

JANUARY 2026

Budget	\$ 32,526.00
YTD Received	28,528.00
Year end giving	10,611.00
Education	85.00

Ridgeview Mennonite Church

ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Ben & Ruth Stoltzfus
- 16 Jake & Loretta Lapp

BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Sara Lapp
- 6 Debbie Denlinger
- 7 David Crane
- 14 Loretta Lapp
- 25 Daniel Jacke
- 26 Dennis Shirk
- Ruth Stoltzfus
- 29 Janet Shirk

Tuesday Alive

The last meeting for the year was well-attended, even though it was a cold 20 degrees. Upon entering, there was a tasty Christmas punch. But coffee seemed the most appreciated.



The room and tables were decorative!



There was a Christmas story given by Diane Albertson, Master Storyteller. It involved the life of a family from the perspective of an angel Christmas tree topper.



Following some Christmas carols, the kitchen crew was acknowledged with applause and gift cards.

The morning ended with the traditional, delicious Christmas meal, complete with creamed celery!

Thanks to the committee of John Denlinger, Evie Hershey, Ruthie Stoltzfus and Rick Loncosky, Tuesday Alive will begin the 2026 year on March 10 with Terah and Nathan Kennel leading the group in music meditations.

Snacks and Restorative Justice ...by Jill Heine

In my role as Restorative School Practitioner at McCaskey High School, word is spreading among the students that I have free snacks available. I've found that snacks are a tool to build relationships with students, and I'd love to share an example that has brought me so much joy.

Three senior students routinely stop by for snacks and conversation. Over the months, our conversations have covered topics like translating Gen Z vocabulary, using AI to create a text response to a romantic partner during a conflict situation, applying to college, when and how the frontal lobe is fully developed in humans, and what constitutes the perfect holiday meal.

The day after a holiday break, two of the three came in to say hello and check out my snack stash. After a bit of conversation, one student left for lunch while the other remained. The remaining student shared his interests, goals, and the lessons he learned in life.

As I acknowledged and affirmed him, he eventually shared how he is currently on parole for actions he regrets. The more he talked, I wondered if Advoz was part of his parole requirements. He said the name sounded "sorta" familiar and then with quick recognition said, "is that the tall building in the city?" I confirmed and he went on to talk about having the meeting with the person he harmed there. I mentioned that I'm employed by that same organization. He thought that was cool! He explained how he is working to pay restitution and the changes he has made in his life since the harm. He shared how he's learned to surround himself with people who support his goals and to not "hang" with the wrong crowd. I shared a quote from last year's McCaskey MLK Jr. Scholarship Fund banquet speaker:

"Show me your friends and I will show you your future. Find People who see your destiny, not your past. You also need to own all of who you are."

He said, "exactly!"



Finance Corner December was a good month in making progress toward our budgeted goals for the fiscal year. We are grateful for generous giving that enabled us to meet and exceed goals. Thank you for your faithful financial stewardship that enables ministry at Ridgeview, across the street and around the world.

Joining Together Generous giving enabled surpassing the \$8,000 goal with total giving for this program of \$10, 611!

Ridgeview Community Auction Generous donations and bidding enabled the auction with a goal of \$6,000 to raise \$6,059.

Mennonite Education Fund There is currently \$75.00 in this fund for the 2026-27 school year. The awards for the year are based on the dollars in the account around April 1. This year we provided a scholarship of \$1,000 to our three students in a Mennonite school. The schools matched the congregational scholarship providing \$2,00 for our three students. The fund is open to receive contributions.

Jamaica Hurricane Relief Fund A fund is open until the end of January to aid a congregation whose church building suffered damage in the hurricane. Sam Walters has connections to this congregation which is part of the Mennonite Church in Jamaica.

Congregational Meeting A congregational meeting is planned for Sunday, January, 25, following the church service with the following agenda.

1. Alliance Network planned move

2. Discontinue the Pastoral Advisory Committee:

Recommendation from the Administration Commission. To eliminate the Pastoral Advisory Committee.

This committee was formed at the request of our former pastor by a vote of the congregation. Katelyn has other ways of receiving the support this committee has provided and it becomes one more meeting for her. Based on her comments and feedback from the PAC the Administration Commission made its recommendation. It also fits the goal of having our structure make sense for the size of the congregation

3. Discernment on time for Church and Sunday School. Do we prefer a 9:00 or 9:30 starting time? Are we okay with the church service being first to allow a sermon discussion class when desired?

January 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<div>8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m. Monday—Friday Olive Grove School</div>				1	2	3
4 9:30 Worship 10:50 SS	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 9:30 Worship 10:50 SS	12	13	14	15 7am Men's Breakfast	16	17
18 9:30 Worship 10:50 SS	19	20	21	22	23 Fellowship Hall 8am-5pm Olive Grove	24
25 9:30 Worship 10:50 Congre- gational mtg	26	27	28	29	30	31