

This Week

- Monday No Celebrate Recovery
Tuesday No Shine
Sunday Combined BFG—9 am—Elmer Gerber
Worship—10:15 am—“On Earth as it is in Heaven”— Rob Presthus

January 7: Installation of Earl Anders
Young Adult Ham Dinner: following worship service—UFH

January 14: Communion
BFG Teacher Appreciation Luncheon

January 23: Dock Parent Meeting, Aud. 6:30pm

April 4—7, 2024: Ark Encounter Trip

UPCOMING
Events



Today's staff

Infant and 2&3 Church—Sophia & Olivia Veltre

Next week's staff

Infant BFG— Keith & Janet Crawford

Infant and 2&3 Church—Andrew & Danielle

Visitors, feel free to use our nursery.

Download the free KidCheck app for a secure checkin.



Tithes & Offerings

Last Week's Offering —\$66,500

Last Sunday Attendance

BFG hour — 285

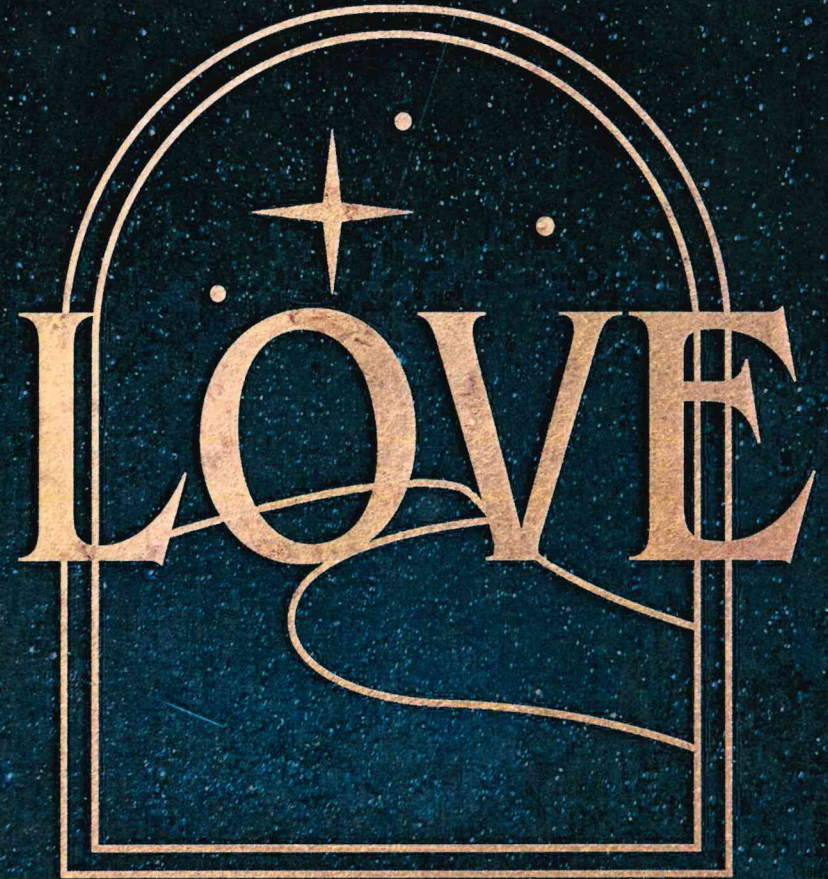
Worship — 385

Website: franconiamennonite.org

Email: Info@franconiamennonite.org Phone: 215-723-3220

SUNDAY DEC. 24 2023

PREPARE HIM ROOM



FRANCONIA
MENNONITE
CHURCH

Worship with us

"No, the Father himself loves you because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God." John 16:27

Prelude—Jon Eastburn

Gathering Song— Helen Eastburn and Worship Team

Welcome and Opportunities— Pastor Rob Presthus

Advent Reading and Candle Lighting— Lilianna and Emilina Menzies

Singing and Worship

Congregational Prayer— David Baker

Children's Message— Bronwen Leister

Special Music—Janelle Cassel, Alicia Rodgers, Helen Eastburn

Scripture Reading—I John 4:7-21—Tim Nice

Sermon—**LOVE from the Father**—Pastor Earl Anders

Closing Song

Sending—Pastor Kyle Rodgers



Led by the Holy Spirit, we are an Anabaptist congregation committed to following Jesus in all things, so that God's love flows through us to our community and the world.



Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.

Romans 12:12

Pray God's blessings upon...

- all who are suffering from wars in Ukraine and Israel/Palestine.
- those who are experiencing loneliness and loss at this Christmas time.

Student Prayer: Praying over our children to have Purity. 1 Thes 4:3

Pray God's grace, comfort and healing for...

- **Gideon Youssef**, for healing of a torn tendon in his right arm and possible future surgery.
- **Glenn Halteman**, who is now at home. Pray for him and the family as they prepare for treatment for Chronic Myeloid Leukemia.
- **Deb Godshall** who is recovering at home from surgery.
- **Glenn Bergey**, recovering from surgery at home.
- **Sanford Kiser** who is getting physical and occupational therapy.
- **Elizabeth Miller** as she continues with chemotherapy treatments twice a month through January for pancreatic cancer.
- **Laverne Musselman** who continues to struggle with pneumonia. Cards of encouragement can be sent to his address: LifeQuest Nursing Center 2450 John Fries Hwy. Room E20B, Quakertown, PA 18951.

Offering—Ways to Give

- * Sunday morning—**offering boxes** as you enter or exit the auditorium
- * Online at franconiamennonite.org thru **Vanco ACH** (scan QR Code)
- * **Electronic Funds Transfer**—call Monique Kratz at the Church Office
- * Mail to Church Office



FMC LEADERSHIP TEAM

Rob Presthus, Pastor of Administration & Care

Helen Eastburn, Director of Music & Worship

Kyle Rodgers, Pastor of Outreach, Youth & Young Adults

Bronwen Leister, Director of Children's Ministries

Earl Anders, Interim Pastor

FOLLOWING JESUS NEWSLETTER

~ DECEMBER 24, 2023 ~

2023 Christmas Season Special Services

Franconia
Mennonite
Church

Dec. 24	Morning Worship	9:00 a.m.
	Christmas Eve Service	6:30 p.m.
Dec. 31	Special Combined BFG	9:00 a.m.

Coffee & Fellowship



You are invited to enjoy a time of fellowship on **Christmas Eve Morning**. Coffee will be available in the foyer before the service from 8:30 to 9:00 and again after the morning service. Bring cookies or breakfast treats to share.

Reminder that children ages 4-5th grade will have combined Sunday School on **Sunday, Dec. 31**.

Meet in the Children's Singing room.



Group Activities For Students

If interested please email the contact person of that group.

Girl's Club—3rd-5th Grade

January 3—TBA—6:30 - 8 pm
January 17—Family worship night
January 28—Hatfield Ice—3—4:45 pm

Girls Club Contact: Jess Landis, jess.landis17@gmail.com

Boy's Club—3rd-5th Grade

January 3—build model rockets—6:30 - 8 pm
January 17—Family worship night
January 28—Hatfield Ice—3—4:45 pm

Boys Club Contact: Jordan Nyce, jordannyce@gmail.com

Jr. High--6th-8th Grade

Jan. 3 - Bible Study/Fun Night 6:30 - 8:00 PM
Jan. 17 - Bible Study/Fun Night 6:30 - 8:00 PM
Jan. 19-21 - Ignite Retreat at Spruce Lake

Jr. High Contact: Renita Leatherman, drleath5@verizon.net

Sr. High—9th-12th Grade

January 19-21—Winter Retreat

Sr. High Contact: Pastor Kyle, krodgers@franconiamennonite.org

Barnabas Fund Campaign 2024 "Blessed to be a blessing"

The Barnabas Fund committee is again accepting applications to grant financial support to programs and projects which serve to extend the mission and the ministries of the congregation. For an application call the church office, download from Franconia website home page or mid-week email in January.

Barnabas Fund Committee: Mark Bergey chair, Kevin Landis, Morgan Landis, Vanessa Myers.

Liberia Coconut Farm



2024 Budget	\$14,000
Received	\$7,600
Needed by end of January 2024	\$6,400

Marriage Retreat



Don't forget to sign up for the Marriage Retreat held at Spruce Lake on **Feb. 9-11, 2024**. There will be 4 sessions throughout the weekend, speakers are Matt & Sara Brennan. Check out Spruce Lakes website for schedule and speaker's bio. The cost for this weekend getaway is \$250 which includes 5 meals and lodging.

To reserve your spot or if you have questions please contact Bronwen Leister at 4kidsfranconiamennonite.org

RSVP by Jan. 1

Young Adult Highlights

Young Adults—Ages 18-25

INVITE YOUR FRIENDS!

Every Thursday Night—Bible Study, LFH—7pm
January 7th—Ham Dinner fund raiser
January 12—Ice Skating @ Spring Mount
February 8-11— Winter Retreat

YA Contact: Pastor Kyle, krodgers@franconiamennonite.org

Gifts of comfort and **Joy**

Order your gifts today!
Grab a gift guide in the foyer



\$25

Clean water

Imagine walking hours to get the water you need. You would be very thirsty! This gift brings water closer to home for more people like Benedicte Masamba, who lives in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Meals at school

It's tough to learn if your tummy is rumbling. School lunches and breakfasts boost student health and nutrition at schools like this one in South Sudan.

It's much easier to concentrate on lessons when you're not hungry!



\$16

Goat

For families who don't have enough money for school, doctor visits or other needs, goats can be a great gift! Farmers like Sama Saya in India can sell goats to earn money. And as the herd grows, so does their income.



\$65

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you."

John 15:12

Bicycle

How far can you walk before you get tired? Now imagine walking everywhere you need to go. That would be very tiring!

A bicycle helps people like Michael Snate get where they need to go, like attending farming training sessions. This gift is a wheel-y good choice!



\$78

Chickens

Some families don't have enough money to buy all the food they need. Raising chickens provides a regular source of eggs — a nutritious meal at any time of the day.

This egg-celent gift helps farmers establish a small flock of chickens.



\$10

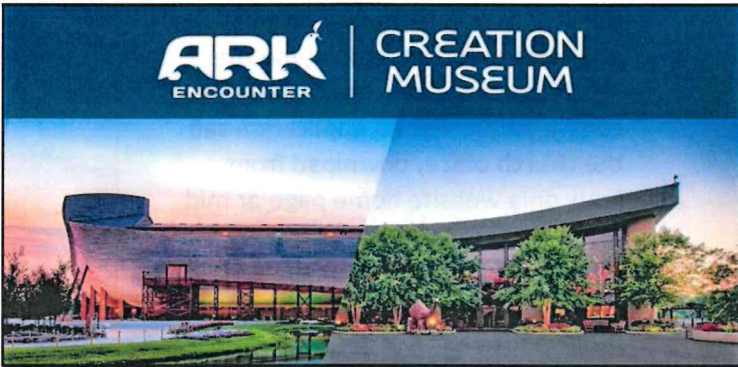
Music lessons

What do you like doing after school? Sara Ghabbash, who lives in a refugee camp, finds joy in music and dance lessons that connect her to her culture.

This note-worthy gift helps her learn to play the oud — a traditional Palestinian instrument that's a bit like a guitar.



\$12



Let's experience the Ark & Creation Museum together! Come join us on a church trip April 4-7, 2024.

Walk alongside other members of all ages as we explore the life size Ark and tour the beautiful Creation Museum. Lodging is reserved at a Comfort Suites Hotel. An information meeting will be held after worship on Sunday, Jan. 28 if interested. What a great opportunity to bring the Bible to life in all of it's grandeur.



Sunday, January 7th

Support our Young Adults by staying for a delicious ham dinner following the worship service in the Upper Fellowship Hall.

Looking for Coffee Volunteers!

Looking for volunteers to make and set up coffee stations before church. You only need to get up early and make coffee approximately 6 times per year. We will train you!

Contact Toni Brown or Renae Derstine if interested.



Children's Ministry is hosting a church wide family event at Hatfield Ice. All are welcome to join in the fun on Sunday, January 28 from 3:00 till 4:45 p.m. Cost is \$3 for rentals if needed payable that day. No need to RSVP come as a participant or spectator.



APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

All current BFG teachers and those who are interested in teaching are invited to a luncheon on **Sunday, Jan 14** following the worship service in the UFH. The DMT would like to thank you for faithfully serving the church by using your gifts of teaching. Jay Delp will share with us some words of encouragement on The Joys of Teaching.

sermon on the mount

Following Jesus in All Things

31

DEC

On Earth as it is in Heaven

Matthew 5:1-2

28

JAN

Fulfillment of the Law

Matthew 5:17-20

7

JAN

Beatitudes I

Matthew 5:3-6

4

FEB

Murder and Anger

Matthew 5:21-26

14

JAN

Beatitudes II

Matthew 5:7-11

11

FEB

Adultery and Divorce

Matthew 5:27-32

21

JAN

Salt and Light

Matthew 5:13-16