

September 2017

Hutterthal
Mennonite Church
Freeman, SD

CONNECTION!

Making a CONNECTION with one another

***Grandma Sylvia
and grandson
Christopher enjoy
a moment together
at the baby
shower held in
Christopher's honor
in mid-August.***



Jesus said, "Let the little children come to Me,
and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven."
Matthew 19: 14, NKJV

Twyla's September Tip:

Uses for hot water after removing jars from the canner:

- ⇒ Pour on weeds/grasses growing in the driveway or sidewalks and other concrete. Sure kill without chemicals.
- ⇒ Drain opener:
 - 1) Pour some baking soda into the drain.
 - 2) Next, pour some vinegar or stale soda.
 - 3) Wash down with the hot water from the canner.

Always use caution with hot H₂O!

NOTE: If you are not canning, you may boil the appropriate amount of water in a tea kettle for the above uses. The use of a tea kettle will make for far more accurate pouring.

“Our faith is to be anchored in the knowledge of [Christ’s] authority over every other power that exists.”

Mike Bickle



On behalf of the Jackson Lee Vetch Memorial Fund Board, we would like to thank all of you for your continued support. With your kind donations the JLV Memorial Fund has been able to assist 357 children and youth, providing \$59,755 in scholarships to offset the cost of attending Christian Camps! Without the financial support of those near & far this would not be possible. We thank you for attending the movie night and are very thankful for the many volunteers who helped in making it a great event. The winners of the Beef Raffle were Freeman resident Deb Koster and Dennie Jarabek from Sioux Falls. We are humbled by the outpouring of love and support from all of you.

Blessings,
Jackson Lee Vetch Family &
JLV Memorial Board

“... we must adopt a lifestyle of abiding in Christ.”

Mike Bickle

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HMC Links

Website - <http://hmcfreeman.org>

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Pastoral Links

Facebook – www.facebook.com/MennPastor

Twitter – @MennPastor

**“Not by might
nor by power,
but by My Spirit,’
says the Lord of hosts.”**

Zechariah 4: 6b, NKJV



ATTENTION WOMEN:

Central Plains Women’s Retreat at Swan Lake Christian Camp (Viborg, SD) on September 16 & 17, 2017. “Meeting Women in the Bible Again for the First Time” will be presented by Ruth Harder, Pastor of Rainbow Mennonite Church in Kansas City, KS.

What might the sisters, mothers, daughters, wives, queens, widows, judges, and women disciples of the Bible have to teach us today? What can we learn today from their courage, resistance, duplicity, wit, deception, rivalry, laments, and praise of God?

Bring a friend and enjoy a weekend of inspiration , relaxation, interest sessions and fellowship in a retreat setting. A coffee house is planned for Saturday evening — a time for socializing and sharing music, poetry, stories, photos, hobbies or crafts. Registration due September 2 by email, text or phone to Kim Jones: fishmenno87@gmail.com, 515-835-0338 or 605-925-7186.

CHILDREN’S SUNDAY SCHOOL
SEPTEMBER PROJECT
Bethany Food Pantry
Congregational Ministries
September Project
Mennonite Women/Men MCUSA

	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Offerings</u>
August 6	93	\$3,358.00
August 13	84	\$2,424.00
August 20	100	\$2,186.00



* The last weekend of July, Matthew & Sara Fideler of Springfield, Oregon were in Volga and Freeman visiting family.

* Aug. 10th marked 65 years of marriage for John & Deloris Stahl.

* On Aug. 18th Norman & Darlene Hofer celebrated 60 years of marriage.

* On Sunday, Aug. 6, the Scholarship Committee served the annual fundraiser meal following morning worship & Sunday School. They prepared a large variety of tasty taco fixings and an array of desserts for our enjoyment.

* Jaime Tschetter began a year-long assignment in Tucson, Arizona with MVS.

* Delmer & Shirley Hofer were able to rejoin us at church on Aug. 6 after several weeks of health issues. Delmer thanked the congregation for their expressions of love and concern. He explained that a strict veggie diet healed the inflammation around his heart. Shirley had cataract surgery on both eyes with an additional stint placed in each eye. She is healing well.

* Jarrod Kramer served donuts on Sunday, Aug. 6 for his birthday on Aug. 10. On Sat. Aug. 12th, he was united in marriage to Rebekka Jordan. On Sunday, Aug. 13, during coffee time, the newlyweds joyfully served goodies left over from their caption the afternoon before.

* Sunday, Aug. 13 at 2pm, Melissa and her son, Chris (born on April 5, 2017), were honored at a baby shower held in the HMC Fellowship Hall.

* Shalom Readers Club for ages 4 through grade 8 concluded before the start of school. Reports and/or projects need to be submitted to receive a free book of choice.

* The Movie On Main Street was Sully, shown on Aug. 13 at 8:45pm. This was the 5th annual fund raiser honoring the memory of ...

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“You become like what you worship. When you gaze in awe, admiration, and wonder at something or someone, you begin to take on something of the character of the object of your worship”

N. I. Wright

A Year in Tucson

with Jaime Tschetter



Jaime, daughter of Pam Tschetter, traveled to Tucson, Arizona where she is participating in Mennonite Voluntary Service.

If you would like to follow her continuing adventure, “A Year in Tucson”, please go to the following link:

<https://jptschetter20.wixsite.com/blog>

Please keep Jaime in your prayers as her service journey continues!

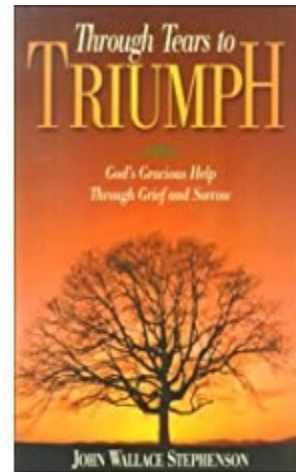
HMC LIBRARY NEWS

Through Tears to Triumph: God's Gracious Help Through Grief and Sorrow

by Wally Stephenson

John Wallace (Wally) Stephenson and his wife Louise were missionaries to South Africa with ABWE (Association of Baptists for World Evangelism). Their home community was Burford, Ontario, Canada. They had an adult Son and an Adult daughter. The Son lived on the west coast of Canada and the Daughter lived nearer to their home in Burford.

Wally and his wife were back in Canada when tragedy struck. Wally was traveling in Ontario preaching at different churches by himself when he was awakened one night at a church members house where he was staying. It was well past midnight when Wally was called to the phone. The message was that his wife and daughter had both been killed instantly as they were traveling to grandma's house some distance away. A car traveling at 70 miles per hour was coming toward them on the other lane when it crossed the median instantly killing Louise and Ruth when the driver fell asleep.



Wally and Louise were to celebrate their 33th wedding anniversary when he got back from his preaching tour, instead he had to plan for a funeral. Wally grieved very much coping with this loss of two important family members. However he continued as a missionary to South Africa as he was scheduled to serve as a supply minister for a church Pastor in South Africa while he was on leave for a period. Wally decided to write this book as he tried to figure out the meaning of this tragedy. In 16 chapters he deals with guilt, anger, and asking why. Other chapters are adjusting to a different life, combating loneliness, accepting death, and claiming victory.

This book would be a good book for small group study. This book is in the process of being accepted to our church library.

Happy reading,
LeRoy Hofer

"Great books help you understand, and they help you feel understood."

John Green



STRAIGHT UP...

“Behold, I will do a new thing, now it shall spring forth; shall you not know it?”

Isaiah 43: 19a, NKJV

“Behold, I make all things new.” ~ Revelation 21: 5b, NKJV

The point of the Scripture passages above is clear: God is in the business of changing things — of creating — and, in Christ, we *are* changed. We are not who we were before. We are a new creation! We have received a new heart — a new way of seeing and understanding the world. We have received a new spirit — the Holy Spirit — and a new way of living and being in the world. And, we have been given a new covenant — a new relationship that is marked by redeeming grace, not religion; by love, not law.

The Good News proclaims that we are no longer strangers and aliens in this world. We are dwelling in Christ, and Christ dwells in us! As the Lord declared through Ezekiel 36: 28: “[We] shall be [His] people, and [He] will be [our] God” (NKJV). This is a change that is wrought, not through our effort, but through our availability — our willingness to accept the free gift of grace that we have been given in Christ. Therefore, there is no reason for pride. In fact, just the opposite. For, as we reflect upon our old, dead life, we will know that the new life we are experiencing now is not of us. We are simply blessed to live it out loud. Our new life comes as an invitation to make the world over ... starting with me ... starting with you.

The Good News is a n invitation to a new beginning.

In Christ,
Pastor Todd

Mennonite Mission Network Prayers



WEEK of SEPTEMBER 3: Janie and Neal Blough of Mennonite Mission Network have committed most of their adult lives to ministry in France. Pray for them as they continue to share the good news of Jesus through lectures, workshops, and in worshiping with their multicultural congregation, a visible witness to the “healing of the nations.”

WEEK of SEPTEMBER 10: Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for Mennonite Church Nigeria’s youth who will begin gathering Wednesday for their five-day national camp. Pray for Psalmist Ekpedeme Jackson, their president, as he leads the young people in worship, Bible study, training in peacebuilding and reconciliation, and in business development principles.

WEEK of SEPTEMBER 17: Yesterday, the Argentina Mennonite Church began celebrating their centennial anniversary. Pray that God will be glorified as church members and guests worship and remember God’s faithfulness. Pray also that today’s mission rally in the greater Buenos Aires area will introduce people to Jesus in new ways.

WEEK of SEPTEMBER 24: Staff from DOOR, a Mennonite Mission Network partner that provides service opportunities, are traveling to Austin, Texas, for a gathering that starts tomorrow. Pray for them as they fellowship, share best practices, and prepare for the future.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1) Ben Friesen
- 3) Ron Pullman
Sasha Decker
- 4) Jennifer Kleinsasser
- 5) John D Stahl
- 7) Stan Hofer
- 08) Rylea Timmerman
Guss Timmerman
- 10) Gunnar Tschetter
- 12) Dustin Tschetter
- 15) Stewart Hofer
Suzanne Koerner
- 19) Charmaine Ries
Peyton McCune
- 20) Jerome Kleinsasser
- 22) Emma Hofer
- 23) Dennie Hofer
- 25) Ross Hofer
Tiffany Hampton
- 26) Gary Tschetter
- 27) Kim Jones

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 6) Chris & Melissa Hofer
- 7) Doug and Becky McCune
- 14) Amos & Kathryn Kleinsasser
- 22) Galen Hofer & Stephanie Phibbs



SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

- | | |
|----------|---|
| Sept. 3 | Gifts Discernment Process Begins
9:45am Worship
11:10am Sunday School |
| Sept. 4 | LABOR DAY
8:00pm Rural Revival |
| Sept. 6 | 10:00am Freeman Ministerial |
| Sept. 10 | SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER/
STAFF DEDICATION
9:45am Worship
11:10am Sunday School |
| Sept. 12 | 7:30pm Deacons Meeting
(Clem Residence) |
| Sept. 16 | Women's Retreat (Swan Lake) |
| Sept. 17 | Gifts Discernment Process Ends (Sheets due to Brigitta Hofer)
Women's Retreat (Swan Lake)
9:45am Worship
11:10am Sunday School |
| Sept. 19 | 9:15am Pastor Peer (Sioux Falls) |
| Sept. 20 | October Connection Deadline |
| Sept. 21 | 8:00pm Church Board |
| Sept. 24 | PEACE SUNDAY
9:45am Worship
11:10am Sunday School |
| Sept. 26 | 7:30pm <i>Open the Book</i> Web Seminar |

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness;

only light can do that.

Hate cannot drive out hate;

only love can do that."

Martin Luther King, Jr.

(HMC News Continued from p. 4)

Jackson Lee Vetch provides scholarships benefitting children and youth attending Christian camps.

- * Lillie and Andre Eisenbeis have returned from their summer employment in France to resume their duties as dorm parents for 9 foreign students on the Freeman Academy campus.
- * On Sunday, Aug. 20th the Deacons arranged and hosted a potluck meal following Sunday School for the congregation. A wide variety of delicious foods were enjoyed by all.
- * The deacons have arranged for congregational voices to be heard for 2 Sundays a month (September through November) in the capacity of worship leaders, song leaders, and children's time leaders. This pattern is similar to what was done during Pastor Todd's sabbatical earlier this summer. Instead of a guest speaker (as was common during his sabbatical) we will have Pastor Todd bring the messages.
- * Willow Rose was born to David & Megan Rensink on Aug. 16th. She is the newest grandchild for Les & Mary Rensink.

VISITORS who signed the HMC Guestbook in August:

Aug. 6: Betty Koerner (Freeman, SD)
Aaron Tschetter (Newton, Kansas)
John Bieri (Pigeon, Minnesota)

Restoration Generation feat. Tom Henderson

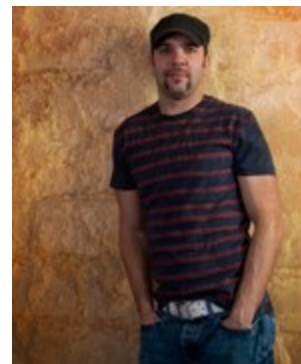
Wellspring Counseling is sponsoring
Restoration Generation

Wednesday, September 20 @ 7:00pm in the Menno High School gym.

Restoration Generation is a new approach to High School assemblies focused on relationships and targeted for persons 12-29 years of age. The assembly speaks to the overwhelming challenges and obstacles we can face [anger, poor self-image, identity confusion, lack of self-worth, acceptance issues, the bondage of unforgiveness], while presenting the good news of Christ through life-altering messages, top-notch musicianship, and an interactive stage show. Don't miss this opportunity to be touched by hope, to be encouraged, and to be challenged!

Tom Henderson is a graduate of the University of Sioux Falls and Sioux Falls Seminary. He has been working with teens for over eighteen years and speaking professionally for the last nine. He speaks over 75 times a year to crowds ranging from 50 to 50,000. Tom has been married to Laura for 20 years and has two sons, Isaiah and Chase.

For more information on Restoration Generation go to
www.resgenschools.org



“There are no experts in the company of Jesus. We are all beginners.”

Eugene Peterson

Community News

& Announcements

- 1) Wellspring Wholistic Care Center, Freeman, SD is sponsoring a **Grief Seminar** on September 16, from 1-5 pm. Janell Christenson, Veterans Administration grief counselor is the featured speaker. Speakers from the surrounding area will share their grief challenges. The seminar's purpose is to assist persons grieving loss to process their journey of mourning. Grieving well is difficult work and may be aided in various ways including sharing stories, mutual encouragement, and receiving therapeutic counsel. For more information feel free to call 925-4542 or text 605-661-0601
- 2) **Local service opportunity!** The Et Cetera Shoppe is seeking volunteers interested in serving on a new weekly pricing committee. Perhaps you and some friends would like to volunteer together! This is a great opportunity to be part of our mission helping people in need around the world, in the name of Christ, without ever leaving the community. We are also looking for new rug weavers! If you enjoy creating things, and can sew a simple straight line, this may be the perfect outlet for you. Please call the shop at 925-7098 or talk to Kris or Anita to express interest in joining our team.

*"Commit your works to the Lord, and your thoughts will be established."
Proverbs 16: 3, NKJV*

Prayers for Our Journey Together



WEEK of AUGUST 27:

Pray for those preparing Christian formation programs for the 2017-2018 school year: Christian Education/Nurture committees, Sunday School superintendents and teachers for all ages.

WEEK of SEPTEMBER 3:

Pray that God will make a way for the Max and Gloria Villatoro family to be reunited. We invite you to fast and pray for the Villatoros on Tuesday of this week.

WEEK of SEPTEMBER 10:

Next weekend in Freeman, the Central Plains conference board will meet jointly with the Christian Formation, Pastoral Leadership, Outreach & Service and Discernment Committees. Pray for these meetings and for Sid Burkey of Milford, Nebraska, who is our new moderator.

WEEK of SEPTEMBER 17:

Pray for those leading and participating in the Central Plains fall women's retreat taking place this weekend at Swan Lake Christian Camp.

WEEK of SEPTEMBER 24:

As we celebrate "Peace Sunday" pray for peace with you, peace within our fellowship, peace in our neighborhoods, peace in our nation, and peace in our world.

Open the Book: Practical Tips for Leading Bible Study

As part of the Central Plains Mennonite Conference, we have covenanted to specific Christian practices, including Bible study with each other, with our neighbors, and with those we do not yet know.

With that in mind, Central Plains is offering a series of webinars this fall to equip people to facilitate Bible studies in settings like Sunday School classrooms and small groups.

Those who teach the Bible in congregational settings are especially encouraged to participate; however, *everyone* is welcome.

The first webinar is scheduled for Tuesday, September 26 @ 7:30pm and is titled:

Don't Mourn or Weep: Goals and Problems

In this webinar, we will discuss what people gain from studying the Bible, and what the leader can contribute towards making those good things happen. Participants will share the biggest challenges they encounter when leading Bible discussions, and we will explore some ways the leader can address those challenges.

Healer of Our Ev'ry Ill

by Ruth Guengerich

"Healer of our ev'ry ill,
Light of each tomorrow,
give us peace beyond our fear,
and hope beyond our sorrow."*

Healing and Creator God,
it is hard to let go of our fears,
when we hear and see violence in many
places.

It is difficult to experience hope
when we hear rhetoric of violence, corrup-
tion, and arrogance from world leaders.

Compassionate and nurturing God,
we pray for peace where there is no peace;
we pray for hope, for safety, for freedom for
all your creation.

Healing and Creator God,
as our children and grandchildren and great
grandchildren are returning to school
may they be in healing and nurturing
environments;
may they be mentored by wise and
compassionate guides;
may they be surrounded by those who care
so deeply for these young ones that they

will bless
the children with demonstrations of patience,
compassion, love and wisdom.

Compassionate and nurturing God,
as our young adult children and grand-
children return to college and university
may they be supported by wise leaders as
they search for truth, and as they seek to
live justly and to spread words of peace.

"Give us strength to love each other,
ev'ry sister, ev'ry brother.
Spirit of all kindness, be our guide.

"You who know each thought and feeling,
teach us all your way of healing.
Spirit of compassion, fill each heart."*

(*Hymnal: Worship Book, 377)



Ruth Guengerich, Goshen, Indiana, former co-director of MW USA, is a member of Eighth St. Mennonite Church, where she is president of their MW group. In her free time she does calligraphy and Zentangle, and golfs, a lot.

BACKPACK BLESSING

On Sunday, August 20, we celebrated our annual “Backpack Blessing.” During that time, we paused to pray over and with our students grades pre-kindergarten through graduate school. We then surrounded our teachers, school administrators, and school staffers and prayed with and over them with the laying on of hands, asking for God’s wisdom, strength, and perseverance through the coming school year.

Please keep our students, teachers, administrators, and school staffers in your prayers throughout the school year. Let us shower upon them the blessings of our Lord!



The Central Plains budget experienced a third straight deficit in the month of June. Income for the month came in at \$23,225.13. Meanwhile, expenses came in at \$31,393.54. This created a monthly deficit of \$8,168.41 and extends the overall deficit to \$23,750.28. — *Stewardship Task Group*

A Celebration of Birth (Written by Brigitta Hofer)



Monica Hofer welcoming the guests who were present

Christopher Paul Hofer was the guest of honor at a baby shower on Sunday, August 13, 2017 at 2:00pm. His special guests included Mom Melissa, sister's Brianna and Abigail, Grandma Sylvia, Aunt Paige and cousin Torrie.

The shower was organized by Monica Hofer. Assisting her were Mary Rensink (devotions), Joyce Hofer (games), Brigitta Hofer (decorations), and Sherryl Friesen, Amy Hofer-Vetch, Darlene Hofer, and Monica H. (food). Vernon P. Hofer also assisted by

lending Allis-Chalmers tractors for the table decorations, and Jarrod and Bekka Kramer graciously lent flowers for the tables as well, all blending in with the orange and purple color scheme.

It was a blessed event and we are

thankful for the safe arrival of Christopher, and all the people that attended, as well as those who had a part in preparing for it.



Top and Left: Centerpiece and Sand Pail Decorations



Mary Rensink reading devotions

*"Your heart, it moves with compassion
There is life, there is healing in Your love
You're the Father, the Son, the Holy Spirit
For eternity, we will sing of all you've done"
From 'God with Us' (written by Bryan & Katie Torwalt)*