

NEWS & NOTES

January 25 2009

HERE AT BENTON

This Week

Wednesday, 7 pm, Church Council

Friday, 6:30 pm, Social night, Greencroft, Manor II dining room, for all Benton folks and their families and friends. Bring table games and snacks.

Staff Hours

Brenda Friday 10 -1
Doug Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9-2;
 Wednesday 11-2
Steve Friday 8-12

Happy Birthday! ☺

Joshua Bustos January 26
Megan Stuk January 28
Kristina Lazarevic January 31

Announcements

Mennonite World Conference Assembly is in Asuncion, Paraguay July 14 – 19, 2009. The theme is “Come Together in the Way of Christ,” based on Philippians 2:1-11. Benton sponsors a member to attend, and this year \$750 is available for someone to attend. The costs will be at least \$1700, with \$1100 for travel. Possible add-on activities include a Global Youth Summit for those 18-27 years old July 10-12 and Assembly Scattered in other South American locations before or after the Assembly. So far no one has said that they will go, so if you are interested please say something to Brenda or Doug by the end of January.

Offering

January 18 2009 Regular Offering	\$3,614.00
Year to Date Needed	\$53,500.00
Year to Date Received	\$56,931.00
Difference	\$3,431.00

Some Goshen College students, faculty and staff have requested our prayers. Take home a sheet from the foyer table, and pray regularly this semester for the person pictured there.

IN THE COMMUNITY

Tuesday, January 27, 7 pm

“Beyond liberal and conservative: Finding new directions,” will be the theme of a free public lecture by Diana Butler Bass hosted by Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary. The lecture will be held at Trinity United Methodist Church, 2715 East Jackson Boulevard in Elkhart. Dr. Bass, who has researched 300 congregations in mainline denominations, will explore how churches can find new vitality in today’s culture and still claim the best of their faith traditions.

The 2009 **Mennonite Disaster Service** All-Unit meeting is February 13-14 in Mobile, Alabama. The All-Unit meeting is an annual opportunity for the MDS family to gather for worship, inspiration and story-telling. Register early for best hotel availability. Registration forms are available for download on the [MDS website](#), or you may call MDS at (800) 241-8111 to have one sent to you.

Mediation Skills Training Institute for Church Leaders will be presented August 3-7, 2009 at St Barnabas Episcopal Church, Glen Ellyn, Illinois.

The institute is designed to equip church leaders with the skills necessary to deal effectively with interpersonal, congregational, and other forms of group conflict. It also includes a component on congregational intervention and consultation, placed within the context of family systems theory.

For registration information, call Lombard Mennonite Peace Center at 630 627-0507 or visit their website at www.LMPeaceCenter.org.