

Nurturing Church Family

Birthdays This Week:

Sierra Williams, Carol Kauffman,
Norm Lind

Anniversaries this Week:

Gabino and Karen Perez

For the Record

Attendance Dec. 4, 2022:

In person: 77

Zoom: 24 devices (est. 31 people)

General Offering received:

November total \$12,679

Dec. 4 \$na

Monthly total to date \$na

Total monthly requirement \$14,691

Hearing Assist Headsets are available for your use during the service. Just ask an usher if you'd like to use one.

Cooking up some festive meals?
The SMC Library has some wonderfully illustrated cookbooks. Check them out!

Today is the last day to sign up for the **SMC Christmas Dinner** that will be on Saturday, Dec. 17 here at church. Please let Trudy know if you are planning to come and have not yet signed up.



The nursery room will soon be staffed with volunteers to care for children 4 years old and younger during the worship service. If you would like to help in the nursery, please contact Lori Christy.

In the meantime, the nursery room is available for use by parents with young children as needed.



Christmas Day falls on a Sunday this year and we will have a special morning worship **service beginning at 10am** (not 10:45) on December 25. There will be no Sunday School for children or adults on Dec 25.



Salem Mennonite Church

Pastor: **Jerrell Williams**: 214-406-0865, pastor@salem-mennonitechurch.org

Youth Leader: **Sina Yang**: youth@salem-mennonitechurch.org

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Education Hour: Sundays at 9:30 am • Worship: Sundays at 10:45 am

Salem Mennonite Church Worship Service

December 11, 2022 - Third Sunday of Advent

We Gather

Prelude - Jennie Kauffman
Hymn **VT 217** "Hark! The Glad Sound" -Jennifer Gingerich
Call to Worship and Invocation -Jeff Aeschliman
Hymns **VT 238** "Wisdom from on High is Dawning"

Candle Lighting

Leader: Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is soon. .

**People: Tell what you hear and see:
even now, like water in the desert,
we see God's action all around.**

Hymn **VT 210** "O Come, O Come, Immanuel" vs. 1 and 7
(flame is brought to the front as we sing)

Leader: As we gather strength, we light this candle as a sign of your
love made visible among us.

People: Bring your restoration to your people, we pray.

We Hear God's Word

Message for Children **VT 511** "Come on Children" -Marlene Bogard
Special Music -Leah Anderson, Jennifer Gingerich, Linda Pauls, Julie Stauffer
Scripture Matthew 11:2-11
Message *God is on our Side* -Rev. Jerrell Williams
Hymn **VT 223** "Blessed be the God of Israel"

We Respond

Offering /My Coins Count - Jennie Kauffman
Sharing and Prayer Ending with Lord's Prayer*
* forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who have sinned against us

We Go Forth

Closing Hymn **VT 236** "Creator of the Stars at Night"
Sending Words

Ushers today: Charles & Jennie Kauffman

Sound/Zoom Tech: Jim McKinnell

Six Unique Gifts to Give this Christmas

Choose gifts from MCC's Christmas Giving Guide to make a difference this year. Every gift includes the option to send an e-card to your loved one letting them know about the gift you've chosen in their name.

1. For the green thumb, give a garden for \$35
2. For the foodie, give an eco-friendly stove for \$15
3. For the avid angler, give fish to stock a pond for \$20
4. For the book lover, give books for peace libraries for \$12
5. For the crafter, give a sewing machine for \$150
6. For the busy bee, give a bee box for \$15.

Details at mcc.org/stories/six-unique-gifts-give-christmas

Mennonite Church USA (MC USA) has released the completed report from its denominational survey, "The Mennonite Experience: MC USA Membership Study 2021-22." The 85-page report revealed that members have deep commitments to their faith, a passion for peace-building, a heart for service and close congregational ties. Read more here: mennoniteusa.org/news/denominational-survey

Coming Up

This Week: Dec. 12-17, 2022

Mon	2:00 pm	Book Group
Tues	6:00 pm	Elder's Meeting
Wed	7:00 am	Women's Breakfast Meeting (Zoom)
Wed	9:30 am	Quilting
Thurs	9:30 am	Women's Bible Study (Zoom)
Friday	6:00 pm	Community Center (in Fellowship Hall)

Sunday, December 18, 2022 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:30 am Sunday school classes for all ages
10:30 am Coffee Time
10:45 am Worship Service, message, Rev. Jerrell Williams

Full calendar of events at www.salemmennonitechurch.org

Today's bulletin cover was created by Leah Nisly.

Call to Worship Reading

Leader: Look, I am sending my messenger, go tell what you have seen.

**People: God's awesome wonders fill the earth,
the lost are found, the blind receive sight,
the deaf hear, the lame walk,
the poor are preached to,
and those who are dead in spirit receive new life.**

Leader: Is this what you were expecting from me?

People: Blessed are they who trust in the Lord!

Leader: For his yoke is easy, his burdens are light.

All: Great is thy faithfulness!

Matthew 11:2-11 (NRSV)

²When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" ⁴Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. ⁶And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is the one about whom it is written, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.' ¹¹Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.