

ON THE JOURNEY

Wake Up

Romans 13:11 says: And do this, understanding the present time. The hour has come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. There are events in all of our lives that cause us to "wake up". Sometimes these experiences are pleasant experiences and sometimes they are tragic.

One of these pleasant "wake up" experiences for me was in the service that we had at the Food Pantry on May 13th. We had a meaningful time of worship and prayer for individuals that truly touched my heart. Many people contributed to each part of the service. There was genuine love and acceptance shown in so many ways. Hearts were truly touched and people were ministered to. All the unimportant things were forgotten and the important things were tended to. It got my attention.

One of the tragic "wake up" experiences was the recent plane crash in Cuba that killed 22 pastors and wives returning from a marriage retreat in Cuba. So many families and churches are affected all at one time in a place that has so many needs already. Please pray, this is important, the enemy is active, and we must band together and lift them up in their time of need. As we left Cuba last February they asked us to pray for them as they will be praying for us. Why? 1. We are all part of God's family. 2. Your prayers are effective here and there as well. 3. This is important because when one part of the body suffers, the whole body suffers. Even though you may not know them personally, our lives are connected through Jesus and the service work we did in Cuba.

We serve a mighty God who can make a way where there seems to be no way. The enemy would love to cause great divisions at this time in their churches and families. Let's lift them up asking God to strengthen them, to pour out His love and mercy on them, and to protect them at this vulnerable time.

To me it's a time to wake up and thank God for all these experiences and move me to realize the times we are in so I make the most of my time.

Submitted by Dean Miller

CALENDAR

Wed 5/23	9:00 am	Moms In Touch
	5:00 pm	Outreach Commission
	6:30 pm	Dessert Served Prior To Business Meeting
	7:00 pm	Spring Business Meeting
Sun 5/27	9:00 am	Phil Preaching/Sunday School at each class' discretion
	6:00 pm	MYF
Mon 5/28		Office Closed
Tues 5/29	7:00 pm	Music Practice
Fri 6/1	5:00 pm	Wedding Rehearsal
Sat 6/2	All Day	Wedding
Sun 6/3	9:00 am	Phil Preaching/Nominations for Church Board
	6:00 pm	MYF
Mon 6/4	5:00 pm	POPS Advisory Board
	6:00 pm	Worship Commission
	7:00 pm	Ladies Exercise
Tues 6/5	7:00 pm	Music Practice
Wed 6/6	6:45 pm	Food Pantry Advisory Board

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

May Birthdays

Tom Bontreger – 24
 Verna Weirich – 24
 Leon Hodge – 27
 Wil Beachy – 28
 Dave Graber – 31
 Noah Klotz – 31
 Janelle Walther - 31

WORSHIP

Focus statement: Our world is in a big mess. Nobody will deny that fact. Sin and rebellion against God are the root causes of the mess. So, how did God's good creation get into such a mess? Who is to blame? And why would God allow His creation to get so messed up? Answers to those questions may satisfy our curiosity, but are not particularly helpful in fixing the problem. However, understanding how Adam and Eve were deceived can help us in avoiding the same mistakes they

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

made, and can help to guard us from contributing to the mess the world is in.

Background scriptures: Genesis 1-3

Coffee Prep Volunteers

This Sunday: Cheryl Miller

Next Sunday: Dave Graber

Welcome Center

This Sunday: Sam & Verna Weirich

Next Sunday: Shari Graber

Looking ahead: The annual outdoor Worship Service will be Sunday, June 10, @ FMC, 10:00 a.m. We will not have Sunday School that day. We will have a carry-in meal following the service. Extended Ministries, Leader Mike Brouillette, will join us for our Outdoor Service. That could be 25 -30 additional people. This is the group that led the Food Pantry Worship Service at Pleasant Oaks on Mother's Day. They are excited about meeting FMCers. They have also been invited to join us for the carry in lunch, so plan to bring a little extra food. Worship Commission is looking for tent/canopies that we can use for the service. Please contact someone from our Commission as soon as possible if you have one we can use. Wil, Bernie, Theo, Ruth

SGDC (spiritual gifts discernment committee) will on Sunday morning, **June 3rd**, distribute the nominations for church board. On Sunday morning, **June 17**, the ballots will be completed. Patti Miller and Dale Schlabach will be completing their three year terms on the board at the end of August, 2018. Please prayerfully consider this whole process, and continue to pray for the work that our board has at hand.

ADMINISTRATION

Stewardship Report for May 20:

Money Given to Budget \$6,142.00

Amount Needed Weekly for Budget \$5,860.76

Year-to-date Money Given to Budget \$216,244.20

Amount Needed Year-to-Date for Budget \$222,708.88

COMMUNITY LIFE

From Community Life Commission: Dessert will be provided at the congregational meeting tonight. Come early to pick up your dessert before the meeting. The annual outdoor worship service will be on June 10. A carry-in meal will follow.

DISCIPLING

Host Families Needed: Bethany Christian Schools is in need of host families for serving international students who would like to attend Bethany. This opportunity to gain cross cultural experience in your own home often becomes a rewarding experience for the host family, as well as a blessing to the student. Families receive monetary compensation. One school year commitment. For more information, contact advancement associate SaeJin Lee (admissions@bethanycs.net or 534-2567).

This Sunday each Sunday School class can decide if they want to meet. Also, Instruction Class for Youth or anyone else that would be interested & than baptism: The first class will start with Phil on Sunday June 3rd.

Rooted and Grounded: A Conference on Land and Christian Discipleship: Sept. 27–29, 2018, at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Indiana. Imagine and embody alternative ways of relating to the land that cultivate shalom among human beings, the rest of creation and God. This event will weave together worship, theology, biblical study and praxis. Keynote speakers: Valerie Bridgeman, Karena Gore and Randy Woodley. amb.edu/rootedandgrounded

OUTREACH

First Mennonite Women: The next sewing project is collecting used sheets to be torn into strips for bandages as well as MCC relief kits. Contents needed for the kits: 4 large bars bath soap (leave in wrapper), shampoo (1 or 2 bottles totaling more than 20 oz.), 4 large bars laundry soap (such as Fels, Naptha, Sunlight, or Zote brands), 4 adult-sized toothbrushes (in manufacturer's packaging), 4 new bath towels (medium weight, dark or bright colors, approx. 29 in x 60 in), 2 wide-toothed combs (6-8 in), 1 nail clipper (good quality), 1 box adhesive bandages (minimum 40 assorted), sanitary pads (**THIN**, 1 or 2 packages, minimum 28 pads total). Mary Weaver will have devotions at the June 14 meeting.

Come hear about the work of the Colombian Mennonite Church and Colombia's path to peace. Jenny Neme is the director of the Christian Center for Justice, Peace and Nonviolent Action (JUSTAPAZ) in Bogotá, Colombia, one of MCC's largest partners in Colombia. As

a member of the Colombian Mennonite Church, Jenny is a leading peacebuilder on the national stage in Colombia and has decades of experience working for peace from a faith perspective. All are welcome to hear Jenny speak at East Goshen Mennonite Church (17861 State Rd 4 in Goshen) on Thursday, May 31 at 7:00 p.m.

Join Michiana MEDA for dinner and our annual chapter meeting on Thursday, May 31, 2018, at 6:30 p.m. at the Lambright Center, Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, IN. Cost is \$5 for students, \$15 for Michiana MEDA members, and \$20 for others, payable at the door (cash or check).

Please RSVP by MONDAY, May 28, to info@michianameda.org or text or call 574-355-3607.

Join MCC Great Lakes and Center for Community Justice for a week-long Pipeline to Prison learning tour. Based in Goshen, Ind., the tour will focus on the challenges and complexities of the U.S. criminal justice system and include day trips to Elkhart, Peru and Kokomo. Participants will journey from the local community level through the criminal justice system, learning about law enforcement, sentencing, incarceration and re-entry. All who are interested in learning about disparities in the justice system, including those working in or seeking to develop a prison/re-entry ministry, are welcome. For more information and registration visit mcc.org/gl-pipeline-to-prison or contact Cyneatha Millsaps at CyneathaMillsaps@mcc.org or 574-534-4133.

Run or walk for relief for Puerto Rico! On Saturday, June 9, join the Puerto Rico Rising 5K Run/Walk to raise money for Academia Menonita Betania (AMB) in Aibonito, Puerto Rico, as it seeks to recover from the devastation of Hurricane Maria. AMB, a member of Mennonite Education Agency, believes students should integrate faith and education in all aspects of their life so they can positively contribute to society. The funds raised will be used to help rebuild buildings, purchase equipment such as computers which were destroyed during the storm and more. The route will take you along the Winona Interurban Trail, a paved surface that connects Bethany Christian Schools and Goshen College. The race will be followed with food and drinks provided by Mennonite Central Committee and an age group awards presentation. Registrations must be received by May 28 to be guaranteed a T-shirt. A raffle will be held after the race to win beautifully matted and framed pictures of Puerto Rico. Register online at

runsignup.com/Race/IN/Goshen/RunforPuertoRico5k or contact AmberFalcon@mcc.org with questions.



