

# *Groffdale Mennonite Church*



THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*November 27, 2022*

# ***Groffdale Mennonite Church***

Our Mission: To be a healing community of believers  
passionately committed to Jesus as Lord  
through worship, nurture, and outreach.

Volume 67

**November 27, 2022**

Number 48

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***Welcome! We are glad you are here!***

Prelude by Bob Mohler

Opening Hymn led by Henry Youndt

“God of Our Strength” (Blue hymnal #36)

Welcome and Call to Worship by Krista Snader

Offering for Leadership Support

Advent Reading and Candle-lighting

Children's Time and Collecting Relief Kit items

Worship through hymns

“Come Thou Long Expected Jesus” (Red hymnal #124)

“My Hope is Built on Nothing Less” (Red hymnal #404)

Scripture: Joshua 2:1-22

Sermon by Tom Eshleman

“Rahab: Ancestor of the Messiah!”

Hymn of Response

“Take the Name of Jesus With You” (Red hymnal #116)

Sharing time and prayer

Benediction

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*Thank you to those serving in our worship service today!  
Including Ushers Mim Martin and Faye Woods, and those  
behind-the-scenes: Projectionist Chris Martin, Sound Tech  
Brian Snader, Live Stream Will Baumiller, Camera  
Operator Harold Mohler, Back Table Helper Joyce Shenk,  
and Nursery Workers Mag Nolt and Faye Woods.*

### Bring to the Lord in prayer:

- Pray for Norma Rutt, as she is in Georgia with family over the holidays.
  - Pray for Paul Gehman who fell at his home last week and broke several ribs.
  - Pray for Joe Jaskolka as he continues treatments for prostate cancer.
  - Pray for the Saragih family living in the 170 House. Pray continued healing for their daughter Elisabeth.
  - Pray for Leane Groff as she recovers from Covid at LGH.
  - Pray continued healing and recovery for Richard Buckwalter who recently underwent hip replacement surgery.
  - Pray for our college students at this busy time of year: Timothy Wenger at Rosedale, and Kayley Eshleman and Sara Frey at Messiah.
  - Pray for peace in Ukraine.
  - Give thanks to God for the meaningful experiences that our young people are having in the discipleship/mentor classes.
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### Events this week:

Wednesday: **Morning Prayer Group**, 8:30am

*Today we begin our Advent series entitled "God came near....for those far away." Sermons will focus on people from Scripture who were surprising characters in the salvation story. Who would have imagined the prostitute Rahab and the Moabite Ruth playing such an important role in God's story, becoming part of the lineage of Jesus the Messiah? As we journey through Advent, may we marvel at the unimaginable grace of Jesus!*

## OFFERING

Listed below are the totals for last week's offering and deposits.

Thanks for giving so generously!

Leadership Fund

\$ 265

Missions \$ 250

Program Fund

\$ 3,789

## Year-End Giving

As year-end approaches, some of you may be considering some extra giving and wondering where to direct it. Our Leadership Support Fund has been operating with a negative balance and currently the deficit is over \$5,000. Please prayerfully consider this as you plan your giving.

Thanks for your faithful support.  
Henry Youndt, Treas.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

**Happy 89th Birthday to John Zimmerman:**

Tuesday, November 29

**Angela Hahn:** Thursday, December 1

**Judy Buckwalter:** Friday, December 2

**Miriam Auker:** Saturday, December 3

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

**Jonas & Emma Reiff:** Monday, November 28



## Advent Preaching Schedule

**December 4: Pastor Tom**

*"The Story of Ruth,  
Noticed and Loved by God"*

**December 11: Pastor Tom**

**December 18: Steve Lindsey**

**December 25: Pastor Tom**

*"The Great Drawing Near"*

*Norma Rutt's address during the holiday season:*  
Norma Rutt, c/o Gerald and Laretta Eshleman  
2576 Georgia Highway 88, Hephzibah, GA 30815

### **Leadership Team Update**

Thank you for your prayers on behalf of Leadership Team as we met last week. Highlights include our continuing work on clarifying church structure as ministry teams are re-established and re-purposed. Our goal is to present an updated church structure visual for our congregational meeting on Sunday, February 5. Lisa Zimmerman shared some insights she is gaining from her ministry leadership internship.

### **Administrative Team Update**

Diane Weaver and Levi Hoover presented a revised version of building use guidelines, after researching the guidelines of similar churches. The team strongly affirmed Diane and Levi for their fine work and it will be shared with the congregation in the near future.

### **Relief in the Name of Christ**

We are collecting items during Advent for Mennonite Central Committee Relief Kits, to be given to displaced people. Please place the items at the end of your bench.

Each Relief Kit contains: 4 bars bath soap, shampoo, 4 bars laundry soap, 4 toothbrushes, 4 bath towels, 2 wide-toothed combs, sanitary pads (thin), 1 nail clipper, 1 box bandaids.

### **Directory Update**

We are happy to announce that the directory is in production, and a copy will be in your mailbox soon!

### **Christmas Eve Service at 6:30 pm**

Join us for an evening of singing, Scripture reading and candle lighting as we worship Christ the newborn King! Cookies and drinks will be served. We encourage you to invite family, friends and neighbors!

## Serving Next Sunday, December 4

Prelude: Joe Jaskolka  
Hymns Leader: Rick Umble  
Worship Leader: Dave Moore  
Sermon: Tom Eshleman  
Projectionist: Diane Weaver  
Sound Tech: Clair Mast  
Live Stream: Jim Evans  
Camera Operator: Mim Auker

Ushers: Glen and Joyce Shenk  
Offering:  
Groffdale Missionaries &  
EMM, 10% to Sewing Circle  
Back Table: Anna Day  
Nursery Workers:  
Rachel Gavilondo and  
Faye Woods



**Pastor:** Tom Eshleman, 717-669-4578 (cell);  
717-656-6388 (office)

**Pastoral Team Member:** Krista Snader, 717-466-8930

**Administrative Assistant:** Jess Kiefer,  
churchoffice@groffdale.com

**Treasurer:** Henry Youndt, hyoundt@frontiernet.net

**Bookkeeper:** Pat Mast, finance@groffdale.com

168 North Groffdale Road, Leola, PA 17540  
717-656-6388 | www.groffdale.com

**Dial-in LIVE Sunday AM Worship:** 717-690-0477