

NEWS & NOTES

May 3 2009

HERE AT BENTON

This Week

Wednesday, 7 pm, Church Council
 Wednesday, 7 pm, Library Committee
 Thursday, 7 pm, Pastoral Leadership Team
 Saturday, LaCasa Help-a-House

Upcoming Events

Sunday, May 17

- ✠ Guest speakers John and Naomi Lederach
- ✠ Fundraising meal for Junior Youth trip to Convention
- ✠ Congregational meeting

Staff Hours

Brenda Tuesday, Wednesday, 9-3; Friday, 9-1
Doug Tue, Thur, 9-2; Wed, 10-2; Fri, 9-11
Steve Friday, 8-12

Happy Birthday! ☺

Marcos Hooley, Wednesday, May 6

Announcements

Clinton Frame Mennonite Women have invited Benton Friendship Circle and all women to their guest day, this Wednesday, at 9 am. Lunch is furnished. See announcement on 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 Jerrol Shaum or Grant Martin as soon as possible.

Offering

April 27 2009 Regular Offering	\$1,629.00
Year to Date Needed	\$90,950.00
Year to Date Received	\$93,326.00
Difference	\$2,376.00

IN THE COMMUNITY

Ted Eash, retired pastor, member at Forks Mennonite Church, and father of Brent Eash (moderator of the IN-MI Missional Leadership Team), was hospitalized following a stroke Monday evening, April 27. The stroke is a setback because Ted was doing well after completing chemo. His family does not know yet about long-term effects. We invite your prayers for God's spirit of comfort and encouragement to be with the family and with Ted. Brent expressed thanks for the many expressions of care and support over the last months as his father went through cancer treatment.

Bethany Christian Schools will host a drop-in open house noon to 2:30 pm today 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.

Wednesday, May 6, 7 pm, Goshen College (Room AD28)

Practicing Nonviolence from Iraq to Gaza to USA: Come to hear Kathy Kelly, Nobel Peace Prize nominee, peace activist, and coordinator of Voices for Creative Nonviolence, tell stories about her recent trip to Gaza and other front-line nonviolence work. All are welcome. For more information, email hope@gto.net.

Wednesday May 6, 9 am to 5 pm

Wednesday, May 20, 9 am to 5 pm

How many comforters can be finished in a two-day effort for Mennonite Central Committee's overseas comforter program? Mennonite Women of College Mennonite Church in Goshen, is sponsoring a "**Comforter Blitz**". All are welcome (women, men and children) to join this come-and-go time dedicated to getting comforter tops off our shelves, knotted, finished and delivered to MCC. Enter any door at College Mennonite Church and follow signs to Gathering Rooms 141 and 142. Any amount of time will contribute to getting warm bedding to persons in

need. Please contact Edna Reed at 574-773-3622 with questions.

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 or by going to www.michianameda.org. Meal and program costs are \$15 for members, \$20 for non-members, and \$5 for students.

Friday, May 8, 7 pm

Saturday, May 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.

Tuesday, May 12, 6:30 pm, Maple City Chapel Fellowship Hall
Gospel Echoes Team Annual Banquet The evening will include a delicious home-style dinner, music by the Gospel Echoes Harvest and New Life teams, ministry road report, prison testimonies, and multi-media presentation. Former inmate Jim Newsome will be guest speaker.

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 family and stay for the weekend. See www.goshen.edu/merrylea/merrynews/NatureFest09.php to register or learn more about NatureFest.

Friday, May 22, 7 pm, Chapel of the Sermon on the Mount, AMBS
Commissioning Service for Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary graduates.

Saturday, May 23, 2:30 pm, College Mennonite Church
Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary **Commencement Service**. Dorothy Nickel Friesen, conference minister for Western District Conference of Mennonite Church USA, will be the speaker.

Saturday, May 30, 7:30 pm

Vesper Chorale Spring Concert performing with Children's Choir of Michiana and Vesper Chamber Orchestra at St Matthew Cathedral, 1702 Miami, South Bend. Pre-concert lecture at 7 pm. Tickets are \$18 adult, \$15 seniors, and \$8 student. To purchase tickets, visit www.vesperchorale.org, call Kern Road Mennonite Church (574) 291-0924, or Shirk's Piano & Organ (574) 255-7889.

Volunteer Cashiers are needed at the Depot MCC Thrift Shops. Shifts are 4 hours during the week or 3.5 hours on Saturdays. We have an urgent need for Cashiers in the Furniture Shop on Tuesdays (either shift) and Friday and Saturday afternoons. Cashiers in the Clothing and Variety Shops are also needed. For more information about volunteering, please contact Missy Schrock at 534-1828 or depotmccthrifshops@gmail.com. Volunteers make a difference!

Little Eden Youth Camps for 2009

The **Boys and Girls Camp** for youth that have completed third, fourth, and fifth grades is from Sunday, June 24 to Friday, June 19. The **Junior Youth Camp** for youth that have completed sixth, seventh, and eighth grades is from Sunday, June 21 to Friday, June 26. The cost is \$215 per youth for each camp if you register by May 15. After May 15, the cost is \$240 per youth. Round trip bus transportation is included in the registration fee. For more information, or to obtain a registration form, please contact Little Eden via email: littleeden@littleeden.org or call (231) 889-4294.