

NEWS & NOTES

April 5 2009

HERE AT BENTON

This Week

Wednesday, 9:30 am, Friendship Circle Sewing

Wednesday, 7 pm, Gifts Ministry

See bulletin for special **Holy Week** events.

Staff Hours

Brenda Because visas were denied for her trip to Iran, Brenda is in Denver and plans to return on Tuesday.

Doug Thursday, Friday, 9-2. Because of spring break Doug's office hours are irregular the first half of the week. If you need to contact him call him at home or on his cell phone.

Steve Friday, 8-12

Announcements

The Clinton-Benton churches' **Good Friday service** will be a passion play written by Zion Community Church's Jim Wysong. Children interested in singing and acting in the play are invited to Rock Run Church of the Brethren at 5 pm for a rehearsal and meal. The worship begins at 7 pm.

The Shop-Vacs and fans may be removed from the fellowship hall.

It's that time of year again and Bethany Christian School is having its bi-annual **Jonah Fish Fry**. If you are interested in purchasing tickets please contact me by phone or email. Caitlin Fecher 238-2644 or email at Fechissimo@gmail.com. Homemade pie and all the fish you can eat will be served Friday, April 24, 4:30 to 8 pm. Tickets are \$8.25 for adults and carryout and \$5.25 for children K-6 (preschool-age free).

Offering

March 29 2009 Regular Offering	\$1,809.00
Year to Date Needed	\$80,250.00
Year to Date Received	\$83,795.00
Difference	\$3,545.00

Are you considering baptism as a sign of your commitment to Christ and his body the church? The pastors plan to begin a baptism preparation class next month to help people decide if they are ready to make this commitment. Talk to Doug or Brenda in the next two weeks if you are interested or you have any questions about taking the class.

Our congregation will furnish grocery, paper, and personal items for **MDC Goldenrod** in mid-April. A suggested list from MDC was in your mailboxes. You can begin bringing your items anytime.

Donations of candy and other small items that fit inside eggs for the **Easter egg hunt** on April 11 will be appreciated. There are fliers in the foyer to invite family and friends. Everyone is welcome. See Donna Risser if you have any questions.

"Thank you for your strong support! ... What a grace it is to have your partnership as part of the hopeful changes coming!" The thank-you letter from **Christian Peacemaker Teams** is posted on the bulletin board.

"On behalf of the students and staff of Benton Elementary, thank you for the congregation's recent donation to our Caring Wall project." The thank-you letter from **Benton Elementary School** is posted on the bulletin board.

IN THE COMMUNITY

April is **National Child Abuse Prevention Month**. Child abuse is an American epidemic. Before today is over, four children will die. To prevent child abuse, let us pray and act for healthy, safe, and nurturing environments in homes, churches, and centers for young children. (Mennonite Early Childhood Network)

You are invited to farewell dinners at Amigo Centre for **Nancy Kauffmann on April 17** and for **Tim Lichti on May 8** in appreciation of their eight years of ministry in IN-MI Conference as conference regional ministers. Amigo

Centre will open their doors at 5:30 pm EDT for each event and dinner will be served at 6:30 pm followed by a program. Please rsvp:

- by Friday, April 10 for Nancy's farewell
- by Friday, May 1 for Tim's farewell
- to Anita Yoder Kehr, Berkey Avenue Mennonite

Fellowship at anita@berkeyavenue.org or 574.534.2398
Cost is \$12 per person. (You may pay on site or send your check in the mail to Berkey Avenue Mennonite Fellowship, 2509 Berkey Ave, Goshen, IN 46526, payable to IN-MI Conference with "Nancy's farewell" and/or "Tim's farewell" in the memo line.)

Bethany Christian Schools' **Bright Time summer camps** for youth entering grades 1-8 include Camp Invention, athletic, art, and musical theater camps. The early registration discount deadline is April 15. Brochures are available at Bethany or www.bethanycs.net/BrightTime. For more information, contact Sarah Yoder at brighttime@bethanycs.net or 574 534-2567.

Family Worship Center will be holding a clothing drive on Saturday, April 18, from 10 am to noon. Needed is gently used and new clothing. All clothing will be given to need families in Goshen this summer. Clothing for children, teens, and adults as well as infant items and clothing, new and packaged undergarments and socks, shoes, coats, and jackets will be accepted. Items can be dropped off at Family Worship Center, 306 S 27th St, Goshen

Share the Vision!

Several local individuals have a vision for a clubhouse in Elkhart County for adults with long-term mental illness. Such a facility could provide a wonderful opportunity for socialization, education, work and access to services for this population. A community forum will be held on Wednesday, April 22, 8:30-10:30 a.m., at Maple City Chapel, 2015 Lincolnway East, Goshen (former WalMart building). The support and involvement of local churches is welcomed. There is no charge, but registration is appreciated. For more information or to register, go to <http://ec-clubhouse.adnetonline.org>.

Daughters Remembering, a retreat for **adult** daughters whose mothers have died, will be held May 1-2 at Sacred Waters in Mishawaka, Indiana, is being offered by The Center for Hospice.

The loss of a mother is often a profound and traumatic experience in a woman's life. Our relationships with our mothers shape how we see ourselves and our world. *Daughters Remembering* focuses on this special relationship and the healing that takes place as we explore family stories, understand and accept our relationships with our mother, and strengthen the ongoing connection we have with her, even after her death. Through facilitated group sharing and time for individual reflection, the retreat is intended to provide a supportive environment to grieve.

To register, or for more information, please contact Sheri Nisely Frazier at 574 243-3100 or 800 413-9083 or Michele Guldberg at 574 255-1064.

A **Sister-Care Seminar** will be held May 10, at Belmont Mennonite church, sponsored by IN-MI Mennonite women and Central District Mennonite Women. Rhoda Keener from Mennonite Women USA will be the input person. "We would love to have a least two women from your congregation attend the seminar. If there are more that are interested, we would love to have them." Early registration fee has been extended to the end of April. If you have ladies who would like to attend, but are short on money, scholarships are available.

Bethany Christian invites applications for an English teacher (juniors and seniors) and an admissions director. These full-time positions are available for 2009-10. For information about the positions and application procedures, visit Bethany's website at www.bethanycs.net and/or contact principal Allan Dueck at 574 534-2567 or akdueck@bethanycs.net