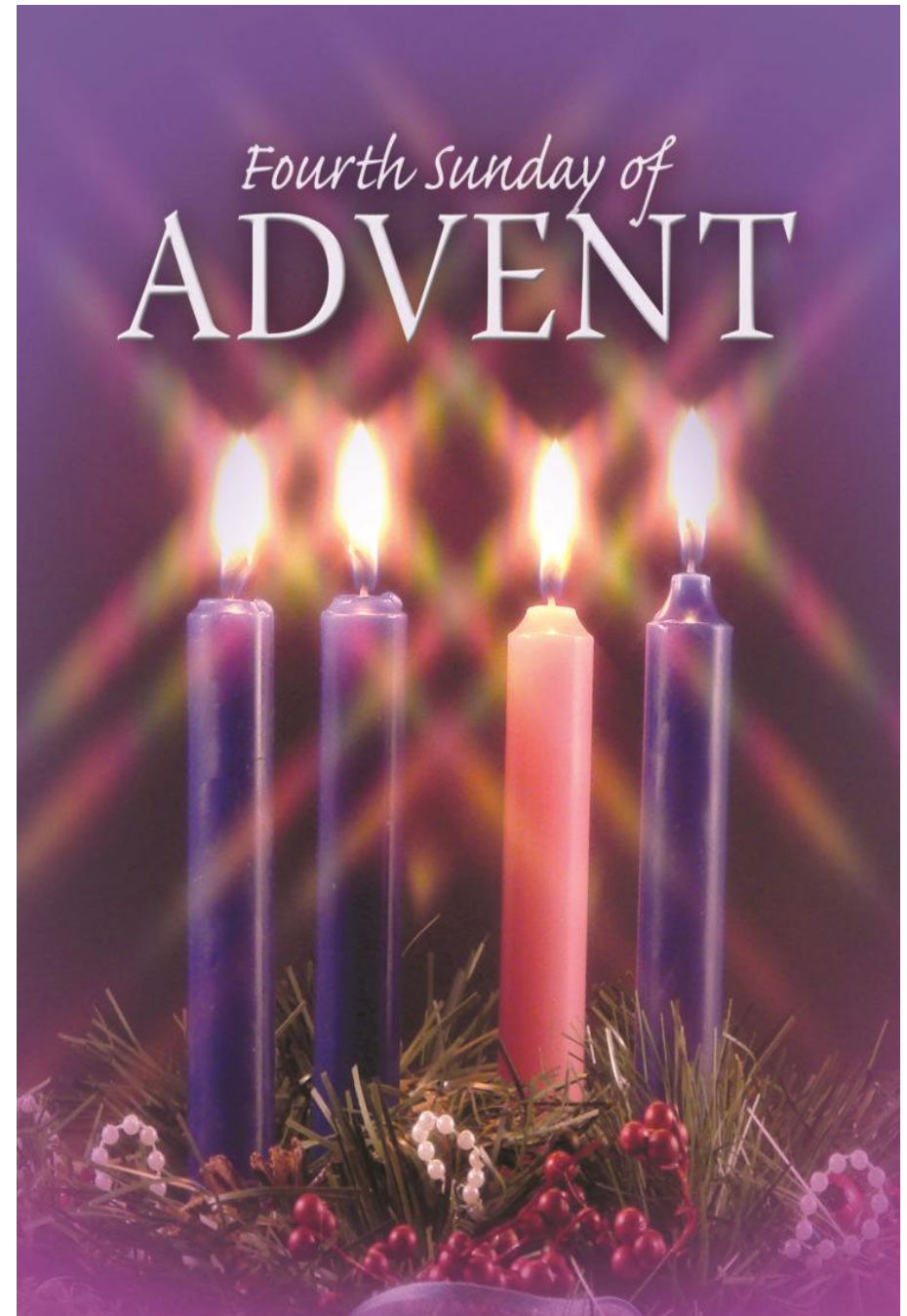
**December 22 – John George**  
**23 – Fannie Beachy**  
**25 – Hunter Sines**



**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.



**Welcome to Springs Mennonite Church**

The Garrett Christian Community Church Choir and Friends will present their annual Christmas cantata, "Mary Did You Know?" on Sunday evening, January 5, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. at their church at 800 Walker Street in Garrett. There will be Candlelighting, and a time of fellowship will conclude the evening. This is the former Garrett United Methodist Church.

There is a Christmas card from Allegheny Mennonite Conference Staff on the bulletin board in the church foyer.



A deposit of **\$236.24** to My Coins Count on 12/18 brings our current total for 2025 to **\$1,745.19**.

A BIG Thank You to everyone who participated and helped with the Children/Youth Christmas Program.

What a most wonderful experience!



## Calendar of Events

**December 24** - Christmas Eve Service at 7:00 p.m.

**January**   **1** - Daughters of Dorcas 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.  
              **6** - Worship Committee Meeting 6:00 p.m.  
              **7** - Church Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.  
              **8** - Elders' Meeting 6:00 p.m.

Daughters of Dorcas will not meet on December 25<sup>th</sup>, but they will meet on January 1<sup>st</sup>.

Thank you to everyone who ordered poinsettias. If you want to enjoy your poinsettia at home for Christmas, you are welcome to take it. We are also pleased to have them for continued use in the church if you want to leave them. There are sleeves on the front pew to protect them from the cold. *Visual Arts*

