

ON THE JOURNEY

5 Words...

The current sermon series focused around five words which Brian Zahnd received as he wrestled with the 'isms' that permeate our North American culture and specifically the church. Consumerism; Fundamentalism; Sectarianism; Individualism; and Politicism have continued to drain the life out of those seeking to follow Jesus, often bringing discouragement, mistrust, skepticism, and disillusionment. However, there is hope and freedom as we work hard to move from these 'isms' which constrict the movement of God's Holy Spirit in our lives, and live into the replacement words of Cross, Mystery, Eclectic, Community and Revolution.

I have had many varied comments expressed during the first three sermons, but the overwhelming one mentioned is that people have felt challenged to grow in their faith. These five words have challenged me in my own understandings of how faith and the church work, largely because, as a people, we tend to function out of our recent history, which in reality is the span of our own lifetime and the experiences we've had. Over time our experience tends to dictate our certitudes of how things should be, and frankly most people tend to feel discouraged by what we believe should happen, and what actually happens in our Christian journey, particularly in relationship with the gathered church. My prayer is that through this series and moving forward, that we can begin to embrace our past experience in a way that frees us to embrace new experiences which will continue to bring growth in our journey with Jesus. Submitted by Kent Miller

CALENDAR

Thurs 8/10	9:00 am	First Mennonite Women
Sun 8/13	9:00 am	Kent Preaching
	1:00 pm	Fellowship Hall Reserved
	6:00 pm	MYF
Mon 8/14		Health Department
	7:00 pm	Ladies Exercise
Tues 8/15	6:00 pm	Community Life Commission
	7:00 pm	Music Practice
Wed 8/16	6:30 pm	Administration Commission
Sun 8/20	9:00 am	Kent Preaching
	6:00 pm	MYF
Mon 8/21	12:00 pm	Blood Drive
	5:30 pm	Worship Commission
	7:00 pm	Ladies Exercise
Tues 8/22	6:00 pm	Fellowship Hall Reserved
	7:00 pm	Music Practice
Wed 8/23	5:00 pm	Outreach Commission



August Birthdays

Randy	Bontrager	13
Brad	Miller	14
Rhea	Miller	14
Sue	Bontrager	15
Kent	Miller	16
Sheila	Hostetler	17
Tom	Miller	17
Ward	Bingaman	21
Joe	Keller	21
Audrey	Graber	24
Tillie	Schrock	24
Nora	Mullet	25
Brandon	Hartzler	28
Kent	Birky	30

Administrative Assistant Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday 9:00am-2:00pm

(Kent's daily schedule varies; you may want to call ahead.)

Closed Friday.

- All newsletter submissions need to be in to Maribeth by noon on Tuesday.

WORSHIP

Looking Ahead: "Five words... Five words given to Brian Zahnd when he prayed; 'Jesus, tell me what to say.' Five words that became signposts to lead him out the dead-end cul-de-sac he felt stuck in. Five words that when put together became a kind of 'transformation process for turning watered down Americanized Christianity into the robust wine of revolutionary Christianity.'" This week will look at the fourth word 'Community.'

Background scriptures: Mark 4; John 10:1-16; Galatians 3:23-29

Coffee Prep Volunteers

This Sunday: Kris Bontrager

Next Sunday: Kris Rheinheimer

Starting September 3, church will start at 9:30. There will not be Sunday school that day, however it will follow the service on the days when there is. We will try this through February then re-evaluate.

Update on Congregational Representative to the church board. The Spiritual Gifts Discernment Committee has gone through the names of men and women nominated by the congregation to serve as congregational representative without anyone feeling called to this position. This means that we will once again engage the process for discerning and calling this important leadership position for the church. On **Sunday**, we will again present a listing of all active members for congregational discernment. We will not include immediate family members of ongoing board members, or the names of those who recently declined the position. Absentee ballots are available on the ledge outside the church office window.

Kent will be on vacation from August 22-September 5.

ADMINISTRATION

Stewardship Report for August 6:

Money Given to Budget \$6,452.00

Amount Needed Weekly for Budget \$5,526.92

Year-to-date Money Given to Budget \$289,873.32

Amount Needed Year-to-Date for Budget \$270,819.08

Someone put the orange form that was put in your mailbox in the office dropbox Tuesday PM without a name on it. Please let Maribeth know if this was you!

COMMUNITY LIFE

Wednesday Evening Meals will begin for this next year on September 20. Please look for the sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board if you are willing to organize a meal this fall.

Save the date! Elkhart County CROP Hunger Walk will be held on Sunday, October 1st. There is info posted on the bulletin board in the hallway if you are interested.

Hymn Sing in the Country will be held this Sunday, August 13, at 6:00 PM at the Helmuths: 4760W 100S LaGrange, IN. Bring lawn chairs and finger foods.

Register now for the National Yoder Reunion to be held September 20-23 in Shipshewana. More information is posted on the bulletin board under Community Life.

Rieth Chamber Series season tickets on sale now. Season of 6 outstanding concerts for \$84, a discount of more than 10%! The 2017-18 series will include a riveting performance by the Fischhoff National Champion string quartet, the magnificence of the Taylor and Boody "Opus 41" organ, a collaboration with the Goshen College Chamber Choir and distinguished musicians sharing repertoire from the Baroque to the present. Subscriptions may be purchased online at www.goshen.edu/tickets, or in person at the Goshen College Box Office.

DISCIPLING

Goshen College's fall Explore Goshen Day takes place Friday, Sept. 15. Join other students considering attending GC to check out the housing options, taste the food, take a campus tour and talk to current students and professors. A special pre-med track is available. Learn more at goshen.edu/visit.

The 14th annual Grief Seminar, "Good Grief:

Supporting Families and Fostering Resilience," will take place on Friday, Sept. 22 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., at College Mennonite Church. Participants will explore

topics related to grief, families and resilience. Donna Schuurman, of The Dougy Center for Grieving Children and Families, will be presenting a day-long seminar and keynote address. This seminar is especially recommended for social workers, educators, school counselors, marriage and family therapists, mental health workers, school nurses, law enforcement officers, funeral home directors and other human service professionals who work with children and families. The cost is \$70 for the general public (\$85 after Sept. 8) and \$30 for students (\$40 after Sept. 8). Online registration is available at goshen.edu/register/grief-seminar/.

OUTREACH

First Mennonite Women's project for August is MCC school kits. Items needed for each kit are 4 spiral or perforated notebooks (8 1/2x10 1/2 70 sheets), 8 unsharpened pencils, 1 ruler (flat, flexible plastic w/both 30 cm and 12 in), 12 colored pencils (in packaging), and 1 large pencil eraser. Carol Honderich will have devotions at the August 10th meeting. She will discuss how she came about making a quilt based on the women of the Bible.

Food Pantry News...As we approach the end of summer it is once again my responsibility to announce that we have come to the end of the food pantry funding and it will be necessary to put a freeze on all of our spending. We will not be handing out vouchers this coming weekend nor will we be able to place an order for food for restocking the shelves. If there is anything that you would like to do to help, please know that your assistance would be greatly appreciated!! I would like to ask that you share this information with others to help us get the word out. And please be on the lookout for a list of our needs posted in the newsletter. I would also like to encourage everyone to consider clicking on the "Donate" button on our Facebook page or the Food Pantry page of our church website and follow the prompts to make a monetary donation today.

May God bless you in a special way...Pantry Pam

[Middlebury Food Pantry](#)

[Top Needs List](#)

[Cash](#) - to purchase meats, ie; hot dogs, bologna, Hamburger, etc

[- To pay for milk, eggs, bread, cheese and Margarine vouchers](#)

[-to pay for food items that we are able to purchase at a fraction of the retail price](#)

[Food Items](#)

[Spaghetti Sauce](#)

[Spaghetti Pasta](#)

[Canned Chicken](#)

[Canned Tuna](#)

[Macaroni & Cheese](#)

[Chicken Flavored Rice or Stuffing](#)

[Egg Noodles](#)

[Hamburger Helpers \(generic\)](#)

[Ramen Noodles \(not the cups\)](#)

[Saltine Crackers](#)

[Canned Vegetables; corn, peas, green beans, pork-n-beans, baked beans, carrots, mixed veggies](#)

[Canned Fruits; peaches, pears, mixed fruit, applesauce, and pineapple,](#)

[Condensed Soups; Chicken Noodle, Vegetable, Tomato, Cream of Mushroom,](#)

[Cream of Chicken](#)

[Cereal](#)

[Pancake Mix](#)

[Syrup](#)

[Oatmeal \(Reg. and instant\)](#)

[Sugar](#)

[Cooking Oil](#)

[Peanut Butter](#)

[Jelly](#)

[Condiments](#)

[Kids Snacks](#)

[Drinks; Juice, Drink mixes, Coffee, Tea, Hot Chocolate](#)

[Other Essential Personal Needs Items](#)

[Diapers all sizes, Baby Wipes, and Baby Soaps](#)

[Laundry Soap](#)

[Dish Soap](#)

[Shampoo, Bath Soap, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes,](#)

[Deodorant, Razors](#)

[Feminine Hygiene Products](#)