

ON THE JOURNEY

Thought for the Day by Pastor Phil: *They put us in the ground and buried us, but they did not know that we were seeds.* Mexican Proverb

CALENDAR

Wed 4/17	9:00 am	Moms In Prayer
	7:00 pm	Music Practice
Thurs 4/18	6:00 pm	Maundy Thursday Meal/Svc.
Fri 4/19	12:00 pm	Good Friday Service at First United Methodist Church
Sat 4/20	12:00 pm	Fellowship Hall Reserved
	9:00 am	Carry-In Breakfast
Sun 4/21	10:00 am	Phil Preaching/No S.S.
	6:00 pm	MYF
		Health Department
Mon 4/22	6:00 pm	Ladies Exercise
	9:00 am	Moms In Prayer
Wed 4/24	5:30 pm	Outreach Commission
	7:00 pm	Music Practice
	9:00 am	Tim Sollenberger Morphew Preaching
Sun 4/28	1:00 pm	MYF/Laser Tag
	1:00 pm	POPS Spring Carnival
	6:00 pm	Ladies Exercise
Mon 4/29	9:00 am	Moms In Prayer
	6:00 pm	Congregational Meal/Mtg.
	6:30 pm	Food Pantry Advisory Board
Wed 5/1		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.

April Birthdays

Jena Bontreger – 18

Bryce Rheinheimer – 24

Enos Miller - 30

WORSHIP

Focus statement: The first Christians considered the greatest of all Christian holidays to be Easter, the Resurrection of Jesus. So great was the resurrection to them, that they celebrated Jesus' resurrection every week, on the first day of the week. Christians all around the world continue to celebrate Easter with much enthusiasm, for in this event, we find the hope of our own resurrection. The Bible tells us that Jesus was the "First fruits" of them that slept, implying that Jesus was the first, but not the last, that there will be many more who will follow him out of their graves to live with him forevermore.

Background scriptures: John 11:1-44, 20:1-31

Coffee Prep Volunteers

This Sunday: Kris Rheinheimer

Next Sunday: Janelle Walther

Welcome Center

This Sunday: Karen Pletcher

Next Sunday: Verna Weirich

The Middlebury Ministerial Association is leading a Good Friday Service, April 19th, at Noon. This year's service will be hosted at First United Methodist Church in Middlebury. Join us as we remember this holy day together!

From Worship Commission: Dates to remember: **April 18, 6:00** - Maundy Thursday Meal & Communion; **April 21** - Easter breakfast 9:00, Worship 10:00; **June 2** – Senior Recognition (Grace) plus Blessing/Sending

(Karen); **June 30**, 10 a.m. – Outdoor Worship & meal. Pastor Phil would like to have 3-5 people to comprise an Anointing Team, to go with him when he has requests. If you would be willing to be a part of this Team, please let Phil or Ruth Beasley know as soon as possible. Thank you for your compassion for those of our Congregation and willingness to share with them.

ADMINISTRATION

Stewardship Report for April 14:

Money Given to Budget \$4,772.00

Amount Needed Weekly for Budget \$5,565.25

Year-to-date Money Given to Budget \$185,708.01

Amount Needed Year-to-Date for Budget \$183,653.25

Administration Commission met in April and was encouraged to hear our average attendance and giving has increased. Our Everence accounts are opened and funded. We are still waiting on a final estimate for the roof repair before we can begin the process of approving the work and starting. We are working with our rental company and realtor to begin selling our rental at 204 E. Lawrence. This property should be listed in April yet. We will begin the budget process in our June commission meetings, which means you will have the budget paperwork in late May.

Update on Conference Affiliation from the Board

The board would like to thank everyone that was able to come and listen and participate in the meetings with Wes Bontrager from Yellow Creek affiliated with LMC, and Gene Hartman from Emma, affiliated with Evana. There are DVD's of both meetings available for those that would like to hear this information. As a follow up to these meetings, we have scheduled a Congregational Conference Affiliation forum that will be held on **Wednesday, May 1** in the Fellowship Hall. At 6:00 pm we will be having a meal and the meeting will then follow at 7:00 pm. Our goal for this meeting is to follow up on any questions, concerns or comments that you would like to share with your brothers and sisters here at FMC. We ask that you prayerfully consider which of these networks/conferences would help us to continue our mission, vision and values as an FMC church family. At any time, please do not hesitate to contact any of the Board members if you have questions regarding this change in affiliation.

On May 5, the board will be meeting to prayerfully process the information that we receive from individuals and from the May 1 meeting. Our goal is to make a recommendation to the congregation at the Spring Business Meeting on **May 22** regarding our future affiliation. The FMC church board members are: Ike Walther, Sonya Miller, Pastor Phil Yoder, Carolyn Miller, Kent Birky and Linda Young.

COMMUNITY LIFE

Offering baskets will be available for giving for the Compassion Fund at our Maundy Thursday Meal tomorrow.

Attention Everyone: Mary Weaver is missing her Bible. Please check yours at home to see if you grabbed the wrong one by mistake. Her name is on the front of it.

On 5/28/2019 at Crystal Valley Missionary Church, Life Line Screening will offer area residents an opportunity to do something that will build health awareness about stroke, vascular disease and osteoporosis. Please check out the flier posted on the bulletin board for more information if you are interested.

FMC is a busy church with its Mission projects and weekly/monthly activities that we all do. At the board meeting it was noted that we discuss these on Sunday mornings and information goes out in the Newsletter. However, when a person comes to visit our church for the first time, that information is not available to them. I will be working on a brochure or informational paper to be given to visitors at the visitor station, that will tell/explain to them our missions and events that happen routinely here at FMC. If you have something that you would like added to this information sheet or would be interested in helping with this project, please contact me at llouyoung10@gmail.com or text me at 574-612-3011. The plan is that after this is developed, the congregation will see it before it actually is used, to assure that nothing has been forgotten. The goal will be to have it in the hands of our visitors by June 1.
Linda Young

DISCIPLING

Apr. 26 Fish Fry: Bethany Christian High School's junior class fish fry is 4:30-8:00 p.m., Friday, April 26. Come for an evening of fellowship, homemade pie, and all the fish you can eat. Tickets are \$12 for adults and carryout and \$6 for children grades 1-6 (Kindergarten and younger eat free). Carryout window opens at 4:00. Tickets may be purchased from any Bethany junior or at the school (2904 S Main St, Goshen).

MS Play: Bethany Christian Middle School will perform *The Life and Times of Princess Sophia* at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday, May 3 and 4. Tickets, \$5 for adults and \$3 for students, may be purchased online beginning April 15 at bethanycs.net/tickets. Synopsis: With the title character nowhere to be found, Princess Tabasco and her lady-in-waiting Saffron set off on an adventure to rescue Prince Gallant from the Evil Sorceress Nefaria. On the way, they join forces with an unlucky leprechaun, an unwicked witch, and a very unconvincing dragon. Will this band of fairy tale rejects be enough to stop Nefaria and her infamous harpies?

From the Preschool Board: The preschool is having their annual carnival on April 28 and we are asking for the congregation's help once again. We are asking for baked goods for our bake sale. If you are willing to donate, please have your items at the church on Saturday, April 27, or Sunday, April 28. Thanks in advance for all your help!

The MYF Sponsors are looking for some help with providing lunches for the youth and sponsors right after church on Sunday 4/28, and Sunday 5/19. It looks like our group will be growing in number () , so we will have a head count the week before. Our MYF parents help us so much we were hoping to give them a bit of a break...😊. Please contact Pam Bingaman if you are interested. Also, the MYF will be hosting a Game Night on Sunday May 5, from 5-8 pm. And we have invited many local teens to join us. If any of you know of any teens that might like to join us, by all means encourage them to come. There will be Flyers at the church to hand out. We will also be looking for some

help with snacks to share with our gamers. More info to follow...

OUTREACH

First Mennonite Women's next project is collecting items for Interfaith Hospitality Network. Items needed: toilet paper, cleaning supplies, disinfectant wipes, napkins/paper towels, size 5 & 6 diapers, and baby wipes.

SAVE THE DATE! 22nd Annual Camper Scholarship Amigo Centre **Golf Scramble** will be **June 8th**, 2019 at 8 am. 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.

Join us for a Comforter Bash! Make plans to join us on November 8 and 9 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). We are also in need of comforter tops (size 60"x80"), so please consider making them now for use at the event. 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.

For those of you that would still like to help provide a dish to share, children's gifts for prizes, more candy or coins to help with the games and activities that we have planned for the 3rd Sunday at the Pantry "Easter Celebration"... you can drop off your items in the shopping cart in the foyer at church or bring them directly to the food pantry and place them in the Dropbox. We will have a group stuffing eggs at The Pantry on Wednesday evening! Thank you so much for your help!! Much love and many blessings, Pam.



The **resurrection** of Jesus Christ

Easter Sermon