

# JUNE 2022

## Ridgeview Mennonite Church

BUDGET	
Budget	\$154,625.00
YTD Received	\$146,240.98
Education	\$ 2,000.00 (2022/23) 300.00 (2023/24)

**TUESDAY ALIVE** Some of the group of 12 persons from Garden Spot Village told of their experiences in Kenya which they visited in February. Six from the group sponsor school children through the agency of Mission of Hope International (MOHI).

MOHI gives students two meals a day as well as free education for children in the slums. 99% of support comes from sponsorships and 1% from a water treatment system. The high school boarding school grows their own vegetables. At the skills training center electric, plumbing, cosmetology, etc. are taught.



Some highlights included:

- Being invited by MOHI and the amount of preparation "hoops" as the group gathered daily for prayer, help with paperwork, support mentally and emotionally. Team leaders Karyn Nancaris, GSV chaplain, and Brandon Adams, GSV

graphic designer, gave daily debriefings.

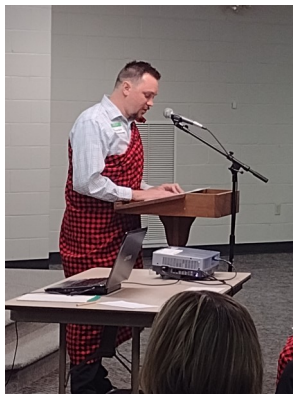
- Meeting with the 17 children sponsored by GSV people. The team did special things with them at the beginning of the week. They went to a giraffe center. Many of the children had never had a bus ride or eaten at a restaurant or been outside the slums.

- Holding a two day VBS for a hundred 4<sup>th</sup> graders. The children were given cloth tote bags made by someone at GSV. The children eagerly participated in acting out the Bible stories that demonstrated God's love.

- Creating a large movable mural with the team and children featuring handprints as background and silhouettes of children forming the letters MOHI.

- Following a performance of native dances by the high school students, the team was asked to teach some American dances. To the delight of the students, the team obliged by showing them the Cuban Shuffle and the Chicken dance.

- The team also went on a Masai Mara Safari and then visited the Masai village. The tribe's old religion was based on two gods; black represented a mostly benevolent god and red a vengeful god. Most Masai have been Christian for many years.



**THE FACTORY MINISTRY** has an opportunity for anyone who feels called to serve this summer with **Lunch & Learns at Paradise Park.**

**June 8, 15, 22, 29; July 6, 13 and August 3.  
(7 weeks) 10:30 a.m.—12 Noon**

About lunch and learn: Wednesdays from 10:30a.m.-12 noon at Paradise Park, families can come play at the park, connect to Factory services, receive meals, and take home summer enrichment materials. (Last year lunches were provided for 100 kids weekly and families were connected to staff and services at The Factory.)

How can you partner... volunteer before the event to prepare and bag lunches and volunteer at the event to pass out lunches. Collect and donate items for bagged lunch items like juice boxes, paper bags, fruit, etc. We're flexible on bagged lunch ideas and ways we can partner. We want to hear your ideas. If you have an idea for a fun learning activity, we are all ears. Let us know if you would like to learn more, or have an idea to try.

To sign up or for more information, email [Karla@thefactoryministries.com](mailto:Karla@thefactoryministries.com) or call **717-687-9594**



### INTERFAITH PARTNERS CONGREGATION PLEDGE

After consultation, Heidi Loncosky signed the Interfaith Partners Congregation Pledge for the Chesapeake Bay. It calls us to demonstrate good stewardship in how we manage our land and facilities. It calls for actions to educate (which was part of the Salt and Light quarterly just completed), to promote policies that protect natural resources, to build connections with our broader community, as we are on a path of "respect and reverence for all God's creation."

This pledge is in keeping with our congregational mission statement to "share God's love with all of creation." It is also in keeping with the creation of the pollinator garden which adds beauty and solid conservation practices to our campus. Creation care has developed as one of our congregational priorities and has been led by Heidi. Thank-you, Heidi!

Our structure encourages ministries to emerge from the congregation rather than to be created by the church structure which then seeks persons to lead them. Is God calling you to use your gifts by developing and leading a ministry in another area? If so please, share with pastor Audrey if there are ways she can encourage and help you to get the ministry started.

## EDUCATING OURSELVES ABOUT THE HOUSING CRISIS:

United Way hosted a panel addressing hidden populations experiencing housing insecurity as well as what city and county agencies are doing to try to address the issues.

Aging population: The population in the country is aging, not just a baby-booming surge, but a permanent shift in the population. 77% of seniors want to stay in their own homes, but the housing stock, especially in Lancaster City, doesn't match the need. Home sharing of seniors with other seniors or matching seniors with college and/grad students is one creative way communities are addressing this issue.



The ALICE (Asset, Limited, Income, Constrained, Employed) population is often on the edge of homelessness and is greatly impacted by rent increases that outstrip wage increases. Learn more about this population: <https://www.uwp.org/alice/about-alice/>

Refugees face additional hurdles with language barriers, culture difference, prejudices and learning gaps. Church World Services is beginning to look for pockets of affordable housing with resources outside the city. Everence has been helpful with loans for this population.

## Sermon Series: Becoming God's Beloved Community

*"Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children,"* Ephesians 5:1

*"Called by God to learn and share together God's love with all creation."* As part of learning together, this series renews our understanding of what it means to be God's beloved people, what it means to love others as God's image bearers and be a witness of God's reconciliation in our world. While this has broad implications, the series and book that inspired it, focuses on how becoming the Beloved Community reflects God's love and truth in the context of anti-racism peace-making.



The Beloved Community is a Learning Community, a Listening Community, a Loving Community, a Leveraging Community, a Laughing Community and a Lamenting Community. Speakers include Pastor Audrey, John Denlinger, Sam Walters, and guest speaker, Hank Johnson, pastor of discipleship and youth at Harrisburg Brethren in Christ, and also serves as assistant moderator of the BIC's Atlantic Conference.

## ADMIRATION COMMISSION REPORTING

**Foundation Document:** Considerable time has been spent over the past almost three years working to update the church's foundation document which describes the church structure and functioning. The work was to simplify and right size the structure, as well as to adjust it to better serve the current congregation and these changing times. The work of the commission on this document is now complete and approval of the updated document will be on a future a congregational agenda.

The decision to add a pastoral advisory council and the change to a Ministry Leadership Group focused around IN, UP, and OUT, which is part of this document, has already been approved by a vote of the congregation.

**Reserve Fund Policy:** Administration Commission adopted a policy that withdrawing money from the reserve fund will require the approval of the commission.

**MC USA Delegate Assembly:** Agenda for this delegate session was reviewed to better understand what is on the agenda for discernment at this Kansas City meeting. The traditional Anabaptist understanding of the congregation and perhaps the conference being the center of discernment rather than the national body was mentioned as the Membership Guidelines were noted.

**Accessibility:** We discussed parts of the physical plant that are not easily handicap accessible. There was no action taken.

**Table Fellowship Sundays:** At this point, three table fellowship Sundays are planned for this summer. The current plan is for these to take place in the multipurpose room and include singing, a shorter sermon and table interaction. Some congregations are planning church services that are more participatory, which is in keeping with changes that have occurred in schools. How do we keep the best of the traditional style of service and also incorporate more table fellowship? A local ACC congregation has begun to have regularly scheduled table fellowship Sundays and others are removing pews to allow more flexibility and creativity in planning church services. This summer we will experience both as we meet in the sanctuary and in the multipurpose room. Please keep these and all of our Sunday services and congregational activities in your prayers.

Table Fellowship Sundays are scheduled on July 3, July 24 and August 21.

### ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Bill & Joanne Zimmerman
- 9 Bruce & Patty King
- 21 Ray & Edna Lapp

### BIRTHDAYS

- 4 Merv Landis
- 6 Sara Bushong
- 7 Rick Loncosky
- 11 Theresa Yoder
- 17 Anna Esh
- 19 Barb Glick
- 23 Dick Winters
- 28 Jake Lapp
- 29 Kathy Martin



# June 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5 SS Worship—The Beloved Community Anti-racism peace-making 4pm Branch	6 8:45pm Softball	7 5:30-9:30pm Quilters	8 11:30am Pequea Valley pastors	9 7-8:30pm Café reserved	10	11
12 SS Worship—The Beloved Community is a Learning Community preaching	13 7:30pm Softball	14 10am Tuesday Alive	15 7am Men's breakfast	16	17	18
19 FA-THER'S DAY SS Worship—The Beloved Community is Listening 4pm Branch	20 6:30pm Softball	21	22	23	24	25
26 SS Worship—The Beloved Community is a Leveraging Community	27 7:30pm Softball	28	29	30		