

ON THE JOURNEY

New Beginnings

There are many opportunities ahead of us. We decide which path we are going to take. "Thus says the Lord: 'Stand in the ways and see, and ask for the old paths, where the good way is, and walk in it; then you will find rest for your soul' Jeremiah 6:16. Each and every day, WE, decide which direction we are going to take.

Maybe we need a fresh start. This is a great time and a great opportunity. We don't know what the future is going to bring. We don't know what problems we are going to encounter. We don't know what changes are going to come. We don't know what blessings the Lord has in store for us. But whatever the future holds, we don't have to be afraid because Jesus Christ is going to be waiting there for us.

Corrie ten Boom once said "Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to a known God." God is in control and He is ready to bless you!

Submitted by Patti Miller

CALENDAR		
Wed 4/18	9:00 am	Moms In Touch
	5:45 pm	Wednesday Evening Meal
	6:30 pm	Administration Commission
Sun 4/22	9:00 am	Phil Preaching
	1:00 pm	Fellowship Hall Reserved
	6:00 pm	MYF
Mon 4/23		Health Department
	7:00 pm	Ladies Exercise
Tues 4/24	7:00 pm	Music Practice
Wed 4/25	9:00 am	Moms In Touch
	5:00 pm	Outreach Commission
	5:45 pm	Wednesday Evening Meal
Thurs 4/26	5:00 pm	Fellowship Hall Reserved
Sat 4/28	All Day	Fellowship Hall Reserved
Sun 4/29	9:00 am	AMBS Student Ambassador
	6:00 pm	MYF
Mon 4/30	7:00 pm	Ladies Exercise
Tues 5/1	6:30 pm	Discipling Commission
Wed 5/2	9:00 am	Moms In Touch
	5:45 pm	Wednesday Evening Meal
	6:30 pm	Food Pantry Advisory Board

Administrative Assistant Office Hours:
Monday-Thursday 9:00 am-2:00 pm
Closed Friday

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

April Birthdays

Jena Bontreger – 18
 Juanita Yoder – 19
 Bryce Rheinheimer – 24
 Enos Miller – 30

WORSHIP

Focus statement: All of us need love. One of our deepest longings as human beings is to love and to be loved in a very deep, unique, and special way. Sometimes we hear that love is blind. AGAPE (love) is not blind, it is visionary, empowering and transforming us to be what we never imagined we would be. When we are loved unconditionally, while we are yet unlovely, and think ourselves unlovable, we are empowered to become a new being. To love, to be loved, and to love the unlovely, is at least a part of what it means to be created in the Image of God. Romans 5:8 tells us "While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." It is this love that transforms us into children of God.

Background scriptures: I John 3 and 4

Coffee Prep Volunteers

This Sunday: Cheryl Miller
 Next Sunday: Navigator Class

Welcome Center

This Sunday: Sam & Verna Weirich
 Next Sunday: Carol Johnson

Marion Christian Fellowship invites you to a Hymn Sing on April 29th at 6:00 PM. More information is posted on the hallway bulletin board.

ADMINISTRATION

Stewardship Report for April 15:

Money Given to Budget \$8,155.00

Amount Needed Weekly for Budget \$5,860.76

Year-to-date Money Given to Budget \$188,658.20

Amount Needed Year-to-Date for Budget \$193,405.08

From the Board:

- **2 Important Dates:** May 9 – congregational meeting with table discussions. We will look at a summary of comments from our November meeting, and further discuss the “Renewing a Vision” document from Conference. May 23 – Spring Business Meeting.
- Church Board meets the first Thursday of each month at 6:30 PM. If any of you have concerns or questions, you are invited to join us for the first 15 minutes of our meeting. The door will be open (meet in the S.S. classroom at the west end of the foyer).
- Please continue to be in prayer for the Board and our congregation.

Your Board – Brad Miller, Carolyn Miller, Patti Miller, Sonya Miller, Dale Schlabach, Ike Walther

COMMUNITY LIFE

Kelly Kurtz has invited you to join the Meal Train for Eva Kurtz. mealtrain.com is a free meal calendar tool that makes planning meals among a wide group easy and less stressful.

Ladies - Check out the information posted on the hallway bulletin board about the Women of Joy 2018 Tour to be held in Indianapolis August 10th-12th. There are early bird rates if you register before May 16th.

If you have a prayer request that you want put on the phone prayer chain after office hours, please call Jean Shriner at 574-596-3376.

DISCIPLING

The Goshen College Theater Department will present its final performance of the "Swords into Plowshares" season with three student-directed one act plays on

Friday, April 20 and Saturday, April 21 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, April 22 at 3 p.m. in the Umble Center. Tickets are \$5, available online at www.goshen.edu/tickets or via the Goshen College Box Office at (574) 535-7566.

IN/MI Mennonite Women's May Gathering: Saturday, May 5 we will be gathering at East Goshen Mennonite Church to share in conversation, inspiration and brunch. Come and fellowship with friends from other congregations and hear Carol Honderich share about a special 'Women of the Bible' quilt she has made. She will be sharing about women from the Bible and from our community. Arrive between 8:30-9:00, with the program beginning at 9:00 am. We will have brunch mid-morning and conclude our time around 11:45.

Apr. 20 Fish Fry: Bethany Christian High School's junior class fish fry is 4:30-8:00 p.m., Friday, April 20. Come for an evening of fellowship, homemade pie, and all the fish you can eat. Tickets are \$11 for adults and carryout and \$6 for children grades 1-6 (under grade 1 free). Tickets may be purchased from any Bethany junior or at the school (534-2567).

Bethany Christian Middle School will perform Bedtime Stories and Beware the Jabberworkcy at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday, May 4 and 5. Tickets, \$5 for adults and \$3 for students, may be purchased online beginning April 16 at bethanycs.net/tickets. Synopsis: Mom's sick, so Dad tells his three rambunctious kids their bedtime stories; but when he gets fuzzy on the details, the classics get creative. You may think you know your fairy tales, but not the way Dad tells them.

The Preschool will have their Spring Carnival on Sunday, May 6. You're invited to come and check it out! There will be games with prizes, a bake sale, hot dogs and ice cream cups and the kids will sing a few songs. This will be held at the preschool between 1:00 and 4:30 PM.

The Preschool Board would like to have a bake sale at their spring carnival. So we're asking our bakers to help us provide some goodies! Please have baked items at the church by Sunday morning, May 6. If you have

questions, you may ask Janelle Walther, Viv Schlabach or Robin Tahara Miller.

The Goshen College Symphony Orchestra, conducted by José Rocha, will present their spring concert in Sauder Concert Hall on Sunday, April 22, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$8 adults, \$6 seniors/students, available online at www.goshen.edu/tickets or via the Goshen College Box Office at (574) 535-7566.

OUTREACH

First Mennonite Women's next project is supporting the Bible Memory Program.

You are invited to come join us for Clinton Frame Sewing and Fellowship Guest Day on Wednesday, May 2, from 9:00 AM-3:00 PM in the Clinton Frame fellowship hall. Lunch will be provided by Clinton Frame. Any questions, please call the church (574-642-3165), Donna Stoltzfus (574-831-4098), or Julie Schrock (574-457-9035).

The Rake & Steak scheduled for Saturday has been cancelled due to lack of volunteers.

You're invited to The Community Health Clinic Benefit Auction on Friday, May 18th at 4:00 PM. It will be held at the Michiana Events Center in Shipshewana. All proceeds from the auction will benefit The Community Health Clinic.

Love Without Limits Isaak adoption fundraiser... Pam and Ward Benjamin will be hosting a fundraiser for their niece, Nikki Isaak and her husband Ben on Saturday April 28th from 4 to 7 p.m. Please save the date! Come on out and enjoy a Haystack dinner and family fun night activities for all ages! Presale tickets are \$10 for adults and \$6 for children. Please see Pam, Ward, or Jim or Arlene Schrock if you would be interested in purchasing tickets or helping out with this event.

MCC's SWAP (Sharing With Appalachian People) home repair program has summer positions open in both West Virginia and Kentucky. The assignments run from May 30 – approximately August 11. Applicants should be at least 19 years old, but positions are not limited to young adults. More information about SWAP and an application are available at swap.mcc.org or by calling 606-633-5065. In both positions, an exceptional 18-

year-old might be considered. A stipend, room and board and travel expenses are provided.

- **Job Site Coordinators** – Will be the liaison between homeowners and volunteers. Carpentry skills are helpful but not required. Must be willing to learn, follow instruction and work well with others, both homeowners and volunteers, youth and adults.
- **Meals Coordinators** – Will assist the Location Coordinator with menu planning, meal preparation, kitchen duties and other. Should be able to work well with staff and volunteers, both youth and adults.

Indiana-Michigan Conference invites you to join Journey: A Missional Leadership Development Program. This program is for pastors and other congregational leaders who are called without specific training for ministry or who are exploring a call to pastoral ministry. The deadline to apply for fall 2018 is July 17. For more information visit www.ambc.edu/journey or contact your pastor, or Dan Miller at dan@im.mennonite.net or at 574 534 4006.

God's Promise About Trust – Psalm 46: 1-2

God is our refuge and strength,
an ever-present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way
and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea.



