

Groffdale Mennonite Church

Volume 62

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SUPPLEMENT

THANK YOU for last Sunday's (November 26) and this week's Electronic Funds Transfer offerings:

- Leadership Support \$4,278.00
- Program Fund \$300.00
- Snader Family PDA \$100.00

Note from the Treasurer

As we approach yearend, we still have significant deficits in several funds. The Leadership Support Fund is in the red by \$3,549. The Program Fund is in the red by \$8,260 which includes the \$2,258 that we still need to cover the cost of our Homecoming celebration. Please give prayerful consideration to these needs as you plan your yearend giving.

Henry Youndt, Treasurer



Happy Birthday

Miriam Auker—Sunday, December 3
Daryl Groff—Tuesday, December 5
Cassidy Martin—Wednesday, December 6
Lexi Kreiner—Friday, December 8
Joyce Shenk—Friday, December 8
Joy Witmer—Saturday, December 9
Minerva Nolt—Sunday, December 10



Happy Anniversary

Dean and Stephanie Myers—Tuesday, December 5
Elmer and Minerva Nolt—Wednesday, December 6



OPERATION CHRISTMAS
TODAY, DECEMBER 3 is the deadline to bring your wrapped Christmas gifts for the family we are sponsoring through CVCCS. Thank you for your generosity and help with providing support to a Conestoga Valley family in need. If you have any questions, please contact Joyce Shenk.



DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

December 10—2nd Sunday of Advent

Michael Berg of YWAM Orlando will be preaching
Commissioning for Jarrett Miller

December 17—3rd Sunday of Advent

Pastor Tom will be preaching

December 24—Christmas Eve

9:00 a.m. Christmas Tea
10:00 a.m. Pastor Tom will be preaching
7:00 p.m. Candlelight Christmas Eve service



December 31

Pastor Austin will be preaching

Jarrett Miller is a close friend of Pastor Austin. For more than 5 years Austin has been a spiritual mentor for Jarrett and seen him grow in his faith. Jarrett grew up in the Manheim area attending White Oak Church of the Brethren. For the past few years he has been attending Middle Creek Church of the Brethren. After high school he got a job with Eagle Building Solutions of Lititz, but in 2016 Jarrett felt a call from God to pursue Him more through a Discipleship Training School with YWAM. Following this time of growing in his faith, Jarrett attended a School of Ministry Development with YWAM. When Jarrett came back home he had a desire to serve God and get involved in ministry. This desire to serve in a ministry role matches well with our need for a male leader in Junior Youth Group. Jarrett will serve through July of 2018 as Junior Youth Ministry Intern.

During Advent this year we will be focusing our coin offerings on relief efforts that Mennonite Disaster Service is leading in Puerto Rico. Come prepared to share your coins and bills to support the work of Mennonite Disaster Service to help the people of Puerto Rico rebuild after Hurricane Maria. You will have the opportunity to share your coins and bills through Sunday, January 7.



SEWING CIRCLE NEWS

On Tuesday, December 5, the Sewing Circle will meet at 9:00 a.m. at the church. You are invited to bring a friend. For lunch bring a finger food to share; sandwiches and drink will be provided. Bring cookies for the cookie plates we are packing.



ADVENT CAFÉ

Sunday, December 3, 10 and 17

Youth will be providing hot drinks and pastries before Sunday School starting at 8:30 a.m. at the back of the church.



Stop by for a cup of tea, coffee, or hot chocolate, and a pastry.

Donations appreciated.

Note of Thanks!

Thank you so very much for your generous gift to Conestoga Valley Homes of Hope Transitional Housing. There are many families facing homelessness in our community, and your gift will make a real difference, helping to bless those in need with a place to live and connecting them to the Church, so that their hope is renewed.

Thank you, too, for your prayers for and commitment to this ministry. It is a privilege to serve on your behalf.

Kim Wittel, Executive Director

(This note was received from the Bergs on November 26)

Dear Friends at Groffdale Mennonite,

It's difficult to believe that Thanksgiving is next week and Christmas is just around the corner! Like me, you are probably asking, "Where did this year go?"

Last week we hosted the Eastern North America Gathering at our Orlando campus. About 500 adults and 100 kids attended this event. It was so exciting to have the broader YWAM family come together for rich times of teaching, fellowship, and worship. It was a week of refreshment, of unity in YWAM, and resting in God's character.

Thanks so much for your recent gift of \$600. We are so grateful for your generosity and love.

Trusting that you will have a wonderful Thanksgiving with your family and friends.

Counting our Blessings,
Darla and Michael Berg

Michael will be preaching at Groffdale on December 10.

*Congratulations to Tate Myers
on passing his driver's test!*



Mennonite Children's Choir of Lancaster Final Concert of 2017 Christmas Series

The Mennonite Children's Choir of Lancaster will present the final concert of its 2017 Christmas Concert series at Highland Presbyterian Church, Lancaster, **Sunday, December 3, at 4 pm.** The select auditioned choir will perform with special guest artists, Spark Brass. Tickets are not required; a freewill offering will be taken. Kayley and Tanner sing in the Children's Choir.



CHRISTMAS HYMN SING

Sunday, December 10, 6:30 pm

Maranatha Retreat Center Lobby

At Black Rock

Visit www.blackrockretreat.com/hymnsing for more details.

"Journey to Bethlehem" will be held at Woodcrest Retreat weekend nights of **December 8, 9, 15 and 16.** The Christmas story comes alive, in six unique scenes, as you walk by candlelight along quiet wooded trails with the Biblical characters. Dramatic actors, live nativity and real animals. Visit www.WoodcrestRetreat.org for more details. Groups may call the office for guaranteed admission details at 717-738-2233. See poster on bulletin board for times and prices.

