

ON THE JOURNEY

Thought for the day by Pastor Phil:

"It is not what you call me, but what I answer to."

African Proverb

CALENDAR

Wed 3/27	9:00 am	Moms In Prayer
	5:30 pm	Outreach Commission
	6:00 pm	Discovery Bible Study
	7:00 pm	Music Practice
Thur 3/28	6:00 pm	Evana Night-Meal/Meeting with Gene Hartman
Sun 3/31	9:00 am	Phil Preaching
	6:00 pm	MYF
Mon 4/1	6:00 pm	Worship Commission
	6:00 pm	Ladies Exercise
Wed 4/3	9:00 am	Moms In Prayer
	7:00 pm	Music Practice
Fri 4/5	6:00 pm	Ladies Night In
Sun 4/7	9:00 am	Phil Preaching
	6:00 pm	MYF
Mon 4/8		Health Department
	5:00 pm	POPS Advisory Board
	6:00 pm	Ladies Exercise
Tues 4/9	6:30 pm	Discipling Commission
	7:00 pm	Commission Chair Meeting
Wed 4/10	9:00 am	Moms In Prayer
	6:30 pm	Administration Commission
	6:45 pm	Food Pantry Advisory Board
	7:00 pm	Music Practice

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

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

March/April Birthdays

Bernie Miller – 28

Michelle Mullet – 1

Al Yoder – 3

Sam Graber – 6

Dave (Patty) Yoder – 10

Jim Wyse – 12

Bill Johnson – 14

Dorothy Miller – 15

Marge Miller – 15

Shari Graber – 16

Jena Bontreger – 18

Bryce Rheinheimer – 24

Enos Miller - 30

WORSHIP

Focus statement: Jesus said, "I AM – The Good Shepherd." There are many images of "God as a Shepherd" in the Old Testament. Jesus claims to be that shepherd, the one who leads, feeds, protects, and cares for His people, and even goes searching for the one which has gone astray. And if that were not enough, **This Shepherd** even gives his life for his sheep! It is of great comfort to know that we do not go through life alone, that we have one who goes in front of us to prepare life for us, and who goes with us through the dark and uncertain times of life, who protects us from predators who would devour us, and who knows and cares for our every need.

Background scriptures: John 10:11-15, 27-28

Coffee Prep Volunteers

This Sunday: Navigator Class

Next Sunday: Dave Graber

Welcome Center

This Sunday: Carol Johnson

Next Sunday: Shari Graber

ADMINISTRATION

Stewardship Report for March 24:

Money Given to Budget \$4,242.00

Amount Needed Weekly for Budget \$5,565.25

Year-to-date Money Given to Budget \$165,943.01

Amount Needed Year-to-Date for Budget \$166,957.50

Administration Commission met in March and were encouraged to hear our average quarterly attendance is 99 and average quarterly giving is \$7000. We signed paperwork to open our Everence Foundation Accounts; one for Education Endowment, one for the Music Endowment and one for excess Capital Expenditures (rainy day fund). We learned our renters at 204 E. Lawrence vacated before their lease ended. We are working with our rental company to close everything and prepare the property for sale. Kerry received a quote from Element Masters for a new HVAC system. We are still waiting for a final estimate on the roof. Once we have that, we anticipate submitting a proposal to the Church Board, then requesting a congregational meeting to review our quotes and hopefully begin the work this spring. We reviewed the suggested fees for custodian and sound person in our Facility Rental Guidelines to make sure they were adequate.

COMMUNITY LIFE

Offering baskets will be available for giving for the Compassion Fund at our Maundy Thursday Meal on April 18th.

Marion Christian Fellowship will be holding our regular, fifth Sunday, Old Fashioned Hymn Sing at the end of this month on March 31 at 6 pm. Finger foods will be provided by our congregation. The other dates for the rest of this year will be June 30 and September 29. We hope to see many of you there!

Cookies for shut-ins. If you are baking cookies and would like to share some, we have a box in the freezer marked Shut-Ins. Put 3 or 4 in a ziplock bag and put in the freezer at Church. They will then be given to shut-ins when visited. It will be much appreciated.

Delbert D. Yoder has a new address: 409 East Warren, Apt. 8, Middlebury, IN 46540. Please make the change in your directory.

DISCIPLING

The Goshen Choirs present the annual EARTHTONES choral concert on Saturday, April 6, at 7:30 p.m. in Goshen College Music Center's Sauder Concert Hall. Drawing from powerful melodies originating from almost every continent, EARTHTONES promises to provide a concert of vitality and tone color in a celebration of world music. Tickets are \$12 adults, \$8 seniors/students, available online at goshen.edu/tickets or via the Goshen College Box Office at (574) 535-7566.

The Trail of Death: A Pilgrimage of Remembrance, Lament and Transformation: June 3–13. Participants in this nine-day pilgrimage will trace the route of the U.S. military's 1838 forced removal of Potawatomi people from their ancestral homeland in northern Indiana to present-day Osawatomie, Kansas. This AMBS course can be taken for credit, audit or no credit (trip only). Limit: 15 participants. Sign up by May 1.

ambs.edu/trailofdeath

OUTREACH

First Mennonite Women's next project is collecting soap and towels for MCC. New bars of bath or laundry soap: All sizes and brands of bar soap are welcomed. Please leave in wrapper. New bath and hand towels: Good quality, dark or bright colors, medium weight preferred. Fingertip towels and wash cloths **are not** needed. FMW is also taking donations for Habitat for Humanity through Bethany Christian High School.

Amigo Centre wood splitting and workday will be on April 13th. We have a lot to do in preparation for the summer. Rain or shine we'll be tackling projects all over camp. If you are interested in helping prepare campfire wood and cleaning up areas of the timber, we'll be cutting and splitting firewood. Please RSVP by calling 269-651-2811 or emailing info@amigocentre.org

SAVE THE DATE! 22nd Annual Camper Scholarship Amigo Centre **Golf Scramble** will be **June 8th**, 2019 at 8 am. Registration to come soon. If you're interested in joining and want registration information feel free to contact Amigo Centre at 269-651-2811 to have your name added to the list.

Beating Guns: Join MCC in welcoming Shane Claiborne and Mike Martin, authors of the new book *Beating Guns: Hope for a people who are weary of violence*, on Wednesday, April 10 at 6 p.m. at Maple City Chapel for an evening of lament and education around violence involving guns. Inspired by the biblical call to “beat swords into plowshares,” the 90-minute event will feature a live transformation of a gun into a garden tool, speakers, music and stories. Tickets are free and open to the public, but registration is required. Register at beatingguns.com/tour by clicking on the Eventbrite link for the Goshen location. Direct any questions to Jes Stoltzfus Buller, MCC Peace Education Coordinator, at JessicaBuller@mcc.org.

MCC responds to disaster caused by Cyclone Idai in Mozambique and Malawi: On March 15, Cyclone Idai destroyed 90 percent of Beira, one of Mozambique’s largest cities, and affected nearly 3 million people in its path with widespread flooding up to 20 feet high. Bridges, roads, fields, farms and millions of homes were violently washed away. It was one of the worst tropical cyclones ever to hit the southern hemisphere. Your gift will help MCC and our partners provide emergency assistance to those in dire need. You can donate online at mcc.org/cyclone-idai. Donations can also be made by calling 1-888-563-4676 or by contacting your local MCC office.

The Project Promise Easter Play will be presented at Middlebury Church of the Brethren at 3 and 6 p.m. on Saturday, April 13. During this live drama, the actors will interpret the events leading up to Easter. Admission is free; a goodwill offering will be taken. The church is located at 507 Bristol Ave, Middlebury, IN 46540. Project Promise provides spiritual and social support for persons with disabilities.

MCC Borderlands Learning Tour: Mennonite Central Committee Great Lakes welcomes you to join us on a learning tour designed to bring awareness to the issues caused by the border wall along the Mexico/U.S. border. Participants will increase their understanding and knowledge of the social, economic, political and theological significance of migration in border communities, including advocacy tools and capacity building to engage others on borderlands and migration

issues. The learning tour will take place on May 22-26 in Arizona and will include crossing the border into Mexico. Attendees will also have the option to participate in the Migrant Trail walk following the tour. For more information, including a tentative schedule and online registration, visit mcc.org/borderlands-may-2019 or contact Juan Sebastian Pacheco Lozano at JuanPacheco@mcc.org or (574) 534-4133.

Sorting Out Race: MCC Great Lakes is hosting a traveling exhibit called “Sorting Out Race: Examining Racial Identity and Stereotypes in Thrift Store Donations” at The Depot MCC Thrift Shop in Goshen during the month of April. The public is invited to view the exhibit during regular business hours, Mondays-Fridays: 9-5 and Saturdays: 9-4. In addition, the display will be open special hours on Sundays, April 7 and 14 from 1-5 p.m. and on Wednesdays, April 17 and 24 for evening visits for youth groups. You can learn more about the display at sortingoutrace.com. For more information, contact the Great Lakes MCC office at 574-534-4133 or GreatLakes@mcc.org.

A queen bee can lay 800-1,500 eggs per day.



