

NEWS & NOTES

April 12 2009

HERE AT BENTON

This Week

Wednesday, 9:30 am, Friendship Circle

Thursday, 4 pm, Pastoral Leadership Team

Thursday, 7 pm, Worship Ministry

Staff Hours

Brenda Tuesday, Wednesday, 9-3; Thursday 1-4

Doug Tuesday, 9-2; Wed, Thursday, Friday 9-11

Steve Friday, 8-12

Happy Birthday! ☺

Noah Kaufman, Monday, April 13

Larry Erb, Thursday, April 16

Lowell Mumaw, Saturday, April 18

Announcements

Friendship Circle (Sewing) has been postponed to this week, April 15.

Please bring your grocery, paper, and personal items by **next Sunday** for **MDC Goldenrod**. A suggested list from MDC was in your mailboxes. They will be delivered on Monday, April 20.

Mark your calendar for **spring work day** here at the church on April 25. We will be working inside and outside from 8 am to 12 noon. More information will follow later.

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 soon to help people decide if they are ready to make this commitment. Talk to Doug or Brenda **by next Sunday** if you are interested or you have any questions about taking the class.

Offering

April 5 2009 Regular Offering	\$3,498.00
Year to Date Needed	\$82,925.00
Year to Date Received	\$87,293.00
Difference	\$4,368.00

IN THE COMMUNITY

Bethany Christian High School's junior class fish fry is 4:30-8 pm, Friday, April 24. Come for an evening of fellowship, homemade pie, and all the fish you can eat. Tickets are \$8.25 for adults and carryout and \$5.25 for children K-6 (preschool-age free). Tickets may be purchased from Caitlin Fecher (238-2644 or email at Fechissimo@gmail.com) or at the school (534-2567).

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.

Seminary to host Theologian-in-residence: A. James Reimer, director of the Toronto Mennonite Theological Centre, will make three presentations at Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary, April 15-17. On Wednesday, April 15, at 7 pm in the seminary's chapel, he will speak on a trinitarian perspective on contemporary theology. He also will speak in the seminary's Thursday noon forum on Anabaptist-Mennonite political theology, and in chapel on Friday at 11:45 am, on prayer. See more information at www.ambs.edu/news-and-publications/events-and-news/reimer-lectures.

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 am, 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>.

Woodcutting Day at Amigo Centre is April 25! Plan to arrive by 9 am for a great morning of working together. Your efforts help keep Amigo warm all winter long!

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. For more information, see flier posted on the bulletin board.

Summer camp is just around the corner, and some camps are starting to fill up! If you haven't sent your registration form in, be sure to do that soon! We know that budgets are tight, and we've worked hard to keep our camp fees for five days and five nights at a great price! However, if you need financial assistance, please feel free to contact us about scholarship options: 269 651-2811 or info@amigocentre.org. We're looking forward to a great summer together!

Amigo Centre is still looking for summer staff (preferably 18 and up) and will need weekend volunteers this summer. Weekend volunteers are needed to assist the head cook with meals. If you haven't volunteered in awhile, please consider signing up for a weekend or two, soon! Contact Amigo by email info@amigocentre.org, or by phone at 269-651-2811

Nurturing Peacemakers Retreat: "Stories of struggle, stories of hope": May 8-10 at Camp Friedenswald, Cassopolis, Mich. This time of inner reflection and sharing, sponsored by [Central District Conference](#) with the support of [Mennonite Central Committee Great Lakes](#), is designed

to nurture, encourage and strengthen peacemakers. The retreat will be led from an Anabaptist-Mennonite background, but it is open to people of other traditions and backgrounds. Wendy Chappell-Dick and Les and Gwen Gustafson-Zook will lead worship and music. We especially encourage congregations and local communities to sponsor a member to attend this retreat. Register by April 22. Suggested donation: \$40 (or what you can donate). See online (www.centraldistrict.mennonite.net) or call 800 662-2264.

"Unmarried couples living together" to be held **June 4** at Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Ind. This seminar will examine how pastors can provide pastoral care to co-habiting couples in the church while addressing the ethical questions and congregational dynamics generated by these situations. This is the newest event in the "Extreme situations in the congregation" pastoral care series sponsored by the AMBS Church Leadership Center and Central District and IN-MI conferences. Presenter: Irma Fast Dueck of Canadian Mennonite University. For more information and to register, visit: www.amb.edu/couples.

Scholarship Golf Outing for Amigo Centre: June 6. Get a team together and help send kids to a great, life-changing week of camp at Amigo Centre in Sturgis, Mich.! Individuals also may sign up. Cost per golfer is \$85 and includes your green fees, cart, and hog roast lunch at Amigo. To learn more, call 269 651-2811, e-mail info@amigocentre.org or download a web registration at www.AmigoCentre.org. We look forward to seeing you in June!