

## Special Presentation by Goshen College

### The Parables

Worship Leader: Pastor Phil Yoder

Worship Preview: We welcome Goshen College's Worship Ensemble, "Parables" to First Mennonite Church on Sunday. The theme of their presentation this year is "Walk in the Light." Parables uses music, drama, and Scripture in their presentation.

Music is an important part of most people's lives. Whether they feel they can sing or not, most people try, and even if they are shy to sing when other are around, most like to listen to music. We are created with the ability to both make music and to enjoy music. The truth is, most people like to sing and make music, and we do so with various degrees of skills and refinement. And like most things in life, the degree to which we focus on music and dedicate ourselves to practice and refine our skills, the better we become at it.

Music is a vital part of our worship. Music is one of the important ways we express our faith in worship. In worship, we listen to God's Word, we give our tithes and offerings, we declare our dependence on God when we pray, but when we sing, our love for God and our declarations of faith gush from our hearts with feeling and emotion. Music has tremendous powers, as it engages not only our intellect, but our emotions and our imaginations. One of the most fascinating things in the recent study of dementia, is that people who suffer from that dreaded disease, almost always retain their memory of music. Perhaps music is lodged in a part of the brain that is not affected by dementia, or perhaps music interacts with the brain in a different way than our other forms of learning that fade with dementia.

Music has always been a very important part of worship of God. Very early in the Bible, we find Miriam's Song, and Moses' Song, and other songs, and generally, these are accompanied with dancing and celebration. It is significant that the largest book in the Bible is a collection of songs and hymns. Psalms was the Hebrew song book. I am so glad that these have been rediscovered, and at least some of modern worship music is singing of the Psalms. It is also worth noting, that in the worship scenes in the Book of Revelation, there is music, and a lot of it. And sometimes with the note, the singers are singing a "new song," a song of redemption, but it is always a song directed to God that flows from grateful hearts in praise and worship of God.

~Pastor Phil

**Sunday Worship - 9:00a**  
**Sunday School - 10:15a**

You can join in the live stream of Sunday sermons by clicking onto You Tube, then typing in FMC INDIANA in the search box. We begin at 9:00 am on Sunday mornings, but the livestream may not be fully available until 11



Michelle Mullet	1
Al Yoder	3
Dave Yoder	10
Jim Wyse	12
Bill Johnson	14
Dorothy Miller	15
Marge Miller	15
Shari Graber	16
La era Hooley	17
Bryce Rheinheimer	24

**First Mennonite Church**  
**PO Box 508**  
**Middlebury IN 46540**  
**574-825-5135**

*Our mission is to extend grace,  
build peace, and share love within  
& beyond our faith community*

#### Office Hours

Pastor Phil

Tuesday 9:30a—1:30p

Thursday 1:00p—6:00p

Pastor Tim by appointment

Church Office: Linda Young

Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri: 8 am—1 pm

#### **Our Congregational Care**

**Coordinator Jean Shriner** can be contacted at (574) 596-3376 or email [jsshine@frontier.com](mailto:jsshine@frontier.com)



### Please pray for:

- ♥ For those that recently lost loved ones
  - **Joe & Elsie Yoder** and family in the passing of Elsie's mother Mary Gingerich, on April 10.
  - **Don Ritchie** and family in the passing of Mildred on Monday afternoon. Visitation will be this Thursday afternoon from 3-6 pm and the funeral will be on Friday morning at 10:30 am all @ Miller Stewart Funeral Home.
  - Merle Mullet requested prayer for his Sister and Brother-in-law, **Marie & Glenn Kuhns** in the passing of their granddaughter **Madi**.
- ♥ Gary & Ruth Denlinger and the recent threat to Israel from Iraq. (there latest letter is attached with the Newsletter)

### Ongoing prayers for....

- ♥ **Friends with health issues:** Bill Johnson and Brad Miller (who are at the Laurel's) , Gordon Kauffman who is in Hospice care at Hubbard Hill, Ralph Burton (Martha Weirich's son-in-law, cancer) Willie Yoder (Merle Mullet's brother in law, Malinda Eash's Aunts; Marsha and Janine with health issues, Luke Schrock and his walk with Jesus, Mei Sasaki at Seminary.
- ♥ For our nation, the world and the leaders that have so many decisions to make. May they be guided by our dear Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

### Praise for.....

- ☺ Edna Hochstetler's new Great Grandson Harold Joseph
- ☺ Chris Miller thankful for the completion of his treatments and for the kindness and care of the caregivers at Goshen Hospital
- ☺ Pam Bingaman's recent trip to Arizona to celebrate Ward's mother Sally's, 90th birthday. Pam also shared how she loved and enjoyed all of God's creation out in the west, including "the horseback riding in the dessert like the cowboys use to do."

### From "The Bridge"

(This is an excerpt from a letter we recently received. The entire letter is on the West Bulletin board)  
...Because of your contribution, we can continue our mission on alleviating hunger and providing essential nourishment to those who need it most. Your support ensures that we can keep our shelves stocked and aid those facing food insecurity.

Please feel free to visit us at the Middlebury Food Pantry to see the direct impact of your support. We would be thrilled to show you the vital work that your donation enables us to do....

~Pam Bingaman, Executive Director

### PLEASANT OAKS PRESCHOOL FUND RAISER

This year's Preschool's Spring Fundraiser is Amish Fry Pies. There is a sheet in the foyer, listing the 12 flavors offered. So sign up for as many of these tasty treats as you wish. The cost is:

1 for \$4

5 for \$18

10 for \$35

Orders are due by Friday, April 26 and the pies will be delivered May 5. Payment is due at the time you sign up. You can put your payment (With your name on the envelope) in the church office slot.

*The funds go towards tuition scholarships and classroom equipment. We appreciate your support!*



Words of wisdom from my mother: "The truth only hurst if it should!" ~Linda

**Are you looking for a way to serve while sharing your faith?** Menno-Hof, located in Shipshewana, is sharing the Anabaptist story with guests from all over the world and is in need of local volunteers to greet and assist visitors. Schedules are flexible. For more information, contact Betty Lou: 260-768-4117 or [blkline@mennohof.org](mailto:blkline@mennohof.org)  
(Just a personal note. This is a very blessed way to share about your faith and meet many different people. If you have any questions talk with Jerry Beasley, Chris

## MYSTERY MENNO

Our Mystery Menno for this week grew up in Honeyville and attended school there for 8 1/2 years. Later in life did attain their GED. There were 13 children around the home when they were growing up. After marriage moved to Millersburg for 47 years. Worked at a very decorative place, making products for 4-H fairs all across the USA. Has 2 children, 2 grandchildren and 3 step grandchildren. Enjoys gospel music, doing puzzles and spending time with the family. Outside work keeps them busy. Currently lives in Goshen. **Who is this Mystery Menno?**

Our Mystery Menno for last week was born in Attwood, Illinois. At the ripe old age of 6 months, she moved to the Middlebury area with her family She was the oldest of 9 children. They lived on a dairy farm and she learned to milk cows before starting first grade. Attended area schools but as a senior had the opportunity to travel out to Virginia to attend Eastern Mennonite High School. After High School she returned back to Indiana to marry Harvey here at FMC and raise their three children, Tony, Cheryl and Brenda. She enjoys baking and cooking and gardening. Has won numerous awards for her canning and plants at the 4-H Fair. Bowling has also been a big part of her life. She served 26 years as the Secretary-Treasurer for her bowling league and was inducted into the Goshen Bowling Hall of Fame in 2003. She was a bowler for 57 1/2 years and stopped bowling at the age of 85. Our Mystery Menno was martha weirich. Thank you Martha for sharing your life with us!

### Comforter packets from MCC

Thanks to the diligent work of many creative people, our comforter bash committee has been overwhelmed with comforter tops that need to be made into blankets to be shipped around the world. But don't worry, we'll help you help us! Our wonderful committee is putting together comforter "packets" which will include a top, a back, batting and thread to knot it. These are available to pick up at The Depot Material Resources Center in Goshen – 1013 Division Street (Door #2) – **on Tuesday mornings from 9:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. or by appointment (please call Nadine at 574-534-4071)**. The packets will be available while supplies last. Thank you for sharing warmth and comfort with our global neighbors!

## FMC OUTREACH

### April First Mennonite Women Project

Crushed but not Broken

**(All items need to be turned in by May10!)**

Diapers

Wet Wipes

Toiletry items and soap

Shampoo and conditioner

Detergent

Cleaning supplies

Towels (Bath and or Kitchen)

Anything else that is used in the Kitchen

### ASSISTING WITH PROJECTS FOR RELIEF SALE

Looking for a way to contribute your talents to the Michiana Mennonite Relief Sale? A revamped Crafter's Marketplace is in the works for this year and we need your help. Come to a sewing and crafting workshop at East Goshen Mennonite Church, 2019 E. Lincoln Ave, Goshen on Saturday, May 4 from 10-3. Everything needed for these projects has been donated and all items made will be sold at the Relief Sale (Sept 27-28, 2024). Taco Salad will be provided so bring a snack, side dish or dessert to share for lunch. Please RSVP to [crafting.mMrs@gmail.com](mailto:crafting.mMrs@gmail.com) by **April 29** or email if you have questions. We hope you or your church groups are working on your own projects to donate. Feel free to bring your projects along to work on.

## FMC HAPPENINGS

### Commission Updates

#### Administration

AC heard our quarterly average attendance is 80. We are ahead of the budget by \$18,405.39. We reviewed our monthly bills. We discussed a new phone system, added signage for our elevator and bathrooms, and a new outdoor church sign. We noted Todd Holsopple of Everence will attend our May meeting to review our endowment funds. We also discussed our agenda for our Spring Business meeting.

#### Preschool Update

Pleasant Oaks Preschool continues to accept pre-registrations for next year. We are beginning our Spring Fundraiser of selling Amish Fry Pies. There is a paper on the bulletin board. Our students will be studying Community Helpers, Recycling and Science this month.



**Congratulations to Katie Walther and the Trine University Dance team that came in 2nd in The College Classic National Championship!**

### Hardings eScrip Program

Do you ever shop at Hardings Market? When you shop your dollars can be used to give back to FMC. "Harding's Markets will make contributions to your chosen group, based on purchases made by you, just by using your registered Harding's eScrip Community Card. Your purchases make automatic contributions."

In February our church received \$164.32 from those of you that already use this card.

There is a paper in your mailboxes to let you know how you can become part of this program. Thank you to all of you that are already a part of this!

## LMC EVENT

# The Confession of Faith in a Mennonite Perspective (pt. 1)

### An Anabaptist Faith and Practice Class

In this class we will study basic theology as this is found in our confession of faith (1995). This will include an introduction to theology; a detailed look at the first twelve articles of the confession; and a more in-depth look at various theological topics related to these articles.

The same class will be offered at two times each week for seven weeks. Tuesday evenings 6:30-8:05, starting September 10<sup>th</sup> and Thursday mornings 10:30-12:05, starting September 12<sup>th</sup>. You can attend by Zoom or in person at Hub 450, 450 N. Prince Street, Lancaster PA.

This class will be taught by William Higgins (PhD), LMC staff. For more information or to sign up contact William at [whiggins@lmcchurches.org](mailto:whiggins@lmcchurches.org) or call 717 293-5246, ext. 121. The class is free, but for those who can, a \$20 donation is suggested toward the STEP scholarship fund.