

# NEWS & NOTES

April 26 2009

## HERE AT BENTON

### This Week

**Tuesday**, 7 pm, Pastoral Leadership Team  
**Wednesday**, 7 pm, PCRC at Juniper Place  
**Thursday**, 7 pm, Nurture Ministry at Mary Ann Weber's  
**Saturday**, 7 am, Men's Prayer Breakfast at Old Mill Inn  
**Saturday**, 8 am, Gifts at Good B's

### Staff Hours

**Brenda** Tuesday 9-3, Wednesday 9-12, Friday 10-1  
**Doug** Wednesday, 9-11, Thursday, Friday, 9-2  
**Steve** Friday, 8-12

### Happy Birthday! ☺

June Trčka, Monday, April 27  
 Arleta Kilmer, Friday, May 1

### Announcements

**Brenda** is in Illinois this weekend, returning Sunday afternoon.

**Tina Hanshew** (Irma Geaugh's daughter) is looking for good used box springs and mattresses to fit single bed frames. She is working to comply with CPS regulations for her children. If you can help, please contact Brenda.

Our congregation is one of four to be hosting the **Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference** this summer, June 18-20 at Clinton Frame Mennonite. Diane Beachy of Clinton Frame is looking for homes that would be available to host people coming to conference from out of town. If you could host, please put a note in Brenda's box (or email

### Offering

April 19 2009 Regular Offering	\$3,185.00
Year to Date Needed	\$88,275.00
Year to Date Received	\$91,707.00
Difference	\$3,432.00

[brenda@bentonchurch.org](mailto:brenda@bentonchurch.org)) saying how many people you could host with what accommodations. Thanks!

**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 Jerrol Shaum or Grant Martin as soon as possible.

**Clinton Frame Mennonite Women** have invited Benton Friendship Circle and all women to their guest day, Wednesday, May 6, at 9 am. Lunch is furnished. See announcement on bulletin board.

There are **youth camp** fliers on the table in the foyer from Little Eden and Amigo Centre.

## IN THE COMMUNITY

In response to a Ku Klux Klan rally held at the Elkhart County Courthouse in Goshen 13 years ago, the Goshen Ministerial Association planned an event affirming values of community with diversity, an idea opposite to that of the Klan. The result of this positive move is Goshen's **Annual Diversity Day**, coming up on Saturday, May 2. It will again be held at Maple City Chapel's facility on US 33 east of Goshen, near Menards, from 11 am to 4 pm. Admission is free. Mainstage entertainment ranges from school children to the Peking Piper, a variety of ethnic dancing, Gustafson Zooks, Peacemakers' TaeKwon Do, and more. Multicultural activities will also abound including piñatas and Amish buggy rides. A sampling of ethnic foods from Ethiopia, Palestine, Russia, various Latino groups and others will be available for purchase. Come and celebrate!

**Bethany Christian Schools** will host a drop-in open house from to 3 pm, Sunday, May 3, for anyone still considering enrolling for fall 2009. Bring your own family

and invite families from your church or neighborhood who may have interest in Bethany. Stop by after church for a lunch of grilled hamburgers—faculty and staff will be available to answer questions and give tours. RSVP to Sarah Yoder in the admissions office (534-2657 or [admissions@bethanycs.net](mailto:admissions@bethanycs.net)) to help us plan for the meal.

*Monday, May 4, 6 pm, Greencroft, Juniper Dining Room*  
**Northern Indiana Mennonite Nurses Association**  
Annual Meeting: “Peace on Earth Begins With Birth”. Tour of Goshen Birth Center afterwards for those interested — if no clients in labor. Bring a salad dish and table service, drink and rolls provided. Nursing students are guests and all RNs, LPNs, and interested persons are welcome. An offering will be taken for our project: Center for Healing and Hope, Goshen. For additional information contact Merlin Becker-Hoover, 534-6225; Dottie Kauffmann, 533-9769; Kay Yutzy, 537-4388.

*Thursday, May 7, 6:30 pm, at Yellow Creek Mennonite Church*  
**"Through the Garden Gate – Afghanistan."** Join Michiana MEDA for a bi-national MEDA presentation, this MEDA-run program teaches Afghan women business skills and farming techniques that yield better-quality produce. RSVP for the Michiana MEDA program by Monday, May 4, by calling 87-RSVP-MEDA (877-787-6332), by emailing [reservations@michianameda.org](mailto:reservations@michianameda.org) or by going to [www.michianameda.org](http://www.michianameda.org). Meal and program costs are \$15 for members, \$20 for non-members, and \$5 for students.

**Choice Books Annual Spring Clearance Sale**, Thursday, May 7, 3 – 6 pm and Friday, May 8, 9 am – 5 pm, at The MCC Depot, 1013 Division St, Goshen. Books, books, and more books! All your favorite authors, with lots of new titles. Up to 70% off list price.

**Bethany Christian Middle School** will present *Willow Street Mysteries* at 7 pm, Friday and Saturday, May 8 and 9. Tickets, \$4 for adults and \$2 for students, may be reserved by calling the school at 574 534-2567.

A thank-you letter from **Mennonite Publishing Network** is posted on the bulletin board.

*Wednesday, May 13, 7 pm, at Pleasant View Mennonite Church*  
The **Bel Canto Singers** and music director Bradley Kauffman of Hesston College, will perform a concert of

fine music. A reception following will feature history writer John Sharp sharing Hesston Centennial stories and Bel Canto on the lighter side. **Alumni and friends are invited to this Hesston College special event in Indiana!** Bel Canto will also sing at Bethany Christian School chapel on Wednesday.

*Saturday, May 16, 1 pm at Merry Lea's Farmstead site*  
**Merry Lea Environmental Learning Center** of Goshen College will hold a Greener Congregations workshop. Luke Gascho, Merry Lea's executive director, will lead the group in considering how and why a church might form a creation care leadership group and what that group might do to encourage holistic stewardship. The workshop will take place during NatureFest, a family-friendly weekend of outdoor activities for people of all ages. Come just for this event or bring the whole family and stay for the weekend. See [www.goshen.edu/merrylea/merrynews/NatureFest09.php](http://www.goshen.edu/merrylea/merrynews/NatureFest09.php) to register or learn more about NatureFest.

*Saturday, May 23*  
The **Mennonite Historical Society** will hold its annual meeting at Eighth Street Mennonite Church Fellowship Hall, beginning with a dinner at 6:30 pm to be followed by an address by John D. Roth on “From Zurich to Addis Ababa: Reflections on Anabaptism as a Global Movement” This meeting is open to everyone. Cost of the dinner is \$10, payable Saturday evening. Please register for the dinner by Monday, May 18, with Leonard Gross, Secretary of the Mennonite Historical Society, at 574-533-4057, or at [leonardg@goshen.edu](mailto:leonardg@goshen.edu), or at 405 GraRoy Drive, Goshen, IN 46526. Dinner reservations are limited to 100 people. Persons interested in only the after-dinner address by Professor Roth are welcome to come at 7:15 pm.

**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](http://www.LMPeaceCenter.org).