

# St. John Mennonite Church

## Staff

Paul Perkins, *Lead Pastor* \_\_\_\_\_ [pperkins@stjohnmennonite.org](mailto:pperkins@stjohnmennonite.org)  
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 Dean Luginbill, *Custodial Supervisor*  
 Dan Amstutz, *On-Call Visitation*

## Elders

Steve Dean, *Congregational Chair*  
 Dan Amstutz, Scott Gratz, Tyler Macke, Paul Perkins, Randy Keeler, Neil Reichenbach, Jason Yost

## Outreach Opportunities

### Campus Life Youth For Christ Bluffton & PG Middle School

Bluffton & PG Middle School Youth for Christ/Campus Life is in need of ministry leaders (volunteers) for their weekly clubs. We are looking for high schoolers through older and wiser adults who are willing to share 1.5—2 hours per week with local middle schoolers. Contact Gwen Sprague at [Gwendolyn.yfc@gmail.com](mailto:Gwendolyn.yfc@gmail.com) or (567) 204-3780.

### Echo Ranch Work Team

We are taking a work team to Alaska in either July or September to build a new chapel at Echo Ranch. If you are interested in being part of this work team, contact Mahlon Geiger [ASAP](mailto:ASAP) at 419-792-0041.

## Focus for Prayer

Karen Weaver    Wayne Huber & Family    Autumn Sprunger

### This Week Please Remember Teams Going To Haiti | Mission Possible

Please be praying for teams going to Haiti next month. Each person going is also involved in the preparations; some are gathering materials and supplies, some are planning the education they will teach, others are planning menus and getting groceries. All are praying that God would use their time in Haiti to bless and bring others to Christ. Please join those who are going with Mission Possible teams next month as they seek God's protection, His unity of spirit, His wisdom and His love for others.

St. John Mennonite Church | 15988 Road 4 | Pandora, Ohio 45877  
 Phone: 419-384-3680 | Office Hours: 9 am-3 pm | Building Hours: 8 am-8 pm  
 E-mail: [office@stjohnmennonite.org](mailto:office@stjohnmennonite.org) | Web: [www.stjohnmennonite.org](http://www.stjohnmennonite.org)  
 (our website is mobile friendly)



Matthew 2:13-23  
 Revelation 12:1-6

## Welcome to St. John Mennonite Church

We're glad you joined us today as we worship God together and learn from His Word. If you are visiting, we invite you to stop by the Welcome Center in the Fellowship Hall for a cup of coffee and pick up a welcome bag.

## December 18, 2016 Fourth Sunday of Advent "The Gift of Love"

### Worship Service

Welcome & Greeting  
 Praise & Worship (*Choir*)  
 Advent Reading  
 Intercessory Prayer  
 Message  
 Offering  
 Response  
 Sending

### White Rose

If you have lost  
 a loved one,  
 please take a rose  
 home after the  
 service today.



### Service Times

First Service - 8:30 am  
 Sunday School & ABF Classes - 9:45 am  
 Second Service - 11:00 am



**"Join with Christ in Building His Church"**

## A Few Family Matters

### White Gift Offering

During the December ABF classes, we will collect our annual "White Gift Offering" for our missionaries and their children. It is our Christmas gift to them. It will be divided equally among our missionary families.

### End of Year Giving

All offerings/donations received/postmarked on or before December 31st will be credited as a 2016 tax year donation. Those received/postmarked after December 31st will be credited as a 2017 donation. Please plan your end-of-year giving accordingly. Thank you.

### VBS & Kid2Kid Camp 2017

We are starting to form a Planning Committee for each of these summer programs. Planning meetings will begin in January. If you are interested in serving on either of these committees please contact Rachel at [rantrim@stjohnmennonite.org](mailto:rantrim@stjohnmennonite.org) or Lindsay at [lindsaysjmkids@gmail.com](mailto:lindsaysjmkids@gmail.com).

### Lost & Found

Please check this area (restroom area under the Sanctuary) for items you are missing. Any unclaimed items will be donated at the end of the year.

### White Roses

The bouquet of white roses is in memory of the many loved ones that our church family has lost this past year. Our prayers and thoughts are with you throughout this season. If you have lost a loved one this year, please take a rose home after the service today.

### Minutes / Financials

For the most recent Council Minutes and Financial Report, see our website under Leadership/Church Leadership Team Tab.

## Congratulations x 2!

We welcome Scarlett Elizabeth Walther, daughter of Doug & Allie Walther, born on December 12. Scarlett was 21.5" long and weighed 7 lbs. 7 oz.

We welcome Cohen Tyler Macke, son of Tyler & Lauren Macke, born on December 14. Cohen weighed 6 lbs. 12 oz.

**Youth Ministry** details at [www.stjohnmennonite.org](http://www.stjohnmennonite.org)

Save the Date

**SpringHill 2017 • March 10-12 • For Both Jr. & Sr. High**

**Sr. High Small Groups are on holiday break the next 3 weeks. Small Groups will resume on Sundy, January 8**

**Club 2 | Jr. High Bible Study**  
Wednesday • 7-8:30 pm • Paul Ginther's House

**This Week**

### Wednesday, December 21

Awana • 6:30-8 pm • SJM  
P.O.W. • 6:45 pm • Conference Room  
Jr. High Club 2 • 7-8:30 pm • Ginther's

### Friday, December 23

Office & Building Closed at Noon

### Saturday, December 24

Christmas Eve Service • 8 pm

### Sunday, December 25

One Worship Service at 10 am  
*Matthew 2:16-23*

**Upcoming Events**

### Christmas Eve Service

**Saturday, December 24 • 8 pm**

Join us as we celebrate the birth of our Savior.

### Christmas Day Worship Service

**Sunday, December 25 • 10 am**

One combined Worship Service **(NO ABF/SS/Childcare)**

### New Year's Day Worship Service

**Sunday, January 1 • 10 am**

One combined Worship Service **(NO ABF/SS/Childcare)**  
Communion

**Children's Ministry**

[sjmkids@gmail.com](mailto:sjmkids@gmail.com)

**TODAY**

### Kids Worship Service

Children are dismissed during 2nd Service. Please pick up your child in the Fellowship Hall after service.

**WEDNESDAY**

**AWANA Clubs**

**6:30-8 pm**

*Silent Night—bring a flashlight*

**Register online**

[www.stjohnmennonite.org](http://www.stjohnmennonite.org)

Kids are welcome to join at any time.

### Volunteers Needed

#### Sunday School:

- 2 Yr. Old I Helper Every Other Month
- 4th/5th Grade I Helper

#### Awana:

- Subs

If you are able to serve in Children's Ministry, fill out a Connection Card or contact Rachel or Lindsay.

# Sermon Notes

December 18, 2016

**Matthew**

Paul Perkins

## The Dark Side of Christmas

*Matthew 2:13-23*

*Revelation 12:1-6*

# Sermon Notes

### Memory Verse

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied."  
Matthew 5:3-6

## CONNECTION CARD

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

KID'S NAMES (AND AGES):

**WEBSITE:** [www.stjohnmennonite.org](http://www.stjohnmennonite.org)  
**FACEBOOK:** [www.facebook.com/sjmchurch](http://www.facebook.com/sjmchurch)

Please drop this card in an offering bag,  
or place it in the Main Office.

SEE OTHER SIDE 

### QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR NEXT STEP?

CHECK THE ONES THAT APPLY TO YOU:

- HOW DO I **FOLLOW CHRIST?**
- I'M NEW!** HOW CAN I LEARN MORE ABOUT ST. JOHN?
- I'D LIKE TO **SERVE** IN ONE OF THE MINISTRIES:
  - CHILDREN'S MINISTRY
  - YOUTH MINISTRY
  - WORSHIP MINISTRY
  - WELCOME MINISTRY

We will contact you using the info provided on the reverse side.

### BAPTISM

I AM READY TO GO PUBLIC WITH MY FAITH

### HOW CAN WE PRAY FOR YOU?

WRITE YOUR REQUEST IN THE SPACE BELOW