

SOJOURNS

Vol. XIX, Issue 13

The Newsletter of the Sonnenberg Mennonite Church

June 21, 2009

Happy Father's Day!

LIFE AT SONNENBERG

LETTER TO PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE FROM MEL HATHAWAY RE: INVITATION TO PASTORAL CALL

June 3, 2009

Greetings in Christ Jesus,

I am pleased to hear of the congregational vote affirming the call for me to be pastor of the Sonnenberg congregation. Dottie and I have been praying for God's direction in this discernment process, as I know you have been doing also, and I feel confident that this is the answer we have been asking for. It is with joy that I accept the invitation, trusting that as we follow his leading, God will have many good things in store for both us and the congregation in the years ahead.

I would like to thank the Search Committee for all the hard work, time and energy that you have given to the search process over the past number of months. By making it a priority to include as many people as possible in the interaction that took place during our visits there, you have given integrity to the voice of the congregation in the decision that was made.

We have already experienced a taste of the warm welcome and acceptance that I believe are vitally important to the ongoing life of a community of God's people. I look forward to the opportunity to learn to know you even better as we serve among you in ministry to the congregation and the community. May God grant us grace for the time of transition ahead, and the wisdom and courage to move forward into the future God has planned for us.

In service to Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit who calls us and equips us for carrying out the work of God's kingdom in the world.

—Mel Hathaway

CCS TUITION CHICKEN BBQ

Thank you so much to everyone who supported the 4th Annual Chicken BBQ Fundraising meal for our CCS Tuition Fund on Sunday, June 6. The food was great, the help was super and the donations were more than any previous year!

Thank you, especially, to Ken & Connie Neuenschwander for making and donating the chicken, to Bessie Nussbaum for making and donating the rolls, and to Marilyn Shetler for offering to make and donate the potatoes for the meal. Your contributions to the support of our CCS Tuition Fund in this way was much appreciated!!

Thanks, also to the CLT members and their spouses, and to the Raber family who helped with the meal by making and donating food, setting up, serving and cleaning up.

The total raised at the BBQ this year was \$6,219.05. Everything was donated, so all proceeds went toward our Central Tuition Plan. With the additional Central Tuition Fund offering on Sunday morning, June 7, we have met our 2008-2009 final payment and have begun saving toward the 2009-2010 year!

Thanks again for your overwhelming support of this event this year.

DIABETIC SUPPORT GROUP

For some time now, there has been interest in starting a diabetic support group here at Sonnenberg. This is now happening with the first meeting scheduled for this Tuesday, June 23, 7:00 p.m., at the church.

Interested persons are encouraged to come and help plan for the future of this group. Will we have more meetings? Will we invite professionals to speak? How often will we meet? What can we expect from this?

Diabetics, pre-diabetics, caregivers and support people of diabetics, medical personnel, and any other interested persons are welcome to attend. Come help us get this group started and come with ideas for a name.

For additional information, contact Gordon Amstutz.

CHURCH LIBRARY NEWS

Addition to our Adult Library:

- The *Mennonite Your Way Directory* for 2009-2011 is now in our library. In it is listed 1,700 host families in the U.S. and sixty other countries. You may sign it out just as you would any other book. Bring it back in a timely manner so others can enjoy it too.

Additions to our Children's Library:

DVD: *Awesome Bible Adventures: Moses Great Escape, Moses Receives the Ten Commandments*, donated by the Gindlesbergers

Books:

- What God Has Always Wanted, by C.F. Boyd, donated by Steve & Lisa Zuercher
- In Jesse's Shoes, by B. Lewis
- Easter Eggs for Anya, by V. Kroll
- Thank you, God, by T. Tenud, donated by Michael & Lisa Amstutz
- The Family Song, by J.H. Peifer
- Devotions for Kids #2 & #3, Children's Bible Hour, donated by Bob Eshleman
- Stanley's Christmas Adventure, by J. Brown
- Henry's Freedom Box, by E. Levine
- A Time for Everything (death) International Bible Society
- Nana's Bible Stories (book & CD), by R. Simpson
- Learning about the Bible, by L. Rock

QUILTS FOR RELIEF SALE

Please have your quilts and wall hangings brought to MCC Connections as soon as possible or by June 30, so the quilt committee can compile the information and photograph the quilted items for the Relief Sale website. The earlier the quilts are posted on the website, the more people will see them, and that is important to the success of the auction. If additional time is needed to complete a quilt, it will be needed by July 17 to get the information in the program book. We invite you to check out the website at www.ohiomccreliefsale.org.

Your items will be received at MCC Connections and placed in a box provided in the Quilt room. Each item needs a check-in form included, filling out all the areas that apply. Extra copies of the Quilt Check-in Form are on the counter in the foyer.

Comforters are generally priced and sold in the Needle Crafts area. If a comforter is pieced and nicely bound (perhaps with mitered corners), it may be considered for the auction.

We have appreciated the support of the Relief Sale in the past through donated quilted items. We look forward to the many beautiful items we will receive once again this year. If you have questions, feel free to call Corrine Helmuth at 330-857-3411.

NEWS & NOTES

CAMP LUZ: Summer camp is here! There is still room in all the weekly programs--visit www.campluz.com for the camp dates, ages, and a printable registration form. E-mail us at campluz@zoominternet.net, or call 330-683-1246 for more information. The summer theme is "Love has a Name!" Exodus 3:14-15. Come worship and play with us!!

MCC LEARNING TOUR TO ISRAEL/PALESTINE:

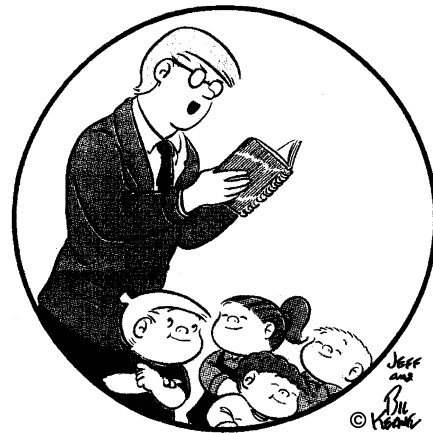
The Mennonite Central Committee Great Lakes Office is organizing a Learning Tour to Israel/Palestine to visit with MCC partners and learn about the work of MCC in that region. The tour is scheduled for November 14-25, 2009, and is limited to 14 participants. Information about the tour, including proposed schedule, application form, medical form, Memo of Understanding and a list of partners to be visited are all available at the MCC Great Lakes website mcc.org/greatlakes/events/learningtour.htm. Cost is around \$3,000. If interested, an application form with a \$500 deposit is due August 10, 2009. Contact person is Les Gustafson-Zook, 574-534-4133 or gg@mcc.org.

ORRVILLA COMMUNITY EVENT will be held Thursday, June 25, 7:00 p.m. at Maple Terrace. The "Four Giving" Barbershop Quartet will sing hymns, gospel songs, sweetheart songs and patriotic songs. Everyone is invited. There is no admission fee. Refreshments will follow the program. For more information, call OrrVilla at 330-683-4455.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY ReStore in Wooster is in great need of volunteers. Activities include accepting, sorting, repairing and displaying donations and helping customers in the ReStore. For more information, call 330-465-7569 or 220-263-1713.

The next issue of *Sojourns* will be printed for Sunday, July 5, 2009. Please submit any items for this issue by Thursday, July 2, 9:00 a.m. Thanks!

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Who scribbled 'Play with us' in my appointment book?"

from JoyfulNoiseletter.com
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