# October 2023

# **Ridgeview Mennonite Church**

Budget \$191,000.00 YTD Received 166,934.68 Education Fund 400.00

## TUESDAY ALIVE - September 12

The author of "Dancing from Darkness," Eleanor Isaacson, shared her personal story of coming out of Nazi Germany.

Eleanor was born in United States, but her mother had not wanted a child, so at the age of two her mother took her to an aunt in Germany. She lived there during Hitler's reign, going to school where every day the students were required to stand, raise their arm in a salute to Hitler and if they refused, they would have been sent to a concentration camp. Everyone lived in fear at that time...heard bombs dropping during the night and day. Not much food was available. Growing up, she had vivid memories of the pain, hunger and fear of the news.

She had never heard of Jesus and God and there were few churches, but people were afraid to attend. But Eleanor felt someone was watching over her.

When she was thirteen the war had ended.

Her mother wanted her to return to the United States and live with her. Here



she learned of this God who had taken care of her in Germany. She became a believer and felt Jesus healed her of all the bad memories of her childhood.

She has written many books. She is 89 years old and loves to share how God kept her safe those years in Germany under Hitler's reign when he was trying to get rid of all Jewish people. She loves telling older people how God can redeem past sins and pain. She encourages older people to be happy and to forgive those who have sinned against them

Eleanor lives at Willow Valley, but is seldom there because she is busy telling other people her story. —Loretta Lapp

## **ANNIVERSARIES**

- 4 Larry & Elaine Shirk
- 6 Rick & Heidi Loncosky
- 16 Steve & Francesca Crane
- 20 Dennis & Janet Shirk
- 26 Paul & Judy Smoker

# **BIRTHDAYS**

- 3 Tyler Glick
- 4 Sierra Langston
- 8 Ray Ranck
- 9 Jason Rohrer
- 15 Brendan Rohrer
- 17 Kate Sommers
- 19 Steve Jacke
- 24 Elaine Shirk
- 25 Autumn Rohrer
- 28 Bob Heine Joyce Thomas



Reminder to IRA owners age 70 ½ or over: Qualified charitable distributions are great options for making tax-free gifts to charity. People who are age 70 1/2 or older can contribute up to \$100,000 from their IRA directly to Ridgeview and avoid paying income taxes on the distribution. These transfers, known as qualified charitable distributions or QCDs, offer eligible older Americans a great way to easily give to charity before the end of the year. Moreover, for those who are at least 72, QCDs count toward the IRA owner's required minimum distribution (RMD) for the year. This would be a great way to donate to Ridgeview's general Fund, Chapel Fund or in December towards our Year End Giving Together Challenge.

#### CONGREGATIONAL UPDATE...

#### **Ministry News**

- 1. Caring Team Members: Etta Esch, Bill and Joanne Zimmerman, Debbie Denlinger and Dan Dietzel
- 2. Julie Sommers is forming a Worship Commission
- 3. 30 School kits were delivered to Mennonite Central Committee (MCC)
- 4. Charlotte Lapp shared about the Food PAC Program with the Pequea Valley School Board
- 5. Darlene Lapp, Marsha Horst, Charlotte Lapp and Heidi Loncosky are working together in the kitchen
- 6. A symbolic gift of a small water fountain will be given to Branch Community Church
- 7. Plans are underway to serve a community meal at East Chestnut Street Mennonite Church
- 8. Appreciation was expressed to Kyle Siegrist and Nathan Horst for their leadership of the Worship Commission the past four years.

#### **Church Auction and Meal in December**

A meal and auction are planned for Wednesday evening December 6. Please reserve this evening on your calendar and consider what you may donate to the auction. The goals of the evening are:

- ~To build community and have a good time together
- ~To invite friends and community to spend the evening with us
- ~To raise dollars for the annual budget with any amount above \$3,000 going to the chapel fund.
- ~To celebrate our anticipation of Christmas

### **Chapel Improvement Updates**

Conversations continue on Ridgeview Chapel improvements. There have been conversations with the interior design person we worked with when renovating the foyer, creating a new home for the library and developing the Café. Renderings have also been reviewed with the Ministry Team and Administration Commission. Current directions include:

- 1. Build design connection between the foyer, Café and Chapel.
- 2. The chairs we will order were selected by the congregation and we hope to have the new chairs in the chapel by Christmas.
- 3. A carpet similar or the same as the carpet on the stairs next to the office is planned. This provides connection and a simple design which is preferred.
- 4. The wood designs (dove and wood strips) will match the wood design in the foyer area.
- 5. The gray color behind the Dove will be the same as the gray in the foyer.
- 6. A fabric for the chairs will be available in the foyer and feedback may been given to Bob Heine or Dick Thomas
- 7. The wood on the chairs will be the same as on the chair that we have selected.
- 8. A matching wood was advised for the platform side. The top of the platform could be wood of the same color or carpeted if desired.

Renderings will be available in the foyer area. Funds for Chapel improvements may be made through the church offering and designated for the Building and Grounds Fund. Please keep this project in your prayers and giving.

Meal & Auction, Wednesday, December 6.

Volunteers needed

Marsha has agreed to do the meal but needs helpers. Contact her.

Heidi has agreed to serve on the auction committee and needs at least one more person.



PICNIC AT DENLINGER'S









CHILDREN'S TIME



# October 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 SS & Worship Communion	2 6:30pm Pastoral Search mtg	3 5:30pm Quilters	4 9am Food Pac	5	6	7
8 SS & Worship	9	10 10am Tuesday Alive	11 9am Food Pac	12	Facility Wedding/	14 rental Reception
15 SS & Worship Jacqueline Hoover	16	17	18 9am Food Pac	19	20	21
22 SS & Worship	23	24	25 9am Food Pac	26	27	28 8am-6pm 1990 Hall Quilters
29 SS & Worship	30	31 11am-2pm Of- fice of Aging- Conference Rm				