

October 2017

**Hutterthal
Mennonite Church**
Freeman, SD

CONNECTION!

Making a CONNECTION with one another

READING ABOUT PEACE CAN BE FUN!



Eight children participated in the Shalom Readers program. The children were busy reading books, new and old, and making unique projects. The projects are on display in the church



entryway. Each child who participated in the program received a book of their choice. Charlene

Friesen, assisted by Monica Clem, presented the books to the children and shared examples of the books from the program. New lavender book log sheets are available in the church library if any children would like to get a head start on reading for this year. Children ages four and

up are welcome to participate.

~ Rebecca Hofer



Thank you to Pastor Todd & his family for faithfully serving Hutterthal for the past 10 years. Following worship on Sept. 3, they were asked to stand in the center isle of the sanctuary so congregants could lay hands on them and offer a special blessing over them as they move on to a new chapter in their lives.



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

HMC Links

Website - <http://hmcfreeman.org>
 "Like" Us on Facebook –
www.facebook.com/hutterthalmennonitechurch



◆ Thank you for the comforting prayer shawl I received when my Dad passed away. My Dad used his as a cover-up every day.

They are a wonderful ministry.

Sincerely, Stephanie Hofer Burgeson

◆ Thank you for the beautiful, soft, comforting, warm prayer shawl. Dad treasured his and always found comfort and warmth from his. I too treasure this gift. What an awesome ministry you have to share with others!!

Gratefully, Kelly Hofer Hefti

◆ I apologize for the tardiness of these thanks. I have been holding onto them to share with the prayer shawl committee, but now that we have a newsletter again I decided to just add them to the *Connection!*. Our family continues to miss Larry. The main impact is just the loss, the incredible loss. Some days are tougher than others, but the Lord is good to us and we rise up from our sadness and continue on. Those of you who have lost loved ones will know what I am talking about. Our whole systems have sustained a major shock and it will take some time to adjust, but we recall in gratitude the legacy of the loved one we have lost. Thank you for your continued prayers.

Brigitta

P.S. Robin received a prayer shawl a few years back when she was ill, and we were told that is why she did not receive one at her Dad's passing. She still enjoys it!

OCTOBER PROJECTS

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Bethany Food Pantry

CONGREGATIONAL MINISTRIES

Relief Kits for MCC

Contents (NEW items only, in original packaging)

- 4 large bars bath soap
- 1 plastic bottle shampoo (13–24 oz; place in resealable plastic bag)
- 4 large bars laundry soap (Some stores carry Fels Naptha®, Sunlight® or Zote® brands)
- 4 adult-size toothbrushes
- 4 new bath towels (medium weight, dark or bright colors)
- 2 wide-tooth combs (6–8 in)
- 1 fingernail clipper(good quality)
- 1 box adhesive bandages (minimum 40 count, assorted)
- 1 package sanitary pads (18–24 count thin maxi)

Sharon Waltner is willing to purchase (\$50) a kit for you.

	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Offerings</u>
August 27	93	\$3,109.00
September 3	96	\$2,639.25
September 10	94	\$2,976.00
September 17	84	\$1,594.00
September 24	94	\$3,150.00



Elise Quiring, left, an MCC service worker in Haiti, and Rebecca Shetler Fast, right, an MCC Haiti representative, help to load relief kits onto the truck that will carry the kits to MCC's partner SAKALA in Cité Soleil, a neighborhood in Port-au-Prince.

MCC photo/Paul Shetler Fast





- **Gordon and Sharon Waltner** were in Kentucky to tour the replica of Noah's Ark. Mennonites and Amish helped build it because they knew how to work large timbers. It was impressive. While there

they also toured the Creation Museum.

- **Amos & Kathryn Kleinsasser**, residents of Oakview Terrace, observed their 70th wedding anniversary on Sept. 14.
- Lonnie Preheim, age 78, a resident of Dewald Village of Freeman passed away on Aug. 24.. A memorial services was held on Sept. 2 in his home church, Salem-Zion Mennonite of Freeman. Lonnie was an uncle to **Todd Koerner**.
- **Pastor Todd's extended family** has had numerous health concerns. His uncle, Rex Walker, is undergoing chemo for stage 4 cancer; his brother Dwayne had spinal surgery on Sept 6. His niece, Joslyn Fischer, broke both her wrists in a fall from the money bars on the first days of school.
- **Joyce Hofer** announced that her children (son) Joel & Victoria and Taylor & Dylan Wipf of Chicago and daughter Juli Anderson of Hartford visited her over the Labor Day weekend after the Sat. evening wedding of (Ray's) grandson Elliott Graber.
- Monica & Bruce Hofer's daughter Stacy & Jason Medina and their children Ryder and Reagan from California were also here for Elliot Graber's wedding.. Elliot is a nephew to Monica.
- Maria (Tschetter) & Brian Paff and son Trevor of Chicago were visiting in the parental home of Larry & Edie Tschetter over the Labor Day weekend.
- Vernon & Twyla Hofer drove to Bozeman, MT to visit son Ross over the weekend. They were gone from Sept. 14-18 and attended church with Ross on the 17th.

A Year in Tucson

with Jaime Tschetter

For the next year I have the opportunity to work with some amazing people and volunteers through Literacy Connects. My title is the Kinder Site Coordinator at Keeling Elementary. I will be

working with kindergarteners on one-to-one reading and being a liaison between teachers and the other 20 volunteers, as well as providing support as needed. I'm very excited about this placement and everything



I will learn over the next year. Reading was something I struggled with growing up, so to be able to make it enjoyable for kids starting at a young age is really exciting to me!

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

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

- Puerto Rico & St. Croix (Virgin Islands) have been pounded by multiple hurricanes in recent weeks. HMC family who have relatives living there do not have definitive answers as to the conditions there due to wide spread power failure which is expected to take months to restore. Amy Hofer Vetch has her Aunt Lucinda living in central Puerto Rico. Rina (Cam) Hofer's family in St. Croix is ok with minimal structural damage and getting along with a generator.

RESPONDING RESPONSIBLY TO DISASTERS

It is unfortunate that while so many people are in need of disaster assistance, there are those out there who take advantage of the crisis for their own benefit. For that reason we encourage you to support organizations that are reputable. Within our own church world we have two such organizations - Mennonite Central Committee and Mennonite Disaster Service.

From hurricanes, flooding and earthquakes, to conflict and drought, MCC is responding to many disasters around the world. Learn more about our relief projects and give today to help provide assistance and to support communities as they rebuild. **MCC warehouses are very low on relief kits and comforters.**



MCC's sister organization, Mennonite Disaster Service is responding to damage in the U.S. from hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria.

To donate to Mennonite Central Committee:

1. **donate online** at [donate.https://mcc.org/learn/what/relief/disasters](https://mcc.org/learn/what/relief/disasters)
2. **call** 1-888-563-4676
3. **send a check to:** MCC, 21 S. 12th St., PO Box 500, Akron, PA 17501.

To donate to Mennonite Disaster Service:

1. **donate online** at <https://mds.mennonite.net/donate/hurricane-donate-form/>
2. **send a check to:** MDS, 583 Airport Rd., Lititz, PA 17543

MDS REGIONAL 3 ANNUAL MEETING

Fall is rapidly approaching and plans are well under way for this year's **MDS Region 3 Annual Meeting**. The Nebraska Unit and Beemer Mennonite Church will host this year's meeting on Friday, **Nov 10 and Saturday, Nov 11, 2017**.

The Friday evening dinner and program will be held at Pilger, NE in the Cooper Family Community Center. If you recall, Pilger was devastated when twin tornados that hit the area in 2014. MDS set up a project there and helped the community return to a new normal. We are excited to meet in this new community center and that the keynote speaker will be LaRayne Topp. LaRayne is the author of *Eighty-One Seconds: The Attack and Aftermath* as tornados hit Pilger, Stanton, Wakefield and Wisner, NE. Special music has been lined up for both days. We are looking forward to sharing Region3 annual business and MDS updates on Saturday at the Beemer Mennonite Church (Beemer, NE). Registration forms available on foyer table.

The **Registration Deadline is October 20** however, rooms need to be reserved very quickly. There is a block of rooms reserved at Super 8 until Oct. 10. You may reserve rooms later, however, we hear there are weddings in the area. The sooner you make reservations the better.

FROM THE LIBRARY

Reviewed by Monica Clem

The Story of Ruth

Twelve Moments in Every Woman's Life

by Joan Chittister & Art by John August Swanson

This work of non-fiction looks at defining moment in a woman's life. Such topics as Loss, Change, Transformation, Aging, Independence, Empowerment, Self-Definition and Fulfillment (plus others) are explored in the context of the Biblical story of Ruth and Naomi. Beautifully illustrated, this short volume is an encouragement for women of all ages, to live up to their God-given potential in the home and the work-place.

Respect, for ourselves and from men, forms the base of empowering women to do all that God has created them to do and this frees men to do and be all that God created them to be. Only when this balance is achieved will both men and women find it possible to respect one another and live to their potential. When men and women both respect their God-given roles and abilities then both men and women can live in dignity and achieve the works God created them to do.

Mennonite Mission Network Prayer Requests

Week of October 1 Delicia Bravo and Peter Wigginton of Mennonite Mission Network serve alongside communities in Ecuador to help *Vida Juvenil* become a thriving, locally organized project. Pray for them as they help mothers, children and youth become grounded in a better quality of life.

Week of October 8 Tomorrow is Indigenous Peoples Day. Mennonite Mission Network confesses the complicity many in our church have had in land theft and oppression. Pray for repentance, restitution, and for the many mission workers who support marginalized people groups to reclaim their land, their language, and their dignity.

Week of October 15 Laura Schlabach of Mennonite Mission Network serves JCS, an umbrella organization for mission agencies in Mongolia, through administrative support. She is also a voice for people in the countryside. Pray that God would help her perfect her language skills for good communication.

Week of October 22 Today, 26 Mennonite Voluntary Service participants begin their five-day retreat at Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp in Colorado. Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for safe travels and a meaningful time of worship and fellowship.

Week of October 29 Country School, an English-language academy in Spain founded by Brian and Noelia Fox, is starting its fifth year of classes this month. Pray for the Fox family, serving with Mennonite Mission Network, as they help their students grow in faith as well as intellectually.



LES & MARY RENSINK - the quiver is filling up

Children are a heritage from the Lord, offspring a reward from him. Like arrows in the hands of a warrior are children born in one's youth. Blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them.

~ Psalm 127: 3-5a

Samson Lee, born March 17, to Luke and Emily (Ramerth) Rensink

Willow Rose, born August 16, to David & Meggan (Clinkel) Rensink

Oliver Eugene, born September 13, to Steven & Taylor (Auch) Rensink



CONGRATULATIONS.....

...to Jarrod Kramer & Rebekka Jordan who were married at Hutterthal on August 12. A reception followed in Fellowship Hall. Welcoming Bekka into the family with big smiles were Genna and Joey Kramer.



BRIDAL SHOWER

(due to technical issues, these pictures could not be printed in the last edition)



On July 29, church members attended a shower of celebration for the upcoming wedding of Rebekka Jordan to Jarrod Kramer. Hostesses were: Rebecca Hofer, Marj Hofer, Michelle Nueharth, and Alvina Hofer. Alvina provided a devotional. The group played games and sampled a variety of delicious cheese cakes.



Attending with the bride-to-be were her future mother-in-law, LaRuth Kramer, her soon-to-be step-daughter, Genna Kramer and Jarrod's niece Ella Waltner.



~ Rebecca Hofer





CPMC Financial Update

The Central Plains budget experienced its own version of an "eclipse" the month of August as our income (the sun) was not enough to meet our expenses (the moon) casting a deficit (darkness) in its path of totality! Income for the month came in at \$30,053.09. Meanwhile, expenses came in at \$35,208.37. This created a monthly deficit of \$5,155.28 and extends the overall deficit to \$28,905.56. However, the sun will rise and shine again, and we are all thankful for this promise God has given to all of us. Thank you for all of your generous contributions and we look forward to reversing this trend soon. -Stewardship Task Group

Prayers for Our Journey Together



- We invite you to pray and fast for the Max and Gloria Villatoro family, that their family might be reunited soon.
- The situation for both documented and undocumented immigrants creates uncertainty and stress for families. Pray for immigrants you know and for the leaders who have the ability to improve the situation, that the Spirit of Christ may bring wisdom and guidance to all.
- Pray for the Christian Formation Committee meeting in a planning retreat.

Update on Max Villatoro Fund

Max is currently in Honduras. We need funds to replenish the Villatoro Family Fund. Since Max was deported, the fund has supported the family with monthly allocations, and the fund has paid legal bills.

After two years and a recent large bill, the fund is empty. Please consider donating to the Villatoro Family Fund at www.centralplainsmc.org/donate



On September 10th the Sunday School teaching staff was recognized. The teachers stood up front as Sunday School Superintendent, Sylvia Hofer talked about their dedication and commitment. Many hours are



spent outside of the actual Sunday School time. Teachers prepare not only materials but also themselves. We are thankful for all of you and the part you play in the lives of our children, our adults, and our church.

~ Rebecca Hofer



Photos by Marcia Schrock & Sannie Byler

SUNDAY SCHOOL STAFF BLESSING



This class of 2-4 year olds learned about how Dorcas served others and got to make robes for themselves to remember the story. Rebecca Hofer was the teacher.

Community News

& Announcements

***Freeman Network for
Justice & Peace...***

...is inviting the public to hear a first-hand account from Dr. Shakil Hafiz and his wife,

Sadaf Cassim, about their recent return from Hajj- the pilgrimage to Mecca. Hafiz and Cassim will speak at a program at the Prairie Arboretum Interpretive Center on Saturday, Oct. 14, at 2 p.m.

Refreshments will be served and children are welcome

SWISS CHORAL

Rehearsals for Swiss Choral will begin Sunday, Oct. 22 at 7 p.m. at the Salem Mennonite (South) Church, and will continue on Sunday evenings leading up to the Nov. 24 performance. Swiss Choral will feature the first movement of Handel's "Messiah." Adults from the larger community are invited to participate; the adults will be joined by students from both Freeman schools.



SWAN LAKE

Make plans to attend Piano Night at the Lake, November 4 at 6:00 pm. This is a fundraising event with funds raised going towards completion of the Still Waters Retreat Center. There is no cost to attend, but an offering will be taken and reservations are required. A five course meal will be served and local musicians will play throughout the evening.

Call 605-326-5690 or email campoffice@myslcc.com to make your reservations.



MCC MEAT CANNING

November 13-14
John Deere Building
Freeman



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 2) Chris Johnson
- 2) Xavier Ward
- 3) Brigitta Hofer
- 3) Alvina Hofer
- 4) Kathy Pullman
- 5) Todd Jones
- 6) LaVern Walter
- 6) Lance Friesen
- 6) Ben Johnson
- 8) Galen Hofer
- 11) Kylea Waltner
- 13) Tom Stahl
- 17) Joseph Kramer
- 24) Torrie Zachariasen
- 29) Natalie Friesen
- 31) Shawn Hofer

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 04) Tracy & Chris Bauer
- 06) Phil & Joline Thomas
- 15) Bruce & Monica Hofer

Twyla's September Tip:

I add soap to the dishwasher (DW) dispenser when I've emptied it of clean dishes. Also use white vinegar instead of expensive rinse agent. Simply fill an empty rinse agent bottle with vinegar and add as usual. Also run the garbage disposal with hot water, then start the DW so you get hot water to the DW faster. As long as you have hot water going, clean up the sink area!

Sometimes I add some bleach during the wash cycle to remove stains from tea/coffee cups and Tupperware or other plastic. Also, put your dishcloth and pot scrubber in at this time to freshen them up. **NO** aluminum if you use bleach.

CALENDAR

OCTOBER

- 1 9:45am Worship
- 11:10am Sunday School
- 8 9:45am Worship - Featuring Freeman Academy
- 11-10am Sunday School
- 12 7:00pm Worship @ Salem Mennonite Home
- 15 9:45am Worship
- 11:10am Sunday School
- 18 12 noon Freeman Network for Justice & Peace (Freeman Public Library)
- 22 9:45am Worship Service
- 11:19am Sunday School
- 29 9:45am Worship
- 11:10am Sunday School

NOVEMBER

- 5 2:30pm Worship at Oakview Terrace
- 13-14 Meat Canning at John Deere in Freeman