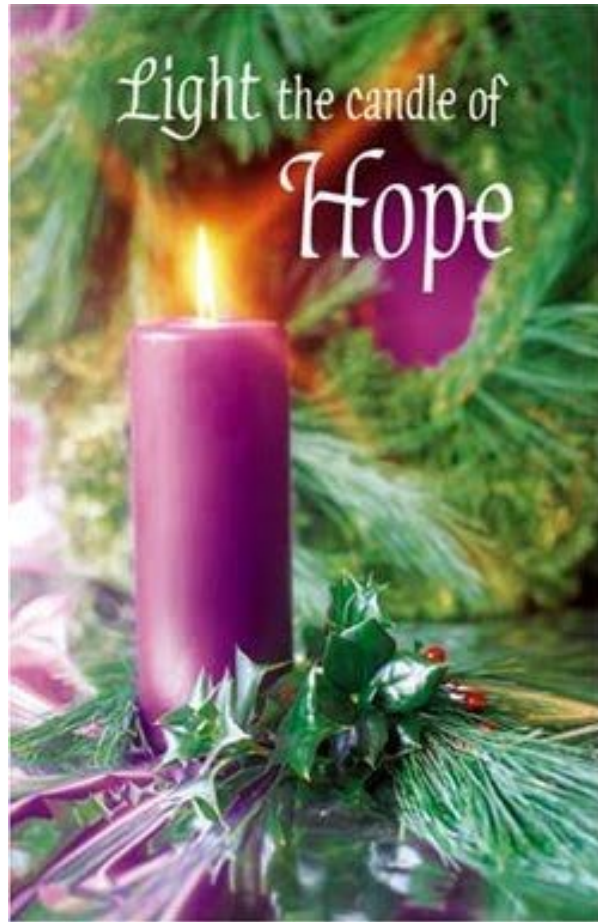


***Groffdale Mennonite
Church***



December 1, 2024

Groffdale Mennonite Church

Our Vision: A growing community of disciples of Jesus,
expressing Christ's redeeming love and reconciliation.

Volume 69 December 1, 2024 Number 48

Welcome! We are glad you are here!

Prelude

Opening Song led by Rick Umble

“The Advent of Our God” (Red Hymnal # 120)

Welcome and Call to Worship by Pastor Krista Snader

Offering for Groffdale Missionaries and EMM-

20% Groffdale Sewing Circle

Advent Reading

Children's Time and Advent Offering led by

Pastor Krista Snader

Worship songs led by Rick

“Bless'd be the God of Israel” (Blue Hymnal # 174)

“To Us a Child of Hope is Born” (Blue Hymnal # 189)

“Fairest Lord Jesus” (Blue Hymnal # 117)

Scripture: John 1: 1-5; Isaiah 9: 1-6

Sermon by Pastor Tom Eshleman

“The Light Shines in the Darkness!”

Closing Song

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” (Blue Hymnal # 178)

Sharing Time and Prayer

Benediction

*Thank you to those serving in our worship service today!
Including Ushers Glen and Joyce Shenk, Projectionist
Diane Weaver, Sound Tech Jeff Martin, Live Stream
Operator Chris Martin, Camera Operator Mim Auker,
Nursery Worker Dawn Moore.*

Bring to the Lord in prayer:

Pray for Lance Watt as he adjusts to his new room in Village Manor at Brethren Village.

Pray God's healing, strength and grace for Anna Nolt and for Robert and the family as they support her.

Pray Andres and Angelica and James and Melani in their settings of ministry.

Pray for peace in the Middle East. Let us pray that the recent cease fire agreement would lead to lasting peace for all the people of this region.

Pray for the preschool of Catel, Guinea Bissau. Pray that teachers, students and families would experience the peace and joy of Jesus Christ.

Pray for peace in Ukraine.

Continue to pray for the Djari/Abdelkerim family (from Sudan). Pray that they would experience Jesus in a new way this Christmas.

**Anointing service for Anna Nolt
Sunday afternoon December 8 at 3:30 at Fairmount**

Anna Nolt has requested prayer and anointing with oil as she faces her journey of treatment for breast cancer. All are invited to join us at the Fairmount Crestview gathering room at 3:30 on Sunday afternoon December 8. Anna would like everyone to know that they are welcome to join in this time of prayer and placing our faith and trust in God. (more detailed information to come with directions to Crestview gathering room)

Morning Prayer Group meets every Wednesday at 8:30am in the Conference Room. Everyone is invited to join this group for a meaningful time of prayer and fellowship.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

TODAY: Angela Hahn: Sunday, December 1
Miriam Auker: Tuesday, December 3
Faythe Roberts: Saturday, December 7
Lexi Kreiner: Sunday, December 8
Joyce Shenk: Sunday, December 8
HAPPY 85TH BIRTHDAY TO MINERVA NOLT: Tuesday, December 10
Carylon Wyble: Tuesday, December 10

Sewing Circle will meet on Tuesday, December 3 at 9am. Bring 3 dozen cookies to pack cookie plates for shut-ins and friends. Also bring a finger food to share for lunch; sandwiches will be provided. They welcome any new members that would like to join them!



Usher in the Christmas season with the Mennonite Children’s Choir of Lancaster’s concert series, “O Come, Emmanuel!” Lily Zimmerman sings in MCCL and would be delighted to see you. The concert dates are:

- Thursday, December 5 at 7pm at Lancaster Alliance Church, Lancaster
- Saturday, December 7 at 3pm at Neffsville Mennonite Church, Lancaster
- Sunday, December 8 at 3:30 pm at Historic St. Mary’s Catholic Church, Lancaster (downtown)

Christmas Eve service -**Tuesday, December 24 at 6:30pm.**

“A Shepherds’ Christmas”, an original play written by Kathy Stoltzfus and other Groffdale writers will be performed here at Groffdale on Christmas Eve and during our worship service on Sunday December 29. The youth and several adults are involved in this wonderful performance of Christmas through the eyes of the shepherds!

During the 4 weeks of Advent the children will be collecting a special offering for the EMM-supported preschool in the town of Catel in Guinea-Bissau. These funds will be used for a printer and tablet, student scholarships and teacher salaries. Pray for this preschool as they share the Good News of Jesus with young children and their Muslim community! Checks can be written to Groffdale Mennonite Church, with "EMM preschool" in the memo line.



Note for quests and visitors

We are so glad you are joining us for worship this morning and we hope you come again. We invite you to fill out one of the guest cards found on the back of the church benches and place the completed card in the offering basket.

OFFERING

Listed below are the totals for the last week's offerings and deposits. Thank you for your giving!

Leadership Support	\$3,392.00
Mennonite Disaster Service	900.00
Program Fund	325.00
Church Facilities	125.00

Serving Next Sunday, December 8

Prelude: Linda Myers

Hymns Leader: Lisa Zimmerman

Worship Leader: Steve Lindsey

Sermon: Pastor Tom Eshleman

Projectionist: Diane Weaver

Sound Tech: Dale Weaver

Livestream: Jim Evans

Camera Operator: Dawn Moore

Ushers: Glenn and Helen Hershey

Offering: Leadership Support

Nursery Workers: Ruthie Umble
and Sandy Lindsey



Pastor: Tom Eshleman, tome@groffdale.com

717-669-4578 (cell); 717-656-6388 (office)

Associate Pastor: Krista Snader, kristas@groffdale.com

717-466-8930

Treasurer: Mark Wenger, pastormarkwenger@gmail.com

Bookkeeper: Jeff Martin, finance@groffdale.com

jlmartin1213@yahoo.com

Administrative Assistant: Diane Weaver, churchoffice@groffdale.com

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Dial-in LIVE Sunday AM Worship: 717-690-0477