

## Events & Announcements | Nov. 17, 2010

*Connecting the congregations of Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference*

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**Sunnyside Mennonite seeking part-time administrative assistant.** Sunnyside Mennonite Church (Elkhart, Ind.) is seeking someone to assume the part-time duties of administrative assistant beginning in late January 2011. Interested persons are invited to send a cover letter and résumé to Jon Kauffmann-Kennel at Sunnyside Mennonite Church (23786 Sunnyside Avenue, Elkhart IN 46516) by Friday, Dec. 3. Copies of the job description are available online at the church website, [www.sunnysidemennonitechurch.in.us.mennonite.net](http://www.sunnysidemennonitechurch.in.us.mennonite.net).

**Encourage your congregation to participate next summer in !Explore.** !Explore is a program that works with high school youth, but the whole congregation also participates. Encouragement from the congregation helps the youth to consider joining in the theological exploration, and a component of the program is an internship in the congregation, mentored by the pastor. Now is the time to think about whether someone in your congregation might participate, to set aside the funds and to start the conversations about applying. See [program details and experiences from previous years](#). – *Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary*

**From Anabaptist Disabilities Network (ADNet) Nov. 2010 *ADNotes*.** Caring for families affected by disabilities can mean discernment about whether and how much their needs are for **information**, a **presence**, **practical assistance** or **encouragement**. For more on this topic, visit [www.adnetonline.org/Churches/Support\\_Networks](http://www.adnetonline.org/Churches/Support_Networks). Contact us by phone or e-mail for ideas for your family or congregational situation. See also our Supportive Care Revisited page at [www.adnetonline.org/Families/Supportive\\_Care](http://www.adnetonline.org/Families/Supportive_Care).

**MCC worker available to speak to congregations.** LeRoy Mast has recently returned from a two-week Mennonite Central Committee learning tour to Haiti, visiting MCC partners and getting an update about MCC's response to the January earthquake. He would enjoy the opportunity to visit your congregation or group and share what he's learned. He can be contacted at the Depot, 574-534-1828. --*Les and Gwen Gustafson-Zook, regional associates for MCC Great Lakes*

**Child protection survey results from Dove's Nest Collaborative.** The Dove's Nest Collaborative surveyed Mennonite Church USA congregations to determine characteristics, practices and experiences of Mennonite Church USA churches with and without written child protection policies.

Of the 18 churches who responded from IN-MI Conference, 11 reported they had a written child protection policy, and 7 reported they did not. Of the 18 churches, 10 wanted sample child protection policies, 10 wanted denominational guidelines, and 9 wanted child protection information – all related to child protection.

Full survey results are available on the Dove's Nest website as well as sample policies, worship resources, and other information: [www.DovesNest.net](http://www.DovesNest.net). Also, additional copies of the new Herald Press book, *Let the Children Come: Preparing Faith Communities to End Child Abuse and Neglect* can also be ordered from this website. Each congregation in Mennonite Church USA will be receiving a copy of the book. --*Dove's Nest Collaborative*

**Correction:** The last issue of *Events & Announcements* featured news of two books by Kurt Litwiller, pastor of Boynton Mennonite Church, Hopedale, Ill. Due to a writer's error, Kurt was identified as an Illinois Mennonite Conference pastor. Boynton is a Central District Conference congregation. We regret the error. --*Ryan Miller, IN-MI Conference interim communications coordinator*

**MCC Great Lakes seeks candidates for executive director.** Mennonite Central Committee Great Lakes in Goshen, Ind., seeks candidates for executive director. The ED is responsible for all programs, staff and activities in the Great Lakes region, and is responsible to the MCC Great Lakes board. The ED will play a key role in guiding the transition as Great Lakes works with all of MCC to implement new vision and structures.

The position requires familiarity with MCC constituency, strong relational administrative skills, cultural competency, strong Christian faith and practice, ability to relate and build relationships with theologically diverse constituents and partners, ability to articulate Anabaptist theological perspectives as the foundation of MCC's work, and passion for and commitment to MCC's mission and vision. Experience with budgeting and administration also required; fund-raising experience preferred. Position includes significant travel time within the region.

A job description is available at [www.mcc.org/serve/positions/executive-director-great-lakes](http://www.mcc.org/serve/positions/executive-director-great-lakes). Submit resume and letter of interest by **Dec. 31, 2010**, to Prem Dick at [psd@mcc.org](mailto:psd@mcc.org). —Jennifer Steiner, MCC Great Lakes communications coordinator

**Goshen College offers online devotions during Advent.** As churches and individual Christians around the world prepare to celebrate Christ's birth, Goshen College is again offering an online spiritual resource to help believers make time and space in their hearts and minds to welcome Advent and celebrate Christmas.

Beginning Nov. 22 (the Monday prior to the first Sunday in Advent) and culminating on Christmas Day, Goshen College students, faculty and staff will provide weekday reflections based on the upcoming Sunday's lectionary Scripture passages, available online at [www.blog.goshen.edu/devotions](http://www.blog.goshen.edu/devotions), by daily e-mail or via an RSS feed. Many writers will reflect on the Advent theme: "An Unexpected Hour," which is based on the worship resources developed in *Leader* magazine, a quarterly publication of Mennonite Publishing Network.

Organizers intend the devotions to provide a moment of pause and peace, sharing the thoughts of individual believers to enhance the personal reflections of readers. The short reflections could be used as a centering tool at the start of a day or a way to wind down in the evening. Either way, the writings and Scripture passages can help Christians concentrate specifically on the meaning and mystery of the Advent season.

The popularity of the devotions continues to grow each year and there are now almost 9,000 online subscribers, representing many different denominational backgrounds and countries. And when "Advent devotions" is searched on Google, Goshen College devotions are first on the list. Since 2001, Goshen College annually offers online devotions to celebrate Advent and Lent, special seasons of the church calendar. —*Goshen College Public Relations*

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

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