

ON THE JOURNEY

Tonight, some will gather for mediation and prayer here at First Mennonite. During the hour of prayer and meditation we pray for our Church. Tonight, we will pray for the Wider Church Family. This coming Sunday is World Wide Communion.

Sunday we will celebrate a wonderful and important day of world-wide fellowship. But there is an even more wonderful time of fellowship that lies ahead of us. It is the heavenly reunion, a great and permanent gathering of all those who have accepted God's plan of salvation. Whoever believes in Him, whoever comes to the timeless table and in so doing acknowledges Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior shall not perish but have everlasting life. And this everlasting life will be in reunion with the entire Church family of diverse lands, diverse customs, and diverse times to which you will be drawn and invited to be a part.

Ephesians 5:2 - *And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.*

Submitted by Patty (Ron) Yoder

CALENDAR		
Wed 10/3	9:00 am	Moms In Prayer
	6:00 pm	Prayer & Meditation
	6:45 pm	Food Pantry Advisory Board
	7:00 pm	Music Practice
Thurs 10/4	6:30 pm	Board
Fri 10/5	6:00 pm	Ladies Night In
Sun 10/7	9:00 am	Phil Preaching/Communion
	6:00 pm	MYF
Mon 10/8		Health Department
	6:00 pm	Worship Commission
	7:00 pm	Ladies Exercise
Tues 10/9	6:30 pm	Discipling Commission
Wed 10/10	9:00 am	Moms In Prayer
	6:00 pm	Prayer & Meditation
	7:00 pm	Music Practice
Thur 10/11	9:00 am	First Mennonite Women
Sun 10/14	9:00 am	Phil Preaching
	4:30 pm	Mystery Supper Fundraiser
	6:00 pm	MYF
Mon 10/15	12:00 pm	Blood Drive
	7:00 pm	Ladies Exercise
Tues 10/16	6:00 pm	Community Life Commission
Wed 10/17	9:00 am	Moms In Prayer
	6:30 pm	Administration Commission
	7:00 pm	Music Practice

October Birthdays

Edna Hochstetler – 4
 Viola Miller – 11
 Patti Keller - 14
 Karen Pletcher – 15
 Betty Graber – 17
 Katie Kauffman – 17
 Jerry Christner – 18
 Gerri Beachy – 19
 Ez Ropp – 19
 Anne Yoder – 19
 Paul Yoder – 22
 Garrett Kozlowski – 24
 Kelby Christner – 31

WORSHIP

Focus statement: This Sunday (October 7) is World Communion Sunday. Hundreds of millions of Christians all around the world will celebrate communion on this day. There are many things that separate Christians. We come from many different cultures, traditions, experiences, and nations. Geography, language, denominations, theology, and myriads of opinions separate us. We don't even all agree on the meaning of communion or how it should be celebrated. But on this one day, we all unite in one act, taking the bread and the cup in commemorating our Lord's death on a cross to take away our sins. We all celebrate that Jesus is Lord and that he died, rose from the dead, and lives today to bring us salvation. Maybe we should be focusing more on what unites us, and less on what divides us.

Background scriptures: I Corinthians 11:23-26

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.

Coffee Prep Volunteers

This Sunday: Dave Graber

Next Sunday: Ward & Pam Bingaman

Welcome Center

This Sunday: Shari Graber

Next Sunday: Carolyn Miller

We will be observing Communion and foot washing on Sunday. Because the Service will be longer than usual, we are asking the Congregation to keep announcements and Sharing to a minimum. That doesn't mean that you shouldn't share if you would like. But you may want to consider writing your "Sharing" on a lavender slip for the Sharing Leader to read, if possible. Announcements can also be written up, to be read by the Worship Leader, if you wish. We are asking this, so we can keep our focus on Worship and Communion this Sunday.

ADMINISTRATION

Stewardship Report for September 30:

Money Given to Budget \$2,878.00

Amount Needed Weekly for Budget \$5,565.25

Year-to-date Money Given to Budget \$21,499.00

Amount Needed Year-to-Date for Budget \$27,826.25

You will find the minutes to the Fall Congregational Meeting attached to the Newsletter.

COMMUNITY LIFE

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 (3rd Street side) on the sidewalk. Participants will hold Pro-Life signs, which are provided at both locations.

Oct. 10th is the last night for meditation and prayer. During the past six weeks we have focused on praying for the church. On Wed. Oct. 10th we will do something a little different. We are going to have an anointing service for the church. This will start at 6 p.m. Come prepared to walk inside and outside of the church as we anoint and pray for the

church. If you have attended any of the other meditation and prayer times and have received a "Pocket Prayer Quilt", bring that also to carry and pray with. If you have not received one, they will be available for you that evening.

Visitation is looking for people who can make hospital visits or sit with families who are waiting on a loved one during surgery. Please see Jean Shriner or a member of CLC if you are able to do this.

A grease trap has been installed in the kitchen. This was required by the City of Middlebury. All dishes must be scraped. Please put scraps in the garbage. No garbage down the disposal.

DISCIPLING

All are welcome to visit Goshen College during Homecoming Weekend, Oct. 5-7, 2018. Hear from GC alumni award winners, special events related to the 50th anniversary of SST and the 60th anniversary of WGCS, attend the Peace Play, View a special Haitian art exhibit, attend the Music Gala and more. To see the full schedule and to register, visit goshen.edu/homecoming.

Diplomat David Reimer, U.S. Ambassador to Mauritius and Seychelles, a 1984 Goshen College graduate and 2018 Culture for Service awardee, will present this year's Yoder Public Affairs Lecture: "U.S.-Africa Relations: An Ambassador's Perspective," on Thursday, Oct. 4 at 7:30 p.m. in the GC Music Center's Rieth Recital Hall. He will also speak during a convocation on Friday, Oct. 5 at 10 a.m. in the Church-Chapel. Both events are free and open to the public.

Exploring Peace and Justice in the Bible (noncredit): Oct. 24 – Dec. 11. Participants in this online AMBS short course taught by Safwat Marzouk, Ph.D., and Drew Strait, Ph.D., will study six biblical passages and reflect together on what they contribute to the practice of peace and justice today. Cost: \$200 before Oct. 3; \$250 after. CEUs available. ambs.edu/shortcourses

Consider it all Joy retreat for women and girls at Amigo Centre October 12-14. More information is posted on the hallway bulletin board.

All are invited to an exhibit reception for the Hunsberger Haitian Art Collection and the Nyai Oyer Gamelan in the GC Music Center's Hershberger Art Gallery on Saturday, Oct. 6, from 5:30-7 p.m. Come see pieces from the Arlin and Naomi Hunsberger Haitian Art Collection and the Nyai Oyer Gamelan, a very large, traditional, Javanese instrument gifted to GC in honor of Dr. Mary Oyer by the late Duane Gingerich '69 and his wife, Reti.

OUTREACH

First Mennonite Women: The next project is collecting soap, towels, and fabric for MCC. Soap specifications: new bars of bath or laundry soap: all sizes and brands of bar soap are welcomed. Please leave in wrapper. Towel specifications: New bath and hand towels: good quality, dark or bright colors, medium weight preferred. Fingertip towels and washcloths are not needed. Fabric specifications: Suggested fabrics: washable twill, cotton, cotton blends, polyester and corduroy. Fabric must be 2 yards or more in length. Print, plaid or solid are welcomed.

Please consider joining The Window at College Mennonite Event Center Saturday, November 10 from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm. for an evening of fine food and entertainment. Guest Speaker, Elkhart County Jail Chaplain, Cory Martin along with Master of Ceremony, Randy West of The Well in Goshen, will reflect upon where the organization has been, and its plans for moving forward. Special music will be provided by The Dean's List. Tickets are available for \$35.00 per person. Please contact Scarlett Garrison at 574-533-9680 ext. 203 by November 1st to purchase your tickets.

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 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.

MCC Alumni & Friends Potluck: As alumni or interested friends of Mennonite Central Committee, you are warmly invited to join us for an MCC Alumni and Friends Potluck at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, October 26, at North Goshen Mennonite Church (501 N. 8th Street). Special guest speakers will be Rebecca Burkholder and Blaine Derstine, MCC Area Directors for Central Southern and Northeast Asia, who will share stories of peacebuilding in Asia. Please RSVP at 574-534-4133 or to lmg@mcc.org.

We want to thank all the children and adults at First Mennonite for your generosity and enthusiasm in supporting My Coins Count this year at the Michiana Mennonite Relief Sale (MMRS) with your contribution of \$801.65. Together, with matches from local businesses, MyCC raised over \$130,000, helping families gain access to life-giving water. When water is available, children are better fed and are healthier. Families can garden and generate income to pay education and/or medical expenses. Communities have less conflict over scarce resources. One mother gratefully shared that having enough food and water prevents her children from becoming thieves in order to survive. The Michiana Sale total this year was over \$477,000. Thank you for your work and support of the sale, and for sharing your resources in the name of Christ, so other families can have their basic necessities met through Mennonite Central Committee and our partners around the world. – John Martens, MyCC Coordinator, MMRS

A big thank you to all who helped with the sausage and onion booth at the relief sale. We turned in nearly \$4800.

Menno Clinic India Curry Bash on Saturday, October 20 at 6:00 PM at Emma Church. Bring a dish to share.

A Mystery Supper Fundraiser for the Randy Hershberger family will be held here at the church on

Sunday, October 14 at 4:30 PM. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the hallway.

