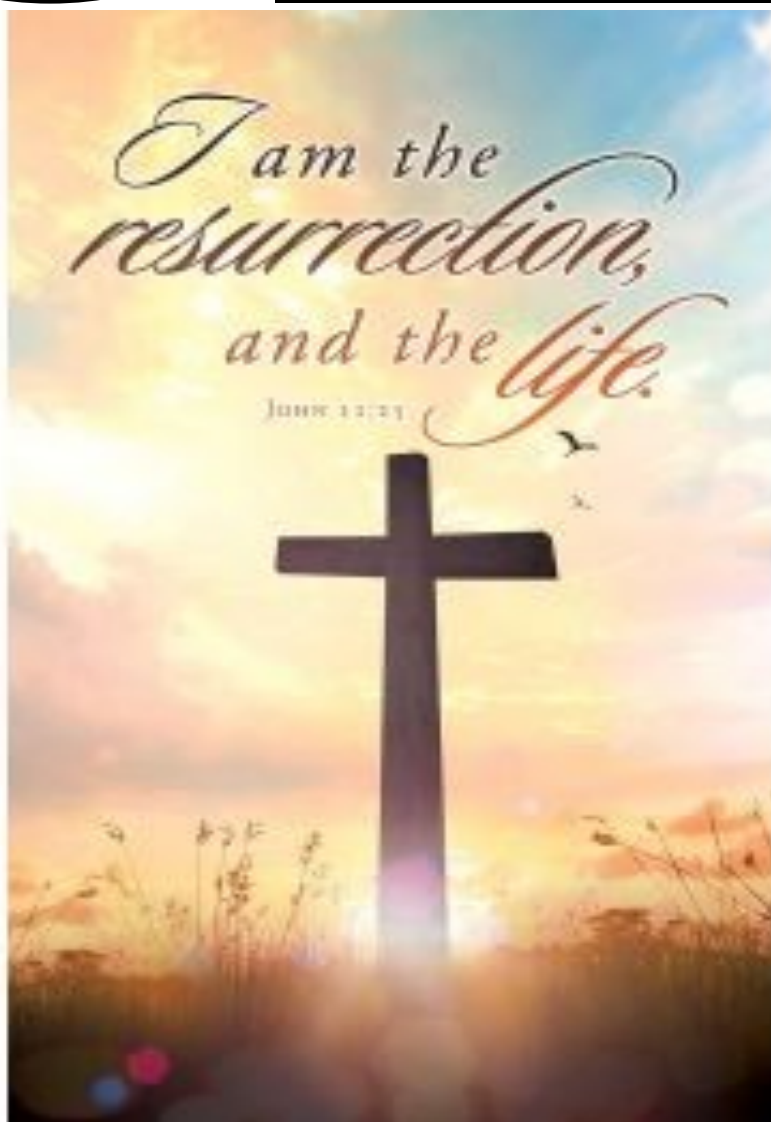


April 2021

Hutterthal  
Mennonite  
Church

*Connection!*

Making a CONNECTION with one another





# Rural Insights

Reflections from Pastor Randall

## Spring and New Life

Can you feel it? Spring is here. These past few days that I have been writing have been filled with rain rather than snow. The days are getting longer. We put Vivienne to bed now, and a little bit of light is still illuminating her room. The sun's warmth is more direct, the air seems cleaner after a spring rain, and the soil is brimming with the potential of moisture and nutrients for another crop season. New life is coming to the forefront as grass begins to green, as neighbors spread seed and fertilizer on their lawns, and as the chorus of birds sings ever louder every morning. The "itch" in my bones has become noticeable as I drove by a dry fertilizer truck unloading its contents into a Terragator along Highway 81. A new crop year is beginning.

In our busy, overwhelming, and what we call "productive" lives, we do not always take the time to slow down, listen, and notice God's good creation around us. We have done our best as creative image-bearers to separate ourselves and our existence from the God that made us from the dust or soil. When was the last time that you took your shoes and socks off and ran through the grass or bare ground, absorbing its energy and life, allowing it to ground you quite literally, and forcing your body to surge with the openness and beauty of creation? We drive vehicles with climate control so that we do not have to roll down the windows. We spray insecticides and herbicides around the outside of our homes to keep "pests" away, and we allow our windows to give us a glimpse into the natural world but still protect us from nature's darker and harsher sides. (Continued on next page)

In our sermon text this past Sunday, the prophet Jeremiah writes that God's promises will stand as long as the earth and the heavens continue, as long as the days and nights keep cycling and the years keep floating past. As long as the mystery of nature and our wonder at its beauty continues, God will stick by what she has told us in the scriptures. The natural sciences continue to discover more and more about the nature of our universe and the diversity inherent in the earth's ecosystem. We stand in awe and wonder of what God has created and sustained. We praise our relational Lord and provider of this stunning world.

We trust also that God's leading and way for our world calls us to think deeply about how we relate to creation and each other. We ask God for continued wisdom as we seek to be good stewards of his created space. We ask for forgiveness for those ways that we have not honored the earth and God's broader vision of a right and good natural world. We ask God for the strength to slow down, listen, and notice. As we near the end of this Lenten season, we reflect on the ways that we can gain fresh insight and wisdom from the natural world around us. As we plant seeds this spring, we ask God where we also need to be planting seeds in our neighbors and friends as well as in ourselves, allowing the nurture and care of God's spirit to transform us as the world around us is transformed in this season.

**Happiness is the new rich.  
Kindness is the new cool.  
Health is the new wealth.  
Inner peace is the new  
success.**



## Hymn of the month

Submitted by Suzanne Koerner

LaVonne Tschetter has so many favorite hymns that it is difficult for her to pick just one. She finally settled on a southern gospel hymn called “Sheltered in the Arms of God.” On January 13, 2013, she sang it in church with her grandchildren, Kylea and Brandon Waltner, which was very meaningful for her. “That’s how I feel,” she said. “Sheltered in the arms of God.”

“Sheltered in the Arms of God” was written by Dottie Rambo. She and her husband were relaxing at a Florida beach. She was going through a rough patch and walked along the beach with her guitar, spending some time in contemplation. There had been a storm, and the water was churned up, having scattered driftwood and seaweed along the beach. It reminded her of the “storm” in her own life, and inspired her to write a song. However, the words were not coming easy. She asked God for help, and immediately felt a hand on her shoulder. As God continued to give his message to Dottie, she was eventually able to complete the song and perform it.

### Sheltered In the Arms of God

(Verse 1)

I feel the touch of hands so kind and tender

They're leading me in paths that I must try

I'll have no fear

For Jesus walks beside me

For I'm sheltered in the arms of God

[Chorus]

So let the storms rage high

The dark clouds rise

They don't worry me

For I'm sheltered, safe, within the arms of God

He walks with me

And no divert shall harm me

For I'm sheltered in the arms of God

[Verse 2]

Soon I shall feel the cold from

Heaven's portals

Come home my child

It's the last mile you must trot

I'll fall asleep and wake up in God's new-held arms

For I'm sheltered in the arms of God

[Chorus]



## QUICKIE QUIZZES FROM THE BIBLE

### JESUS OUR LORD

1. Who were the two groups who took counsel against Jesus to put Him to death? Matt. 27:1
2. While our Lord was on the cross, for how many hours was it dark? Matt. 27:45
3. Just before He died, Jesus spoke these words: "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani." What does this mean? Matt. 27:46
4. Who took the body of Jesus and laid it in his own tomb? Matt: 27:57-60
5. On what day of the week was Jesus raised from the dead? Matt: 28:1
6. With whom did the angel tell the women to share the news that Christ had risen? Matt 28:7
7. What was the lie which the chief counsel paid the guards to tell about Jesus? Matt: 28:13



## **Where did that name come from?**

Submitted by Norman Hofer

Our forefathers spent over 100 years in the Russian Empire. We lived on the estate of Count Rumensev on the Desna River, called Vischenka, 32 years, from 1770 to 1802. We numbered about 60 individuals. These were good happy

years, we were treated fairly by the owner of the estate, Count Rumensev. We lived communal, like the Hutterites in North America do today. We even sent out missionaries to other countries inviting others to come join us at Vischenka. Life was good! Why would we ever move?

Count Rumensiv died, and his two sons inherited the estate. Now the question arose, were our forefathers' serfs on the estate or tenants. We claimed we were tenants, the Rumensivs said we were serfs. Remember this is 65 years before the issue of slavery was settled in the United States. The Russian Government ruled we were tenants, not slaves. The sons said we must leave the estate immediately, take only tools and livestock, 30 years of improvements on the land must remain on the estate.

The Russian Government gave us "crown land", just a few miles away also on the Desna River. We lived there 40 years from 1802 to 1842. These should have been the best of times, but ended up being the worst of times. Each family received about 174 acres of land, but some of it was 10-12 miles away, it was not in one large block. This made problems for planting and harvesting crops. We had internal church problems. Some wanted to continue living communal, some wanted private ownership, and there was disagreement among our ministers about spiritual matters.

In 1819 a disastrous fire destroyed our complete village. The decision was made to abandon communal living, and each family rebuild their own house and live-in private ownership. This was the last time most Hutterthal families lived in communal ownership. We never recovered financially from the fire and the church problems continued. Some even left the village to live in Mennonite villages on the Dnieper River.

We petitioned the Russian Government to permit us to move over 450 miles south to better farm land & nearer the Molotschna Mennonite settlement. We sent David Hofer, Jacob Walter & Benjamin Decker to make the long trip to Odessa to present the petition to the Guardians Committee. The Committee refused the request & on the long trip back to Vischenka to break the sad news to the congregation that we may not move south, they topped at the home of the wealthy Mennonite, Johann Cornies, in the village of Orloff in the settlement of Molotschna.

(Continued on the next page)

The next part of this history I find no way to even try to explain in words. That Johann Cornies even listened to these three men is a miracle. He was a very busy man; always had projects he was working on. He was involved in the Russian Department of Agriculture. involved in migration of tribes living in Ukraine, supervised a tree nursery and a crop experimental farm. He was involved in importing better stallions, bulls, and rams from Europe to improve the livestock herds among the Mennonite villages in the Molotschna.

Johann Cornies agreed to come north the 450 miles to Raditschewa with a Russia agricultural official to see what could be done. When they came to our village, they ordered every family to stand outside their home as the two men slowly drove their carriage through the village. At the end of the ride, the government official said to Johann Cornies, I will give you permission to move them, but only if you take full responsible for their move and establishing a farming village far to the south and remember this is to cost the Russian government **no funds**, you take full responsibility for them.

In 1842 Johann supervised the migration of all Hutterites to the Molotschna Low German settlement, (69 families, 205 males, 210 female) and were hosted by families over winter and in the spring of 1843 began the new village 12 miles southwest of the city of Melitopol. Johann said the name of the village will be HUTTERTHAL. The Low Germans showed us how to make and burn bricks and roof tile. Their craftsmen made the windows and doors. A 15,000-ruble loan was negotiated by Johann from the Russian government to help us get established. By 1844 30 homes (duplexes) were built, by 1846 the total loan was repaid. A school for 91 students was built in Hutterthal by 1845. Things were going well again!

The Hutterthal people built a second village just two miles from Hutterthal in 1852, and we called it JOHANNESRUH, in honor of our benefactor, Johannes Cornies, who had died in 1848. Both these villages never were communal living, but private ownership. By 1856 some wanted to live communal, so HUTTERTDORF was established, both private and communal. Neu Hutterthal in 1857 private only, and Schromet in 1868 strictly communal. All South Dakota colonies come from Schromet.

When the big migration to America began in 1874, the Hutterites living private established church communities of HUTTERTHAL, NEU HUTTERTHAL AND HUTTERTDORF, all named after the village in Russia that Johann Cornies helped establish. It is doubtful the Hutterites ever would have survived as a people if Johann Cornies hadn't helped us move south in 1842 and establish HUTTERTHAL. 1250 Hutterites migrated to America 1874-1879, 450 formed the Hutterite Colonies and 800 established the three Hutter churches north and west of Freeman, SD. In the 1940's all three churches joined the Mennonite Church Conference  
by Norman Hofer





### News from Mennonite Disaster Service:

The March edition of On the Level is now available from Mennonite Disaster Service. In our current issue: MDS needs volunteers to help with plumbing repairs in Texas, the Spirit of MDS Fund is offering another round of funding for congregations in Canada and the Summer Youth Program is accepting applications from youth volunteers.

Click on this link to read more: <https://conta.cc/3rYxwbR>



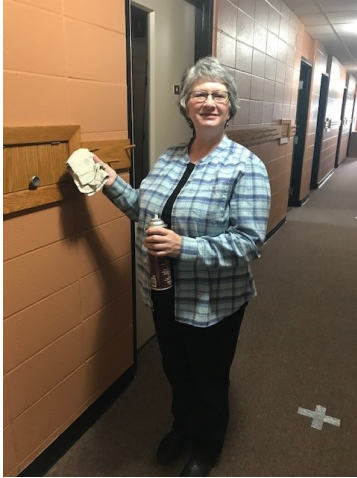
My name is  
Camilla Hofer



I have two wonderful parents. My 'perfect' dad's name is Cameron and my mom's is Rina. I like to play games with my friends and enjoy play dates. One of my favorite things to do is making craft projects with my Nana. My grandparents are Monica and Bruce Hofer, I love to feed the calves with my papa and go for rides on the 4 wheeler. I like to do art projects like coloring, stickers, and blinging things out with jewels. I recently found a kitty and promptly moved her into our basement, her name is Cutie and we think she is pregnant, so I should be a grandmother soon. I love to sing and dance with my mom. My favorite food is hash browns, sausages and chocolate cake. My favorite color is PINK!







## AN ELECTRONIC INTERVIEW WITH CHARLENE FRIESEN, OUR CHURCH CUSTODIAN

### HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN THE CUSTODIAN AT HUTTERTHAL?

I first started this job when our son, Lance, was a senior in high school and wanted to earn money to buy his own car. He looked at the announcement in the bulletin asking if anyone was interested in doing basic cleaning and said 'I could do that.' While he did most of the cleaning, of course Mom was looking over his shoulder (as well as pinch hitting occasionally), and when he left for college, I asked for the job. That was in 2000.

### DO YOU HAVE A ROUTINE THAT YOU FOLLOW DURING THE WEEK FOR CLEANING? WHAT DOES A TYPICAL SUNDAY am LOOK LIKE FOR YOU? OR A NOT SO TYPICAL SUNDAY am WHEN THERE IS RAIN, SNOW, OR A STORM? WHERE DO YOU GET YOUR CLEANING PRODUCTS?

The quiet solitude of my work in our facility has often been a time of reflection and prayer for those in our congregation. I know our church is most importantly the people in our congregation. But I also believe the responsibility to keep the church looking fresh and clean is important to how people view our facilities and a reflection on our church family. We want it to be inviting and welcoming. The basic cleaning list is generally tended to weekly; wiping surfaces, dry mopping the foyers, vacuuming, cleaning the front windows, emptying wastebaskets and filling paper dispensers. We close the window coverings during the week to protect from fading in bright sunlight and from extreme cold and heat. The facilities are basically ready on Saturday (or earlier) for Sunday morning but opening these may be left for Sunday morning. If there is snow or ice, we will want to attend to that and perhaps put out a carpet runner to provide a secure surface to walk on. The trustees often see to this also. Other Sunday responsibilities include 'closing up the church': making sure all lights are off, turning down the heat in the SS wing, and making sure fans are off and windows are closed in summer.

(Continued on next page)

Then there are the occasional jobs, like mopping the sanctuary, replacing a lightbulb, oiling woodwork, dusting baseboards, cleaning the inside SS windows, etc. Just like at your home, the job is never done, it is just a matter of quitting for now. When I notice a cleaning or paper product running low, I simply add it to my shopping list. Some items like the hand paper towels I order online and the 5-gal wax container I pick up from Hillyards in Sioux Falls.

HOW DO YOU GO ABOUT ORGANIZING THE ANNUAL CLEANING?

It seems everyone groans at the mention of annual cleaning. Yet I have also been told that it is a wonderful way our church works together to care for our church building. Yes, I have an 'annual cleaning' notebook where I write down who was asked to do each specific job. I try to keep some continuity so people know how to do something, but also to rotate as people become tired of a certain job and would like variety. I will try to accommodate your wishes if at all possible. It really does take all of us to occasionally do a deep cleaning.

DO YOU EVER THINK ABOUT RETIRING FROM THIS POSITION?

One of the very best things about this job is the flexibility to do the cleaning at my convenience. I so appreciate the wonderful trustees, my bosses, who keep things working well and will take over for me should I need to be out of town some weekend.

One of the most difficult parts of the job is keeping things picked up when I do not know what to do with other people's things. Do I ever think of retiring? Of course, but there are also parts of this job I like.

WHAT OTHER POSITIONS ARE YOU INVOLVED WITH AT CHURCH/IN THE COMMUNITY?

My other responsibilities at Hutterthal include accompanist, librarian and deacon. I am often surprised that some people do not know that I have a 'regular' job of providing childcare for some of my grandchildren most workdays while their parents are at work.



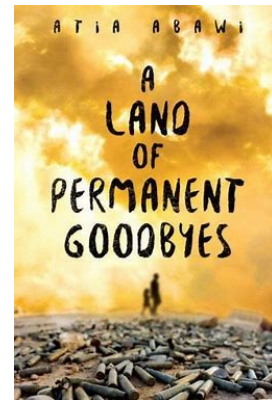
## Book review - **A Land of Permanent Goodbyes**

Submitted by Charlene Friesen

This is one of those books I just needed to keep reading and finish before I went to sleep the same night I started it.

Easy reading, *A Land of Permanent Goodbyes*, by Atia Abawi, tells the story of one Syrian boy and his escape from war-torn Syria. Of course, the premise behind his story, is that this is really the story of so very many refugees in many countries across the world. For Tareq, life was good for his family as they lived their limited lives until one day a bomb hit *their* apartment building. It is difficult to leave the city that is the only home they have known as they mourn the loss of loved ones and home, yet they know they cannot stay.

But to leave is also dangerous. Where will they go? And which country will allow them in as refugees? Finding others in the same circumstances is comforting and helping those you love is reason enough to continue the journey when you just want to give up.



\*This book is located in the Hutterthal Library on the CPMC Adult Shalom shelf.



### **Congregational Ministries April Project:**

Cash - SD MCC Relief Sale Kitchen  
Time Savers auction item. More details  
later.

Worknight date is pending.



## How Well Do You Know Each Other Matching Challenge

Generous giving of our money and resources is rooted in our Christian faith. We are careful how we spend our money, and take our giving and tithing seriously. But what if you were given \$20,000 to spend frivolously, in a merry, light hearted, lack of serious manner. How would you spend it?

This is the question I posed to ten individuals. On the left side are the names of the individuals that I questioned and on the right side are the answers I was given. See if you can match the correct name with the right answer as to how they would spend \$20,000. How well do you know one another?

1.	Steve Friesen	A. I would invest in a show barn.
2.	Mildred Hofer	B. Buy a '59 Ford Galaxie and restore it.
3.	Gordon Waltner	C. Attend food festivals all over the United States, especially chisic festivals, or buy an electric car.
4.	Steve Mendel	D. Rent a building on Freeman's Main Street and operate a restaurant until all the money is gone.
5.	Eric Neuharth	E. I would split the money with my Mom. We have spoken many times about her passion to start a thrift store like the Et Cetera Shoppe for her church. I would use my share to go on a dream vacation to Australia with my family.
6.	Rina Hofer	F. Travel a lot, go on an ancestor Mennonite tour, laser surgery, and updated bikes.
7.	Bekka Kramer	G. I would buy a bouncy castle for the grandkids and new swing sets for my children so the grandkids could enjoy them.
8.	Rebecca Hofer	H. I would take my spouse on a ten-day vacation, most likely some place warm with an ocean front view. If there is any money left, I would put it into savings or buy a hot tub.
9.	Nicolle Timmerman	I. A vacation to some tropical island where it is warm, and camping trips.
10.	Sam Hofer	J. Go to Disney World with my family.

**Dennis and Carol Wollman's Fruits of Labor**  
submitted by Marcia Schrock



When we think about sharing, we usually think about clothes, food, money etc. Not only are we to share our abundance with others, but we are to share other true riches. For many years Dennis and Carol Wollman have done just that. One of the true riches they have shared is giving away fruit from their trees and vegetables from their gardens to many in the area and to the Freeman Food Pantry. It has given them joy to be able to devote their lives to helping others with the labor of their love. They have also made dozens of jars of jellies and given them away. We at Hutterthal thank them for sharing their jellies with us and others, and may their generous efforts encourage us to also spread love and joy to our neighbors and friends.



Pictured above are Marcia Schrock, Vernon J. Hofer, and Priscilla Hofer selecting one of the jellies processed by Dennis and Carol.



### **Cards of thanks!**

I would like to thank all those that sent me such beautiful cards and flowers. You made my day! I enjoyed hearing from so many old friends and relatives.

*Lavonne Tschetter*

Thank you for all the get-well wishes, food, cards, emails and texts while I was ill and recovering. Your thoughts brought me encouragement as you demonstrated Christ's church in your actions. *Charlene Friesen*

**Update from Flandreau:** Received word from Tom Manzer of Bienvenidos that the “Emergency Relief Fund for Immigrants” that was administered by the “SD Dream Coalition” out of Pierre, has come to an end. This fund had been set up to meet the needs and financial support for immigrant and refugee families who have been impacted by the economic crisis caused by the pandemic of Covid 19. Bienvenidos, Caminando Juntos and South Dakota Voices for Peace are three of the nine organizations involved in this work. The fund was distributed to immigrant households who would not qualify for stimulus funding under the federal CARES Act. Tom shares these statistics: *1750 households received relief, 91 countries of origin were represented in the applications, the top 5 countries of origin in order were 1. Guatemala, 2. Ethiopia, 3. Mexico, 4. El Salvador, 5. Liberia and the Primary SD towns where applicants reside (a population below 26,900 were Brookings, Flandreau, Freeman and Vermillion. Each household received an average amount of \$533.00.*

The total donations and grants for these funds were \$1,236,750.00. As of February 18, 2021 approximately 2,200 applications were submitted. The Emergency Fund stopped receiving applications on Jan. 4, 2021 and is disbursing the remaining \$20,000.00 through “**SD Dream Coalition**”.

*Tom expresses THANKS to those from this area who contributed financially to this work.*



**SD CARES HOUSING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

The State of South Dakota in collaboration with SD Housing Development Authority, Helpline Center, and partner agencies, are working to assist South Dakotans who have been impacted by COVID-19 and the related economic crisis by offering financial assistance to help stabilize their housing situation. The funding is provided to South Dakota through the CARES Act and the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 - Emergency Rental Assistance. The two funding sources will vary in eligibility requirements, eligible uses and required documentation.

If you are unable to pay rent, mortgage, property insurance on your home, or utilities because of the pandemic, short-term financial assistance may be available.

SD CARES Housing Assistance Program may provide temporary housing or utility assistance for South Dakota residents who meet all of the following criteria:

- Households income qualify based on county of residence. You must fall below the income level listed for your county and household size.
- Have one or more individuals in the household who has qualified for unemployment benefits, experienced a reduction in household income, incurred significant costs or experienced other financial hardship due directly or indirectly to the coronavirus outbreak.
- Have one or more individuals in the household that have a past due utility bill or mortgage statement or are able to prove that they are at risk of experiencing homelessness or housing instability.

For more information or to apply go to: <https://sdcareshousingassistance.communityos.org/sdcares2021>

<b>Date</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Income</b>
Feb. 28	No service	
March. 7	46	\$3,505.00
Feb. 14	No Service	
Feb. 21	52	\$3,116.00

Wednesday- Saturday  
7-11 am; 1-3 pm

<p><b>Pastor Randall's HMC Office</b></p>
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My two days off will be Monday and Tuesday. People are welcome to call, email, text me as well to set up an alternate appointment or just drop in to my office anytime during my office hours. I do ask that visitors please wear a mask if they come to visit.

Thank you Pastor Randall





**Pastor Randall Koehler**  
**a closer look**  
**Part 3 Rapidly Growing Faith**

Randall Koehler—a Closer Look

Part 3—Lesotho to Freeman, SD

When Randall Koehler traveled to Lesotho in August of 2011 to work as an aide at a primary school in MCC’s SALT (Serving and Learning Together) program, he experienced many firsts: First time on the east coast (doing orientation in Akron, PA), first time to get vaccinations for **any** disease, first time on an airplane, first time outside of the United States. Randall was to teach math to 5<sup>th</sup> graders in a school system so different from what he knew—a system where students experienced corporal punishment, where there was no heating or cooling, where students were packed into a far too crowded classroom. It was a place where he was the only “white guy” in a rural school. It was a country where people were impoverished and walked long distances, where Randall himself felt hungry all the time. “It wrecked me,” Randall said of his year-long service in Lesotho, where he encountered a deep experience with violence and poverty. “In a good way,” he added. His job description was to be a teacher’s aide, but as soon as he entered the classroom, the teacher instructed him, “Teach these kids math,” and walked out. Not knowing the Sesotho language and not understanding the system of corporal punishment left Randall at a disadvantage at the start. After three months of struggling in the classroom, he finally went to the principal and admitted it was too difficult. After that he spent time helping teachers prepare and helped with classroom management as an aide.

Once such experience of violence hit very close to home. One day Randall was teaching (7 months into his term) and was informed that his language teacher had been murdered. He left school immediately to see for himself if it was really true. He saw his teacher lying on the ground, 100 feet from his house, right in front of Randall’s neighbor’s house. Randall was able to piece together the story that led to the terrible confrontation which ended a precious life. Some older boys had been leading cattle through the mountains. As they travelled through his teacher’s land, they swiped corn from his field. He figured out that it was the boys, and when he saw them later, he confronted them, asking them to go with him to talk to the chief. On the way there, conflict ensued and they beat the teacher to death. Randall said that the funeral, which was held in a bigger neighboring city, was very powerful. A big tent was set up around a huge church. As a part of the service, Randall sang the song “How He Loves.”

Eventually, the perpetrating boys turned themselves in. “Violence was a normal part of daily life, not unlike it is in America” said Randall as he recalled the pervasive and systemic nature of violence in Lesotho. “Punishment was commonly used by parents, and parents were chastised by religious leaders for not punishing well enough.” Up to one-third of the population has AIDS. It is not uncommon for men to be recruited by the mining companies and leave the country to find jobs in neighboring South Africa, where they work for extended periods of time to support their families. While there, it is also not uncommon to have a second family, contract AIDS, and bring it home to their spouse. “It is a broken system,” Randall said. It deeply hit home to him that the solution to violence is NOT violence.

After a year in Lesotho, coming home and living in the US was a difficult transition for Randall. Just going into a grocery store and trying to select what he needed left him paralyzed with frustration and indecision. Randall and Morgan got back together in May of 2013. By December they were engaged, and they were married on April 12, 2014. In December 2013, Randall graduated from Illinois State University with a degree in elementary education. That same fall, one of Randall’s dad’s hired hands retired and Randall asked his Dad to hire him seasonally on the farm. Randall did additional work outside of the spring and fall seasons for other employers, including diesel mechanics, working with HazMat hot oil, construction work, plumbing, and working as a lead mechanic for a trucking company. In 2015, Randall applied for a pastoral job at a local Mennonite church after several people had encouraged him to pursue pastoral work, and he decided to start seminary at AMBS in 2019. Randall decided to start online seminary classes at AMBS in 2019, before their daughter Vivian was born. A year later he and Morgan answered the call of Hutterthal Mennonite Church, and after seven years back home in Benson, IL, the family moved to Freeman.

### **ANSWERS TO MATCHING CHALLENGE**



- |    |   |       |
|----|---|-------|
| 1. | G | 6. E  |
| 2. | D | 7. A  |
| 3. | B | 8. J  |
| 4. | C | 9. F  |
| 5. | H | 10. I |



**Birthdays**

- 5) Christopher Hofer, Jr.
- 5) Ann Marie Reiling
- 6) Clara Beseman
- 8) Edie Tschetter
- 8) Chris Waltner
- 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
- 30) Joyce Schnabel
- 30) Jessica Mills

**Anniversaries**

- 12) Pastor Randall & Morgan Koehler
- 28) Lance & Lacey Friesen

**WHY CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS**



A BIRTHDAY OPENS THE DOOR TO NEW MERCIES - To have lived another year is an achievement. After all, you have another year's worth of blessings to thank God for. Think of how much of God's air you have consumed during the year. Think of how many nights God allowed you to lie down and sleep and how many mornings He awakened you with brand new mercies. Because of the Lord's great love, we are not consumed; for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. Lamentations 3: 22-23

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**Advisory Board:** Chair- Brigitta Hofer and Marcia Schrock, Suzanne Koerner,

**HMC Links**

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

**\*\*Submissions are due by the last Wednesday of the month.\*\* Thank you.**