

Events & Announcements | March 30, 2011

Connecting the congregations of Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference

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Announcements from Bethany Christian Schools:

April 15 fish fry: Bethany Christian High School's junior class fish fry is 4:30-8 p.m., Friday, April 15. Come for an evening of fellowship, homemade pie and all the fish you can eat. Tickets are \$9 for adults and carryout and \$5 for children K-6 (preschool-age free). Tickets may be purchased from any Bethany junior or at the school.

Bright Time summer camps has greatly expanded its offerings for 2011 with 15 new camps and a total of 26 athletic, fine arts and academic special interest camps for ages 3 through grade 12. Most camps are just \$35. Additionally, Shine On Campcare will provide a place for children through grade 8 for before, between and after their camps. The early registration discount deadline is April 30. Brochures are available at Bethany Christian Schools or www.bethanycs.net/BrightTime. —Denise Risser, administrative assistant, Bethany Christian Schools

Retreat/workshop opportunities from Laurelville Mennonite Church Center (Mt. Pleasant, Pa.):

Narrative: Rediscovering the Sacred—Do you have a passion for the Biblical narrative? Join Ted Swartz, Jeff Raught and others in the creative community for this drama and performing arts-focused weekend at Laurelville Mennonite Church Center May 13-15. It's a great resource opportunity for worship leaders and drama teams to collaborate, share ideas and bring creativity and energy back to the worship setting. Visit www.Laurelville.org/narrative for more information.

Friendship Week—This special retreat for families, friends and persons with disabilities is an incredible experience you'll want to relive year after year. Come enjoy a safe, supportive week filled with fun, rest and relaxation at Laurelville Mennonite Church Center July 20-24. For more information, visit www.Laurelville.org/friendshipweek.

Great Whitewater Connection—Come to Laurelville Mennonite Church Center July 9-11 (immediately following Pittsburgh 2011) for an adventure-oriented weekend for senior high youth. Experience whitewater rafting, teambuilding activities, games and worship together for just \$50/person...this retreat is filling fast (the pre-convention retreat is already sold out), so act quickly. More information and youth leader packets are available at www.Laurelville.org/whitewater.

If you have questions or need more information, contact Brian Paff at brian@laurelville.org or 800-839-1021. —Brian Paff, director of communications, Laurelville Mennonite Church Center

From Mennonite Central Committee Great Lakes:

The MCC Great Lakes office welcomes its **new executive director, Zenebe Abebe**, scheduled to take over from Stanley Kropf on April 1. For more details: www.greatlakes.mcc.org/executive-director.

Thanks to everyone who helped with the MCC meat canning in Goshen. In nine days, volunteers helped to produce 41,851 cans of turkey! We are grateful for the \$100,000 in donations that have been given so far. However, we are still in need of an additional \$40,000 to pay for the turkey and the cost of operating the canner. This is due in part to a 24% increase in turkey prices. Please consider making a donation that will help MCC continue to feed hungry families around the world. Send your donations to: Foreign Relief MCC, c/o Ernest Miller, 59123 State Road 13, Middlebury IN 46540 or drop it off at the MCC Great Lakes office at the Depot. Thank you! —Les and Gwen Gustafson-Zook, regional associates, MCC Great Lakes

Job opportunity: MCC Connections is seeking personnel for two assistant director positions, one focusing on retail and the other on volunteer management. The assistant directors will manage the operations of the thrift shop. They will also work with volunteers in the material resource center. Accountability will be to the director. Both are ¾-time to full-time paid positions.

MCC Connections is a well established Thrift Shop and MCC Material Resource Center in Kidron, Ohio. Kidron is located about an hour south of Cleveland in the middle of a large Anabaptist population that has been very supportive of MCC over the years.

Interested persons should send a resume to Tom Smucker, 7794 Egypt Rd, Sterling, Ohio, 44276, or at ktsmuck@sssnet.com. Call Tom at 330-944-0034 if you have questions. —Bill Ressler, director,

Upcoming workshops from the Center for Congregations (limited to Indiana congregations):

The Art of Being a Healing Presence with Jim Miller will be held Thursday, April 7, 2011, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m., at Southwinds Church of Christ, 3410 Dicke Road, Fort Wayne, Ind. Learn how congregation members and leaders can make a difference in others' lives by learning to be present in a way that is healing, nurturing and potentially transforming. Miller discusses the nature of presence and healing presence, and delineates the differences between curing and healing. All participants will receive a copy of Miller's book *The Art of Being a Healing Presence*. The cost of \$10 per person includes lunch, presentation and book. To register go to www.centerforcongregations.org/events.

Circle of Care: Mobilizing Support in Your Congregation with Susan Dunlap, Jeanne Twohig and Betsy Barton will be held Wednesday, April 27, 2011, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. (Eastern time) at Grace Church, 4172 E. Allison Road, Mooresville, Ind. (10 miles southwest of Indianapolis). This practical, highly-interactive workshop will help laity and clergy provide care and caring ministries to their congregations. Workshop facilitators explore with participants practical, specific tools to use in shaping a caring ministry plan for their congregations and ways to cope with illness, grief and loss, and end of life issues. The cost is \$30 per person (\$25 per person for congregational groups of three or more) and includes lunch and a copy of the book *The Unbroken Circle: A Toolkit for Congregations Around Illness, End of Life and Grief* by James L. Brooks. For details or on-line registration, visit www.centerforcongregations.org/events.

Social Media for Congregational Leaders with Doug Pagitt will be held Thursday, May 19, 2011, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. (Central time), at Faith Church, 100 E. 81st Ave., Dyer, in Lake County; Friday, May 20, 2011, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. (Eastern time), at Emmanuel Church of Greenwood, 1640 W. Stones Crossing Road, Indianapolis, Ind. A social media veteran, pastor and author, Doug Pagitt explores the basics of blogging, Facebook and Twitter and will introduce participants to a powerful free social media broadcast tool. This workshop is part of Pagitt's national Social Phonics Bootcamp program. Participants will learn the benefits of this leading technology, such as communicating events and announcements, getting real-time feedback for worship preparation, and keeping up with the latest theological and religious trends. This highly interactive workshop includes demonstrations of social media applications. Each participant is encouraged to bring a laptop that can connect wirelessly to the internet. Bring your questions as there will be opportunity to interact with the presenter. The cost is \$30 a person (\$25 a person for congregational teams of three or more). This includes lunch and two books on the topic. For more information or to register go to www.centerforcongregations.org/events.

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.

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