

SOJOURNS

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The Newsletter of the Sonnenbera Mennonite Church

May 2, 2010

GRADUATION CELEBRATION

Congratulations to Joyce Nussbaum, of Harrisonburg, Virginia, who is graduating on Saturday May 8, from James Madison University, with a B.A. in Social Sciences, with a concentration in inter-generational family and aging studies.

You are invited to a graduation party in celebration of Joyce's graduation at their home, 4484 Snapps Creek Rd., Harrisonburg, VA 22802 on Saturday, May 8, 5-7:00 p.m. Please celebrate with her by either joining the party at her home or sending cards or notes of congratulations. No gifts please. RSVP to Mia Olsen by today, May 2, at dmolsen@juno.com or call 540/438-1865.

After graduation, Joyce is planning to continue her work at Crossroads Counseling Center and pursue a Masters in either Social Work or Counseling.

CCS TUITION CHICKEN BBQ

Thank you to everyone for your support of the chicken BBQ on Saturday, April 24, to raise funds for our CCS Tuition Plan. To date \$8,295.00 has been raised which leaves us in excellent shape to pay off our 2009-2010 tuition plan payments by the end of this school year.

A special thank you to Ken & Connie Neuenschwander for making and donating all the again chicken this year. They barbecued 250 halves (an increase of 70 halves over last year, and all of the chicken was consumed! Thanks, too, to Ron Taylor for helping Ken barbecue the chicken.

Also a special thanks to Shirley & Vern Hochstetler and to Bessie Nussbaum for making and donating the Calico Beans and buns, respectively; and thanks to all the CLT members/spouses for making and donating the rest of the food. With all food items donated, all profits went directly to the CCS tuition fund.

For dine-in this year we served approximately 175, as compared to 117 in 2009; Carry-out served 100, as compared to 60 in 2009. Approximately 125 of the persons in attendance were from the community.

We are grateful both for the support of our Sonnenberg church family as well as our extended church family and community for our efforts to raise money to make it possible for our youth to attend Central!

PIANO AVAILABLE

A small upright piano is available from Jody & Liz Gerber. It just needs a good home and is free to anyone interested. Contact Jody or Liz.

FRIENDS OF TABASARANS

Dear Friends,

Alice and I write on behalf of the Tabasaran people thanking you for your very important help in providing the Bible for the Tabasaran people in Dagestan, Russia.

This is a joyful year. We are sending a copy of the cover of the 40-page illustrated "Stories of Jesus" in Tabasaran, published in January 2010. We are also sending a copy of the cover of the New Testament in Tabasaran, literally "New Covenant" just published on March 30, 2010. (Copies posted in the east foyer). Thank you to your financial contributions which have made these two publications possible!

This year begins the Old Testament work, with plans for completion of the whole Bible by 2020. Please keep praying. And we ask you to continue with us to the completion of this important step for the redemptive hope of this people. -Joyfully, Phil & Alice Shenk

OHIO CONFERENCE

Video summary of ACA is now online: A brief video overview of the 2010 Annual Conference Assembly (ACA) is posted on the Ohio Conference Web site: www.ohiomennoniteconference.org. The video includes footage of business sessions, worship services, displays and more. To view the video, which is about five minutes in length, go to the "ACA" section of the Conference Web site.

ACA minutes available for viewing online: Minutes of the 2010 ACA are available on the Ohio Conference Website (www.ohiomennoniteconference.org). In addition, a copy of the 2010-11 spending plan approved by delegates is online, as well as several photos from this year's Assembly.

(Continued)

Ohio Conference, continued

Orders being taken for Conference history book:

Judy King at the Ohio Conference office is now taking orders for a new Ohio Conference history book, Like a Sturdy Oak. The book, which deals with Conference history from 1969 to 2009, will include chapters by Celia Lehman, Ernest Martin, Herman Myers, Eldon King, John Rohrer and Tom Kauffman. The pre-publication sale price (available until July 1) for the new book is \$8, plus a \$2 charge for postage and handling. After publication, the expected price is \$10 plus postage and handling. To order a copy, send a check to Ohio Conference, Box 210, Kidron OH 44636. Please include the following information with your order: name, address, telephone number and e-mail address. Please make the check payable to "Ohio Mennonite Conference."

MENNONITE ARTISTS

Artwork is being sought for new MC USA office building: Mennonite Church USA will incorporate artwork from artists in the Mennonite community to be displayed in the spaces within and around the new Mennonite Church USA Elkhart campus office building. There are opportunities either to earn an art commission or to donate work. Go online to submit an art proposal: www.MennoniteUSA.org/JoiningTogether/Art.

MVS & SELECTIVE SERVICE

On April 20, Mennonite Voluntary Service (MVS) and the Selective Service entered into an agreement making MVS the first faith-based organization to become an officially recognized employer for conscientious objectors, should the draft ever be reinstated.

Selective Service Director Lawrence Romo and Mennonite Mission Network Executive Director/CEO Stanley Green signed and solidified this agreement during a ceremony at San Antonio (Texas) Mennonite Church. This is the first agreement of its kind to be signed by the Selective Service in 25 years, and makes MVS an official member of the Alternative Service Employer Network.

"The importance of this signing is that it ensures that, in the event of a draft, people who have convictions about war and come from historic peace church backgrounds can serve their country with their convictions intact," said Green. "We believe it is just as patriotic to serve human need in our country as it is to serve through war."

The agreement has been in the works for six years, and is the first of its kind to be signed. Romo hopes the agreement between MVS and Selective Service will serve as a prototype for other such agreements.

To read more about the agreement, go to <http://www.mennonitemission.net/Stories/News/Pages/MVSandSelectiveServicesignagreement.aspx>.

NEWS & NOTES

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN SCHOOL - 330/857-7311

Central Christian is currently accepting applications for two coaching vacancies: Girls Varsity Tennis and Middle School Soccer. Applications can be retrieved online at the school's website www.ccscomets.org or by contacting the school for more information during school hours.

CAMP LUZ 330/683-1246

- **2010 Camp Luz Brochures** are on the counter in the east foyer. *Come, Follow Me*, Matthew 4:19 is the theme.
- **Summer Staff!** Nurses, Weekly Pastors, a Maintenance Supervisor are still needed. Call 330-683-1246 or e-mail campluz@embarqmail.com for more information. Summer Staff applications are available at www.campluz.com.
- **Summer Camp Registration** available On-line! You may now register your child for summer camp on-line (payment must be mailed in)! Visit www.campluz.com for more information!
- **Spring Work Day**, May 8, 8:00 a.m.– 4:00 p.m. Come help wake the camp for the summer! Spring cleaning buildings, raking, wood splitting and hauling, re-shingle roofs, and random other stuff. Call 330-683-1246 or e-mail campluz@embarqmail.com to RSVP for lunch.
- **Ultimate Frisbee Tournament**, June 12: Our tournament is broken into two divisions, competitive and Just-For-Fun. Proceeds benefit the Camper Scholarship Fund. Visit www.campluz.com for more information and a registration form.
- **5K Run/Walk**, June 19: A cross-country style race for everyone! Proceeds benefit the Camper Scholarship Fund. Visit www.campluz.com for more information and a registration form.

CONTEMPLATIVE DAY APART will be held Saturday, June 5, 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m., at The Hermitage at Beaver Run, Warsaw, Ohio. Presenter is John Holliger on the theme: "Creating the Poem of your Life, through Nature's Images, Poems, and Earth Songs." Bring a bag lunch. A donation of \$10-35.00 will cover expenses with the balance given to a charity of the choice of the participants. Deadline to register: June 1. For more information or transportation, contact Jane Miller.

SERVICE ADVENTURE positions are still available: Not sure what you're going to do next year? Interested in exploring service? Service Adventure still has some positions available for young adults (ages 17-20) who are interested in serving for 10 months at community-based organizations in places such as Colorado Springs, CO.; Albany, OR.; and Anchorage, AK. Live in community with a unit leader and work, worship, and have fun together. For more information, visit service.mennonitemission.net or call Diana at (866) 866-2872 ext. 23064.

ORRVILLA COMMUNITY EVENT will be held at Maple Terrace today, May 2, 7:00 p.m. and will feature pianist George Bixler, Executive Director at OrrVilla. Mr. Bixler, who has a BA in music performance from Bluffton College, will play a variety of styles: jazz, sacred, popular and classical, including Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue." The public is invited to this free concert. Refreshments will follow the concert.

The next issue of *Sojourns* will be printed for Sunday, May 16, 2010. Please submit any items for this issue by Thursday, May 13, 9:00 a.m. Thanks!