

MARCH 2021

Ridgeview Mennonite Church

BUDGET	
Budget	\$90,200.00
YTD Received	86,113.00
Education	750.00

COMMUNITY DEVOTIONAL PROJECT: COMING SOON!

Ministry leaders from the Pequea area have teamed up to create a devotional series entitled *Trust Me* with 36 devotions for the weekdays between Easter and Pentecost. In this time of uncertainty, polarization, and national reckoning, we want to encourage the people of God and promote a sense of to-



getherness in our commitment to love God and others. The theme *Trust Me* takes a closer look at God's promises throughout scripture and invites us to trust God even through difficulties. The final product will be available via social media, email and as well as a booklet. If you would prefer a hard copy booklet, please let the office know by March 8th. The hard copies will be available by March 28th. We will also send it out in digital form via an all-church email and Facebook.

DEBRIEFING THE YEAR AND LOOKING FORWARD.

Debriefing is defined as a dialogue between two or more people; its goals are to discuss the actions and thought processes involved in a particular situation, encourage reflection on those actions and thought processes, and incorporate improvement into future performance.



In a similar way, we have invited you a discussion guide to reflect on life this past year, God's presence and leading in that year and incorporate what we have learned and heard from the Spirit and each other into what God is calling us to be and do. Several Sunday School classes have begun using the guide which is divided into four sessions. If you are not currently meeting with a Sunday School class, we invite you to join our Virtual Fellowship zoom every other Sunday – the next one is March 14th. In person group discussion will also become available in April.

BIRTHDAYS	
4	Joyce Shirk
8	Evie Hershey
16	Amos Reiff
19	Jim Lapp
20	Dick Thomas
28	Claire Siegrist
29	Sarah Rohrer
31	Reba Ranck

ANNIVERSARIES	
19	Ron & Darlene Lapp
21	Elton & Sherlyn Horst

VMCE: Ridgeview is one of the partnering churches of ACC who are a part of a relational and supportive partnership with Mennonite churches in Argentina. Steve Crane was part of a small delegation that traveled to Argentina in 2019, but since then further travel has been complicated by the global pandemic. However, we still



communicate with leaders in Argentina. Javier Miguel, a pastor in Argentina, shares that they continue preparing for the extension of the kingdom of heaven. They have shown endurance and persistence despite the pandemic, including a new church planting through relationship connections. We celebrate what God has done and is doing in Argentina. Please pray for these congregations as they face the challenges of the pandemic in a country with a depressed economic situation and transportation challenges.

MATCHING SCHOLARSHIP...Mennonite Schools provide a matching scholarship for congregational grants with a minimum grant of \$500 from the congregation. To give \$500 grants for the upcoming school year we need \$2,500 in the Mennonite Education fund. Currently there is \$750 in the fund. Gifts are welcome.

UPGRADING OUR TECH EQUIPMENT...

Our first attempt to livestream a Sunday morning service back in March 2020 utilized a cell phone on a tripod. Since then, we have come a long way! Here's a bit of the story.



It became clear early on that our video recording and computer equipment was outdated and inadequate for a consistent and quality livestream experience. Nathan diligently investigated what it would take to upgrade our current system in order to produce a livestream that allowed us to focus on worship rather than on technical issues. The results held a minimum price tag of \$10,000.

That is when an additional partnership with Branch Community formed. Branch Community also wanted to livestream their services which they were beginning to hold in the sanctuary on Sunday evenings. Nathan worked with Branch's tech crew to specify a system that would suit our combined needs. Because of this partnership, Ridgeview and Branch were able to jointly purchase a new computer, a new wireless high-definition camera which can be moved freely around the sanctuary to allow for the best possible remote viewing experience, and additional sound and networking equipment from Illuminated Integration. This equipment enabled us to produce a positive livestream experience while minimizing distractions for congregates attending the in-person church service. Because of our partnership with Branch Community, we were able to share half the cost of the new system.

Although we placed the initial order during the summer, this equipment was in high demand as many other organizations sought to upgrade their livestreaming capabilities. Issues with backordered equipment, and suspected COVID cases within Illuminated Integration's company caused increasing delays to the completion date. While we originally hoped to have the system fully installed by mid to late September, we were unable to complete the upgrade until February 5, 2021. In order to complete the project, we still need to purchase a tripod with a fluid head which allows for smooth camera operation, as well as build a mobile platform for the tripod and videographer.

This project has taken over six months to complete but we have been incredibly pleased with the quality of the livestream as well as the significant decrease in work/stress for our tech team. We are also grateful for our partnership with Branch Community, which made this project possible.

A big thank you to Nathan and Kyle as lay ministers of worship, Bob Heine and Robert Kanagy who have faithfully helped nearly every Sunday this past year as well as lent their expertise, and to the many others who have been willing to learn new skills and adapt to new equipment – we appreciate all you have done!



RIDGEVIEW MENNONITE CHURCH *Spring Fellowship Meal!* *Sunday, March 28th, 2021*

Enjoy a delicious meal prepared by our very own Kitchen Committee!

Dine-In or Take-Out Available

A. Dine-in and fellowship with other members of the congregation. Meal will be served following the worship service in the fellowship hall. We ask that you wear a mask through the food line and until you are seated at a table.

B. Take the meal to-go. Take out containers will be available at the beginning of the food line if you are more comfortable with filling your container and enjoying your meal at home.

MENU:

HAM LOAF --- BAKED MACARONI & CHEESE --- PEAS
STEWED TOMATOES --- COLE SLAW --- FRUIT SALAD
DINNER ROLL WITH BUTTER --- CAKE

Please sign up and let us know you're coming!

This will help with preparing the food. Thank you!

You can sign-up at <http://ridgeviewspringmeal.rsvpify.com>

or by contacting Melissa Siegrist at (717)286-7053

****If for any reason you are unable to come into the building to collect your take-out meal, please let Melissa know right away and we will assist you!**

March 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3 9am Food Pac	4	5	6
7 10:15 Worship	8	9	10 9am Food Pac	11	12	13
14 10:15 Worship	15	16	17 9am Food Pac	18	19	20
21 10:15 Worship	22 7pm Admin- istration mtg	23 9am-10pm Rental—1990 Hall	24 9am Food Pac 6:30pm Minis- try Team	25	26	27
28 PALM SUNDAY 10:15 Worship Fellowship meal	29	30	31 9am Food Pac			