



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

# NEWS & NOTES

October 11 2009

## THIS WEEK

Wednesday, 9:30 am  
Friendship Circle Sewing

## STAFF HOURS

**Brenda** Tuesday, Wednesday,  
Thursday, 9-2  
**Doug** Wednesday, 9:30-  
11:30; Friday, 9-2  
**Steve** Friday, 8-12

## BIRTHDAYS

Today, 11, Ruth Hoover  
Tuesday, 13, Lori Bustos  
Wednesday, 14, Vi Hartzler  
Friday, 16, Doug Kaufman  
Saturday, 17, Dave Hartzler

## OFFERING

### OCTOBER 4 2009

Regular Offering	\$4,465.00
YTD Needed	\$13,875.00
YTD Received	\$14,667.00
Difference	\$792.00
Sharing Fund	\$635.00

*Send announcements and  
bulletin information to  
bulletin@bentonchurch.org.  
Deadline for submitting  
information is 7 pm, Thursday.*

## Campaign Small Groups

By Doug Kaufman

Campaign small groups begin this week. We see these as a key part of learning about the Expanding Our Welcome Campaign and would like each household to attend one. This is where we will learn the basics of how and when to pledge. These small groups are an opportunity to sit with several other Benton participants and talk and reflect on stewardship and the campaign. We will envision how the renovated building can help us enhance our ministries here.

The theme is "A Stewardship Pit Stop." We see this campaign as an opportunity for each of us to take a pit stop, and examine how we are being stewards of money and also time, talents, relationships, and health. The sessions are taught by Dave Miller or Donna Risser.

We will not ask for commitments, seeing this as a way to prepare us for discerning what God might be calling us to do to enable us to reach our campaign goals. So far not a lot of people have signed up for these groups. So please sign up on the bulletin board today.

## Here at Benton

Today Doug is preaching at North Main Street Mennonite Church in Nappanee.

Brenda will be at MCC Great Lakes board meetings Friday and Saturday.

*Next Sunday, October 18, 12 noon,  
Steve and Lori Bustos home*

## The Advance Challenge

**meeting** is an opportunity for Church Council, Pastoral Leadership Team, Building Committee, the Expanding Our Welcome leadership team, and financial leaders to make a commitment in advance of the rest of the congregation. Anyone who would like to make an advance commitment is welcome to attend, but please let Steve Bustos know soon. Children will have a pizza party at the church hosted by Michael Fecher.

**Martha Williams** is requesting photographs from recent church-related activities (baptisms, retreat, etc). Please put them in her mailbox by October 18, so they can be included in the church scrapbook.

## In the Community

*Today, 4 pm, Greencroft Senior  
Center*

The Bethany Christian High School Concert Choir and the Greencroft Evergreen Singers will lead a Vespers service. Both choirs will perform sacred selections in addition to joining voices to sing together. The choirs will be joined by the Bethany Chamber Orchestra under the direction of John D Smucker. The Evergreen Singers are directed by Darrel Hostetler. This celebration is open to all and admission is free for all ages.

*October and November, Merry Lea's Rieth Village*  
Rooms are available for spiritual retreats for pastors and others attentive to the spiritual life. Each cottage includes rooms with sturdy bunk beds and desks and a common room with sofas and a kitchenette. Outdoors, eight miles of hiking trails provide access to woodlands, wetlands and prairies. Come on a Monday and take in a naturalist-led hike at no extra charge. eMail [jenniferhs@goshen.edu](mailto:jenniferhs@goshen.edu) for more information.

*Tuesday, October 13, 1 pm, Music Center's Sauder Concert Hall, Goshen College*

**Afternoon Sabbatical** Dr Glen E Miller, medical doctor, author and healthcare activist, will speak on "The Empowered Patient". Join Dr Miller to learn practical ways to participate in your healthcare through stories of actual doctor-patient encounters that will decrease costs, improve the quality of care and give you a sense of control. The event is free and open to the public.

*Tuesday-Thursday, October 13-15, Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary Chapel*

**Virgil Wiebe, a Mennonite lawyer and activist in international law** who specializes in issues related to cluster bombs and land mines will make several presentations, including an evening lecture on Thursday, October 15 at 7 pm, "Bombs away: Will the campaign to ban cluster munitions make the world a better place?" The public is invited to the presentation; there is no cost to attend.

*Thursday, October 15, 4:30-7:00 pm, St. Mark's United Methodist Church, Goshen*

**Church Women United of Goshen** is sponsoring a Haystack Supper to benefit The Window. Tickets purchased at The Window **in advance** are: Adults, \$6.00; Children ages 5-12, \$3.00; Children under 5, free. The price of the meal includes drink and dessert. Tickets purchased at the door will be \$7.00. The Window is located at 223 S Main St, Goshen. Hours are 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. Open Thursday evenings until 6:00 pm. All proceeds will benefit the programs of The Window. The Window provides services to help meet basic needs of the elderly and anyone with a limited income. Services include a food pantry, soup kitchen, clothing closet and Meals on Wheels.

*Friday - Sunday, October 16 - 18, Amigo Centre*  
**Celebrate Amigo** Support and celebrate the ministry that happens throughout the year at Amigo. Silent and live auctions along with time to explore Amigo in autumn make up the weekend.

*Friday, October 16, 6 and 8 pm, Gingerich Recreation Center, Goshen College*

**Hesston College basketball teams in Goshen.** You are invited to attend exhibition women's and men's basketball games versus Goshen College. Hesston representatives will be courtside to visit with guests, coaches Dan Harrison and Dustin Galyon will talk about their teams, and players will sign autographs. Come out and support the Larks! Galyon will also present a Faith and Sports Seminar at East Goshen Mennonite Church at 9:30 am on Sunday the 18th for area youth groups and interested youth and their parents.

*Thursday-Sunday, October 22-25, Little Eden Camp*

Looking for a weekend getaway that includes fun, fellowship, service and all the free food you can eat? Young and old alike are invited to help close up the camp for the winter. There is work for all ages. Come the whole weekend or just part of the weekend. Contact Little Eden Camp at [admin@littleeden.org](mailto:admin@littleeden.org) or call Gary/Robin Wyse, 419.445.9881.

*Friday-Sunday, October 23-25, Laurelville Mennonite Church Center, Mount Pleasant Pennsylvania*

**"Beyond Words: Imagining a Visual Spirituality"** You're invited to a retreat gathering for artists and anyone interested in connecting to God in visual ways. The event will include visually focused worship; artist-led workshops; firing of the wood fire kiln; and open time and space for rest, reflection and fellowship. See [www.laurelville.org/beyond\\_words.html](http://www.laurelville.org/beyond_words.html) or call 800.839.1021 for a registration form.

*Saturday, October 24, 6 pm, Silverwood Mennonite Church, Goshen*

MCC Alumni International Potluck. The speaker will be Steve Steiner, who will be reporting on a recent learning tour to Southern Sudan and the significant work MCC is supporting there. Bring your favorite international dish and enjoy the fellowship, stories and updates from MCC. Please RSVP to MCC Great Lakes at 534-4133 or [gg@mcc.org](mailto:gg@mcc.org).