



For we are strangers no more... Ephesians 2:19-20

NEWS & NOTES

July 28 2009

THIS WEEK

Tuesday, 7 pm

Pastoral Leadership Team

Wednesday, 6:30 pm

Benton at Greencroft

Thursday, 7 pm

Worship Ministry

Saturday, 7 am

Men's Prayer Breakfast, Old Mill Inn

STAFF HOURS

Brenda Tuesday,
Wednesday, Friday,
9-2

Doug Tuesday, Thursday,
1-5

Steve Friday, 8-12

OFFERING

JULY 19 2009

Regular Offering	\$3,058.00
YTD Needed	\$123,050.00
YTD Received	\$126,780.00
Difference	\$3,730.00

Send announcements and bulletin information to bulletin@bentonchurch.org. Deadline for submitting information is Thursday evening.

Fall Stewardship Series

In light of the congregation's unanimous decision to pursue a fundraising campaign for building improvements, we will have a focus on stewardship this fall during the campaign. The worship services would likely include stewardship of talents, money, and time and we are asking each Sunday School class to study stewardship as well. If you have any questions, affirmations, concerns or ideas about books to study, see Doug, Brenda, or Mary Ann.

Conference Minister

Doug has agreed to serve as the Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference Interim Conference Minister for Leadership Transitions, beginning August 4. In this role he will oversee credentialing and pastoral searches for 80 congregations in Indiana, Michigan, Kentucky, and Tennessee. This half-time job will complement the half-time he serves at Benton, but it means he will be in the Benton office only two days a week, usually Wednesday and Friday. He will likely be officiating at installations and ordinations in other congregations at least once a month. He will serve in this role until a replacement is found, probably around the new year. Doug continues in his marginal time (10-15 hours a month) role as assistant conference regional minister for Swa-Nee Lake and Southeast Goshen Area Councils of the conference. Doug looks

Mennonite World Conference Quiz Question

Fill in the blanks in the vision statement of Mennonite World Conference: Mennonite World Conference is called to be a _____ of Anabaptist-related churches linked to one another in a worldwide _____ of faith for fellowship, worship, service, and _____.

Answer to MWC quiz question for July 19:

Guarani. Spanish and German are used in the cities and colonies.

forward to his opportunity to serve the conference by connecting pastors and congregations.

Here at Benton

Friendship Circle is sponsoring the collection of School Kits again in July and August. Rather than asking you to take bags to fill, you may bring contents for the kits. There will be a fun evening planned later to fill the bags. Contents are 4 spiral **notebooks** about 8.5" x 10.5" and 70-80 sheets; 4 unsharpened #2 **pencils**; 1 **ruler**, flexible plastic indicating both 30 cm and 12 "; 1 box of **colored pencils** (12-24); 1 **large pencil eraser**.

“Thank you very much for the financial gift we received to support Maria Byler, a 2009 Ministry Inquiry Program student, serving with Franconia Mennonite Conference.”

—Bob Yoder, Goshen College Campus Pastor and Director of Inquiry Programs

In the Community

Monday, August 3 2009, 7-8:30 pm, Eighth Street Mennonite Church, Goshen

“Asperger & Autism Basics” An Introduction to Asperger Syndrome and High-functioning Autism. The Asperger/High-Functioning Autism Parent Group of Goshen invites the public to their third annual informational seminar. The evening is intended for parents, friends, youth leaders, pastors, Sunday school teachers, babysitters, grandparents, mentors, teachers, coaches, and any members of the community interested in learning more about children and youth on the autism spectrum. Brian Wilkins, autism specialist for the Elkhart County Special Education Cooperative will present a lively introduction to Asperger Syndrome and other autism spectrum conditions. Wilkins will share tips and stories drawn from his twenty-seven years in education, including sixteen years working with students on the autism spectrum in Elkhart County. For more information contact Christine Guth christine@adnetonline.org, 534-2718 or Kaylene Ediger akediger@comcast.net, 825-1460.

“Seven Sacred Pauses: Living Mindfully Through the Hours of the Day” is the theme for the Women Creating Community 2009–10 retreat series at A Quiet Place Prayer Center at Camp Mack, Milford, Ind. A group of women will gather on the first Wednesday of every month from September through May (excluding January), dividing the time between input, silence and solitude, and sharing in small covenant groups. Leader: Karla Minter. Cost: \$280 for eight sessions. Up to 4 CEUs available. Register by Aug. 15. Download a brochure: im.mennonite.net/news/news.php Contact A Quiet Place: 574 658-4831 (Camp Mack) or milfam@npcc.net

Friday – Sunday, September 11-13 2009, Newcomer Center, Goshen College

Damascus Road Anti-Racism Analysis Training. Expand your understanding of systemic racism and how it impacts the church and society. What does it take to be a truly anti-racist church? Open to individuals and churches/organizations interested in exploring a common definition of racism and moving toward a vision of an anti-racist Church. For more information and to register, visit greatlakes.mcc.org or contact GreatLakesOffice@mcc.org or (574) 534-4133.

Emerge Ministries, an extension of Church Without Walls, is asking for assistance for low-income Jr. High and High school students by providing school supplies. The items Emerge would need is pens, pencils, papers, rulers, calculators, highlighters, folders and binders. Your time and support is greatly appreciated! We will need this supplies by August 10, 2009. If you have any question please feel free to call the office.