

NEWS & NOTES

April 19 2009

HERE AT BENTON

This Week

Wednesday, 6:30 pm, Benton at Greencroft

Thursday, 7 pm, Worship Ministry

Staff Hours

Brenda Tuesday, 9-3; Wednesday, 9-1; Friday 9-12

Doug Thursday-Friday, 9-2

Steve Friday, 8-12

Happy Birthday! ☺

Today, April 19, John Buschert

Saturday, April 25, Amy Williams

Announcements

Church Council has been postponed to May 6.

Today Doug is preaching at Assembly Mennonite Church, where he is overseer. Monday to Wednesday he will be at a pastor's seminar.

A thank-you note from Kristina Trčka for the congregational care package is on the bulletin board.

LaCasa of Goshen's 19th annual **Help-A-House** will be Saturday, May 9 2009. Service & Witness would like to have a Benton Mennonite crew to work on one of the Help-A-House projects together. This will be an opportunity for our congregation to have fun together while helping out a local family in need. If you or members of your family would like to participate, please speak to

Offering

April 12, 2009 Regular Offering	\$1,229.00
Year to Date Needed	\$85,600.00
Year to Date Received	\$88,522.00
Difference	\$2,922.00
Sharing Fund Offering	\$590.00

Jerrol Shaum or Grant Martin as soon as possible.

Friday, April 24, 4:30-8 pm

Bethany Christian High School's **junior class fish fry**. 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).

RECEIVED: A thank-you letter to Benton Mennonite Women for their contributions to the Bethany Christian 2009 Fun Fest.

"Thank you for the contribution of \$200... Now more than ever your support allows MCC to reach out to feed the hungry, comfort the afflicted, send children to school, build peaceful communities, and respond to natural disasters. For many hopes and dreams of a better life depend on the kindness and compassion of people like you."

—Arli Klassen, Mennonite Central Committee

Mennonite Publishing Network has received word that its 2009 Vacation Bible School curriculum has been selected as a "Top Pick" by the Center for the Ministry of Teaching of Virginia Theological Seminary.

The Center's evaluation highlights the curriculum's focus on worship and the original music by Mennonite composer Bryan Moyer Suderman as particular strengths. The curriculum, *Catch the Spirit! Join God's Work in the World* uses stories from the book of Acts to help children age 4 through grade 8 learn how the Holy Spirit works in their lives, in the church and with God's people throughout the world. Read the full article in the upcoming issue of *The Mennonite*.

—Ruth Schlabach, MPN Representative

IN THE COMMUNITY

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>.

Saturday, April 25

Sixth Annual **United Cancer Compassion Walk** along the Elkhart Riverwalk. Register yourself and your team by calling (574) 875-5158 or on the web at www.elkhartcancer.org.

Monday, April 27, 7:30 pm

Come hear Edgar Stoesz, who worked with Mennonite Central Committee for nearly forty years, tell the inspiring story of **Mennonites in Paraguay**, at Menno-Hof, SR 5, Shipshewana, Indiana. For more information call 260-768-4117 or e-mail info@mennohof.org

Saturday, May 2, 7-10 am

All You Can Eat Pancakes and Sausage Fundraiser, proceeds go to **MDC Goldenrod, Menno-Hof, and Compassion Pregnancy Center of Northern Indiana**. Mayfest Food Tent, corner of Main St and Morton St, Shipshewana. See poster posted on bulletin board.

Wednesday, May 6, 7 pm, at Goshen College, AD28

Practicing Nonviolence: From Iraq to Gaza to USA
Kathy Kelly, Peace activist, Nobel Peace Prize nominee, Coordinator of Voices for Creative Nonviolence will tell stories from her recent trip to Gaza during the Israeli "Operation Cast Lead" assaults. She will also describe her experiences in nonviolent direct action at Creech Air Force Base, the headquarters for the Unmanned Aerial Systems used for drone attacks against Afghanistan and Pakistan. Kathy believes that nonviolence can change the world and will discuss the further invention of nonviolence.

Friday and Saturday, May 8 & 9, 7 pm

Bethany Christian Middle School will present *Willow Street Mysteries*. Tickets, \$4 for adults and \$2 for students, may be reserved by calling the school at 574 534-2567.

Daughters Remembering

A Retreat for Adult Daughters Whose Mothers Have Died
This is a great community service offered by **The Center for Hospice**. Many women's lives could be impacted. Please see the flier posted on the bulletin board for information.

Emergent Ministries Transitional Care Center, 731 Wagner Av, Elkhart, is in need of a number of items for their women's shelter. The list is posted on the bulletin board.

After celebrating a fiscal year ending in the black, **OurFaith Digest** lost two-thirds of its advertising revenue, which has forced the cancellation of the print issues. The internet issues, however, will continue to be available, including all the popular features like the crossword puzzle, at OurFaithDigest.org.

MCC Meat Canning Report

We have again been blessed through another canning season. We processed 80,000 lbs of turkey thighs, which yielded 45,487 cans, 3,051 more than we did last year. The meat cost us \$83,550.76, an average of \$1.04 per pound. Our costs for canning is 65 cents can or \$29,566.55. We had sundry other expenses, such as shipping, fuel, water, cleaning supplies, etc. and still have some bills to pay. You may send donations to: MCC Meat for Relief, c/o Ernie Miller, 59123 SR 13, Middlebury IN 46540. Thank you for your voluntary and monetary efforts.

— Elam Weaver, MCC Meat for Relief

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 the website www.LMPeaceCenter.org