

Menno Bulletin Weekly

Bulletin Inserts for December 1, 2013

Witmer Heights Church Life Activities Calendar

- Dec. 1 – Annual conjoint business meeting at the church – 1:00 pm
Dec. 4* – Family Night – Meal and activity beginning at 6:00 pm
Dec. 8 – Annual Christmas Breakfast - 8:30 am Program – 10:00 am
Dec. 10 – Pastoral Congregation Accountability Team meeting – 7:00 pm
Dec. 11 – Worship Team meeting. – 7:00 pm

*Persons who signed up to bring the Family Night meal at 6:00: Karen Diffenbach and Lorrie Stoltzfus

	<u>Sunday, December 1</u>	<u>Sunday, December 8</u>
Message	Michael Howes	Christmas Breakfast & Program
Greeters	Phyllis and Jim Oswald	Mim Buckwalter and Wes Newswanger

~**Michael and Sue are on vacation** from Nov. 27-Dec. 5. Paul Zehr will be preaching for Michael Sun. December 1. If you have any pastoral care needs or other church concerns, please contact Neil Reinford.

~**Encouragement Link for week of December 1-7**

Laura Hoffer – Lillie/Ed Martin Sarah Hoffer – Phyllis/Jim Oswald Olivia Mast – Eileen Ranck

~**Christmas is just around the corner...** and the Christmas breakfast and program is next Sunday!! Witmer Heights is in charge of organizing the 8:30 breakfast and First Deaf will give the 10:00 program. Sign up sheets for everyone from both congregations to bring food are on the table behind the sanctuary. Please sign up for two items or a double portion of one. **Invite your friends and neighbors.**

~**Several emails were sent** from Neil Reinford the week of Nov. 18: **1) Year to Date Financials and 2014 Budget Proposals** (which will be discussed at the Dec. 1 meeting.) **2) Pastoral Search Team nominations.** If you did not receive these and need a hard copy or if you have questions, check with Neil. **Return your nominations for the Pastoral Search Team to Neil Reinford no later than December 8.**

~**Capital has been spent down to \$7,402**, and there are two capital expenditures that are necessary:

1. Re-coat approximately 15,136 sq. ft. of the flat roof* \$15,550.
2. Outside masonry repair \$ 600. **Total \$16,150.**

*We are beginning to experience a roof leak and needed to repair it. **As part of the Christmas program on Dec. 8 there will be opportunity for you to give to a special separate offering for the capital fund.**

Witmer Heights Women's Christmas Tea

Thursday evening, December 12 at 7:00 p.m.
in the church fellowship hall

Please RSVP to any one of the planners by December 8

Rose Kennel - crkennel@netzero.net or 293.0020
Jan Mast - jmast@goodbooks.com or 393.6806
Lorrie Stoltzfus - sssl73@hotmail.com or 413.3061

~**Thank you for your contributions to the fall Sunday school project.** North Star Initiative is a program that addresses the needs of domestic trafficking survivors. It is a founding member of the Lancaster Anti-Trafficking Network (LATN). **The grand total for the quarter is - \$496.25.**

“Community Night Fundraiser for MYF356” at Isaac’s at Greenfield

Wednesday, December 4, 2013 / 5 – 9 PM Fliers will be in your mailboxes soon.

Bring your completed flyer to Isaac’s & hand to your server when paying so that 25% of the cost of your meal will go directly to MYF356. This will benefit our 2014 Summer Missions Experience.

~**CONNECTIONS is for women of all ages** and meets on Tuesday mornings in the fellowship hall at Mellinger Mennonite Church. The next program will be **Tuesday, December 3**, when Martha Mellinger will present a program entitled “Christmas Around the World.” Through the display of Nativities collected from around the world, hear what God has been doing in different nations and people groups!

News from other sources/agencies

~**Don't forget**, there are many very interesting events to consider by going to the Lancaster Conference website – www.lancasterconference.org

~**The Mennonite Children's Choir of Lancaster** will perform a series of Christmas concerts 7 p.m. Thursday, **December 5** and 7 p.m. Saturday, **December 7**, at Ridgeview Mennonite Church, Gordonville, and 4 p.m. Sunday, December 8, at Grace Baptist Church, Lancaster Tuesday, **December 10**, at Neffsville Mennonite Church;. Tickets are not required, but a freewill offering will be received.

~**The Lancaster Mennonite High School Christmas Concert** will be held **Sat. December 14 at 4 p.m.** on the Lancaster Campus featuring string orchestra, full orchestra, Concert Choir, Campus Chorale and Chamber Choir. A Christmas Tea fundraiser with the Campus Chorale follows at 5:30 p.m. – To attend the tea you must RSVP to campuschorale@lancastermennonite.org. The middle school concert is Dec. 17 at 7 p.m. Band will have a separate concert on January 7. Admission is free and the public is invited.

Bulletin items from the Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society:

- **Christmas Candlelight Tours**—Celebrate with the 1719 Hans Herr House and Museum with evening tours as it prepares for Christmas. Tours run 6-8 p.m. on Thursday and Friday, December 5 and 6, and 5-8:30 on Saturday 7. A new tour begins every fifteen minutes. Prior registration necessary, and can be done online at hansherr.org or by calling (717) 464-4438.
- **Pennsylvania German Folk Art Sale**—Come browse the work of two-dozen local artists. The sale continues through December 31, Tuesday through Saturday, 8:30-4:30 p.m., at the Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society bookshop, 2215 Millstream Rd., Lancaster, Pa.

~**Employment Opportunity - Head Dining Hall Cook -- Lancaster Campus.** A full-time position is available at the Lancaster Campus for Head Dining Hall Cook Experience in the culinary field, being able to lead a team and work well with others, and an understanding of Anabaptist Christian faith are qualities we are seeking. Persons of underrepresented racial/ethnic groups are encouraged to apply. For more information contact Dottie Weber at (717) 299-0436 ext. 328, or weberdg@lancastermennonite.org.

~**Friendship Community Opportunities** - Do you have a heart for serving others? Do you want a rewarding career? Friendship Community is in need of part-time care providers for Adults with a Developmental Disability in Lancaster and Lebanon County group homes. Friendship Community is a Christian non-profit organization. The tasks of a care provider include assisting with hygiene, cooking, cleaning, transporting individuals using organization vehicles, administering medications and being a friend to individuals. If you are seeking an opportunity to serve others with flexible part-time employment during the upcoming holiday season and beyond, apply online at FriendshipCommunity.net. This is a great opportunity to impact the lives of others while enriching your own! For more information, call 717.656.2466.

~**Clean out your quilt closets for MCC!** Quilter's Attic at the PA Relief Sale would like quilt-related items – the used/unused/unfinished things no longer needed in your quilt or linen closet. For a detailed list of items, please see the flier posted on the bulletin board in the East hallway at church. These items can be dropped off at the 10,000 Villages store in Ephrata.

~**Notice to persons** hoping to go to New York to see Merle Good's new play, *The Preacher and the Shrink*— There are still seats available on buses making the trip on the following dates: **December 8, December 15 and December 21**. For details, go to www.thepreacherandtheshrink.com and click on the tab “Coming from Lancaster.” All aboard!

~**Mennonite World Conference Global Assembly** comes to Harrisburg, PA, July 21-26, 2015. This gathering of 7,000 - 10,000 Mennonites and Brethren-in-Christ offers people in our area opportunities to host guests as well as serve in volunteer roles before or during the meetings. Begin considering how you and your family might participate. Please visit the MWC website at www.mwc-cmm.org and click on "Pennsylvania 2015" for more information and to apply now to be a host and/or volunteer. Printed paper copies of the application form are available on the table at the back of the sanctuary. Questions contact District representatives, Joe & Nancy Mast 717-399-3104. mastj@emu.edu



**Mennonite
Disaster
Service**

**RESPONDING
REBUILDING
RESTORING**

This is the MDS Update for November 21, 2013

URGENT NEEDS

Staten Island, NY: Assistant cook needed
Dec. 2 -Dec. 14

CURRENT NEEDS

Short-term groups are needed this fall in Staten Island, NY: Dec. 2-13

Openings for small groups or individuals are also available other weeks.

We are currently scheduling short-term groups for fall and winter projects. Please consider serving in Duluth, MN, and High River, AB, as the needs are great but few volunteers are rallying to serve in these adventurous locations. Duluth is near scenic Lake Superior and High River is close to the Rocky Mountains and Banff National Park.

For information about week-long volunteer opportunities call (800) 241-8111 or e-mail cruntz@mds.mennonite.net. For long-term volunteer opportunities (one month or longer), in the US call (800) 241-8111 or e-mail syoder@mds.mennonite.net, in Canada call (866) 261-1274 or e-mail epetersrojas@mds.mennonite.net.

REGISTER NOW FOR ALL-UNIT MEETING

Come join us for fellowship, information and renewal at the 2014 Annual All-Unit Meeting in Bakersfield, CA, Friday and Saturday, February 7-8, 2014. Network and meet with MDS staff and volunteers from the US and Canada. Find information and registration at mds.mennonite.net or in the December issue of *Behind the Hammer*.

MDS RESPONDS TO MIDWEST TORNADOS

Investigations and responses are continuing after Sunday's tornados that devastated multiple communities in the Midwest. Many communities are not open to volunteers as the command centers are still organizing and search and rescue operations are still underway.

Leonard Kennell, Region II Director, was in Washington, IL, Monday morning. The heavily damaged community was not open to outsiders and volunteers yet. MDS is in contact with Mennonite Churches in Washington and Normal, IL, and Kokomo, IN, and is currently working on the logistics of a response.

Updates will be posted as they come in. Our prayers are with all of those who were affected.

[Click here to see photos from Washington, IL, on Facebook.](#)

BASTROP, TEXAS: 2011

Disaster: 2011 Wildfires

As we were planning for the start of work back in Bastrop for this year, our goal was to have a "foundation blitz" and complete as many of the house foundations as possible. Roger Claassen brought his equipment to dig the footers and Bob Nafziger came to head up the crews. The short-term crews worked quickly and efficiently and approximately 1,000 blocks and 65,000 pounds of concrete were put in place in two weeks.

BASTROP, TEXAS: RV PROJECT

Disaster: 2011 Wildfires

The RV group worked on the floor systems for three of the new builds in Bastrop. While Marlene, Cheryl and Doreen removed stones and leveled the gravel and dirt between the pillars, Bert, Bob and Alvin started squaring off the floor before they began to carry out any of the 2 x 12's for the boxing. Bob and Cheryl did most of the cutting and carrying of the floor joists, Alvin placed the joists where Bert and Doreen had snapped lines and Marlene secured the joists with the air-nailer. Once the joists were in place, the palm-nailer got put to good use! Each joist hanger has from 12-16 nails that need to be driven in. That works out to 1568 nails per floor! By Wednesday, Ms. Lisa's floor was completely sheathed and our tool trailer was moved over to Mr. Jacob's place.

[Click here to view photos from the Bastrop RV project on Facebook.](#)

BRAITHWAITE, LOUISIANA

Disaster: 2012 Hurricane Isaac

On these cold mornings our volunteers were working on a ramp outside. Another day or two and it should be done! The whole neighborhood is excited for Mr. Marcus and the new ramp. We have also worked on installing, sanding and treating new cabinets for Ms. Natalie's house.

CRISFIELD, MARYLAND

Disaster: 2012 Hurricane Sandy

Much of the work this week was focused on Mr. Scott and Mrs. Jenny Lynn's home, where mudding and painting were completed. Trusses were also set at Mrs. Susie's, and we also worked in two homes that UMCOR is repairing.

FAR ROCKAWAY, NEW YORK

Disaster: 2012 Hurricane Sandy

The highlight of the week for everyone was the home dedication for Ms. Lizette and her family. It was an emotional time as she shared her story and sang for us. It was a treat to sing "My Life Flows on in Endless Song" with her as she knew the song as well! It was the perfect song for her situation.

HATTIESBURG, MISSISSIPPI

Disaster: 2013 Tornado

Our work week was very rewarding and much was accomplished. Work continues on Ms. Wilda's ceilings and bathroom tub surround. Part of the group will work at Ms. Debbie's house on Monday to try and complete the repair of the living room wall. We also have to paint a small room at Mr. Howard's home after the men repaired all of the roof leaks.

MINOT, NORTH DAKOTA

Disaster: 2011 Floods

Minot volunteers have been working hard on Ms. Jamie's house this week. Exterior painting including the foundation was completed. The team even located some rakes and took care of the fall leaf drop in Ms. Jamie's yard. Interior sanding of drywall and cleaning was done in preparation for a week of painting. The team has been painting for three days now, and work has progressed to beginning to lay the laminate flooring in the bedrooms. Ms. Jamie stopped by to see the progress. It's beginning to feel like home.

SHAWNEE, OKLAHOMA

Disaster: 2013 Tornados

We installed drywall and completed most of the taping of Mr. Carl's interior with a marathon of up to 20 volunteers. Our team is partnering with Mr. Carl who has a new metal home in place. He has done all of the interior framing, mostly from wood from his damaged home and some from a neighbor's. As we started this week, Mr. Carl's home had been insulated and we were to hang all of the drywall. Three members of local churches joined us in this effort.

STATEN ISLAND, NEW YORK**Disaster: 2012 Hurricane Sandy**

Last week we had five volunteers that came from Region IV who have extensive construction knowledge, and we were able to complete five client jobs. One of the homes was dedicated. Also we had four more short-term volunteers from Ohio.

Contributions may be sent to:

USA: 583 Airport Road, Lititz, PA 17543 or

Can.: 6A-1325 Markham Rd, Winnipeg, MB R3T 4J6

[Donate online](#)

Tel: USA (800) 241-8111 Can. (866) 261-1274

Remember the variety of ways you can give to MDS – volunteer your time, give money through cash donations, planned gifts, bequests and traded securities.

Call our office to learn more details.

Follow Us On Facebook: You can now receive timely MDS project updates when you "Like" us on Facebook: [Mennonite Disaster Service](#)

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