

SOJOURNS

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The Newsletter of the Sonnenberg Mennonite Church

August 1, 2010

LIFE AT SONNENBERG

CHURCH LIBRARY NEWS

- A **memorial gift** from the estate of Mary Jane Wahlgren, aunt of Jim Johnston, was used to purchase the following books for the Primary Children's Library:

- There's A Party in Heaven, by Gary Bower
- Julia's Words, by Judith L. Roth
- The Family Song, by Jane Hooper Peifer

Thank you to Marjorie Johnston, Mary Jane's sister, for helping to make these selections.

- **Book Review**, Dinner with a Perfect Stranger, by David Gregory: I was motivated to read Dinner with a Perfect Stranger, because a friend, Ella Amstutz, told me how much she enjoyed reading it, as she returned it to the library. So I decided to read it to my mother, Esther Steffen.

The author, David Gregory, writes about his acceptance of an invitation to join Jesus of Nazareth for dinner in a local restaurant. What follows is a fascinating conversation. What would you discuss over dinner with Jesus? I felt challenged by this book and recommend it as a good read. Thanks, Ella!

Your submissions to the church library about other "good reads" are welcomed.

–Virgene Steffen, Primary Librarian

RELIEF SALE/SUMMERFEST 2010

Two events this year, under one tent–The Relief Sale and Summerfest 2010. This year the Relief Sale is partnering with Steve Wingfield Ministries for a total of four days of events. The usual sale events will take place on Friday evening and Saturday. In addition Steve Wingfield will hold evangelistic meetings on Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday evenings.

Sale festivities begin Friday, August 6, with all sale booths and food stands opening at 4:00 p.m. Join us Saturday morning at 7:00 a.m. for an all you can eat, donation only, breakfast. If a big breakfast is not your style, you are invited to participate in the 5K Run for Relief. Saturday's activities will include auctions for Art

and Collectibles, Quilts, and Wood Items. There will also be a Children's Auction in addition to other Children's activities. All sale booths and food stands will be open for your shopping and eating pleasure.

Friday evening is geared as a family fun night. Children's activities are available throughout the evening. There will be a silent auction again which will include various wood items, comforters, and theme baskets. Register early, so you can bid early and often. The silent auction is scheduled to begin at 4:00 P.M. Silent Auction rules are available online at www.ohiomccreliefsale.org. At 6:30 join us in the big tent for the Evening program. Entertainment this year will be provided by Steve Wingfield Ministries praise band. During the intermission there will be a live auction featuring items for the whole family to enjoy. Also, during the intermission, Steve Steiner will speak about his experiences while serving with MCC. Sam Van Horn and Karla Karst will provide musical entertainment following the intermission.

Volunteers are needed! **Specifically from Sonnenberg, in addition to the Chicken BBQ volunteer positions which are already filled, we need to provide two volunteers to work in the Swiss Pantry from 7-9:00 on Friday evening, and three additional volunteers to help with parking from 5-8:30 p.m. also on Friday evening, August 6. Contact Corrine Helmuth if you are willing to help out in this way.**

Volunteers are needed a day earlier than usual to put up the big tent and set up the stage on Tuesday, August 3. On Wednesday and Thursday help is needed to set up tables and chairs and to put up signs. In addition, help is always welcome on Saturday afternoon to clean up.

Summerfest 2010: The Steve Wingfield Evangelistic Association, in cooperation with the Ohio Mennonite Relief Sale, will be conducting Summerfest 2010, August 5-8, on the grounds of Central Christian School. Summerfest is an evangelistic outreach with special musical guests each evening and a message of hope from Steve Wingfield.

A **Community Choir** is being organized under the direction of Sam Van Horn, singing on August 7 and 8. Rehearsal: Thursday, August 5, 7:00 p.m., at Kidron Mennonite Church.

Events begin on Thursday evening, August 5, 6:30 p.m. with Youth Extreme Night, for youth and young adults, featuring musical guest, contemporary band, "Polen." A volleyball tournament is planned for Saturday afternoon–check the website for additional information. Saturday evening features a 6:30 p.m. concert by special guest, Ken Medema, Festival Praise Band and message by

Steve Wingfield. Sunday evening, 6:30 p.m., features musical guests Karla Karst and John Schmid, along with the Festival Praise Band and also a message by Steve Wingfield.

For more information, visit the following website:
www.SteveWingfield.org

Make the Relief Sale and Summerfest 2010 a success by inviting your neighbors, children, youth, young adults,...

THANK YOU

We are grateful for your contribution to your area conference and churchwide agencies which helps support ministries in many parts of Mennonite Church USA.

- Congregational financial support of **Mennonite Mission Network** has enabled ministry to happen in the Argentine Chaco for more than 65 years. The team represents a partnership arrangement designed to strengthen local leadership, indigenous theologies and self-determination. Working in partnership in the Chaco means modeling diversity in community, support and accountability, and strengthening indigenous spirituality in Jesus. The Mennonite team encourages believers to read the Bible in their own language, and partners with the Argentine Bible Society in Bible translation and distribution. Currently, a team of Toba translators continues work toward completing the Toba Old Testament.
- Congregational donations have made it possible for **Mennonite Education Agency** to develop a Spanish language undergraduate level certificate program in pastoral ministry called *Seminario Biblico Anabautista Hispano*. We are excited that the first course began in May, 2010. We have arranged for writers for the additional courses and are seeking more financial partners to remunerate them for this important work.
- Your gifts enable **Mennonite Publishing Network** to create new Anabaptist-oriented resources that help people to be faithful followers of Christ. One such resource published last year is an English and Spanish curriculum for new believers entitled *Via – Exploring the Way of Christ*. Several new resources published this year include *Wee Wonder – Sharing God's Love With Twos*, as well as *Body and Soul – Healthy Sexuality and the People of God*.

At the national conference offices, contributions make it possible for us to partner with area conferences in calling pastors. Our denominational ministers work with the Calling System to provide a variety of resources for helping interested pastors find new positions in Mennonite Church USA. We also provide information for congregational treasurers and leadership groups. Check out the resources at www.mennoniteusa.org.

Again, thank you for your support of Mennonite Church USA ministries.

Blessings, Marty Lehman
Associate Director for Churchwide Operations

NEWS & NOTES

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN SCHOOL: 330/857-7311

BUS DRIVERS NEEDED: Central Christian School is accepting applications for bus drivers for the 2010-11 school year. Pick up an application at the school or call Joel Otto or Bruce Kooker at 330-857-7311 for more information.

SONNENBERG VILLAGE HOMECOMING will be held Saturday, August 14, at the Sonnenberg Village, at the corner of Hackett and Kidron Roads. Come for food, ice cream, music and baseball. 11:00 a.m. will feature live musical entertainment, followed at noon by a baseball game with the Akron Black Stockings vs. Kidron Nine, and at 2:00 p.m. the Akron Black Stockings will take on Kidron United. Come and cheer them on. Bring your lawn chairs and enjoy the summer festivities. Admission is free.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT KIDRON MENNONITE:

- Marilyn Laszlo, veteran missionary to Papua New Guinea and inspirational speaker, will speak at Kidron Mennonite Church at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 15. Marilyn will be serving as the main speaker for the Camp Luz Girls' Jamboree that weekend, and has agreed to stay so that area adults may also benefit from her life's experiences. An offering will be taken to help cover Marilyn's expenses for the weekend, thus helping to support the Girls' Jamboree. We would invite you to join with us at Kidron Mennonite to support Marilyn and the Camp Luz Girls' Jamboree.
- In addition KMC will be hosting a discussion on Immigration in the US. This program is planned for Sunday evening August 29, at 7:00 p.m., all area churches are invited to join us as we talk about a very difficult and controversial issue. Pastors of KMC and members of Open Arms will help resource the time. Themes that will guide the evening's discussion include: understanding why persons immigrate and what are the effects on the US, helping us better understand how the US responds to Immigration, and how a Christian might respond. Everyone is welcome.

ANABAPTIST VISION & DISCIPLESHIP SERIES (AVDS), 3-D JESUS, will be held on the campus of Hesston College, October 29-31, 2010. The goal of 3D Jesus is to discover the whole of the story of Jesus—his life, death, resurrection and ongoing work and presence in the church and the world—as a continuous narrative...and to let that story change our churches...and us. Teachers and resource people include Dr. Steve Dintamin, Meghan Good, Rev. Dr. Kevass J. Harding, John C. Murray, Marion Bontrager and Michele Hershberger. Register online at the college's website, www.hesston.edu/AVDS or pick up a registration form in the church office. Register by October 1 to receive a discount on the regular rate. Group rates for 3 or more people are also available.

The next issue of *Sojourns* will be printed for Sunday, August 15, 2010. Please submit any items for this issue by Thursday, August 12, 9:00 a.m. Thanks!