

## Events & Announcements | March 31, 2010

*connecting the congregations of Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference*

- Hunger ministries workshop for congregations April 17
- IN-MI Mennonite Women spring meetings May 1, 8
- Youth Ministry Council in Pittsburgh May 10-13
- Prayer vigils for immigration reform on May 1
- ADNet speakers available
- Volunteer opportunities with Michiana Mennonite Relief Sale Sept. 24-25
- Music as Prayer resource available

**Hunger ministries workshop for congregations April 17.** Indiana Partners for Christian Unity and Mission, the successor to the Indiana Council of Churches, is sponsoring ***Congregations Feeding Indiana: People, Pantries, Participation***. This event is designed to inspire, inform and equip congregations to grow their hunger ministries and will be held on Sat., April 17, 2010, at the Shipshewana Town Center in Shipshewana, Ind. Dave Miner of Bread for the World will be the keynote speaker. There will be seven workshops offered with a choice of two during the day:

- Advocacy: Speak up for the Hungry
- The ABC'S of Hunger Ministries
- New Models/Strategies for Expanding Church/Community Feeding Programs
- One Tomato at a Time: Community Gardening
- Paying the Bill for Hunger Relief
- Pantries: Expanding the Food Closet
- When You Google Hunger

Plans are being made for a Resource Marketplace where congregations and agencies can interact. These agencies will provide information about what they do and what resources they have for congregations that could assist in their hunger ministries.

Mission/outreach committees, clergy, and congregational leadership are invited to attend. Registration is \$25 per person (includes lunch). More information and a downloadable registration form are available on the IPCUM website: [www.ipcum.org](http://www.ipcum.org). A block of hotel rooms is available at the Amish Country Inn at a discounted price for conference participants. --*Dennis Frische-Mouri, Executive Director of Indiana Partners for Christian Unity and Mission*

**IN-MI Mennonite Women spring meetings.** The IN-MI Mennonite Women are having the following spring meetings:

- Sat., May 1, 9 a.m., at Naubinway Christian Fellowship, Naubinway, Mich. – The theme is *Change/Transformation*.
- Sat., May 8, 9 a.m., at East Goshen Mennonite, Goshen, Ind. – *Sharing Our Stories*. Barb Eiler and Naomi Lederach will be sharing their personal stories.

Women of all ages are welcome to attend. An offering will be taken and given to MCC to be used for their meat canning efforts. --*Gwen Hernley, secretary, IN-MI Mennonite Women*

**Attention all potential Youth Ministry Council attendees: save the dates of May 10-13** for our annual Youth Ministry Council (YMC) event. This year we will be meeting in downtown Pittsburgh, Penn., which is also the site for the 2011 Mennonite Church USA Convention. Please plan to arrive in Pittsburgh by mid-afternoon on Monday and depart Thursday morning. Participants will be staying at the Marriott and DoubleTree hotels located across the street from each other in downtown Pittsburgh. Registration forms for this event will be e-mailed to you on March 31; **your registration will be due April 16**. The cost for this event will be \$250, which includes your accommodations for three nights (if you are open to sharing a room), as well as your lunches and dinners. Breakfast will be on your own each morning. The registration fee also does not include transportation or hotel parking.

If you plan to drive to YMC we encourage you to carpool with others from your area. Feel free to contact me if you would like to know of others coming from your area or if you need help finding a roommate. If you would like to request your own room, an additional \$90 will be added to your total registration cost (total of \$340).

Our time together will be spent networking, learning, exploring the upcoming Mennonite Church USA convention site and focusing on the latest trends and topics in youth ministry across the U.S. and

Canada. If you are a conference youth minister, feel free to invite a youth leader or youth pastor from your conference to attend with you. If you represent a college or university we encourage you to bring a student who is focused on becoming a youth pastor or youth worker. We welcome guests and encourage any first-time attendees to join us for this exciting gathering. You will leave refreshed and reenergized. Thanks for your interest in this event and for the work you are doing in youth ministry. Please feel free to contact me at [Rachelm@mennoniteusa.org](mailto:Rachelm@mennoniteusa.org) if you have any further questions. Blessings, --*Rachel Swartzendruber Miller and the Youth Ministry Leadership Team (Joy Cotchen, Glen Guyton, Ken Bontrager, Eric Ivanitsky, Elaine Moyer and Marlene Frankenfield)*

**God's Love has no borders – Prayer vigils for just and humane immigration reform in the United States on May 1.**

As immigration reform has been shoved aside by other national concerns, immigrants wonder who still cares. Join us in saying, "We do!" Host a prayer vigil May 1. Resources are being created and will be posted when ready. We especially invite coordinators to consider having the vigil in a place of worship of a recent immigrant congregation if there is one locally (and if that feels good to the local immigrant congregation). This sends a powerful message of solidarity, of older immigrants (or "non-immigrants") being willing to stand with immigrants in their space. Contact

[SusanML@MennoniteUSA.org](mailto:SusanML@MennoniteUSA.org) for more information.

To open your vigil to more participants, you may:

- Send an email with information to [SusanML@MennoniteUSA.org](mailto:SusanML@MennoniteUSA.org) for inclusion on the vigil list on this PJSN website.
- Register your vigil on the [Interfaith Immigration website](http://peace.mennolink.org/immigrationprayervigils2010.html). See

<http://peace.mennolink.org/immigrationprayervigils2010.html>. --*Co-sponsored by denominational ministers for peace and justice, intercultural relations and Asian ministries; Iglesia Menonita Hispana and MCC U.S. immigration desk*

**ADNet speakers available.** Would you like a speaker for a Sunday sermon, Sunday school class, or special workshop? Anabaptist Disabilities Network (ADNet) has speakers available throughout the year. Staff members Paul Leichty and Christine Guth, both graduates of AMBS, are particularly available for weekend visits within driving distance from Goshen, Ind. For more information go to ADNet's web site, [www.adnetonline.org/Resources/Speakers](http://www.adnetonline.org/Resources/Speakers), call the ADNet Office at 574 535-7053, or e-mail [adnet@adnetonline.org](mailto:adnet@adnetonline.org). --*Paul D. Leichty, Executive Director*

**Volunteer opportunities with Michiana Mennonite Relief Sale.** The Michiana Mennonite Relief Sale is looking for a congregation, Sunday school class or small group who is willing to take over parking direction on Fri. night, Sept. 24, and Sat. morning, Sept. 25. They also need a group willing to deal with trash pickup and recycling during and after the sale. In addition, there are several board positions needing to be filled for the next year. If any of this sounds like a fun volunteer experience to assist the sale, please contact Dave Yoder, sale chairperson at 574 536-4387. --*Les and Gwen Gustafson-Zook, MCC Great Lakes*

**Music as Prayer resource available.** Are you interested in combining music and prayer in your quiet time with God? *Music as Prayer: Gateway to the Soul* consists of a CD of original piano music and a booklet of 12 guided meditations which correspond with the songs. Created by Christine Nafziger, co-pastor of Millersburg Mennonite Church in Ohio, this resource can be used by individuals or groups. A sample of the music and meditations is available at [www.emu.edu/seminary/resources/musicasprayer](http://www.emu.edu/seminary/resources/musicasprayer). You can also download an order form from this site. If you would like to purchase this resource (\$22 plus shipping), you can email Christine at [nafzigerpnc@hotmail.com](mailto:nafzigerpnc@hotmail.com).

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*Events & Announcements* serves to connect the congregations of IN-MI Mennonite Conference. It is generally published every two weeks on Wednesdays. To submit items for publication please e-mail [imoffice@im.mennonite.net](mailto:imoffice@im.mennonite.net)

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