

Events & Announcements | Feb. 3, 2010

connecting the congregations of Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference

- Half-time youth director opening at Pleasant View Mennonite
- "Try on" service this summer with Youth Venture
- Campus visit dates at Eastern Mennonite University Feb. 26 & March 20
- Mennonite Central Committee Great Lakes annual gathering at Reba Place Feb. 26–27
- Women's Retreat at Laurelville April 9–11
- Relief kits and donations needed for Haiti earthquake victims
- Funds needed to support local MCC meat canning
- Two March workshops sponsored by Center for Congregations (limited to Indiana congregations)

Youth Director opening at Pleasant View Mennonite (Goshen, Ind.) Pleasant View Mennonite is seeking a half-time administrative position requiring organization and communication skills. As point person for all youth related items (i.e. calendar coordination, activity planning, resource guidance), he/she will not be responsible for pastoral care or preaching. Must demonstrate passion for youth ministry and a Christian commitment. Contact Jeff Miller for more info (Jeff@Essenhaus.com or 574 537-9898).

"Try on" service this summer with Youth Venture. Get ready for a new adventure and be a part of what God is doing around the world. If you are between the ages of 14 and 22, and are interested in spending some time serving and learning alongside other young adults, Youth Venture may be for you. Youth Venture gives you a chance to try new things, meet new people, and learn about a new culture through the eyes of a local church or host community. During summer 2010 you can travel with teams and a leader to locations like Bolivia, Botswana, France, southern California and Montreal, among others. For more information about Youth Venture, visit Service.MennoniteMission.net or e-mail ArloaB@MennoniteMission.net.

Campus visit dates at Eastern Mennonite University (EMU) Feb. 26 and March 20. Come visit EMU (Harrisonburg, Va.) and learn for yourself about a university that emphasizes exceptional academics with mentoring professors. Discover how we nurture passionate Christian faith and learn about cross-cultural study options. We have nearly a 100% placement rate after graduation. Plan to visit EMU this winter or spring: Friday, Feb. 26 or Saturday, March 20. Call 800 368-2665 or 540 432-4118 to set up your visit. Register on-line at www.emu.edu/admissions/visit. --Jennifer North Bauman, Assistant Director of Admissions, 800 368-2665 or baumanj@emu.edu.

Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) Great Lakes annual gathering at Reba Place Feb. 26–27. Mark your calendars and plan to attend the Great Lakes annual gathering on Feb. 26–27 at Reba Place Church in Evanston, Ill. We hope you'll join us for a time of worship, fellowship and learning about what MCC is doing in our region and around the world. Speakers will include Steve Steiner, recently returned from a learning tour to Sudan, and Jenny and Joél Bishop-Kempf, MCC service workers in Mozambique. Register online at greatlakes.mcc.org/getinvolved/registration Check greatlakes.mcc.org for more information in the coming weeks.

Women's retreat at Laurelville April 9–11. *Women in Conversation: Living a Life of Gratitude* is coming to Laurelville Mennonite Church Center, Mt. Pleasant, Pa., April 9–11, 2010. Featuring keynote speaker Megan Ramer of Chicago, Ill., and worship leaders Jen Helmuth Shenk and Kristin Graber Kauffman of Elkhart, Ind., this women's retreat is an opportunity to focus on your spiritual journey -- body, mind, soul and spirit. Women of all ages and walks of life are invited for a time of conversation, worship, laughter, prayer and renewal.

Register by March 1 to receive early discount; visit www.laurelville.org or call 800 839-1021. (Lodging at Laurelville will be given in the order registrations are received. A limited number of scholarships are available and requests will be processed after March 1, with priority given to young women and women of color.) The retreat will also be held in Hesston, Kan., April 30–May 2, 2010. Women in Conversation retreats are co-sponsored by Mennonite Women USA and Laurelville. Questions? Call or e-mail Berni at 316 281-4396.

Relief kits and donations needed for Haiti earthquake victims. Thank you for your continued support of Mennonite Central Committee's response to the earthquake in Haiti. MCC workers and partner organizations are on the ground providing emergency assistance and preparing plans for long-term recovery and rebuilding efforts. In addition to cash donations, MCC is asking for 20,000 relief kits, 25,000 heavy comforters and 10,000 flat sheets. MCC needs these for shipment **now through Feb. 28.**

Donations can be made online at donate.mcc.org/project/haiti-earthquake, by check to the MCC Great Lakes office (1013 Division Street, Goshen, Ind., 46528), or by phone toll free at 888 563-4676. Find instructions for donating relief kits*, comforters and sheets at mcc.org/kits or by contacting the Great Lakes office at 574 534-4133.

*Bars of laundry soap may be found at some hardware stores, Latino stores and some drugstores. If you need large quantities, they can be ordered by calling your local Ace Hardware store.

Funds needed to support local MCC meat canning. As MCC is distributing canned meat to earthquake victims in Haiti, funds are urgently needed to support the local meat canning that took place the past two weeks in Goshen. The nine-day operation is entirely funded by local donations, which includes the cost of turkey. **Donations for the meat canning are severely lacking, and the canning committee needs \$50,000 in the next two weeks in order to pay its bills.**

If you're looking for tangible ways to help feed suffering people around the world, such as the earthquake victims in Haiti, please consider donating towards the Goshen meat canning costs. To donate: Make your check out to "MCC" and write "Goshen meat canning" in the memo line. Mail or deliver the check to: MCC Great Lakes, 1013 Division Street, Goshen IN 46528. Thank you for your continued support! —Jennifer Steiner, Communications Coordinator, MCC Great Lakes

Two March workshops sponsored by the Center for Congregations (limited to Indiana congregations, funded by Lilly Endowment Inc.):

Green Ministries: Faith and Environmental Awareness in Congregations, March 8, 2010, 9 a.m.–1 p.m., at Trinity Lutheran Church, 405 W. Wayne St., Fort Wayne, Ind. Are you curious about the cost savings of energy efficient practices? Are you interested in starting a recycling effort at your congregation? Do you want to make your worship facility more eco-friendly? Many Indiana congregations put their faith into action by taking some environmentally friendly steps. At this workshop, participants will hear about the ventures of these congregations and see their work up close.

- \$15 a person (\$10 a person for groups of three or more)
- Fees include lunch and a copy of the book *EcoFaith* by Charlene Hosenfeld
- For details or on-line registration, visit www.centerforcongregations.org

Essentials of Church Finance (Part 1) with Vonna Laue, 9 a.m.–4 p.m., March 10, 2010, in Carmel, Ind.; March 11, 2010, in St. John, Ind. This workshop covers the essentials of church accounting practices, planning and budgeting, internal controls and risk management, and financial planning. Two parts of this workshop are offered. This segment (Part 1) and a second segment, Part 2, in the fall of 2010, are interrelated but Part 1 is not a prerequisite for Part 2.

- \$30 a person (\$25 a person for groups of three or more)
- Fees include lunch and a copy of Laue's book *Essential Guide to Church Finance*
- For details or on-line registration, visit www.centerforcongregations.org

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