

# Groffdale Mennonite Church

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## **SUPPLEMENT**

**THANK YOU for last Sunday's (December 17) and this week's Electronic Funds Transfer offerings:**

- Program Fund \$10,324.00
- Leadership Support \$3,840.00
- Missions \$591.50
- Church Facilities \$435.00
- Sewing Circle \$93.50

### **Note from the Treasurer**

Thanks so much for your generous offering last week! The deficits in Program Fund and Leadership Support Fund have been eliminated.

Thank you!

Henry Youndt, Treasurer



### **A tip from your Everence Advocate, Marie Hoover**

You can use your retirement savings to make year-end donations. If you withdraw money from your retirement income (known as distribution), you can give these dollars tax-free to our church or a charity. Learn more about gift options at [everence.com/charitable-giving](http://everence.com/charitable-giving).

### **Reminder about End of Year Giving**

To have your contributions applied to the year 2017, they must be received by or postmarked December 31, 2017.

Gifts received after that date will be applied to 2018, unless the postmark is December 31 or before.



**Congratulations!!!  
Cassidy Martin graduated  
from the University of  
Pittsburgh.**

## **DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR**

### **December 31**

Pastor Austin will be preaching

### **Looking Ahead to 2018**

January 7—Anthony Ulloa from EMM is preaching

January 5-7—Junior High Retreat at Camp Hebron

January 12-14—Senior High Retreat at Camp Hebron

January 28—Fellowship Meal and Congregational Meeting

### **Groffdale Winter Renewal Series—Wednesdays**

January 31 through February 28

**COMING SOON!! Groffdale Winter Renewal Series. Beginning Wednesday evening January 31, Antonio Ulloa will be speaking at 7:00 p.m. in the all-purpose room on "Discovering and Enjoying the Presence of God". Each Wednesday evening begins with a supper at 6:00 p.m. followed by teaching by Antonio as we sit around the tables. Childcare and children's activities will also be provided. More information coming soon. (January 31, Feb 7, 14, 21, 28)**

### **Happy Birthday**

Mindy Nolt—Monday, December 25

Lauren Greenawalt—Tuesday, December 26

Janessa Eshleman—Wednesday, December 27

Audrey Myers—Friday, December 29



### **Happy Anniversary**

Mark & Kathy Wenger—Friday, December 29

Leon & Lydia Martin—Sunday, December 31



**Copies of the 2018 Birthday & Anniversary calendar are available on the information table in the lobby. Please help yourself to a copy if you'd like one.**



Copies of the minutes from the November 29 Administration Team meeting are on the information table. Please help yourself to a copy if you'd like one.

## Christmas Giving Project for the people of Puerto Rico

We invite you to share the love of Jesus this Christmas season by participating in our giving project for the people of Puerto Rico. We will have the exciting opportunity to share both globally and locally!

**Global Giving**—During Advent this year we will be focusing our coin offerings on relief efforts that Mennonite Disaster Service is leading in Puerto Rico. You will have the opportunity to share your coins and bills through Sunday, January 7.

**Local Giving**—Many Puerto Rican families are choosing to leave Puerto Rico due to the devastation caused by Hurricane Maria. There are many Puerto Ricans joining family members who currently are living in Lancaster City. This influx of families creates a large need for the School District of Lancaster to be providing for many new students entering the school system.

We will be collecting items for these families. Please drop off your items at the table in the back of the church.

December 10—hats, gloves and scarves—any size

December 17—coats—any size

December 24—blankets

December 31—toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, shampoo, conditioner, hairbrushes

January 7—Food items: rice, canned or dried beans (kidney, black, red, pinto), canned vegetables, canned fruit, pasta, pasta sauce, tomato sauce, healthy cereals, canola oil, fresh fruits...oranges and apples, salt, sugar.



### Message from Umble Support Team

The Umble Missionary Support Team would like to praise God for and thank you, our mission support partners, for providing the financial means to enable the Umbles to return to Cambodia for this two year term. Thank you for praying for Ryan, Bethany and their family and their work in Cambodia. Our prayers are a major force in this endeavor. Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!

Their latest newsletter is posted on the missionary bulletin board on the lower level.

### MCCL ACCEPTING REGISTRATIONS

The Mennonite Children's Choir of Lancaster is accepting registrations for the spring semester. MCCL has programs for kindergarten through grade 12. Singers meet Tuesday evenings January through April. For more information about MCCL programs, see [www.mennonitechilrenschoir.org](http://www.mennonitechilrenschoir.org), call 717-455-7025, or email [mccl@lanastermennonite.org](mailto:mccl@lanastermennonite.org).



### Thank you from Sewing Circle

*We appreciate and thank the congregation for your financial support and help!*

The items made and donated were: 809 gowns, 408 blankets, 1,742 diapers, 240 baby caps, 492 newborn kits, 114 comforters, two baby comforters, one queen quilt, one wall hanging, 18 hot pads, 243 bars of soap, 150 health kits (this was our church project for Christmas) and 153 school kits.

We donated items to: PA Relief Sale, Landis Homes, Fairmount Homes, Woodcrest and Restart Training Center Ministries for their sales. Other items were given to MCC.

***Thanks again!***

The Sewing Circle

### Greetings from Mennonite World Conference

Praise God for the fulfilment of promises: "A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse" (Isaiah 11:1), a child born to bring peace to every heart that receives him. In this season of rejoicing and memory, we pray peace for our brothers and sisters around the world suffering from violence and disasters, and for the transformation of hearts to worship the Prince of Peace.