

SOJOURNS

Vol. XXVI, Issue 22

The Newsletter of the Sonnenberg Mennonite Church

November 19, 2017

SENIOR SAINTS

Birthdays/Anniversaries



Happy birthday to our senior saints who are celebrating birthdays/anniversaries in November!

**Trent Metcalf (65), Saturday, November 4–
–Welcome to the Senior Saints, Trent!!**

Iva Geiser (85), Tuesday, November 7

Dan/Doris Cartwright (10), Friday, November 10

Ella Amstutz (81), Tuesday, November 14

Palmer/Joan Steiner (61), Friday, November 24

Ora Shetler (71), Saturday, November 25

UPDATE FROM OYANGUREN'S

November, 2017 Newsletter

Dear brothers and sisters, we greet you desiring that you receive the blessings of our God. We want to send you some news about our family. We are very happy because Juan was baptized a month ago. He is 10 years old but for some time has been insisting that he be baptized, and on seeing his understanding and decision, we were in agreement with him that he would take this step. Felipe, always serving in the Toba churches and also the local church, plays the bass in the praise group and at times preaches. He also continues his studies to become a lawyer. Emilia serves regularly as a teacher to the children, and recently she preached for the first time. By the end of November she will finish her secondary studies. Tomás is in kindergarten and at home, playing, making messes, etc. Alfonsina continues with her clothing shop for children and her hours of teaching secondary school, accelerated English classes for indigenous adults.

FM: In a few days the radio station will complete two years of carrying news to the Toba-Qom communities. It is an enormous joy because our expectations were surpassed. The Word of God is broadcast each day, also Christian and traditional music. We put on Christian rap and other new styles that interest the youth. In the *photo, are the social workers of the local hospital (Carolina and Griselda) on a program about the rights of women, together with a Toba woman activist (Elisabeth). In the other *photo are the participants in a course on radio broadcasting that we are offering with a technician from a local FM station in Castelli. The theory and practice classes last 6 weeks.

LITERATURE: We distribute a variety of Christian materials. Some we sell at a low cost, other brochures we give out free in schools, neighborhoods, or to couples. There are also brochures on promoting health care. **We need: reams of paper and toner.**

CHILDREN: The Children's Day celebration was attended by some 250 children. There were games, snacks, Bible class, and a drawing for toys, etc.

*See pictures in the full newsletter which is posted on the easel in the church foyer



Try to guess who this person is. Their name will be listed in the next issue of *Sojourns* on Sunday, December 3.

If you have not already done so, please complete the *Fun Facts* form and return it to the church office as soon as possible, and **please sign your name**.

Who am I? _____

1. Vocation:

1st job: Shoveling horse manure at the grocery store.

Vocation: Self-employed

2. Favorites:

Food: Tacos

Book: The Revenant

Book of the Bible: Revelation

Song or Hymn: Blessed Quietness

Place to visit: Los Tios

Vacation Destination: the beach

Sports team: The Browns

TV show: The Office

Tree: Redbuds

3. Hobbies: Landscaping, reading, woodworking

4. Pet Peeve: People who try to pass on the right

5. Least favorite chore: Cleaning out the fridge

6. Nobody knows: One of my goals is to become better at baking.

Answers from November 5 issue:
#1 Joanna Spiker
#2 Cora Patterson

CALIFORNIA DIARY

by Bob & Jan Eshleman

It has been a month since we returned from a ten-day vacation in the far west. What took us there initially was the wedding of our niece, Abbie Steiner, in Phoenix. We helped with the wedding and visited with Denae and Keith. Since we were so near California, we planned all along to go farther west and make it a long vacation like we had never taken before! We both wanted to see the more rugged Pacific coast.

It was a short flight from Phoenix to San Francisco, on Columbus Day afternoon, but there seemed to be plenty of traffic. We rented a car for the week, but didn't use it every day. When we got to the hotel, we realized we were missing a piece of Bob's luggage, so we had to go back to the airport to get it. Our hotel was in the northern part of the city on Lombard Street, only a few miles from Fisherman's Wharf.

The next morning we walked up a STEEP hill to see the most crooked street in America. It was about two blocks long and allowed one-way traffic—downhill only! We watched several cars go down the sharp zig-zaggy brick street. A couple of days later we drove down too, capturing the experience on cellphone video.

In San Francisco we rode a cable car, walked along Fisherman's Wharf with all its shops, heard the sea lions barking loudly just off-shore on a floating deck, and ate clam chowder at the Blue Mermaid. We went back to the hotel with a Lyft driver. We also took a boat trip in the Bay, under the Golden Gate Bridge and around Alcatraz. On land, we had a trolley car guided tour around the city through Chinatown, past colorful Victorian houses, through the Haight-Asbury district, and across the Golden Gate Bridge.

Wednesday evening we drove north across the bridge to Mill Valley/Sausalito area for the night. The top news story at the time was the forest fires around Napa County, about 35-50 miles away. We found white ash particles on our red car the next morning. That day we drove to (John) Muir Woods, the secluded home of protected redwood trees. We hiked several miles in the quiet forest. It was an awesome sight to see such tall, old trees. Did you know a new tree will sprout from the roots of a living redwood?

From there we drove south past San Jose to Monterey and Carmel (accent on second syllable), where we spent three days. On the designated 17 Mile Drive, we followed the coast around the peninsula and stopped frequently for photos. After all, you don't see water like this in Ohio!! Along the way we saw sea gulls, pelicans, ground squirrels (I think), sea lions and seals, all in the wild. The route went by Pebble Beach Country Club golf course.

The next morning we drove further south on Highway 1, twenty-six miles along one of the most picturesque drives on the west coast. In the afternoon we walked the streets of Carmel and stopped in a few shops. Our hotel was in town also. The beaches were packed! We couldn't find a place to park near them.

Farther north we stopped in at the Butterfly Sanctuary in Pacific Grove where monarchs go during the winter. But only a half dozen had arrived so far.

Sunday morning we walked a few short blocks from the motel to a small Presbyterian church. The songs were familiar hymns. The pastor spoke on Romans 12, and then added a short talk related to the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation. Speaking of the various groups which sprang from the movement, he mentioned one of the groups who were very strict were the Mennonites! And he didn't know we were in the audience!

We had lunch at Earthbound Farms vegetable stand and café. This small stand was just the "tip of the iceberg", because it was part of a large vegetable farm operation that ships fresh vegetables all over the country, including Walmart and Buehlers here in Ohio.

One thing we needed to do yet was take a bike ride. So we rented a two-person surrey with side-by-side pedals and traveled slowly along the Monterey coast to Cannery Row.

Our wonderful vacation ended Monday the 16th when we left San Francisco. We switched planes in Las Vegas. Our checked-in luggage did not arrive in Cleveland with us. They were found and delivered to our house about ten hours later. All's well that ends well! We praise God for a safe trip and wonderful memories.

NEWS & NOTES

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN SCHOOL: www.ccscomets.org; 330/857-7311

- CCS Elementary School will present a Christmas Concert, *A Lamb's Tale*, on Thursday, December 7, 7:00 p.m., in the Performing Arts Center.
- CCS High School choirs and instrumental groups will present their Christmas program on Thursday, December 14, 7:00 p.m., in the Performing Arts Center. CCS alumni are invited to join the orchestra for the annual playing of the Sleigh Ride.
- Alumni Night, December 22: Varsity girls basketball play at 6:00 p.m. and Varsity boys basketball at 7:30 p.m. vs. Lucas High School. All alumni get in free and will be eligible for prize drawings.

SONNENBERG STATION FINAL FALL CONCERT: Join Sonnenberg Station as they share in their final Fall 2017 season's repertoire, today, November 19, 7:00 p.m., at St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, Massillon.

ORRVILLA RETIREMENT COMMUNITY: John Schmid will deliver his unique blend of country, folk, gospel and contemporary music to residents and visitors at OrrVilla Retirement Community on Monday, November 20, 7:00 p.m. Free and open to the public, the event takes place at OrrVilla's Maple Terrace.

"Search for the Christ Child" will be held at Oak Grove Mennonite, 7843 Smucker Road, Smithville, Sunday, December 3, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. This is a forty-five minute, indoor/outdoor, walk-through experience of what the first Christmas may have been like. Dress warmly! Admission: one article of canned food or toiletries for People to People Ministries. Everyone is welcome!

The next issue of *Sojourns* will be printed for Sunday, December 3, 2017. Please submit items to the church for this issue by Thursday, November 30, 2017, 9:00 a.m.