

# DECEMBER 2021

## Ridgeview Mennonite Church

BUDGET	
Budgeted	\$33,075.00
YTD Received	31,560.00

### TUESDAY ALIVE

Loretta welcomed the group after which Charlotte gave an update on the church auction to be held Tuesday, December 14 in the 1990 Hall. It will be a silent auction with a light meal as written bidding commences. About 7 pm, bidding will end. Bids will be tabulated and reported.

Donna J Stoltzfus, author of *Captive*, a coming-of-age novel set in Lancaster County during WWII during the summer of 1944, was our speaker. Based on actual events, the novel follows 13-year-old, John, whose father is fighting in Europe. John is hired by a Elam Miller, a Mennonite tomato grower. He is forced to make difficult decisions about enemy POWs, war, and his dreams.

The author gave a brief history of POWs in Lancaster County. Through interviews with POW Karl Demmler, she was able to use actual events to flesh out the story.

In 1945, Dan Glick put in a request for 8-10 POWs to help pick and process the tomatoes where Mr. Demmler was hired for a time. He received good meals, 80 cents and coupons to use in the canteen at Reading Army Air Field where the POWs were stationed. Dan's young teenage son, Isaac, would drive to and from the fort 5 days a week to pick up the workers.

Donna's grandfather, Reuben Stoltzfus, was a manager of the cannery at Glick's tomato farm in Smoketown and formed a lifetime friendship with East German Karl Demmler who now resides at Luther Acres.

Demmler says of this experience, "My stay in Lancaster County was the event of my life. This friendship, without any prejudice, had been worth all the trouble. They never made me feel like a prisoner. It was one of the best times of my life."

Helmut Horner quote: "War is the continuation of politics with other means...War is a crime."

Books were available for sale and signed by the author.

In December, we will be favored with music of the season by the Conestoga Valley Ensemble and topped off by the annual Amish Turkey Meal. —Etta Esch

**CHRISTLE GEHMAN HAIN** has joined the EB Communications staff as the marketing communication and engagement associate. Hain will work from a dispersed location, where she will collaborate with the communications team on building engagement in virtual and in-person events and strengthen MC USA's social media and email outreach.



Hain received her bachelor's degree in communication from Cabrini University, where she was the lifestyles editor of *The Loquitor*, the university's student-produced newspaper. She has experience as a communications specialist, and most recently, she worked for Mennonite Disaster Service, as the public relations and social media coordinator.

"I am very excited and honored to be given the privilege of this new experience with MC USA," said Hain.

### SHARING SPACE WITH OUR COMMUNITY

On Monday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> we hosted Lancaster County Office of the Aging. In an effort to reach seniors across the county the agency approached Ridgeview about using space in our building for one-on-one appointments for seniors looking to sign on to Medicare/Medicaid or who needed adjustments in their benefits. Their appointment schedule filled up and we were able to be of service to our community! We hope to continue to partner with LCOA in the future.



Lancaster County Office of Aging

Keep your eye out for a forthcoming article in the Penny-saver about this partnership!

### BIRTHDAYS

- 8 Francesca Crane
- 10 Chuck Hershey
- 12 Laura Riehl
- 17 Becky Stoltzfus
- 19 Lisa Smith
- 20 Olivia Horst
- Molly King
- Emma Sommers
- 24 Bill Zimmerman
- 25 Nolan Kauffman
- 30 Joy Lapp
- 31 Edna Lapp

### ANNIVERSARIES

- 7 Levi & Jeanmarie King
- 31 Jim & Joy Lapp



### RIDGEVIEW SILENT AUCTION – DECEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup>

Bids are rising along with the excitement! Come join the fun in person or virtually. We are working at some ways for people to interact virtually – watch for details on the Silent Auction Facebook page!



# December 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 9am Food Pac	2	3	4
5 SS & Worship 4pm Branch	6 7pm Admin- istration mtg	7	8 9am Food Pac	9	10	11
12 SS & Worship	13	14 10am Tuesday Alive 5:30pm Silent Auction	15 7am Men's breakfast 9am Food Pac	16	17	18 9am-10pm Rental
19 SS & Worship 4pm Branch	20	21	22 9am Food Pac	23	24 7 pm Christmas Eve Service	25 CHRISTMAS
26 SS & Worship	27	28	29	30	31	