### **NOVEMBER 2021**

# Ridgeview Mennonite Church

#### **BUDGET**

Budgeted \$18,375.00 YTD Received 13,946.00

#### **TUESDAY ALIVE**

The morning began in an unexpected way.

People coming into the 1990 Hall noticed some unusual activity in the back left corner of the room. Evan and Charlotte were preparing for the food pack volunteers who would be gathering on Wednesday for the first time in this school year.

Upon learning that the morning speaker had been caught up in a meeting and would be a bit late, Charlotte was asked to explain the program of supplemental weekend food packs for under-resourced families in the Pequea Valley school district. The program has been active for 20 years. About 10 years ago, after an area church could no longer provide the space needed, Ridgeview set up the former sewing circle room as the food pack room.

Every Wednesday during the school year 8-10 volunteers show up at 9am to pack the grocery bags. Approximately 40-50 packs are prepared each week. They are distributed to Paradise and Salisbury Elementary Schools. The yearly budget is \$15,000 and is funded by donations from five churches in the area and last year through a covid grant.

Then we met Adam Nagle, the executive director of The



Factory Ministries. This ministry exists to empower others in the community because "everyone's journey matters."

Adam shared his struggle with a learning disability, his Christian school education which left him

feeling there was more in "living life to the full".

Later in a significant introduction to Acts 2, Adam began to understand that the local church is the hope of the world – feeding the poor, healing the broken, caring for neighbors, social justice.

"What do you do," he asked, "with a church that loves Jesus and goes out to help the poor but doesn't want to invite them into the community?"

Those experiencing trauma and poverty are not thinking about the future because the immediate is so pressing. Ministries like The Factory walk alongside the church to empower people financially, emotionally, socially, spiritually, and mentally by educating communities to understand poverty systems. Then helping persons to plan for

moving into empowerment for making choices not just simply following rules.

In order for every dollar



donated by churches to go actual ministry, there are plans for operating a digital print shop and creating an event center which could be rented for family gatherings, small concerts, seminars and workshops, etc. The income from these two areas would be used for salaries, maintenance, etc.

Adam gave honor to those who began and established the ministry whose shoulders he stood on.

After answering some questions, he said he would make a confession. He said he is trying to lose weight and burned 2000 calories the night before. How? He left it in the oven too long! (Dad joke!)

Thanks to Sherlyn, Darlene, Marsha and Audrey who served lunch.

## **BIRTHDAYS**

- 1 Brooke Siegrist
- 2 Ron Lapp Judy Smoker
- 4 Earl Esch
- 7 Sherlyn Horst
- 8 Marsha Horst
- 11 Steffen Sommers
- 14 Lance Horst Sarah Horst Sam Zook
- 18 Omar Lapp Paul Smoker
- 23 Bob Martin
- 25 Jim Glick
- 26 Merv Stoltzfus
- 29 Rich High
- 30 Cameron Bergman Madie Kauffman



#### **ANNIVERSARIES**

- 3 Leon & Theresa Yoder
- 24 Chuck & Becky Hershey

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31** there was a joyful reunion of Ridgeview's preschool and elementary aged children at the church. It was their first "in person" meeting since February 2020.

The children seemed to thoroughly enjoy their time together engaging in a variety of activities. The children sang familiar songs led by Sarah Rohrer and participated in a movement activity and song planned and taught by Brooke Siegrist. Joyful music sounded from the ridge as the children rang bells to the songs "Let There Be Peace on Earth" and "Away in the Manger" thanks to the coordina-

tion of Sarah and Nathan Horst.

The children joined together to create a T-shirt for their young friend, Kara, whom they have been supporting during her cancer journey. Evie Hershey's daughter & granddaughter, Rhonda & Sochima Ike, designed the shirt and assisted the children with the project.

A few other highlights included artistic expression on poster boards and with chalk on the carport sidewalk, as well as a candy scramble provided by Kate Sommers in the lobby of the church, and an ice cream snack.

The Bible lesson for the morning was about King David and his kindness to Mephibosheth. The children once again demonstrated their extraordinary kindness to oth-

ers by not only making shirts and bringing small gifts for Kara, but also by thinking of others and asking to share a gift given to them with a friend, relative or neighbor. Each child was permitted to choose a porcelain doll that was gifted to them by the Denlinger sisters. Some immediately responded they didn't need a doll (or were too old for one) but they knew someone who would like to have one. By the end of the morning twenty dolls were taken – at least ½ of them to share with someone else. There is so much all of us, regardless of our age, can learn from the youngest among us!

**THANK-YOU** for your ongoing involvements in, prayers for and giving to our congregation. Our fiscal year started October 1 and during October our offerings did not reach the \$3,675 dollars needed each week to meet our budget plan. In the next few months we will need to exceed the weekly goal to overcome the 20% deficit that occurred during the month of October. Please keep the mission of our congregation in your prayers and your giving.





**RAY LAPP** has served on the Alive with 55 committee from its beginnings and concluded this part of his ministry this fall. We are so grateful for his faithful leadership and joy in

partnering with the Spirit to allow this program to become what it is today. Loretta Lapp will be leading the committee for the next year with Evie Hershey, Audrey Kanagy, Naaman Yoder and Ann Eshleman (Hershey Mennonite Church) serving along with her.

# November 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1:00 pm Prep meal for East Chestnut	2 5-9 pm Quilters	3 9am Food Pac	4	5	6
7 SS & Worship 4-9 pm Branch worship	8	9 10am Alive with 55 2-9pm Branch 1990 Hall	10 9am Food Pac	11	12	13
14 SS & Worship	15	16	17 7am Men's breakfast 9am Food Pac 6:30pm Ministry Team	18	19	20
21 SS & Worship 4-9 pm Branch worship	22	23	24 9am Food Pac	25 THANKSGIVING	26	27
28 SS & Worship	29	30				