

ON THE JOURNEY

Celebrating Dad

With graduations, vacations, and all the wonderful activities that summer brings each year, celebrating Father's Day is one of the highlights that we look forward to in June. God, in his great wisdom designed that all human beings have both a father and a mother. Our fathers and our mothers are two of the greatest gifts God gives to us. That does not make them perfect and it doesn't even make them good, but it does make them important. And for that reason, God tells us to honor our fathers and mothers.

Fathers are important in the lives of their children for many reasons. Children generally tend to see their fathers as strong, and that perceived strength provides a security and safe environment for children to live, to take risks, and to try new things. Fathers see things in their children that others may not see in them. They work and play with their children in unique ways, and encourage them in unique ways, which builds confidence in their children. And in various other ways, fathers bless their children. These things make fathers indispensable in the maturing process of their children. Statistics show that children raised in homes without a father are much more likely to be involved in delinquent behavior or to commit a crime than children raised in a home where dad is present.

Traditionally, fathers have been the providers and protectors of their families and set boundaries for their families. These things are crucial for the psychological well-being of young children because it gives them a sense of security. But sometimes, as children grow toward independence, they tend to push back, especially on the boundaries, and often the result is that they appreciate their fathers less. However, age has its revenge. I don't know if it is wisdom that comes with age, or if it is having children of our own, or perhaps both, but as young people mature, they frequently begin to develop a new appreciation for dad, a different and much deeper appreciation than they had as small children. This little poem illustrates this point.

MY DADDY (Author Unknown)

4 Years old – My Daddy can do anything

7 Years old – My Daddy knows everything

10 Years old – My Dad doesn't know quite everything

12 Years old – My Dad doesn't know that either

14 Years old – Of course Dad doesn't know that

17 Years old – The Old Man is hopelessly old-fashioned

20 Years old – The Old Man doesn't know anything

23 Years old – Dad knows a little, but not much

27 Years old – It's surprising how much Dad has learned recently

30 Years old – I need to find out what Dad thinks

40 Years old – Before we decide, we need to get Dad's opinion

50 Years old – I wonder what Dad would have thought about it

60 Years old – My Dad knew everything

70 Years old – I would give anything to talk to Dad again

Few things make a father happier than to see his children succeed and become very good at what they do. It is not uncommon for fathers to find more joy in the successes of their children than in their own success. Could that be one of the reasons that Jesus taught us to address God as "Our Father," because of the joy we bring to our Heavenly Father when we do things well?

Submitted by Pastor Phil Yoder

| CALENDAR | | |
|-------------------|----------|--|
| Wed 6/5 | 6:30 pm | Food Pantry Advisory Board |
| | 7:00 pm | Music Practice |
| Fri 6/7 | 6:00 pm | Ladies Night In |
| Sun 6/9 | 9:00 am | Marlin Swartz Preaching/Sr. Recognition-Tim Keller |
| | 6:00 pm | MYF |
| Mon 6/10 | | Health Department |
| | 6:00 pm | Ladies Exercise |
| Tues 6/11 | 6:30 pm | Discipling Commission |
| Wed 6/12 | 7:00 pm | Music Practice |
| Thurs 6/13 | 9:00 am | First Mennonite Women |
| | 6:30 pm | Board |
| Sun 6/16 | 9:00 am | Phil Preaching/Commission Tom Bontreger |
| | 6:00 pm | MYF |
| Mon 6/17 | 12:00 pm | Blood Drive |
| | 6:00 pm | Ladies Exercise |
| Tues 6/18 | 6:30 pm | Community Life Commission |
| Wed 6/19 | 6:30 pm | Administration Commission |
| | 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.

June Birthdays

Cristina Klotz – 9
 Betty Miller – 9
 Elnora Yoder – 10
 Kathy Troyer – 12
 Viv Schlabach – 13
 Grant Miller – 19
 Mason Schrock – 19
 Kris Rheinheimer – 21
 Doris Hershberger – 23
 Katie Hochstedler – 23

Tom Kurtz – 24
 Leona Yoder - 28

WORSHIP

Focus statement: Marlin Swartz will be preaching this Sunday. Sermon title: "God is Good"

Background scriptures:

Coffee Prep Volunteers

This Sunday: Ward & Pam Bingaman
 Next Sunday: Kris Rheinheimer

Welcome Center

This Sunday: Carolyn Miller
 Next Sunday: Karen Pletcher

From Worship Commission - FMC's Outdoor Worship service will be June 30, 10 a.m. with a carry in meal to follow. Mike Brouillette and Extend Ministries will join us, as well as folks from the Food Pantry. We will be commissioning Youth and Sponsors for their upcoming Mission trip that day as well. Worship Commission is planning Communion for July 7. July 14, Everence will bringing refreshments to have during our coffee time between Worship and SS service, as a way to thank FMC. We are also looking to fund a project with grant money from Everence – details to follow soon. On October 20 we will have Phil & Alice Shenk, missionaries from Russia speak to us.

ADMINISTRATION

Stewardship Report for June 2:

Money Given to Budget \$4,910.00
 Amount Needed Weekly for Budget \$5,565.25
 Year-to-date Money Given to Budget \$226,007.01
 Amount Needed Year-to-Date for Budget \$222,610.00

From Administration Commission: Papers for next year's budget were put into the commission mailboxes. Make sure and pick them up. They need to be returned to Shirley's mailbox by August 1st.

COMMUNITY LIFE

Everyone is invited to Tim Keller's graduation open house on June 9 from 3:30-6:30 PM at Middlebury Greencroft Clubhouse.

DISCIPLING

Pathways Retreat (309 1/2 Hackett Rd, Goshen) invites you to spend time in nature this summer. We are a birding hotspot with 108 species sighted to date. Two prayer labyrinths, a wildflower meadow with comfortable seating to watch the bees and butterflies, and two miles of wooded walking trails are available to all right here in the city! Visitors are welcome anytime from dawn to dusk with no need for a reservation.

www.pathwaysretreat.org

Job opening: Bus driver for the daily Elkhart-Bethany route, before school and after school. Applicants must have first-aid certification and interpersonal skills to relate well to students and parents. CDL with school endorsement preferred but not required. See bethanycs.net/jobs.

OUTREACH

First Mennonite Women's next project is collecting items for infant care kits for MCC. Items needed: 3 gowns/sleepers (flannel or similar warm, soft material), 3 undershirts/onesies (short or long sleeves), 1 receiving blanket (lightweight fleece or flannel, minimum 30 in. x 30 in., larger sizes preferred), 4 large, heavy-duty safety pins, 1 large bar mild soap (leave in wrapper), 1 pair of socks, and 1 cap. **Note:** Size 3-12 months. Items can either be purchased or hand-sewn.

Challenge: Jan Yoder donated 30 baby hats for the sewing's infant kits. The challenge is now to donate 30 kits and the hats are provided.

Let's celebrate God's faithfulness! God has been good and the "Share the Blessing" house is complete! Now we want to celebrate with Marcia, Ellie, and Abby and praise God for the many people who made this new home possible. You are invited to join us for an Open House on June 15, from 3-6 PM at the Hershberger residence; 1512 Firestar Drive, Goshen. There will be a

short service of Blessing at around 3:30 for those present. No gifts please – just your presence.

Project Promise will hold its annual chicken BBQ fundraiser 4:00 to 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 13, at Siloam Fellowship (61616 County Road 35, Goshen). Featuring High's Signature BBQ chicken with baked potatoes and homemade pie. Suggested donation: \$10 for dine-in or carry-out. Project Promise provides spiritual and social opportunities for persons with disabilities.

MCC Appalachia seeking program coordinator: MCC Great Lakes is looking for an Appalachia Program Coordinator to provide overall direction and supervision of MCC's work in the Appalachian region in eastern Kentucky and southern West Virginia. Specifically, this Program Coordinator will help with the primary program Sharing With Appalachian People (SWAP), a home repair ministry that provides service and learning opportunities at three locations. The Program Coordinator reports to the Executive Director for MCC Great Lakes in Goshen. Apply online for this opening by July 1 at mcc.org/get-involved/serve/openings/appalachia-program-coordinator. For more information contact Amber Falcón at 574-534-4133 or AmberFalcon@mcc.org.

