

April 2017

Hutterthal  
Mennonite Church  
Freeman, SD

# CONNECTION!

Making a CONNECTION with one another



*The final days of Jesus' earthly ministry take us from the Table to the Cross to the Empty Tomb. From there, the Risen Christ calls us to go into all the WORLD!*

**“The spirit of this world has penetrated into us so deeply that we do not observe it. We share in its desire for comfort and enjoyment, for self-pleasing and self-exaltation, without our knowing how impossible these things make it for us to be filled with the Spirit.”**

**Andrew Murray**

### ***Reasons for Thanks & Praise!***

We would like to thank everyone who helped with the fellowship meal after Melvin's funeral service. We appreciate you taking time out of your busy schedule to serve in this way.

God's Blessings,  
Rosella Glanzer  
Linda & Dennis Schrag

A HUGE thank you to the Deacons — Todd Koerner, Monica Clem, and Monica Hofer — for all of the planning and preparations in anticipation of my sabbatical. I know the added strain this has placed upon you, the extra meetings and “weight” of the responsibility, and I am thankful for your leadership as well as for your “push” to enter into this time of rest. Thank you!

### ***Twila's April Tip:***

- ⇒ Enjoy an orange, then use the peel! Orange peels can be used to clean pencil marks from kitchen counters and table tops. Just use the peel to rub them out. This technique also works for removing “skid marks” from adding machines and for removing the marks left on formica countertops from metal bakeware.
- ⇒ Ketchup is also a wonderful cleaner! Use ketchup to clean copper, restoring its color and luster.
- ⇒ The power of lard! When we were first married, Vernon's mom told me that lard removes oil-based paint from skin and hair. I have discovered that this works every time and doesn't harm the skin. Simply remove with a paper towel and then wash with soap and water.
- ⇒ Recycle *everything* possible!!!

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***Connection!*** Editor: Pastor Todd Jones

**Advisory Board:** Chair-Rebecca Hofer, Marcia Schrock and Twyla Hofer

#### **HMC Links**

Website - <http://hmcfreeman.org>

“Like” Us on Facebook – [www.facebook.com/hutterthalmennonitechurch](http://www.facebook.com/hutterthalmennonitechurch)

#### **Pastoral Links**

Facebook – [www.facebook.com/MennPastor](http://www.facebook.com/MennPastor)

Twitter – @MennPastor

## DELEGATES NEEDED!!!

- 1) The Church Board is currently seeking 4 adult delegates for the CPMC Annual Meeting, June 15-18, 2017 in Sioux Falls, SD. Those interested in attending as a HMC delegate are asked to speak with Dennis Schrock. (The Registration Fee is covered by the church.)
- 2) The Church Board is currently seeking 1 adult delegate for the MCUSA Biennial Convention in Orlando, FL, July 4-8, 2017. Those interested in attending as the HMC Delegate are asked to speak with Dennis Schrock. (The Registration Fee is covered by the church and Registration is currently open.)

### SERVICE ADVENTURE

Do you enjoy mentoring young adults and living in community? Service Adventure is looking for unit leaders for our Colorado Springs, Colo. and Jackson, Miss., units. The two year term begins late July. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact Susan Nisly at

SusanN@MennoniteMission.net

or visit us at

www.MennoniteMission.net

	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Offerings</u>
February 26	100	\$3,323.25
March 5	100	\$2,837.00
March 12	70	\$2,660.00
March 19	122	\$3,125.00
March 26	125	\$2,917.00

## CHILDREN'S SUNDAY

### SCHOOL PROJECT

Winter (March, April, May)

Swan Lake Christian Camp

## Congregational Ministries

### Aril Project

SD MCC Sale

Pancake Breakfast

APRIL 4, 4:00pm: Work Night

### *Do you have a song to sing?*

In 2016, with excitement and anticipation, the Mennonite Worship and Song Committee began developing a new collection designed to succeed Hymnal: A Worship Book (1992), and supplements Sing the Journey (2005), and Sing the Story (2007). One aspect of building a collection is the call for new and original work. The Mennonite Worship and Song Committee calls on authors (of worship resources and hymn texts), songwriters (who compose words and music as a unit), and composers (of hymn tunes) to submit original work intended to enhance congregational worship in Anabaptist-Mennonite faith communities. We are excited to welcome submissions for consideration in this new collection, scheduled for release in 2020. We expect the submissions portal at [www.MennoniteWorshipAndSongCollection.org](http://www.MennoniteWorshipAndSongCollection.org) to be active throughout 2017.



\* Reagan Medina is scheduled for heart surgery on April 25 to repair a hole(s) in her heart. Reagan is the one year old daughter of Stacy (Hofer) and Jason Medina. The family resides in California.

\* Larry Hofer is working very hard in speech, occupational,

and physical therapy at Sanford Hospital in Sioux Falls where he has been convalescing the whole month of February. In early March he was transferred to the Freeman Hospital to continue. He is beginning to regain his strength after a very long ordeal.

- \* Darlene Hofer was able to rejoin us for Sunday Services starting February 26 following a weeks hospitalization for pneumonia.
- \* Lucilla Dewald, the mother of Glenda Langeland, has been experiencing abdominal pain.
- \* Jada Koerner, Freeman Academy 6th grader and the daughter of Todd and Suzanne Koerner, was in Huron, SD on March 3-4 participating in the 18th Annual SD Middle School All-State Band Concert. Jada was selected for participation from her taped audition. She plays French horn.
- \* Nathanael Jones, Freeman Academy 5th grader and son of Todd and Kim Jones, was selected from his taped audition to sing in the National Choral Directors Association (ACDA) Honors Choir held in Minneapolis, MN on March 8-11. Of the 4,200 auditions, Nathanael was one of 301 selected to sing in two concerts on March 11. He is a vocal student (2nd soprano) under the direction of Amy Hofer Vetch.
- \* Marvin Stahl, age 81, passed away on March 11, 2017. Memorial services were conducted at Bethany Mennonite Church (Freeman) on Monday, March 17 at 10:00am. Family at Hutterthal are: brother John and Delores Stahl, and sister-in-law Joanna Stahl. The late Kathryn Hofer was Marvin's sister.

\* Don Fischer, father of Kim Jones, flew to Arizona to undergo surgery on his back. He is now recovering at home.

\* Dennis Schrock announced on March 19 that five of the eight air conditioning units installed in the sanctuary are no longer functional. There will be a congregational meeting on Sunday morning, April 9, regarding a plan to possible replace these units.

\* Luke and Emily Rensink would like to announce the birth of their son, Samson Lee, on March 17, 2017. Hutterthal family are proud grandparents Les and Mary Rensink.

\* Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) District 3 had their regularly scheduled annual meeting at Salem Mennonite (South) Church on March 19 at 2:00pm. Wayne and Carol Stucky (MDS District 3 Director) joined us for worship Sunday morning, March 19. Wayne presented the message in the ascence of Pastor Todd who was standing in for Pastor Shane VanMeveren at Bethany Mennonite Church (Freeman). (Pastor Todd joined us later for the children's time.)

\* Jennifer Kleinsasser has been diagnosed with pneumonia in both lungs. She is the daughter of Bob and Deb Kleinsasser of Hot Springs, SD and the granddaughter of Amos and Kathryn Kleinsasser. Jennifer is hospitalized in Rapid City.

\* Callum Friesen, infant son of David and Brandy Friesen was diagnosed with RSV, which postponed his dedication until March 26, 2017 when, during the children's time, he was surrounded by his parents and two dozen children for this special time of consecration. (Callum has been blessed with three older siblings: Tristan, Sam, and Noelle. His grandparents Steve and Charlene Friesen and great-grandmother Mildred Hofer as well as aunts and uncles were also present).

*Twyla's Church News continues on page 5*

*Twyla's Church News Continued:*

\* Melvin and Emma Hofer celebrated 70 years of marriage on March 23, 2017. On Sunday, March 26, a banquet of flowers was placed in the sanctuary to mark the celebration. Their entire family was also in attendance. Their son, Lyndon Hofer, introduced the extended family members spouses, grand and great-grandchildren. Son, Dallas and his wife Cindy have two married daughters as do Lyndon and Barbie Hofer. Melvin and Emma's family handed out treats to everyone after the worship service. Congratulations to them and praise God for their example of faithfulness and love. We wish them the very best!

**Visitors to HMC:**

Feb. 26 — Jackie Stahl Skibine of Salt Lake City, Utah

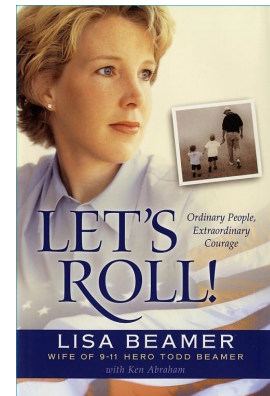
HMC LIBRARY NEWS (a book review by Leroy Hofer):

## Let's Roll

by Lisa Beamer

Todd Beamer was a passenger on United Flight No. 93 when it crashed into the ground in a field in Pennsylvania. Todd and Lisa were a Christian couple, both graduates from Wheaton College and they had two boys age 3 ½ and 19 months and one on the way. Lisa and Todd each had jobs with Oracle Corporation, the worlds 2nd largest computer software Co. The company had given Todd and Lisa with about 500 other personal a Roman Holiday where they went to Italy for about one week. This was both a work and pleasure holiday. They came home the night before the four planes were hijacked with two planes flying into the world trade center towers. One plane flew into the Pentagon building and the fourth plane went down in a Pennsylvania. Todd Beamer had left that morning on a flight to California for a business meeting. This was United Flight No 93. Four hijackers took over this plane and directed it toward the US Capital. Officials believe with information gathered from cell phone calls made to each other on the plane and other calls that Todd Beamer was instrumental in organizing a group of passengers to overpower the hijackers so that the plane would not reach the capital. Instead it crashed in the Pennsylvania field with no survivors.

Lisa writes this story and the rest of the story in a book that is in our church library.



## Community News & Announcements

Freeman native and historian Gary Waltner will be presenting a Heritage Hall Historical Society Program titled, "**Music and Hymnology in the East Freeman Swiss tradition from 1529 - 1900.**" Join us at the Arboretum Interpretive Center on Tuesday, April 4 at 7 p.m. Admission will be charged. Historical Society members get in free.



A **Women's Crafting weekend** will be held at Swan Lake Christian Camp April 7-9. Bring your craft projects to work on during the weekend. SLCC will provide a table for you to work, a bed to sleep, food to eat and some short devotionals. Cost is

\$110 for the weekend. Call 605-326-5690 or email at [campoffice@myslcc.com](mailto:campoffice@myslcc.com) for reservations or more information.

## JOINT HOLY WEEK SERVICES PLANNED

**Holy Week Services, April 10-12 "Detectives of Divinity"** – Come to South Church's building 7pm Mon., April 10 through Wed., April 12 for the annual joint worship services shared by Bethany, Hutterthal, Salem-Zion and Salem Mennonite Churches! This year we will be led by singer-songwriter Bryan Moyer Suderman as he calls us to be "detectives of divinity," looking for clues of what God is doing in the world and how we are invited to join in. Through word and song Moyer Suderman will help us explore how the words of Scripture help us do this detective work. Offerings will be received to cover expenses. All ages welcome! Children's time and nursery care provided.



ACE, the Artic Circle Exploration Co. needs your help as we explore the Bible, the coolest book on the planet. VBS will run May 29-June 2 with a program on Sunday morning, June 4. ACE is looking for volunteers to decorate, lead, act, play, sing, and learn as we "chill-out" and learn how the Bible can be our compass. Check out the bulletin board in the Sunday school wing and the sign-up sheets that will be coming soon.





## STRAIGHT UP...

“And [the risen Christ] said to them, ‘Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.’” Mark 16: 15-16, NKJV

In the Gospel accounts of the crucifixion, death, and burial of Jesus, we encounter a small group of women on Sunday morning on their way to the borrowed tomb where the body of Jesus had been laid. They are on their way that they might anoint His body as an act of love, as a sign of their grief, and, more pragmatically, as a way to reduce the smell of decomposition in the heat of a Palestinian tomb. This simple truth — that the women, early on Sunday morning, were on their way to anoint Jesus’ body — points to the truth that they, in no way, anticipated His bodily resurrection. Rather, they were going to the tomb to mourn Jesus’ death, a death they had witnessed first hand on Friday when He cried out from the cross, “It is finished!” And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit” (John 19: 30b, NKJV). In fact, there one concern that morning was who might remove the stone from the tomb’s entrance so they could do what they were prepared to do.

Upon arriving at the tomb, the women found, not death and decay, but life and renewal and, with that, hope. They found the light of Jesus shining into the darkness of their despair and doubt, fear and shame. They found a Savior who recognizes our brokenness and need and, as the source of all love — the fount of all comfort — a Savior who is *present*. In the risen Christ, the women who came to the tomb that Sunday morning were blessed to encounter the One who had *entered* their suffering, overcoming their sin and shame — triumphing over it — and, in so doing, they were blessed to find their rest. This, however, would not be a rest *from* something, but a rest *in* Someone — a rest in the full assurance of the salvation we receive in Christ; a rest in His presence. And, as such, Mary was instructed not to cling to the risen Christ, but resting in Him, to go and bear testimony to the truth that Jesus has died, that Jesus is risen, and that Jesus will come again.

The resurrection of Christ then calls us to bear testimony! First, we are invited to “tell the brethren” — to share our story of new life in Christ with our brothers and sisters with whom we share the fellowship of faith. And, second, we are instructed to “go into all the world,” confirming our testimony with signs — confirming our testimony by the way that we live and move and have our being in the world; confirming our testimony by the practice and application of the truth such that people are raised up to new and abundant life in Christ ... such that people are healed! In the presence of the risen Christ, we are to take up our cross and follow, dying to ourselves and being raised to new life in Him. The power of our testimony then is found, not in our strength, but in trusting — allowing Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to work in and through us — and embracing the truth that “our lives are to be lived by faith. We do not live by what we see in front of us” (2 Corinthians 5: 7, NLV).

In simple terms then, we do not live as those without hope, grasping for the things of this world. Rather, we live in the full assurance of the One “who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep, we will live at the same time with Him. Therefore [Scripture exhorts us] encourage one another and build each other up, just as indeed you are doing” (1 Thessalonians 5: 10-11, LEB). Live as an expression of Christ’s enduring love sharing the fullness of who Jesus is in communion with God and in community with one another. Live in the blessing of resurrection!

In Christ,  
Pastor Todd

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 1) Dennis Schrock
- 2) Steven Hofer
- 2) Michelle Hofer
- 5) Ann Marie Reiling
- 6) Clara Koerner
- 8) Edie Tschetter
- 8) Chris Waltner
- 12) Larry Hofer
- 12) Deb Dockter
- 13) Kaliyah Hofer
- 14) Ashton Dockendorf
- 18) Carrol Langeland
- 18) Isaac Mettler
- 18) Larry Timmerman
- 19) Cameron Hofer
- 22) Jenni Garner
- 22) Richard Friesen
- 23) Jonathan Mendel
- 24) Doug McCune
- 26) Bridget Neuharth
- 27) Twyla Hofer
- 27) Easton Tschetter
- 29) Mavis Craig
- 30) Joyce Schnabel
- 30) Jessica Mills

## APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

- 22) Daryl & Deb Dockter
- 28) Lance & Lacey Friesen



## APRIL CALENDAR

- 2 FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT  
9:45am Worship  
11:10am Sunday School
- 3 8:00pm Rural Revival (Freeman  
Public Library)
- 4 HMC Work Night
- 5 10:00am Freeman Ministerial  
(Freeman Academy)
- 6 7:00pm Deacons Meeting
- 7 6:30pm Gideon's Banquet (Marion)
- 9 PALM SUNDAY  
9:45am Worship  
11:10am Sunday School
- 10 7:00pm Holy Week Service (South  
Church)
- 11 7:00pm Holy Week Service (South  
Church)
- 12 7:00pm Holy Week Service (South  
Church)
- 13 MAUNDY THURSDAY  
7:00pm Worship (Communion)
- 16 EASTER SUNDAY  
9:45am Worship  
11:10am Sunday School
- 20 7:30pm Church Board
- 23 9:45am Worship  
11:10am Sunday School
- 30 9:45am Worship  
11:10am Sunday School  
8:00pm: Community Baccalaureate

“What experiences have you had of God’s faithfulness? Have you been so focused on the tragedies or troubles, the struggles or setbacks, the poor health or the broken home, the divorce or the disease, that you have lost sight of God’s faithfulness to be right there with you, then bring you through?”

Anne Graham Lotz





On Sunday, March 26, 2017 (after a slight delay due to illness), we celebrated the

**Dedication of  
Callum E. Friesen  
Son of David & Brandy.**

As child dedication provides a unique opportunity to speak to the youngest among us, the celebration was held as part of the children's time, which was titled "Let the Children Come."

Special thanks to David and Brandy for allowing the children of Hutterthal to take part with them, allowing that time to be one of learning as well as covenant.

*May God deeply bless Callum, pouring out in and through him the Person of the Holy Spirit; may the love of Christ define him and may the presence of God fill him with all joy and peace in believing!*

Photos courtesy of Rebecca Hofer



# MENNONITE WOMEN USA

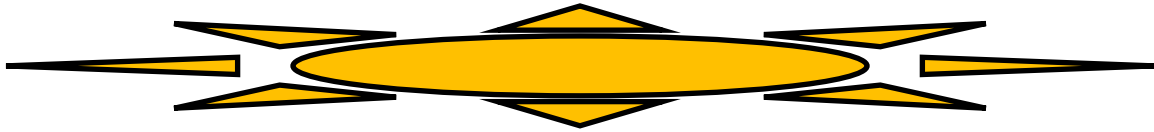
The Mennonite Women USA official centennial resource page is live, and they're looking for submissions from you!

Have a prayer, story, reading, monologue, poem, video or song about Mennonite women? They want to feature it on their resource page!

Not sure how to get started? Consider one of these prompts:

- ◇ Do you have a story about how a group of Mennonite women cared for you?
- ◇ How has being part of a women's group encouraged you to be a leader?
- ◇ Can you recall attending a gathering of women with your mother or grandmother?
- ◇ Are you a regular donor to Mennonite Women USA? What about our organization keeps you connected?

Send submissions to the executive director, Marlene Bogard, at [MarleneB@mwusa.org](mailto:MarleneB@mwusa.org).  
Note: videos must be 90 seconds or less.



## Prayer for Sisterhood

by Lara Hall Blosser

God of all people and places,  
We offer our hearts and minds in prayer for  
the world.

Today, we pray specifically for our global  
sisterhood.

Thank you for the gift of amazing  
diversity ...

For the rainbow of friendship that  
stretches from the ends of the earth to  
the heavens

For the glistening reflection of You we  
see in each other

For the example of grace we receive from  
each other

For the wisdom you grant to us through  
our sisters in Christ.

We admit that it is easy to limit our

“family” to those we know, to keep  
to our familiar ways.

Help us to be ever-reaching, ever-growing,  
ever-expanding in our definition of  
sisterhood.

Cover us with your spirit of hospitality and  
love for our sisters everywhere so  
that the women of the world might  
continue to create and model a place  
of welcome for all.



**Lara Hall Blosser** is a former co-executive coordinator of Mennonite Women USA, having shared the position with Susan Janzen.

She is now a certified physician assistant and works as a hospitalist in Mount Pleasant, Pennsylvania.



## Prayers for our Journey Together

### Week of April 2:

Pray for Eastern Mennonite University as they celebrate the inauguration of Dr. Susan Schultz Huxman on April 7 as the University's ninth president.

### Week of April 9:

Pray for Templo Alabanza in Moline, IL as they celebrate the installation of Pastor Aureliano Vazquez today and for all other congregations in our conference who are seeking new pastoral leadership.

### Week of April 16:

Pray with joy we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ as we open our lives to the risen Lord's presence to transform our lives, empower us to live fully, love freely and to worship God with our whole being.

### Week of April 23:

Pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ in Ecuador with whom we partner in ministry.

### Week of April 30:

Pray for those graduating from 8th Grade, High School, college/technical school, and graduate school.

## Calling storytellers, actors, musicians, artists, & singers!

Those planning the 2017 CPMC Annual Meeting are looking for people to assist with leading and accompanying congregational worship during this year's Annual Meeting. They are looking specifically for:

- ◆ People willing to help present the Scriptures
- ◆ Instrumental musicians with a high-school level proficiency on their instru-

ment

- ◆ Vocalists capable of singing in a choir
- ◆ Artists willing to aid in a worship design for the front of our worship space

If you will be attending Annual Meeting in Sioux Falls during June and you are willing to help with the one or more of the worship services, please follow the this link and complete the survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GSHNZKZ>

## *A Celebration in Song*

We were joined in worship on Sunday, March 19, 2017 not only by Wayne Stucky, Director of Mennonite Disaster Service District 3, but also by Open Road Men's Ensemble (pictured below)! The group, comprised of Bethel College students, provided not only worship music for our time together, but prelude, and offertory, as well as a musical response at the end of our time together. And, in case you were wondering, the young man in the far right hand side of the picture is Freeman's own Matthew Graber, son of Kerwin and Robin Graber of rural Freeman!



## CHECK OUT THE YOUTH ROOM!



An extra special thanks to Charlene Friesen, Monica Hofer , and the Hutterthal Mennonite Trustees (Leroy Pullman, Paul Hofer, Jr., and Lyndon Hofer) for their work on the Youth Sunday School room (pictured above). The room has been updated with a fresh coat of navy blue paint .

“Lord, You have been favorable to Your land;  
You have brought back the captivity of Jacob.  
You have forgiven the iniquity of Your people;  
You have covered all their sin. Selah  
You have taken away all Your wrath;  
You have turned from the fierceness of Your anger.  
Restore us, O God of our salvation,  
And cause Your anger toward us to cease.  
Will You be angry with us forever?  
Will You prolong Your anger to all generations?  
Will You not revive us again, that Your people may rejoice in You?  
Show us Your mercy, Lord,  
And grant us Your salvation.”

Psalm 85: 1-7, NKJV