

NEWS & NOTES

November 2, 2008

Here at Benton

This Week

Staff Hours

Brenda - Tue, Wed 9:00 - 3:00, Fri 9:00 - 1:00

Doug - Wed, Thu 11:00 - 2:00, Fri 9:00 - 2:00

Church Council, Wednesday, 7:00 pm**Friendship Circle**, Thursday, 9:00 am as guests at Clinton Brick Mennonite Church. No meeting here this month.**Service and Witness Ministry**, Thursday, 7:00 pm**Nurture Ministry**, Thursday, 7:00 pm

Happy Birthday! ☺

Troy Risser November 1

This Month

November Church Project

Groceries for the Fairfield Food Pantry are greatly needed. There is a suggested list on the bulletin board. Please bring non-perishable products, paper products, soap etc.

Next Sunday, River Stewards after lunch

Sunday, November 16, 1:00 pm Congregational meeting

Depression is a common ailment that is often misunderstood. The **Barnabas Ministers** invite anyone who is interested to an open resource session on this topic Monday evening, November 17 from 7:00 - 8:30 pm. Barb Meyer-Reed will share her perspective as a physician, and will invite questions and conversation about recognizing and living with depression in yourself or people around you. All are welcome.

Offerings October 26, 2008

Regular Offering	\$3452.00
Year to Date Needed	\$21,400.00
Year to Date Received	\$24,357.00
Difference	\$2957.00
Sharing Fund	\$600.00
Building Fund	\$1540.00

Climbing the Mountain

Mary Ann Weber

All ages are invited to memorize the Sermon on the Mount! Join others at Benton as we focus on Matthew 5-7 between now and the end of May. Find a Bible memory mountain climbing buddy by connecting with another Benton church attendee, or check in with Lyn Buschert who will match you with someone who needs a buddy. It is up to you and your buddy to get together to hear each other's verses, and you will then record your progress on a mountain (new ones are on a table in the foyer). The mountains will be hung in the hallway.

Please memorize from any version you prefer, and at the rate that works for you. The children are working with the New Revised Standard Version of the text, and sections of the NRSV text will be displayed on PowerPoint each Sunday prior to the service. You will find copies of the NRSV text on the foyer table, and a digital copy is available on the Benton website.

Please see a Nurture Ministry member if you have questions.

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. If you are interested, contact Troy Risser.

Ten Predictions No Matter Who Wins the Election

1. The Bible will still have all their answers.
2. Prayer will still work.
3. The Holy Spirit will still move.
4. God will still inhabit the praises of His people.
5. There will still be God-anointed preaching
6. There will still be singing of praise to God.
7. God will still pour out blessings upon His people.
8. There will still be room at the Cross.
9. Jesus will still love you
10. Jesus will still save the lost.

ISN'T IT GREAT TO KNOW WHO IS STILL IN CONTROL?

(Amen!) -submitted by Mervin & Marilyn Swartzentruber

Community events

Election Day is looming, partisans are taking sides -and potshots – at one another, and anger and frustration are building on all sides. To read thoughtful non-partisan reflections about the intersection between faith and politics by Goshen College students, faculty, staff and alumni, visit www.goshen.edu/election2008/ and join the civil discussion.

The Goshen College fall mainstage play, “The Saint Plays” written by Erik Ehn and directed by Michelle Milne, explores connections between historical saints, contemporary life, earthly existence, spirit and eternity. The production also includes an original piece written in memory of GC student Deanne Binde, who died in a car accident in May 2008. The play will be presented November 7 and 8 at 8 p.m., and November 2 and 9 at 3 p.m. in Umble Center. Tickets are \$8 adults, \$5 students/seniors.

A Hacienda Day will be held tomorrow (Monday, November 3) to benefit Bethany Christian Schools. Hacienda Restaurant in Goshen will donate 20% of purchases for food, gift certificates, and carryouts all that day with presentation of a token. Tokens are available in your mailboxes.

Mennonite pastor Steve Ratzlaff will speak on the subject of his new book, ***7 Steps to End War and Save the Planet***, on Tuesday, November 4, 3:30-5:00 p.m. at Goshen College Science Hall, Room 106. Open to all.

Public Lecture in Rieth Recital Hall, Goshen College. **“Iran and the U.S.: Prospects for a Better Future,”** on Wednesday, November 5, 7:30 p.m. with Dr. Trita Parsi.

Amigo Centre will be having an **All Day Cookie Marathon** this Thursday, November 6, beginning at 8 am. You are welcome to volunteer anytime Monday - Saturday for this cookie baking marathon. Families are welcome and after school and evening hours can be arranged. Volunteers are also need when the cookies are sold on Saturday, November 8th, at the Holiday Wonderland Cookie Walk from 1pm - 4pm in Sturgis at the Sturges - Young Auditorium. This provides both funding and publicity for Amigo, promoting catering trays and pies and the availability to hold parties for the holiday season. Contact Robin at Amigo Centre at 269-651-2811.

A Biblical Storytelling Festival next Sunday, November 9, beginning at 2 p.m., at Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary will feature the Bible’s stories of food. Come and be nourished by reminders of God’s abundance. Refreshments and opportunities to tour the seminary will follow the performances. Please bring a contribution to the food pantry at Church Community Services in Elkhart as the admission fee. Youth and adults are invited. For information, see www.amb.edu/storytelling-festival, or call 574.296.6234.

For a **first-hand account from the front lines in Afghanistan** of emerging women entrepreneurs, attend an event hosted by the Goshen College Business Department on Monday, November 10 at 7 p.m. Speaking at Eighth Street Mennonite Church will be Catherine Sobrevega, the manager for MEDA in Afghanistan, and Mahbooba Waizi, the CEO of the Afghan Women's Business Federation. The event is free and open to the public.

Students in grades 5-11 interested in exploring Bethany Christian Schools can shadow a student for a day on Monday, November 10. Interested students must register ahead by calling Sarah Yoder, director of admissions, at 574 534-2567. Parents are also welcome to drop in to meet with Sarah or to visit a class or chapel.

Join us for **"Sing the Closing of the Year,"** the next Afternoon Sabbathical at 1 p.m. November 11 in Sauder Concert Hall. This concert by St. Joseph Valley Camerata centers on special times and seasons of the fall and early winter. The repertoire is drawn mostly from works by composers of the Renaissance through romantic periods. David A. Seitz is musical director and Goshen College Assistant Professor of Music Christine Seitz accompanies on the keyboard. The event is free and open to the public.

Gospel Echoes Team Annual Festival of Praise Saturday, November 15, 2008, 4:00 – 7:00pm. Fish and Chicken Fry. Concert at 6:00pm at the Antique Building/Shipshewana Auction, Shipshewana, IN. For more information call 574-534-1561

All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten, an empowering show that demonstrates the wisdom of every age, will be presented November 21 - 23 by Bethany Christian High School. The Friday and Saturday performances are at 7:30 p.m. and the Sunday performance is at 3 p.m. Call 534-2567 to reserve tickets—\$8 for adults and \$6 for students.