

November 2019

Hutterthal
Mennonite
Church

Connection!

Making a CONNECTION with one another

*Welcome to Hutterthal
Mennonite Church*



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1) Calvin Hofer
- 3) Jill Hofer
- 3) Monica Clem
- 4) Tracy Bauer
- 5) Marilyn Hofer
- 8) Brandon Barta
- 11) Robert Kleinsasser
- 12) Lori Rensink
- 14) Ellyana Stahl
- 16) Abby Bolin
- 19) Steve Mendel
- 19) Kym Tschetter
- 21) Nicolle Timmerman
- 22) Sharon Waltner
- 23) Camilla Hofer
- 25) Chad Hofer
- 27) Donita Davis
- 29) Steve Friesen



NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 5) Paul & Priscilla Hofer
- 10) Amanda & Rodney Mettler
- 22) Dennis & Marcia Schrock
- 27) Stan & Jill Hofer



Attendance and Offering for October
 Oct 6 Attendance 68 Donations \$1,876
 Oct 13 Attendance 69 Donations \$1,994
 Oct 20 Attendance 104 Donations \$1,425
 (FA choir was here)
 Oct 27 Attendance 73 Donations \$2,769
 Submitted by: John Clem, Treasurer

MCC Meat Canning

November 18-19, 2019

John Deere dealership in Freeman

HMC Food Responsibilities
 (contact Edie if you are able
 to bring food)

Monday, November 18

- 1/2 dozen apples (8:30)
- 3 lbs. Clementine's (8:30)
- 1 dozen bananas (8:30)
- 3 lb. tavern meat (9:00)
- 2 lb. grapes, washed (8:30)

Tuesday, November 19

- 2 dozen rolls (8:30)
- 1½ dozen sandwiches (1:00)
- 2 dozen cookies/bars (11:00)



Having a full crew of canner guys, the MCC Meat Canner will be in our community this year to can meat on

November 18 & 19 at the C&B John Deere dealership.

We will need volunteers to staff the operation, so here is your opportunity to serve Christ by doing something fun with other folks. Please consider the early (6 am – 9 am) shift and the late (4 pm – 7 pm) because these are the times when we've been very short on help. Please use the sign-up sheet in church foyer. We also need a host home for 2 of the canner guys and a vehicle for them to use while here.

If you can supply either one, please call
 Joey Graber (605) 360-5775.

Thanks for your contributions!

Vernon and Norma Lee Hofer Celebrate 65 Years of Marriage

On Thursday, (yes Thursday), of June 17, 1954, Norma Lee Hofer and Vernon J. Hofer were united in marriage at Hutterthal church. Vernon's best man was Delmer Hofer, ushers were his brother Merlin and brother-in-law Richard Hofer. JoAnn Waltner Kaufman was Norma's maid of honor and her bridesmaids were Veronica Miller Tongish and Geraldine Graber Peters. Norma had a younger brother and sister who could have served as a ring bearer and flower girl, but Norma knew how little kids could cause trouble and chose not to ask them! Their wedding colors were royal blue and light blue. A menu of ham and mashed potatoes without gravy greeted guests at the reception at Pioneer Hall. Vernon is still embarrassed there wasn't any gravy for the potatoes! Norma did not want the traditional stewed beef and sour kraut, too messy.

Vernon and Norma lived in Denver, CO while Vernon was doing 1-W service. They then lived with his folks for a year, where Norma learned to cook German foods. After a year they bought a farm near Marion and lived there for the next 49 years. While on the farm Norma graduated from Augustana College and taught school in Parker and Marion. Norma and Vernon first met one another in a school setting – their local country school Cottonwood #96. In 2005 they moved to their present home in Freeman.

They enjoy traveling and have gone to Europe, the Ukraine, and Russia to explore their ancestry. In February they checked out the soybean crop in Brazil. They were avid square dancers for nearly 40 years. Norma is involved with various groups and loves to read. She has been an accompaniment pianist/ organist for 65 years! Vernon still goes to the farm almost every day. Their youngest son, Shawn, lives on the "home place." His wife, Heather, is a CPA. Their son Noah will be a sophomore at Freeman Academy; Zach, 8th grade, and Isaac, 6th grade, attend school in Parker. Son Greg and his wife Mary live in Loveland, CO. He is an engineer in Fort Collins and Mary is a retired therapist. Daughter Roslyn and husband Brian Scott live in Duluth, MN where she is employed at St. Luke's Hospital and he is employed by the city. Their son Bill and his wife Angela also live in Duluth and their daughter Lauren lives in Minneapolis. Vernon and Norma's daughter Crystal, passed away tragically in 2016. She had lived in San Jose, CA and was a CPA.

Vernon commented, "God has blessed both of us!"
And Norma agrees!

Submitted by Brigitta Hofer



In honor of Pastor Jack and Cathy's anniversary I met with them and ask them numerous questions. It was an interesting interview and space will not allow me to share all of it with you. They met for the first time in the chapel of the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in Parris, SC. Pastor Jack heard Cathy's beautiful voice singing and stated he heard a voice saying "this is going to be your wife." Then he just needed to convince Cathy that it was God's voice speaking! Cathy always wanted to be a pastor's wife, but at the time she did not know that Jack was going to be a pastor – and neither did he! On August 8th, 2019, Kendrick Jackson Lea Scandrett and Catherine Anne Fischer celebrated their 49th wedding anniversary.

They were married in Cathy's home church at Chatham, NJ. Jack's best man was Cathy's brother, Fred. Jack's sister, Dianna, was Cathy's maid of honor, and two of Cathy's life friends that she still meets with every year, Dorothy and Janice, were bridesmaids. Ring bearer was Jack's brother Albert and the flower girl was Jack's sister Christine. Cathy wore a street length pink-violet dress and her attendants wore pastel pink-violet dresses. For their honeymoon they camped as they headed back to SC from NJ.

For their first month of marriage they lived in a tent next to a pig sty until their trailer home was ready. Jack was born in Oakland, CA and Cathy in Summit, NJ. Since their marriage they have lived in SC, FL, CA, IL, IN, PA, CO, MD, PA (again), and SD.

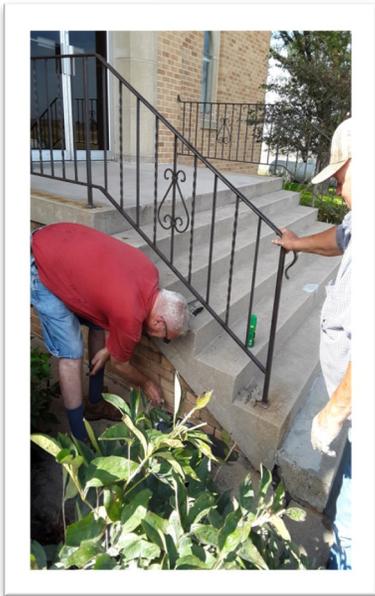
Son Jacob Malone, married to Erin, works as a high school principal in Slayton, MN and their children are Lila, Annie, Cassie and Cora. Son Fredric Francisco works as a prop's manager and lives in Lancaster, PA. Son Andrew Fischer, married to Natalie, is an RN living in Darwin, Australia and their children are Zaviera and Asa. Son Daniel Houston lives in Wall Township, NJ and does Customer Service employment. Daughter Joyce Lauren, married to Luis Pagan, lives in Lancaster, PA and their children are Noah, Josiah, and Bella. Joyce is employed as a CNA.

Among other admirable traits Jack and Cathy are "best friends." They value and live out their marriage covenant before God and others. Although Jack would have liked to go back to CA, they are happy with SD and the close proximity to Jacob's family, but they dearly miss their children in PA, NJ, and Australia. They enjoy playing Scrabble (I wonder who wins?), biking, going to the gym, and the companionship of their dog Buddy.



Submitted by Birgitta Hofer

Happenings at HMC



Trustees Donovan Friesen and Paul Hofer cementing cracks - an endless task!



Children's Time with Pastor Jack on October 27, 2019

Children's Sunday School delighted the congregation with 2 songs on October 27. They were directed by Suzanne Koerner & Barbie Hofer and accompanied by Jada Koerner.





**Freeman Academy Sunday
October 20th, 2019**

**FA Sunday was truly amazing!
The Chamber Choir and Concert
Choir sang and during offering
the Saxophone quartet played.
What talents God has blessed**

FA with.

**The choir was directed by Amy
Hofer Vetch, she also accompa-
nied them on the piano.**



**Nathan Epp,
Academic Director, gave
an update from Freeman
Academy**



Calvin Hofer is turning 80!

Have you noticed the gentleman that sits at the end of the pew on the south side of the church, fairly close to the front, on Sunday mornings? That gentleman is Mr. Calvin Hofer, who has always been called by his full name of Calvin, and never referred to as Cal. He is going to be the big 80 on November 1st.

He has always been very interested in farming and farm life. I have been told (not by him but a good source) that he is a good farm manager. He comes from a large family and didn't know whether or not he would have the opportunity to own his own farm. His parents were John A. and Marie (Pullman) Hofer. His siblings in chronological order: Bernadine (John W. Hofer), Jeanette (Calvin Tschetter), Robert (Hope Hofer, deceased, Carol Glanzer), Harold (Phyllis Tschetter) both deceased, Calvin, Irene (died at about the age of 1 from pneumonia), John (Carolyn), and Harris, who was handicapped and passed away in the mid 90's at the age of 50.

As a youngster he attended Cottonwood District 96 school, which was $\frac{3}{4}$ mile north of Silver Lake. There were at least 30 children attending. His classmates were Richard Hofer (Norma Lee's brother), Jim Adrian, Kenneth Koehn, and Diane Hofer (Mrs. Harvey), sister to Sylvia. They seemed to have a lot of different teachers! He liked music but said music was not a priority at Cottonwood. He has always attended Hutterthal. He was baptized in 1956 with 10 others by Rev. Ronald von Riesen. Among the candidates was his cousin Richard Hofer (brother to Norma Lee) and Darlene Waldner (Mrs. Norman Hofer).

Calvin attended Freeman Academy for four years. One of his activities as a young person was driving around, and he wasn't very interested in dating, or sports, because he said he wasn't athletic. He then attended Freeman Junior College for two years, specializing in teacher training. He taught school for three years at a school that was located one mile south of the South Church. He was also an adult Sunday School teacher.

The majority of the traveling he has done occurred when he served in the US Army. His name for Fort Leonard, MO was "Lost in the Woods." The red soil in that area was a sight he was not familiar with. At Fort Gordon, GA he went to signal school and became a radio operator. There were not enough signal men if they went to war, and he entered the Army right after the Cuban Crisis. The day he left Fort Gordon President Kennedy was assassinated and Calvin was shipped to Germany. He had hoped to fly there, but went by ship. The worst storms arrived in November, which is when he was on board, and the North Sea was at its worst and they were horribly seasick. He served at a German base that was a tank base, near the Black Forest that was close to Switzerland. Before World War 2 it was where the Germans trained. The 1963 Peace Treaty was coming to an end, but he did not know this... They were allowed to go sight-seeing and touring on week-ends and he especially enjoyed touring the castles of Germany.

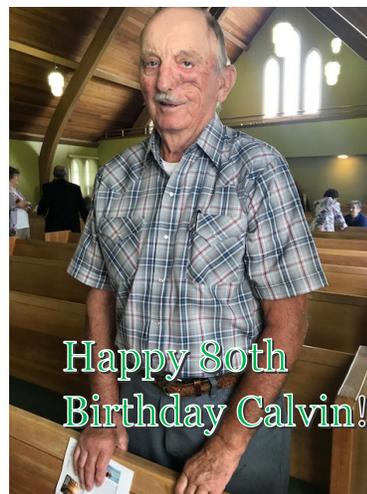
When he returned after his tour of duty he returned to the farm, assisting his father. His father purchased some land for \$200.00 an acre, and when they purchased the Koehn land at \$440.00 an acre people thought they were berserk! When his brother Harold moved off the homeplace his Dad offered him the farm, and he purchased it in 1972 from his Dad. Calvin wonders how young farmers can survive these days, with prices as high as they are. He is not in favor of big farms, and the prices of machinery and land floor him! During one of our wet spells he slipped in the mud and twisted his knee, which is giving him some trouble now.

He now lives alone on the farm, which had four families living there at one time. Calvin said "they just got married and moved in." His Grandmother Susanna, on his paternal side, always lived there until she went to the Salem Mennonite Home. His Grandpa Paul was blind and they stretched a wire with a ring on it from the house to the outhouse so he could find his way there and back.

I mentioned to him that I have been doing some interviewing of our older church folks because I feel our younger people don't know us very well. In return he said he does not know the younger people very well either, not even their names. I encourage you to introduce yourself to Calvin and get to know him better.

Have a great 80th birthday and a great year, Calvin!

Submitted by Brigitta Hofer





ANNOUNCEMENTS | (WHAT'S HAPPENING)

If you are wanting to lend a Nativity for the Christmas program brunch please reach out to Bekka Kramer. Please feel free to write a short story about how it came to be in your family too!

**Schmeckfest Mailing Party:
Friday, November 8, 2019 at 9am located at
Dewald Village.
We would love to have your help, lunch is
provided.
If you would more details, please call me at
605-925-4237.
Thank you. ~Meranda**

If you have a photo, announcement or story you would like to see in the next edition of the *Connection!* please email it to the church email.

Swan Lake Christian Camp will be hosting
Piano night at the Lake on Saturday, December 7 at 6:00pm.

A meal will be served while being entertained with music from area musicians. Reservations are required and a free will donation will be taken. Call 605-326-5690 or email campoffice@myslcc.com to make your reservation. A raffle is being held for a Christmas quilt. The winner will be drawn at Piano night. Tickets are \$5 each and can be purchased by contacting Judi. You need not be present to win.

Pictures of the quilt can be seen on the Swan Lake Christian Camp Facebook page.

As we come toward the end of the year, SD Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) would like to express its appreciation for your generous support this past year. Your funds have enabled us to work on projects in South Dakota as well as forwarding some funds to MDS Bi-National for special disaster needs. We also are grateful to those who have given of their time to serve at the MDS sites.

Thank you very much.

SD MDS Board

We know that it is only November but the VBS Directors would like to remind you to save any old Christmas trees this year. If you don't want it, we will take it. If you would like to donate/lend it we will take you up on that as well.

Calendar of Events

November 6, 7:00pm: Auditing
Committee Meeting
November 10: Annual Reports due
November 17: Harvest Mission Festival
Nov. 18-19: MCC Meat Canning -
John Deere in Freeman
Nov. 20, 7:00pm: Church Board meeting
Dec. 2, 7:00pm: Annual Congregational
Meeting
December 13: Cookie Walk
December 15, 10:30 am:
Christmas Program & Brunch

Coming Up Next Month:

A report from Donovan Friesen:

SEPTEMBER MENNONITE DISASTER TRIPS

Student Spotlight:

Want to know what is going on in our youth?

We will spotlight 1 youth/young adult monthly to let you in on what they are doing.

November Projects

Congregational

Ministries:

CPMC- Cash Donation

Children's Sunday School

Department: VBS-

Rocky Railway 2020



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HMC Links

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

****Submissions are due by the 3rd Friday of the month.** Thank you.**