

ON THE JOURNEY

Choosing Our Journey

In the three years of Jesus' earthly ministry, he traveled much of the time, going from place to place preaching, healing, casting out demons, and ministering in various ways. But he traveled, and he traveled a lot. Frequently, he would say to his disciples, "I need to go through Samaria," or "I need to go to the other side of the lake," or announce that he was going someplace. Jesus was very conscious and intentional about his journeys. Rarely did Jesus take the shortest route, or the quickest, or the smoothest, and never did he simply wander about aimlessly. He chose a particular route because there was someone along that way who needed healing, someone who needed deliverance, someone who needed Jesus' words of forgiveness, someone who needed hope, or encouragement. Jesus consciously chose the way that led to the cross. Calvary was not an accident. Jesus chose it.

In our journey through life, let's try to be like Jesus, and be intentional about choosing to go a particular way, and go with our eyes and our ears wide open, looking for those along that way who may need our love, our kindness, our embrace, or our words of encouragement, someone with whom we can share the good news and the love of Jesus. Life is not simply about reaching a destination. It is about the journey and what happens on that journey!

By Philip Yoder

CALENDAR

Wed 2/6	9:00 am	Moms In Prayer
	6:00 pm	Discovery Bible Study
	6:45 pm	Food Pantry Advisory Board
	7:00 pm	Music Practice
Thur 2/7	6:30 pm	Board
2/8 & 2/9		Women's Retreat
Sun 2/10	9:00 am	Phil Preaching
	6:00 pm	MYF
Mon 2/11		Health Department
	6:00 pm	Ladies Exercise
Tues 2/12	6:30 pm	Discipling Commission
Wed 2/13	9:00 am	Moms In Prayer
	6:00 pm	Discovery Bible Study
	7:00 pm	Music Practice
Thur 2/14	9:00 am	First Mennonite Women
Sun 2/17	9:00 am	Phil Preaching
	6:00 pm	MYF
Mon 2/18	12:00 pm	Blood Drive
	6:00 pm	Ladies Exercise
Tues 2/19	6:00 pm	Community Life Commission
Wed 2/20	9:00 am	Moms In Prayer
	6:00 pm	Discovery Bible Study
	6:30 pm	Administration Commission
	7:00 pm	Music Practice

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

February Birthdays

Glenn Miller – 12
 Martha Weirich – 12
 Wayne Schrock – 12
 Elizabeth Kauffman – 13
 Tina Frye – 20
 Aldine Wyse – 20
 Mary Frye – 22
 Edith Herschberger – 24
 Gert Kauffman - 29

WORSHIP

Focus statement: The Bible uses several images to help us understand how God thinks about the church. Some of these images are rather surprising, and are not at all how we generally think of the church. And they certainly stand in stark contrast to how Western Cultures see the church. This week we will explore one of those images of the church (The Bride of Jesus), in order to try to grasp how Jesus thinks of His church. We are the Bride of Jesus, and we have the "Ring" to prove it!

Background scriptures: Ephesians 5:25-33, Revelation 19:6-9, Revelation 21:1-4, 9-10, Mark 2:18-20.

Administrative Assistant Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday 9:00 AM-2:00 PM

Closed Friday

Phil Yoder Office Hours:

Monday 12:00-4:00 PM,

Wed. 9:00 AM-12:00 PM, Thursday 1:00-6:00 PM

Coffee Prep Volunteers

This Sunday: Ward and Pam Bingaman

Next Sunday: Kris Rheinheimer

Welcome Center

This Sunday: Carolyn Miller

Next Sunday: Karen Pletcher

ADMINISTRATION

Stewardship Report for February 3:

Money Given to Budget \$5,925.00

Amount Needed Weekly for Budget \$5,565.25

Year-to-date Money Given to Budget \$124,166.90

Amount Needed Year-to-Date for Budget \$128,000.75

Note: Maribeth will be out of the office tomorrow morning.

COMMUNITY LIFE

Ladies don't forget the retreat at Hunter Lake this Friday and Saturday.

The Goshen Community Chorale will begin rehearsing for its upcoming spring season on Tuesday evening, February 12th, at College Mennonite Church, beginning at 7:00 p.m. The Chorale will be preparing for a joint performance with the Maple City Community Orchestra on Saturday evening, May 11th. Featured works will be Haydn's "Lord Nelson Mass" and the Handel Coronation Anthem "The King Shall Rejoice." The Chorale welcomes new members who have a background in choral singing and who wish to commit themselves to regular attendance at rehearsals and to learning challenging repertoire. Interested persons should contact the music director, William Mateer, at (574) 533-2562 or mateers@aol.com.

The Everence Sharing Funds provided \$1,007.00 in matching funds to support special needs in our church last year. Denise Johnson serves as the Everence advocate for our congregation. Please contact her for more information.

DISCIPLING

On Tuesday, Feb. 12, five Goshen College students will compete in the annual C. Henry Smith Peace Oratorical

Contest at 7 p.m. in the college's Umble Center. The students will each deliver a 10-minute speech on their chosen topic relating to peace, with a reception and an announcement of the winners to follow. This event is free and open to the public.

The Goshen College choirs will give their Winter Choral Concert on Saturday, Feb. 9, at 7:30 p.m. in the Music Center's Sauder Concert Hall. Performing are the Chamber Choir, Men's Chorus and the Women's World Music Choir, each will perform individually and as a large joint chorus. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$6 seniors/students, and can be purchased at goshen.edu/tickets or at the goshen college box office.

Musical Tickets: Bethany Christian High School will perform Junie B Jones the Musical on Thursday-Sunday, Feb. 28-March 3, 2019. Bring the children in your life for this one-act musical and treats with the cast! In this beloved musical, the outspoken and loveable Junie heads to first grade, adjusts to school, gets glasses, learns how to navigate the relationships of childhood, and discovers her own voice in her diary of "Top Secret Personal Beeswax." Tickets are \$9 for adults and \$7 for students. Tickets may be purchased online beginning Feb. 11 at bethanycs.net/tickets. Performances are at 7 p.m. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday and 3 p.m. Sunday.

Preschool received a grant from Everence, which will be used for scholarship tuitions. We are full for next year in our KPREP class and 2/3 full in our POPS class. The KPREP class will begin their "Around the World" theme the end of the month, learning about different places and cultures. We decided to have our spring fundraiser with Rise' N Roll Bakery.

OUTREACH

First Mennonite Women's next project is collecting items for teacher kits for Haiti for CAM. Items needed are: 1 sturdy desktop stapler, (5000) box of staples, 1 staple remover, 2 soccer balls, 1 hand pump with needles, and big shoe boxes.

MCC's Sharing With Appalachia People (SWAP)

program is seeking volunteer groups, individuals and summer staff. Summer will be here before we know it, so make your summer plans now to join SWAP in Kentucky or West Virginia. Don't miss out on your

chance to serve with this home repair ministry while learning about life in Appalachia. Groups or individuals can volunteer to serve as week-long volunteers. SWAP is also looking for summer staff to serve as job site coordinators and meals coordinators/cooks for three month assignments. For more information about bringing a group to SWAP or serving as summer staff, visit swap.mcc.org or contact Angela Maggard at AppalachiaAdmin@mcc.org or 606-633-5065.

Trivia:
Camels have three eyelids!

