

NEWS & NOTES

October 19, 2008

Here at Benton

This Week

Wednesday 7 p.m. Church Council meets in Room 105

Thursday 7 p.m. Pastoral Leadership Team

Staff Hours

Brenda Tue, Thu, Fri 9-3

Doug None

Birthdays

Pat Baer Oct. 21

Service & Witness is creating a **care package for Anna Hade**. We would like to send a full box to Anna on October 27. Anything is welcome: cards, books, candy or other snacks...anything you think an MVSer would enjoy receiving. Please have your contributions to the church by Sunday, October 26. Items can be placed in the Dell box on the bench in the south foyer.

Work Day, Saturday, Nov. 1, here at the church. We will be working inside and outside and need all the help we can get. Thank you. Perry Miller

October 12, 2008

Regular Offering	\$ 3,340
Year to Date Needed	16,050
Year to Date Received	18,206
Difference	2,156
Sharing Fund Offering	340

Notice: The Benton Friendship Circle has been invited to be guests of the Clinton Brick sewing circle on Thursday, November 6, at 9 a.m. All are welcome. There will be no Friendship Circle meeting here in November.

Current opening for a secretary four hours a week and preferably on Friday—mainly to produce bulletin and news sheet. Knowledge of Microsoft Word necessary. Contact Troy Risser at 260-894-7517 or 260-894-1157 or email him at tdrisser@maplenet.net.

Social Night

Recently I have heard more than one person say that the congregation needs more social events. After discussing this with Community Life and Benton's social committee members, I was encouraged to plan something. Since many of our older members live at or near Greencroft, I decided to host something there.

My vision is for this to be a purely social, intergenerational event for Benton folks and those with Benton connections—a time to play games, munch goodies, have fun, and do some plain, old-fashioned visiting together. It can be a come-early-stay-late thing or a drop-in-for-half-an-hour if that works for you. If you have guests or visitors, you are welcome to bring them.

Initially I thought about doing a regular monthly sort of game night, but further reflection suggests perhaps a quarterly event...so, if you can't come this time, keep January open. If you have any suggestions for activities, please don't be shy in telling me. Here's my plan.

DATE: Friday, October 31, from 6:30 to 10:00 p.m. This is "All Hallow's Eve," the night before All Saints' Day (which seems so much more appropriate to celebrate than anything to do with goblins, ghosts, and pumpkins), but I want this to be social, not necessarily theological, so that's all I'll say about that.

PLACE: Manor II dining room at Greencroft. From College Avenue, turn south at the light and head for the Senior Center. As you go around the Center, take the second right where there is limited parking. Go in the front door and you will be facing the dining room. For more parking choices, go to the lots at the third right (on your way around the Center) and park in any space that has no name on it at the back of Manor II. Enter at that door and it will lead you into the dining room, also.

SNACKS: I'm asking everyone under 60 (either individually or as a group) to bring party food to share, and I will furnish hot and cold beverages.

GAMES: Bring whatever table games, cards, indoor relays, or other games you wish. Plan to play, observe, photograph, or just laugh. There might even be some Scrabble going on! Helene Hoover

Thank you from Mennonite Mission Network for our contribution of \$400 to the San Francisco MVS unit where Anna Hade is working.

Thanks to all who supported the relief sale. MCC is grateful for your support. It is working to distribute more than 3,000 metric tons of corn, wheat, and cooking oil to 81,000 people in drought-stricken southwestern Ethiopia. To contribute to this \$1.5 project, call 888-563-4676 or see mcc.org/news/news/article.html?id=386, or donate online at mcc.org/donate.

Calling all teenagers interested in how faith impacts public policy: MCC Washington Office high school Essay Contest includes global food crises, US energy policy, and gun laws. It is open to Mennonite, Brethren in Christ, and other Anabaptist high school students, and any youth attending Mennonite high schools. Essays must be postmarked Dec. 15; prizes will be awarded. See mcc.org/us/washington/programs/essays.

MDS Update (See mds.mennonite.net) for current needs: In TX a response to Hurricane Ike, good used RVs, some drivers to move vehicles and trailers, and more. Contact Nate Hoover (nhoover@mds.mennonite.net) or call Sarah Yoder at 800-241-8111 for scheduling of volunteers.

Community Events

Thu., Oct. 23 MDC Goldenrod Project Promise hosts its annual Chicken BBQ dinner fundraiser at Maple City Chapel, 2015 Lincolnway East, Goshen. Carry-out chicken and drink lunch only **11:30 to 2:00**. Full dinner (chicken, potato bar, vegetable, ice cream, and drink), as well as carry-outs, served **4 to 7 p.m.** Suggested donation: \$5 for lunch and \$7 for dinner. Tickets not required. Call 533-9720 for more information.

Fri., Oct. 24 Bethany Christian's all-you-can-eat fish fry **from 4:30 to 8:00 p.m.** Tickets available from seniors or at the door: \$8 adults, \$5 grades 1-6; free to preschool. Carry-outs are available for adult price only.

Sat., Oct. 25, 9 a.m. to noon "Our Trash: Take the Waste Aware Tour" of the Elkhart Co. Landfill for \$5. A phone call (537-0888) reserves your seat on the bus from 8th St. Mennonite's parking lot at 9. **Guarantee:** Learn amazing things about trash and new ways to understand and practice caring for Creation. GC Prof and environmental engineer Lew Naylor and Kim Davis, Manager of the Landfill are guides. Michiana Mennonite Earth Group

Sat., Oct. 25, 6 p.m. World Missionary Press 47th Anniversary celebration carry-in dinner at Maple City Chapel. See flyer on bulletin board for special music, speakers, and registration information. **Same day, 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.** open house, videos, and tours at the Press on CR 146 in New Paris.

Thu., Oct. 30 The faith of Marcellus—a Christian centurion martyred because he refused to serve in the Roman army—will be celebrated on the anniversary of his death. Events begin with a pilgrimage along the St. Joe River from Mishawaka to South Bend, where a program will include testimonies of contemporary conscientious objectors. A prayer serve at Notre Dame at **7 p.m.** will feature Richard Rohr, internationally known speaker and writer. For more info: cpnv.net/Events.htm.

Sat., Nov. 1, 8:30 a.m. Register now for "Preserving our Heritage, Telling Our Stories," a conference for persons interested in the histories of congregations, at Waterford Mennonite Church. See Helene for more information.

Wed., Nov. 5, 7:30 p.m. Public Lecture in Rieth Recital Hall, Goshen College. "Iran and the U.S.: Prospects for a Better Future," featuring Dr. Trita Parsi.

Thu., Nov. 6, 8 a.m. to 12 noon Hospice Symposium, "Stronger Together: Meeting Needs at the End of Life" held at Goshen General Arbor Conference Rooms. You must register for this. Call the Hospice Chaplain at the hospital for more information.

Sat., Nov. 8 Good \$ense Budget Workshop, Downtown at 8, Goshen. Brochures are available; see the poster on the northeast bulletin board or talk to LaJane.

Sat., Nov. 15 Michiana Anabaptists Historians meeting at Fair Haven Amish Mennonite Church on SR 4 east of Goshen. Coffee and registration at **8:30** and meeting at **9:00** regarding I-W Service. Panel discussion includes Amish, Wisler, Brethren, and Mennonite participants. There is no charge for this meeting, and it is open to all.

Sat., Nov. 15, 9:30 a.m. Meeting at Clinton Frame MC for MCC supporters to assist MCC planning for the next decades. Includes lunch, so reserve soon at MCC Great Lakes, mcc.org/greatlakes/events/newwineskins.htm.