

## ON THE JOURNEY

As long as I can remember, music has been a part of my life. I remember as a little girl, sitting on the floor, looking up at my daddy, playing his guitar singing Old Shep, or Put Your Little Shoes Away, and he would be fighting tears. I wondered why? I didn't get it. I didn't get it when I was finally old enough to go to Sunday School with my older sister and the teacher asked if I had a song I wanted to sing and I said, "Found a Peanut." I didn't get why my sister was mortified to tears and the teacher said, "Why don't we sing Jesus Loves Me?" I started to get it when we sang Sunday School songs on the way to and from church. I started getting it just a little more as we girls--my sisters and I--propped the hymnal on the window sill while we were doing the dishes. (Yes, the hymnal slipped off the sill, into the dishwasher--then we ALL "got it"!) All through my growing up school years--we sang. In church, in school, in the barn, mowing the lawn, baling hay, music of some sort was part of my life. I think I really got it one Sunday in church when we sang a version of the 23rd Psalm. I had just memorized that passage in Sunday School--straight out of the Bible! Then other times in church, I would hear the minister read from the Bible--snippets of the songs we sang! I was getting it! There were songs in the Bible as well as the hymnal! I love it! I've often wondered what a pastor would do if we broke out in song when the song is read from the Bible?! I'm still getting it --songs we sing on Sundays are hymns and scripture songs--SCRIPTURE SONGS!! I would challenge us all to pay more attention to the words we sing. Sunday, we will sing from John 19:17 and 2 Timothy 1:12, just to name a couple. And when we've finished our songs--songs that God gifted someone to be able to write and set to music--from God's own Book--I think we will all get it when we finish our worship time together to acknowledge Psalm 46:10--"Be Still and Know That I am God."

Submitted by Bernie Miller

### CALENDAR

<b>Wed 9/5</b>	9:00 am	Moms In Prayer
	6:00 pm	Prayer & Meditation
	6:45 pm	Food Pantry Advisory Board
	7:00 pm	Music Practice
<b>Thurs 9/6</b>	6:30 pm	Board
<b>Fri 9/7</b>	6:00 pm	Ladies Night In
<b>Sat 9/8</b>	2:00 pm	Al Miller Birthday Open House
<b>Sun 9/9</b>	9:00 am	Phil Preaching
	6:00 pm	MYF
<b>Mon 9/10</b>		Health Department
	6:00 pm	Worship Commission
	7:00 pm	Ladies Exercise
<b>Tues 9/11</b>	6:30 pm	Discipling Commission
<b>Wed 9/12</b>	9:00 am	Moms In Prayer
	6:00 pm	Prayer & Meditation
	7:00 pm	Music Practice
<b>Thurs 9/13</b>	9:00 am	First Mennonite Women
<b>Sat 9/15</b>	12:00 pm	Fellowship Hall Reserved
<b>Sun 9/16</b>	9:00 am	Phil Preaching
	6:00 pm	MYF
<b>Mon 9/17</b>	6:30 pm	Administration Commission
	7:00 pm	Ladies Exercise
<b>Tues 9/18</b>	6:00 pm	Community Life Commission
<b>Wed 9/19</b>	9:00 am	Moms In Prayer
	6:00 pm	Prayer & Meditation

	7:00 pm	Fall Business Meeting
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**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.**

### September Birthdays

Dave (Jan) Yoder – 7  
 Nicole Frye – 8  
 Al Kauffman – 9  
 Jim Pletcher – 10  
 Kerry Frye – 12  
 Dora Graber – 12  
 Lydia Frey – 13  
 Chris Wingard – 13  
 Nancy Bontreger – 15  
 Brian Mullet – 15  
 Al Miller – 19  
 Steve Bontrager – 20  
 Jean Shriner – 22  
 Connie Beachy – 24  
 Kris Bontrager – 26  
 Arlene Schrock – 27

Patty (Ron) Yoder – 27  
Fanny Weirich – 28  
Carolyn Miller – 30

## WORSHIP

**Focus statement:** The church in western civilization is in a very deep crisis. More and more the church is seen as being irrelevant and not really needed in the modern world. In Europe today, only about 3 – 4 percent of people attend church on a regular basis. It is estimated that by 2050, in America, that only 10 -12 percent of the population will be active church members. Today, fewer and fewer young people are entering seminaries or studying to become pastors. Has the church changed, or has the world changed, or both? Not so long ago, the church was one of the primary institutions around which society was organized. The church was important for social as well as for spiritual reasons. But not anymore. Maybe people are just too busy. There are many reasons why people are turning away from the church in the modern world. But one thing is for sure, our world is leaving us blind to spiritual realities. The church must awaken us to those realities, and recapture the vision that formed the first church.

**Background scriptures:** Acts 2

### Coffee Prep Volunteers

This Sunday: Ward & Pam Bingaman

Next Sunday: Kris Rheinheimer

### Welcome Center

This Sunday: Carolyn Miller

Next Sunday: Karen Pletcher

**Menno-Hof Hymn Sing** at the Farmstead Inn Pavilion on Sunday at 5:00 PM. More information is posted on the hallway bulletin board.

**Worship Commission** is looking for more Worship Leaders! If you would be willing, or have a suggestion of someone who might be willing, please contact Ruth Beasley. You can email, text, or slip a note in her mailbox. We are wanting to find those who are willing to try....you don't have to have previous experience, and you don't have to do a perfect job (mistakes are acceptable – this is your church family, who cares about you). We are just asking for you to discern about helping in this way. We are asking for willing workers. Thanks!

## ADMINISTRATION

### Stewardship Report for September 2:

Money Given to Budget \$3,830.00

Amount Needed Weekly for Budget \$

Year-to-date Money Given to Budget \$3,830.00

Amount Needed Year-to-Date for Budget \$

**Jean Shriner** will be gone on vacation starting September 4 for two or three weeks. Other than during church office hours, please call Sonya Miller with anything you would like put through the church prayer chain. Her phone number is 574-538-7295.

## COMMUNITY LIFE

**There are still slots** available to volunteer to mow the lawn at Pleasant Oaks. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the hallway.

**The family of Al Miller** invite you to join them in celebrating Al's 80th birthday at an Open House at the church on Saturday from 2-5:00. No gifts, please - your presence is what is cherished. Kevin, Sandy and Rex would love to see you there!

**The Goshen Community Chorale** announces that rehearsals for its upcoming fall season will begin on Tuesday evening, September 11th. The Chorale will be working toward a performance of Alice Parker's "Melodious Accord" cantata, which will take place on Sunday evening, November 18th, at College Mennonite Church. Alice Parker will be coming to Goshen to participate in this event, which will include other local choral groups and which will be a festival of Ms. Parker's music and a celebration of all this beloved composer, arranger and conductor has given to the world of music. Rehearsals will be every Tuesday evening from 7:00 to 9:00 at College Mennonite Church. Persons who are interested in joining the Chorale and participating in this concert should contact the music director, William Mateer, at 574-533-2562 or [mateers@aol.com](mailto:mateers@aol.com).

**Elkhart County Right to Life** is sponsoring the annual Life Chain to take place on Sunday afternoon, October 7, from 2:00-3:00 pm. Two locations: Elkhart-US 33 (South Main St.) on the

sidewalk in front of Concord Intermediate School and in Goshen at the Courthouse (3<sup>rd</sup> Street side) on the sidewalk. Participants will hold Pro-Life signs, which are provided at both locations.

## DISCIPLING

**Music on the Lawn:** Bethany Christian High School's band, orchestra, and choir will perform their annual Music on the Lawn concert on Friday, Sept. 14. A fundraiser dinner will be served prior to the concert (5:00 dinner, 6:15 concert). BBQ pulled pork sandwiches (vegetarian/gluten free option available), chips, veggies/dip, fruit, and Rise'n Roll pie—all for \$7! Funds raised will help defray expenses for music festivals and trips. Ask any Bethany musician or contact Stacey Farran for tickets (safarran@bethanycs.net) by Tuesday, Sept. 4. Meal and concert will be held in the Friendship Garden (weather permitting), so bring your lawn chair and come ready to enjoy an evening of food, fellowship, and music!

## OUTREACH

**The 51st Annual Mennonite Relief Sale** will be September 21 & 22. The Month of August we will be using the "Change For a Dollar" for the "My Coins Count" fund raiser for the Sale. You can either put your coins in the offering basket or at the jar in the foyer on the Welcome table. You can look for more information about the sale at [www.mennonitesale.org](http://www.mennonitesale.org). Under the Church tab you will find all pertinent information about the Relief Sale regarding how you can support the Sale. Last year the Sale brought in a record topping \$626,567! Thank you for your support.

**First Mennonite Women:** The sewing is collecting the following products for the Middlebury Boys & Girls Club between now and September 13<sup>th</sup>. Please join us in blessing them by placing your donations in the box in the foyer. Kleenex, hand sanitizer, disinfectant wipes, cleaning products, and duct tape.

**The Indiana Friends of Meserete Kristos College** invite you to enjoy an Ethiopian meal at Berkey Ave. Mennonite Church, 2509 Berkey Ave., Goshen, on Monday, Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM. The cost of the meal is

\$12.50 per person to be paid at the door. The event will serve as a fundraiser for MKCollege. Cash and checks will be accepted. You will hear updates about the college from a former MKCollege student and the overseers of the MKC Link. Please RSVP to Peter Shetler by Monday, Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Phone: 574-849-5116 (leave a message) Email: [pdshetler@bethanycs.net](mailto:pdshetler@bethanycs.net)

**The Relief Sale Sausage & Onion Booth** sign up form is in the hallway. We also will need help with onion prep on Thursday, September 20, 4:00 - at the church. Please sign up to work at the relief sale on Friday or Saturday. Thanks so much for your help!

**Join us for a Comforter Bash!** Make plans to join us on November 9 and 10 for the Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) Great Lakes Comforter Bash in Goshen. People of all ages are invited to knot comforters at Pleasant View Mennonite Church (58529 County Road 23). For more information about the event visit [mcc.org/comforter-bash](http://mcc.org/comforter-bash) or contact Carol Honderich at 574-536-9062. A handmade comforter provides not only warmth but also a tangible message to people that their needs are not forgotten.

[Prayer, the best wireless connection!](#)



