

# CONNECTION!

MAKING A CONNECTION WITH ONE ANOTHER

May 2013

Hutterthal Mennonite Church, Freeman, South Dakota

HE  
IS  
RISEN  
HE  
IS  
RISEN





# Straight Up

*"Have you ever traveled to where snow is made, seen the vault where hail is stockpiled, the arsenals of hail and snow that I keep in readiness for times of trouble and battle and war? Can you find your way to where lightning is launched, or to the place from which the wind blows? Who do you suppose carves canyons for the downpours of rain, and charts the route of thunderstorms that bring water to unvisited fields, deserts no one ever lays eyes on, drenching the useless wastelands so they're carpeted with wild-flowers and grass? And who do you think is the father of rain and dew, the mother of ice and frost? You don't for a minute imagine these marvels of weather just happen, do you?" ~ Job 38: 25-30, MSG*

It's April in South Dakota and, as I write this, large portions of the beautiful shade tree in our backyard are breaking off and falling across the children's play-set and our roof. With each fresh (and seemingly catastrophic break), my heart is sent racing and I am left to wonder if 1) our roof will hold should the entire east side of the tree give way and, 2) if we will have electricity for the remainder of the day, especially as the drooping west side of the tree extends over the power lines.

I should mention that I love the change of seasons that we are blessed to experience in South Dakota. I find the transitions from spring to summer, summer to fall, fall to winter, and winter to spring to be life-giving and powerful reminders of our God who remains active in His Creation.... But, I despise ice! Yes, it looks pretty in late winter as it forms icicles along the gutters. But, when the trees have started to bud and it hangs so thick upon them that they strain and break under its weight, I always get melancholy. I love trees, and especially the one in our backyard that I have come to treasure for its sheer size and beauty, and I am wounded every time I hear another section of it crack off and come crashing to the ground. Yet, I know that there is a time and a season for things to grow and for things to die as surely as I know that what is currently happening in our backyard can make way for new life – for the unexpected and wonderful; for what I cannot even begin to think or imagine.

So, today, in the middle of yet another changing, April weather pattern in South Dakota, while the wind whips and the ice forms on ... well, everything, I am brought to consider questions of faith and discipleship. Do I live as God is Sovereign in my life? Am I attempting to wrest control from Him or am I content to rest in His care? How far does my trust of God extend?

I am painfully aware, for instance, of several areas of my life that I am currently attempting to micromanage, even as I am aware that my concern for a tree strangely supersedes my typical level of concern for my neighbors. And, as I am forced to remain homebound as opposed to attending the Hiller Lectureship in Sioux Falls as continuing education, I find myself suddenly free to contemplate my affinity for chasing down roads I was not meant to travel – roads down which Jesus is not leading me. And, maybe, that is the very "continuing education" that I most need on this – beautiful? – early spring morning. It is good and right, after all, to be reminded on occasion of the very lesson God taught Job – that God loves me and has a plan and purpose for my life that is greater than the circumstances I face; that He is with me, even in times of distress and even when I fail to experience His nearness ... that no matter the storms of life I face, He remains the God of the storm! Therefore, I declare: "I admit I once lived by rumors of You; now I have it all firsthand – from my own eyes and ears! I'm sorry – forgive me. I'll never do that again, I promise! I'll never again live on crusts of hearsay, crumbs of rumor." (Job 42: 5-6, MSG)

May it be so!

In Christ,  
Pastor Todd

Follow Pastor Todd on Twitter @MennPastor!



*Charlene Friesen presented me with a prayer shawl created by the ladies at Hutterthal. Your caring and prayers for me are much appreciated! Thank you!*

*~ Raymond Becker*

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*The following men helped with branch clean-up following the ice storm: LeRoy Pullman, Paul Hofer, Lyndon Hofer, Ben Friesen, Stan Hofer, Derrick Preheim, Charles Aman and Dennis Schrag. They worked at the homes of LeRoy & Sarah Hofer, Melvin & Rosella Glanzer, rental home property of Ray & Joyce Hofer and Mildred Hofer where they ended their day with pie and ice cream. Your help was much needed and we appreciated it so much. We feel so blessed to have such a caring church family and friends who are so willing to help out in our time of need. May God bless you all.*

*~A special thank you from: Melvin & Rosella Glanzer, LeRoy & Sarah Hofer, Mildred Hofer and Ray & Joyce Hofer*

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*I would like to thank Darnell Tschetter and Paul Hofer, Jr. for assisting me with tree clean up following the ice and snow storm in April. Their help was not only very much needed, but very much appreciated. Thank you!*

*~ Pastor Todd and Family*

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*I would like to thank everyone who helped with the clean-up of branches and trees in Freeman after the storm last week. Your help was much appreciated! God bless you!*

*~ Paul Hofer*

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*The Deacons and Pastor Todd would like to thank the members and friends of Hutterthal for their generosity in support of the Ba Vi Orphanage in Vietnam. We were able to raise \$8,876.25. for this ministry! We would also like to mention that, as of the publication of the May Connection! newsletter, work has already begun on a new sanitation facility that, because of your generous donations, will now include three septic tanks to filter the waste water and make it a more long-term sustainable project. In sharing this, Lance and Lacey Friesen have noted, "It is more expensive but with this generous gift we should be able to do this, pour a concrete path, buy 12 water filters and other supplies; and possibly update the other sanitation building on the other side of the orphanage." Praise be to God!*

# The Pastor's Bookshelf

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("The Pastor's Bookshelf" is designed for edification and inspiration. Each month, "The Pastor's Bookshelf" will highlight a book that I am currently [or have very recently] read. The members and friends of Hutterthal are encouraged to read along with me, engaging the book together, asking questions, sharing dialogue, and being challenged together in our mutual [and, I hope] maturing faith.... May we all be blessed through the power and enjoyment of the written word! – Pastor Todd)

## **Shrewd: Daring to Live the Startling Command of Jesus:**

**by Rick Lawrence** Copyright 2012, David C Cook (eISBN: 978-0-7814-0875-2)

Working from the text of Matthew 10: 16 in which Jesus sends out His disciples and commands them to "be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves," Rick Lawrence argues that our genteel faith has not only left us vulnerable to the wolves, but has significantly hindered our ability to effectively minister the Good News of Jesus Christ. Defining "shrewd" as "applying the right force at the right time in the right place," Lawrence maintains that the shrewdness lay at the very center of Jesus' mission and ministry and that his invitation to shrewdness was not focused solely on self-preservation, but on relational kingdom-building. Toward that end, Lawrence practically falls over himself piling illustration upon illustration from movies and television, current affairs, and personal experiences (many presented as negative examples of a positive concept) in an attempt not only to get us to understand shrewdness, but to get us to act shrewdly.

Unfortunately, while the text of Matthew 10: 16 is central to understanding how believers are to engage the world, Lawrence fails to convince me that shrewdness is anything more than armor – that being shrewd is an effective mission and ministry model. Instead, he seems to reduce it to little more than manipulation and trickery. Not that reading Lawrence's Shrewd is time wasted, but that it might be better in a "Cliff Notes" version. Reaching a gangly 195 pages, it would be better received at half the length, especially as brevity and shrewdness seem, in many ways, related! Simply put, I would have appreciated something more than illustrations, something more of Lawrence's own thought-processes ... something more than a glancing blow given to the actual Biblical text.... Or, maybe, I'm simply not very shrewd. Enjoy!

An excerpt from Shrewd:

"If you live shrewdly, you'll need a Guide and a Captain at every turn because shrewd-for-good people don't follow scripts or principles or formulas – *they follow Jesus* into His dangerous rescue mission, advancing His kingdom (therefore, advancing Him) while evading the wickedness that pursues them. In that sense, you're not really living if you're not living shrewd. The shrewd life is a life awake – a life of adventure and risk and intimacy. And all real adventures are dangerous; that's what *makes* them adventures. If you think about it, all the adventures you've ever experienced have been dangerous because, at least, they've wrested control from you. If you're always in control, you're not really on an adventure. Lack of control makes us uncomfortably dependent. "Understanding how things work" is a fundamentally dependent activity, because we cannot understand on our own. We need a Master who will take the lead in the tango – Jesus Himself." (p. 63)

Next Month's Selection: Thy Connected Kingdom, by Dwight J. Friesen  
Copyright 2009, Baker Books (ISBN: 978-0-8010-7163-8)

*(Thank You continued)*

**Thanks From the Freeman Ministerial:** *Thank you for your recent annual donation to the Freeman Ministerial. These funds assist transient individuals needing food, gas or shelter as they come through our community. Thanks for your congregation's generosity for this ministry of hospitality. "For I was hungry and you gave Me food, I was thirsty and you gave Me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited Me in."*



**Thank you** to all who joined us last Sunday for the Spring Sing. Together we raised \$7,000, to God be the Glory! It is time to start thinking about Penny Power and Mennonite Central Committee. Again this year there will not be a sale in Sioux Falls but there will be **penny power** collection beginning soon. Information and resources are coming your way. Also, if you are interested in **vanilla from Mexico**, bottles can be ordered for a \$65 donation, with delivery to Freeman Et Cetera Shoppe. Contact Elizabeth Janssen at 605-925-4859 or [ElizabethJanssen@mcc.org](mailto:ElizabethJanssen@mcc.org) for details. Thank you for your ongoing support of MCC.

## ***THE INITIATIVE***

If you have not yet had an opportunity to come out and experience The Initiative, please know that it is open to all and one does not need to feel obligated to come weekly. Simply come when you can, enjoy the fellowship, time in prayer and time in the Word together. ~ Pastor Todd



## **PRAYER SHAWL UPDATES**

Madeline Hofer joined the Prayer Shawl group this past year. At the April mtg. she brought her first completed prayer shawl which was for a baby and was presented to a newborn that very week. Her shawl was knitted, a skill she learned from her grandmother, Glenda Langeland. Her second shawl is underway but this one will be crocheted, a skill she learned from Barbie Hofer at Prayer Shawl. Thank you, Madeline! Very cool!

Please note that you are welcome to request prayer shawls for anyone who you feel might need encouragement for whatever situation. You may contact any of the following: Adeline Friesen, Sherryl Friesen, Barbie Hofer, Marj Hofer, Monica Hofer, Kathy Pullman, or Edie Tschetter.

## THE MENNONITE DISASTER SERVICE

**ANNUAL MEETING** was held on Sun., April 7, at 2:00pm at Hutterthal. The meeting was moderated by Chairman Duane Tieszen. Pastor Todd led in devotions and music was provided by Fortis (Jill



Hofer, Amy Hofer Vetch, Pastor Todd). A report of the South Church Youth Group work at Minot was brought by Craig Miller, one of the Youth sponsors. Eldon Berg, local coordinator, gave a report of group activity this past year. Most of the work has been focused on Minot. A special thank you was given to LeRoy Hofer for his many years of faithful service to MDS. Burton Kaufman has



completed his term as Secretary-Treasurer and Larry Tschetter was elected to fill that role.

## BOOK REVIEW

Becky McCune

*And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart,  
and with all your soul, and with all your might.  
And these words which I command you this day  
shall be upon your heart;  
and you shall teach them diligently to your children,  
and shall talk of them when you sit in your house,  
and when you walk by the way,  
and when you lie down,  
and when you rise.*

### Deuteronomy 6:5-9

John M. Drescher has authored thirty-seven books, including *Meditations for the Newly Married, If I Were Starting my Family Again, When Your Child Is 6–12, For the Love of Marriage*, and *Parents: Passing the Torch of Faith*. Hutterthal Library recently acquired the book *Seven Things Children Need* (third edition). This book was first published in 1976 and has been published in at least twenty different languages since. *Seven Things Children Need* discusses seven of the most basic needs of the growing child: significance, security, acceptance, love, praise, discipline, and God. This book gives you excellent insight into the mind of a child and the needs of a child.

This book is a simple but informative book on meeting your children's most important needs. Drescher includes personal stories that speak to parents and down-to-earth advice. There are many great quotes from other authors sprinkled throughout the book that are great motivators. On each topic he includes reflective quizzes for parents as well as appropriate discussion questions. This book is a great read for new parents and care givers or an excellent review for adults who simply care about children and their spiritual and emotional needs.

A great quote from the book reads; *Parents cannot change the color of their child's eyes, but they can give to eyes the light of understanding warmth of sympathy. They cannot much alter the child's features, but they can in many ways endow the child with the glow of humaneness, kindness and friendliness, which may in the long run bring a lot more happiness than the perfection that wins beauty contests. Parents cannot give security by surrounding the child with an abundance of things but [they can enclose their] child in the arms of love.*



# FULLY RELY ON GOD (F.R.O.G.)

By Brandy Friesen



April is National Library Month and the library committee is celebrating with a month

long theme of F.R.O.G., or Fully Rely On God.

The library committee kicked off the month with a reading party for kids after worship on April 7. We read a story called "The Littlest Frog" about a frog who learns to rely on his best friend, God. We also did a frog craft and ate yummy frog-shaped treats.

The children's crafts are on display in the foyer through the end of the month as well as a selection of books surrounding this month's theme. Stop by the library and check us out!



## *"Out of the mouth of babes"*

*It was Maundy Thursday evening and the worship service in the sanctuary had just ended. People were filing out and retrieving their coats. But there was much weeping in front of the library where Samuel Friesen was being consoled and held by his father. Big tears were rolling down his cheeks. When asked what had happened, Dave replied "He just found out that there is no Sunday School tonight".*

*May this be a teaching moment for all of us to have this kind of zeal to attend Sunday School.*



## MENNONITE WOMEN WORK NIGHT

Photos: Twyla Hofer with her drawstring bag fabrics ready for sewing; Brigitta Hofer making cards for HMC shut-ins; Mary Rensink sewing bags; Hannah Jones (learned to sew from Grandmother Fischer who was also present at work night) and Amanda Mettler making baby blankets for the orphanage in Vietnam; Jill Hofer cutting quilt blocks for people to take home and make comforter tops.







Kim Jones, Madeline Hofer, Jessica & Jackson Preheim and Chelsea Wentz, making peppernuts for the Et Cetera Shoppe to sell; Adeline Friesen and Claire Hofer prove that you are never too old **OR** too young to tie comforters. A brief business mtg. took place during the meal at which time the ladies enjoyed three kinds of soup prepared by the committee, tweeback (thanks Adeline) and butter braids.

Special thanks to Twyla for organizing the drawstring bag sewing project, to Alvina Hofer for donating fabric for blocks to make comforters, to all those who sewed comforter tops and all those who attended. Also, thanks to those who worked at home after work night - Adeline Friesen, Rosella Glanzer, Marj Hofer, Mildred Hofer, Norma & Vernon Hofer. ~ Sherryl, Barbie, Edie



It Happened this way  
Rev. and Mrs. G. A. Linscheid  
General Conference Mennonite Church  
1927

Steve Hopkins purchased this diary at the Mt. Lake Mini-Auction and gave it to Amos Kleinsasser to translate. In preparation of CPMC annual mtg. in MT., this is a bit of history about the early days of mission work in Montana

It was on May 11, 1904 on an early morning that we arrived at the Northern Cheyenne C.B. and O Railroad Station at Crow Agency, Montana. The icy north wind threatened us as we arrived from the warm south with warm weather clothes. Our winter clothes were packed in boxes with other things. Poor comfort!

We knew no one. The stationmaster went to his office after he had checked his things. Here we were. And why were we here? A new mission was to be started among the northern Cheyenne Indians.

The mission workers who had been here had left for health reasons. That left us newlyweds in charge.

The dray people were here picking up their merchandise to haul over hill and dale. A drayman who lived 35 miles in our direction would haul our stuff. Some of our stuff had been shipped earlier and was stored by this drayman.

Naturally we knew nothing about him. We were glad for his friendliness. He drove off with his freight while we stayed to wait for our wagon and team with harnesses that we had ordered before.

The day livened up. The draymen loaded their freight to get started on their long journey over hill, over dale.

We got our team and wagon and a tent with the understanding that if something was wrong we could bring the horses back. The day came to its end and we spent the night at the Crow Agency.

Early the next morning we started on our journey to our new residence. The cold north wind still blew. We got direction as to which path to take.

Dark snow clouds drifted over us, then again sunshine. Fortunately, after we left the river only one way was before us. Barren plains were before us. Not a house or a person in sight. A prairie dog town was a friendly sight. The panorama, the trees, rocks, and flowers would have been nice but we were looking for our destination as the day started to end.

There were trails that led away from the main path and we were not sure that we were going in the right direction. The horses were getting tired and we had to coax them to get to the next hill so that we could see if there was any sign of life.

We had to camp in the open prairie. The next morning we saw brick buildings beside the Rosebud stream.

We were overjoyed and shouted praise. That had to be the Govt. school.

That evening we camped in our tent. Our handler invited us for supper and we were happy to accept.

The next morning we made our own breakfast. Indians were around soon and helped us with our tent and wondered about these white people who could speak Cheyenne.

Our first job was to find a place where we would have our mission station. All depended on our agent.

The agent showed us a place that we did not like. We wanted a place closer to the school. We later found out that the agent did not want to give us a place at all. We then found a place and the agent wanted \$500. to stake it. We did not have this kind of money. The next morning Govt. surveyors came to the station and we asked if they would survey it. They did. The cost was \$3.00.

Next a house had to be built. Carpenters were few and far between. We contacted a carpenter in Sheridan, Wyoming. He promised. He never showed up. Indians were not carpenters.

The nearest Post office was 20 miles away. The Railroad station was 35 miles. Winter was coming and no roof for our heads.

It so happened that two men, a mason and a carpenter, left their jobs to look for gold. They didn't find any. When they saw the building material, they applied for the job and we came together on a price for building a house, a barn, and a church. First they built a barn so that they had a place to stay.

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We found sand beside the river. To get as much sand as we needed I dug deeper until I feared a cave in. I got out just in time. Our mason, an unbeliever, said, "it was a miracle that you got out alive."

By October the house was ready so that we could move in. For five months we had lived, eaten, and slept in our tent.

Last the church was built. It was dedicated Dec. 18. It was a mild winter, ideal for building. The carpenters were barely gone when winter arrived in full force.

Many other coincidences happened but we believe they were God ordained.

It so happened that an Indian youth, who had been orphaned, was brought to our home. He was sick with lung problems. Was it T.B.? Pneumonia? Who knows!!

We told him about Jesus and his love for us and he accepted Him as his Savior and asked to be baptized. He died shortly after, fearing not death, nor judgment. He will, with many other Indians, greet us in Heaven. What joy that will be. All cares, sicknesses, and death will be forever banned. There will be nothing but praise for the unending love of our Savior who suffered for us to bring us to Himself.

~ G.A and A. H. Linscheid

Translated by Amos J. Kleinsasser, Bridgewater, SD

# KIDS CORNER

By  
Phyllis  
Hofer

## A MOTHER'S REWARD

I do not ask that you repay  
The hours of toil and pain,  
The sacrifice of youth and strength  
Shall not have been in vain.  
I do not ask for gratitude  
But only this, my child,  
That you shall live your life so well  
My gifts be not defiled.

The nights I watched beside your crib,  
The years of love and care  
Will amply be repaid if once  
I see you standing there--  
An upright and an honest soul  
On whom success has smiled  
That I may say with humble pride  
"That is my child!"

## Hutterthal Women's 2nd quarter report By Ardella Gross

Feb. 1 to April 30, 2013

|   |                       |                |            |
|---|-----------------------|----------------|------------|
| Balance on Hand                                     | Feb. 1, 2012          |                | \$ 799.85  |
| Receipts:   |                       |                |            |
| Additional January project-Blankets, sheets, towels |                       | \$ 70.00       |            |
| February project- Swan Lake Christian Camp          |                       | \$ 220.00      |            |
| March project- Soap or Hygiene Kits                 |                       | \$ 150.00      |            |
| April offering                                      |                       | \$ 269.25      |            |
|   | Total Receipts        | \$ 709.25      |            |
|   | Balance plus Receipts |                | \$1,509.10 |
| Disbursements:                                      |                       |                |            |
| January project                                     |                       | \$ 170.00      |            |
| February project                                    |                       | \$ 220.00      |            |
| March project                                       |                       | \$ 150.00      |            |
| Work Day Supplies                                   |                       | \$ 33.59       |            |
|   | Total Disbursements   | \$ 573.59      |            |
|   | Balance on hand       | April 30, 2013 | \$ 935.51  |

## MENNONITE WOMEN PROGRAM AT OAKVIEW TERRACE

by Ardella Gross



As they were slowly bringing in the residents for the program on April 19, we got to greet and chat with them. By 2:30 we had a full house. Elvera Deckert played the piano, Marj Hofer sang, Ardella Gross had a few remarks, Shirley Hofer read a short true story about Winston Churchill and the person who discovered Penicillin and also 2 of her father's favorite poems. Then we all moved to the dining tables where we had

juice and a choice of little pizzas the size of a soda cracker and a cucumber slice on a small piece of cream cheese and bread. It was tasty and we could see people had worked hard to make them so attractive. We had some good visits with quite a few people.



## **MAY BIRTHDAYS**



- 1) Riley Tschetter
- 2) Marlyn Friesen
- 2) Kathryn Friesen
- 7) Norma Hofer
- 7) Rivix Aleksi Gomez-Hofer
- 7) Tina Decker
- 10) Samuel Friesen
- 10) Cindy Kleinsasser
- 14) Larry Sandal
- 18) Janeen Ogden
- 20) Jaime Tschetter
- 20) Larry Tschetter
- 23) Dennis Hofer
- 24) LeRoy Pullman

- 24) Glennis Hofer
- 25) Sarah Hofer
- 26) Michelle Neuharth
- 27) Charlotte Hofer
- 30) Laura Hofer

## **MAY ANNIVERSARIES**

- 2) Aaron & Marcella Glanzer
- 3) Shawn & Heather Hofer
- 25) LeRoy & Kathy Pullman
- 25) Luke & Emily Rensink
- 27) Nicole & Larry Timmerman
- 27) Lyndon & Barbie Hofer
- 30) Todd & Suzanne Koerner

## **CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFERING**

**Spring Quarter: MCC Nicaragua project - books for Mobile Library**

### **MENNONITE WOMEN**

**Mar. Project:** \$150 Cash, 114 bars of soap, 33 hygiene kits

**April Project:** Work Night 136 drawstring bags; 18 comforters; 4 baby blankets; 1 gallon peppernuts; 9 greeting cards; hundreds of blocks cut; many labels for education

**May Project:** Cash - MEDA project



Attendance and Offering Report

|                    | <b><u>Attendance</u></b> | <b><u>Offerings</u></b> |
|--------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| March 31           | 149                      | \$2,451.00              |
| April 7            | 103                      | \$3,085.00              |
| April 14           | 96                       | \$3,177.00              |
| Orphanage offering |                          | \$8,876.25              |
| April 21           | 118                      | \$2,345.00              |

**DID YOU KNOW?**

***By Phyllis Hofer***

The second Sunday of May does not stand alone as Mother's Day--

**EVERY DAY OF THE YEAR**

**IS**

**MOTHER'S DAY!**



By Twyla Hofer

**Gordon & Sharon Walter** were in Texas for their grandson's baptism. While they were in Texas, Gordon saw a cornea specialist and also had his follow-up appointment for his retina.

They also attended a NCAA game at Cowboy Stadium between Michigan and Florida.

Congratulations to **Melvin & Rosella Glanzer** as they celebrated 58 years of marriage on April 17.

Sympathy is extended to the family of Calvin Mettler who passed away of esophageal cancer on Apr. 6 at the age of 88. He was **Rodney Mettler's** grandfather.

Little **Sam Friesen** had his tonsils removed on April 8.

The second week in April all of the FA Sr. Hi. Students were involved in one of three activities: The chamber choir went East for the annual choir festival with **Amy Hofer Vetch; Dennis Schrock** took 14 students to Omaha for a service project called Urban Plunge; Bonnie Young accompanied the foreign exchange students to the Black Hills.

**Pastor Todd** attended the Leader's Retreat in Schuyler, NE on Apr. 14-15.

Flowers from the Dewayne Schamber funeral earlier in the week graced the sanctuary

on Sun., Apr. 21. He was a cousin to **Boni Hofer, Larry & Brigitta Hofer** and friend & neighbor to **Norman & Darlene Hofer**.

**LaVonne Tschetter** was hospitalized in Sioux Falls for a number of days with pneumonia.

**Barbie Hofer's** brother ran the Boston Marathon and crossed the finish line 20 min. ahead of the bombs. He was unharmed.

The BaVi Orphanage located in Hanoi, Vietnam, is home to 320 people and in need of a working sanitation facility. **Lance & Lacey Friesen** are teaching in Vietnam and reported that \$1,500-2,000 would put up a very adequate facility on the "campus". To that end, an offering was received on Apr. 14. A \$500 matching funds challenge was issued on Apr. 7. Over \$8,800 was raised. The love offering at Christmas was used to put a water tank on the campus.

Larry Hofer, Paul Hofer, Jr., & LeRoy Pullman organized a branch & tree clean-up crew for church members after a recent ice storm made major damage. Others helped in the effort.

#### **Signing the Guestbook:**

Mar. 24: Don & Sandra Fischer, Olivet

Apr. 14: Greg & Chelsea Pullman, Freeman

Apr. 21: Kerwin & Robin Graber, Freeman;  
Anita Watkins, NE

**Blooper actually printed in a church bulletin:**

**Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.**

## **SERVICE FEATURE**

**By Raymond M. Hofer**

I was in IW service at St. Luke's Hospital in Denver, Colorado from Jan. 19, 1953 to Jan. 19, 1955. My first job was to mop the floor in the kitchen area. When I was done with that, I was to wash the pots and pans from the bakery which was in the kitchen area as well. These jobs sound easy but there were a LOT of pots and pans. I soon learned to fill the sinks with hot water and let them soak, then wash the floor. I did this for about 6 weeks when I was transferred to the Food Storage Room which was a much easier job. I checked in what came in and what went out. However, after a while it started getting a little boring because certain times of the day there wasn't anything coming in or going out. So then I would go back to the kitchen and help the cooks. It didn't take too long when the chef asked me if I would accept the job as a morning cook. I said I would if it is OK with the dietician. He said "I'll handle that." Cooks in a hospital didn't last long because most of them came out of the military service, took the job until they found something easier and better. They also didn't take their work too serious as they quit and didn't let anyone know so the rest had to fill in. Anyway, about 2 days later I was the breakfast cook. As such being the case, I had to be at work at 4:00 A.M., so from then on it meant, be up at 3:30 A.M. I walked to work in the early morning (in Denver) about 20 minutes. The first thing I did was get (3) 100 coffee pots ready for coffee. Then I got the stove and grill hot. When we had bacon, I put the bacon on pans the day before (about 15 pans). The next morning they were cooked in the oven. Some mornings I prepared 11 boxes of Cream of Wheat. This was prepared in a big steam heated kettle. When I made scrambled eggs, it took 75 dozen which I cracked the day before and put in a cooler so they were ready the next morning. We served about 2200 meals per day for the patients, employees, guests, etc. It was also my job to get the meat ready for dinner, and get whatever was needed for the next day breakfast. I felt I had the best job. I enjoyed every aspect of my 2 years in IW service and yes, it was a great and learning experience. When my term was up we stayed only long enough for Rosie to finish her X-Ray training and writing the test and I continued to cook. I encourage ALL our young people to experience 2 years of church service. I often wish I had volunteered to go overseas with MCC, which is a great opportunity and you'd learn so much. My reason for doing IW service was because I couldn't kill someone, no matter what the situation. I feel more good comes out of helping people than destroying life. This is what I believe and what my parents taught me. I also believe in following the Ten Commandments, therefore, I decided to do IW service.



**Connection! Editor: Edie Tschetter**

**Advisory Board: Amanda Mettler, chp., Boni Hofer and Kim Jones**

**Proof Reader: Ardella Gross**

# *Calendar for MAY*

*By Pastor Todd*

- May 1: The Initiative, 7:00pm @ HMC
- May 2: Freeman Ministerial, 10:00am @ Bethany Mennonite Church
- May 3: Men's Group, 8:45am @ Parsonage
- May 5: Youth Breakfast, 8:00am @ HMC  
Worship, 9:45am @ HMC  
Sunday School (All Ages), 11:00am @ HMC
- May 7: Deacons Meeting, 7:30pm @ Clem Residence
- May 8: The Initiative, 7:00pm @ HMC
- May 10: Men's Group, 8:45am @ Parsonage
- May 12: MOTHER'S DAY  
Worship, 9:45am @ HMC  
Sunday School (All Ages), 11:00am @ HMC
- May 13: Prayer Shawl, 7:00pm @ HMC
- May 14: Mission & Outreach, 7:00pm @ HMC
- May 15: Baccalaureate, 8:00pm @ Freeman Public High School
- May 16: Church Board, 8:00pm @ HMC
- May 17: Men's Group, 8:45am @ Parsonage
- May 18: Graduation, 2:00pm @ Freeman Public High School  
Graduation, 6:00pm @ Freeman Academy
- May 19: PENTECOST SUNDAY  
Worship, 9:45am @ HMC  
Sunday School (All Ages), 11:00am @ HMC
- May 22: June Connections! Deadline, 12:00pm  
The Initiative, 7:00pm @ HMC
- May 24: Men's Group, 8:45pm @ Parsonage
- May 26: Worship, 9:45am @ HMC  
Sunday School (All Ages), 11:00am @ HMC  
Worship, 2:30pm @ Diamond Care Center  
Freeman Network for Justice & Peace, 4:00pm @ HMC
- May 27: MEMORIAL DAY
- May 29: The Initiative, 7:00pm @ HMC
- May 31: Men's Group, 8:45am @ Parsonage

