

## ON THE JOURNEY

### STICKING YOUR NECK OUT



Photo Credit: esvetleishaya

**H**ow many times have you heard someone say, “I’m not sticking my neck out”? Taking a risk, venturing into unknown territories, trying something new...it’s scary! What if you didn’t have to do it alone? It always helps to have a partner, someone to make it less frightening, to share the adventure with! With God by your side, you can do anything, God can strengthen you with the courage you need to stick your neck out. At your house of worship this week, stand tall and sing His praises! Don’t be afraid to try something new, God is with you!

#### Daily Devotional Reading

Proverbs	Proverbs	Proverbs	Proverbs	Ecclesiastes	Ecclesiastes	Ecclesiastes
18:1-24	22:1-29	23:1-35	24:1-34	1:1-18	2:1-26	3:1-22

*This article was submitted by Dale Riegsecker.*

#### CALENDAR

<b>Wed 11/14</b>	9:00 am	Moms In Prayer
	6:00 pm	Discovery Bible Study
	6:00 pm	Administration Commission
	7:00 pm	Evana Mtg. w/Jon Yoder
		Music Practice
<b>Thur 11/15</b>	7:00 pm	“Zoom” Mtg. w/Keith Weaver
<b>Sun 11/18</b>	9:00 am	Phil Preaching
	6:00 pm	MYF
<b>Mon 11/19</b>	6:00 pm	Ladies Exercise
<b>Wed 11/21</b>	9:00 am	Moms In Prayer
	6:00 pm	Discovery Bible Study
	7:00 pm	Music Practice

<b>Thur 11/22</b>		<b>Office Closed</b>
		Fellowship Hall Reserved
<b>Sun 11/25</b>	9:00 am	Johanna Sutter Preaching
	6:00 pm	MYF
<b>Mon 11/26</b>		<b>Health Department</b>
	6:00 pm	Ladies Exercise
<b>Wed 11/28</b>	9:00 am	Moms In Prayer
	5:30 pm	Outreach Commission
	6:00 pm	Discovery Bible Study
	7:00 pm	Music Practice

**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.**

### November Birthdays

Delbert D. Yoder – 14  
 Adeline Graber – 20  
 Philip Keller – 20  
 Jim Rhodes – 20  
 Marilyn Bontrager 22  
 Noah Frye – 22  
 Bob Rhodes – 22  
 Ernie Wingard – 24  
 Kody Bontreger – 26  
 Sharon Wyse - 28

## WORSHIP

**Focus statement:** Thanksgiving is not only a National Holiday, it is a commandment from God, going all the way back to when God formed the Nation of Israel. Thanksgiving is not simply a litany of remembering everything we have and being thankful for it. It is a call to remember who it is who cares for us and provides everything we need. And it is especially a reminder that our food is a gift from God.

**Background scriptures:** Leviticus 23

### Coffee Prep Volunteers

This Sunday: Kris Rheinheimer  
 Next Sunday: Janelle Walther

### Welcome Center

This Sunday: Karen Pletcher  
 Next Sunday: Verna Weirich

**On November 25**, Johanna Sutter will be here at FMC to speak to us. Johanna grew up in Germany during WWII. Her family was poor, and their lives were devastated by the war. One year Johanna received a Christmas Bundle from MCC, and that gesture of kindness completely altered the course of her life. Come and hear her story.

**Worship Commission** met recently. We are making plans for Advent, Dec. 2 through January 6. Phil is creating materials. We will be asking numerous people to be involved. (If you would like to be involved, please contact Ruth Beasley). We will be doing Readings, lighting Advent candles, using folks as live props, and incorporating music. It's an exciting time!

Thank you to the Java Sunday School Class who will be planning our Christmas Eve Service. We are planning another Communion service for Sunday, December 30.

**November 25th** – Karen Niimi (who is staying with the Graber family) will be sharing about Japan during the Sunday School hour. Everyone is invited to join her in the Sanctuary to learn more about her home country. We are privileged to have Karen joining us at FMC this year!

## ADMINISTRATION

### Stewardship Report for November 11:

Money Given to Budget \$9,160.00  
 Amount Needed Weekly for Budget \$5,565.25  
 Year-to-date Money Given to Budget \$56,375.00  
 Amount Needed Year-to-Date for Budget \$61,217.75

## COMMUNITY LIFE

**The Goshen Community Chorale**, in collaboration with Goshen College, is sponsoring an Alice Parker Celebration Concert at 7:00 on Sunday evening, November 18th, at College Mennonite Church. The noted composer, conductor and teacher, Alice Parker, is coming to Goshen for this event. The Chorale will be performing Parker's "Melodious Accord" cantata, with harp and brass quartet, and four other local choral groups will also be performing. There is no admission charge and all are welcome.

**Plans are underway** for the haystack dinner and silent auction benefit for Tom and Eva Kurtz on December 1<sup>st</sup> and we are looking for donors, and volunteers of all kinds. Remember, everyone has something to offer! We are also asking everyone to participate in more than one way if you possibly can.

-Please pray that God shows his favor on this event as we love on a member of our church family. Also pray that God will soften people's hearts and that they would join in the festivities and planning for this "Big ol Party".  
 -Be thinking about items that you could donate for the silent auction, you are only limited by your imagination! I know I personally would be happy to bid on some gluten free, sugar free cookies-is there an experimental baker out there? I happen to know that there might be some Delilah bread up for auction, and maybe some Patty pickles... oooh and some pies!!! Do you have an

old piece of furniture that someone could find good use for? Bring it... And we always need good "man stuff", so we need you men to put your heads together and help us out here!!

- we will need volunteers to go out during the week and pick up donated items that have been pledged to us from the community and bring to the church.

- we definitely need dessert makers and food preppers to help us out. We will be planning a food prep work night at the church on Friday, November 30th from 5 till whenever.

- and we will definitely need everyone to help us get the word out and take a few tickets to sell and posters to hang up!!

## DISCIPLING

### **Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Christmas Goose**

will be presented Nov. 16-18 at Bethany Christian Schools. This is a family friendly holiday show. Join Sherlock and Watson in this caper around the streets of London, and be ready to join in a little caroling! Tickets, \$9 for adults and \$7 for students, may be reserved at [bethanycs.net/tickets](http://bethanycs.net/tickets). Online sales will close at noon on Friday.

**Classes** are full and all students have adjusted well to preschool. October activities were great! They enjoyed meeting some high school football players and cheerleaders, their Fall parties and Father/Grandfather Night. We had a successful fundraiser with Shirley's Gourmet Popcorn. We are excited that the First Mennonite Women have us as their November project! Thank you!

## OUTREACH

**FMW's** next project is collecting items for MCC hygiene kits. Contents (**new** items only) are 1 adult-sized toothbrush (in manufacturer's packaging), 1 large bar bath soap (leave in wrapper), 1 nail clipper (good quality), 1 hand towel (medium weight, dark or bright colors; approx. 16 in x 26 in), and 1 wide-toothed comb (6-8 in). They will also be putting together fruit plates for the shut-ins.

### **Thank you to all the volunteers who participated in the MCC Great Lakes Comforter Bash in Goshen.**

More than 400 people knotted 396 comforters over the two days of this fun-filled event. Thanks to you, people around the world will not only be kept warm but can go to sleep knowing that someone cares about them. Stay tuned for information about next year's Comforter Bash!

**MCC Great Lakes** is hosting an Engagement Day on December 8th at Belmont Mennonite Church located at 925 Oxford Street, Elkhart, IN 46516. Throughout the day MCC will showcase interactive learning tools around mass incarceration, Doctrine of Discovery and viewpoints of guns in America. The day will culminate with a keynote address by Juan Sebastian Pacheco Lozano on Immigration. You are welcome to participate in one workshop or the whole day. This would be a great opportunity for small groups, youth groups or Sunday School classes to participate together. You can find more information at [mcc.org/gl-engagement-day](http://mcc.org/gl-engagement-day). Please direct any questions to Brooke Strayer at [brookestrayer@mcc.org](mailto:brookestrayer@mcc.org) or 574-534-4133.

**Give a kit for Christmas!** From hurricanes and flooding to conflict and drought, MCC is responding to many disasters around the world. This Christmas, why not gather your family and pack a relief kit as a gift to other families whose lives have been disrupted by war or disaster? For more information about relief kit contents and how you can get involved, visit [mcc.org/kits/relief](http://mcc.org/kits/relief).

