

Menno Bulletin Weekly

Bulletin Inserts for December 29, 2013

Witmer Heights Church Life Activities Calendar

- Jan. 8 – Family Night - Lessons from a Service Dog - Janelle and Pepper **
** Persons who signed up to bring the meal on January 8 are: Becky Nolt and Jan Mast
Jan. 8 – Worship Team meeting – 7:00 pm
Jan. 15 – Elder Team meeting – 6:00 pm
Jan. 22 – Family Night - Testimony of trusting God - Balloon activity

	<u>Sunday, December 29</u>	<u>Sunday, January 5</u>
Message	Michael Howes	Michael Howes
Greeters	John J. Landis and Karen Diffenbach	Becky Nolt and Becky Rutt

~During the Advent season, there has been no open mic sharing time during the worship service. Mim Eberly has been serving as the scribe for sharing time throughout Advent. Sharing is done in Sunday school. If you have an item you wish to share with the congregation but will not be in the adult Sunday school class, please see that Mim Eberly gets it. Mim will then be giving the information to the worship leader to be incorporated in the pastoral prayer and will give to Esther Mast to send via email to the total congregation so everyone can be joining in prayer for the concerns and in rejoicing for the praise items.

~Thanks for giving generously to the capital fund, Sunday, Dec. 8. **Total received that date was \$6,371.** Additional amounts received: **\$525** on Dec. 15, **\$800** on Dec. 22, **This brings the new total to \$7,696.** If you missed this opportunity, gifts may be given by marking your envelope or check for the Capital Fund.

~On December 12, a document from mennobulletin@gmail.com was sent to the WH congregation saying... *"I have been trying to keep up to date with changes in the Witmer Heights Church Directory and would like to get a final updated copy to all of you no later than January 1, (maybe before if I hear from all of you promptly.) Please check the attached copy and reply to me regarding your information. If there are changes that need to be made, please note those. If everything is correct, I would appreciate knowing that as well with a quick reply indicating in some way... All OK". ~Esther Mast*

I apologize to those who don't receive email that I didn't put a note in your mailbox. To date there have been 35 (out of a possible 61) responses. Please accept this as a gentle reminder to either respond by email, phone call, or note in my mailbox. I would like to meet my deadline of getting the updated copy to you no later than the first Sunday in January. If you have questions, please contact me (Esther Mast).

I have been pleasantly surprised that persons in the section "Friends of Witmer Heights" want to keep their names in our directory in order to keep in touch. If yours is not there and you wish to be re-entered, let me know... mennobulletin@gmail.com or esthermast41@gmail.com or 717-394-2199. Thanks much!!

~Encouragement Link for week of December 15-21 (extended through end of Dec.)

Laura Hoffer – Ruth Ann/Merle R. Sarah Hoffer – Becky/John R. Olivia Mast – Shelby/Dave S.

~CONNECTIONS is for women of all ages and meets on Tuesday mornings in the fellowship hall at Mellinger Mennonite Church. Connections is on Christmas break. The **next meeting will be January 7** when ladies will participate in Tying Knots of Love. Attendees will participate in a service project: tying knots on comforters that will be given to MCC for needy people around the world. Everyone welcome.

~A Community Hymn Sing will be held at Stumptown Mennonite Church **Sunday, Dec. 29 at 7:00 pm.** Christmas song requests will be sung with song leaders Bob Meck, Don Sensenig, and Kay Weaver. Offering will benefit Potter's House.

News from other sources/agencies

~**Thornton Wilder's classic play, *Our Town*, will be performed** by Lancaster Mennonite High School for two weekends in January -- January 17 and 18 at 7 p.m. and January 23-25 at 7 p.m., with a 2 p.m. matinee Saturday, January 25. The play will be staged in the "three-quarters round" format, using the stage space to seat audience members closer to the actors. In this format, seating will be limited and provided on a first come, first serve basis. Tickets are \$5 for students, \$7 for senior citizens and \$8 for adults, and may be reserved by calling the box office at 299-0436, ext. 340.

~**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.

~**Annual Music Night is launching the Lancaster Roots program for 2014.** On Saturday, **January 25**, a concert featuring a wide variety of musical styles performed by four diverse groups will come to Neffsville Mennonite Church. For pictures of the groups and read more about them, see the poster on the East bulletin board at church.

~**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.

~**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

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



**Mennonite
Disaster
Service**

**RESPONDING
REBUILDING
RESTORING**

This is the MDS Update for December 19, 2013

MDS wishes you joy this Christmas season in celebrating Emmanuel, God with us. Please continue to remember those affected by disasters, who are not in their homes for Christmas.

CURRENT NEEDS

Crew leaders are needed in Far Rockaway, High River and Sayreville for January and February. Terms shorter than one month will be considered on a case by case basis.

Cooks are needed in Bastrop, TX, Jan. 2 - 18.

RV Projects: There are openings in Hattiesburg, MS, for January and February.

Short-term volunteers needed in High River, Alberta, beginning Jan. 13.

There are a few weeks still open for short-term groups in February at various locations.

For information about week-long volunteer opportunities call (800) 241-8111 or e-mail

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.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Mennonite Disaster Service is seeking a part-time Receptionist/Administrative Assistant (30-35 hrs). Duties include, but are not limited to, front desk receptionist and administrative support for the MDS Binational office in Lititz, PA. Knowledge of Microsoft Office required and knowledge of basic accounting principles a plus. Applicants must be active in an Anabaptist church and committed to the Anabaptist faith and peace position.

For the full job description check the [MDS website](#). Resumes may be sent to job@mds.mennonite.net or MDS, Attn: Human Resources, 583 Airport Rd, Lititz, PA 17543. Review of resumes begins immediately. Recruitment continues until the position is filled.

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 on the [MDS website](#) or in the December issue of *Behind the Hammer*.

BASTROP, TEXAS

Disaster: 2011 Wildfires

Our fall season was extended a few days for a "roofing blitz." A five-man crew completed four roofs in three days. In January we will pour foundations for two more houses and begin the framing on two other foundations that are ready. It was an amazing beginning despite some weeks with few volunteers and lost days because of weather.

BASTROP, TEXAS: RV PROJECT

Disaster: 2011 Wildfires

The Bastrop RV program will reopen on Jan. 5, 2014.

BRAITHWAITE, LOUISIANA

Disaster: 2012 Hurricane Isaac

Alfred, Dorothy, Vernon and Shirley had a long drive every day to Ms. Priscilla's house. Her mobile home needed numerous repairs. They were able to build new front steps with a landing, as well as a back door landing and steps, and insulated and installed new paneling on one wall and secured a window.

CRISFIELD, MARYLAND

Disaster: 2012 Hurricane Sandy

The Crisfield project will reopen on Jan. 5, 2014.

FAR ROCKAWAY, NEW YORK

Disaster: 2012 Hurricane Sandy

The MDS team at Far Rockaway has closed seven jobs in the last two weeks, and started six more! These numbers reflect the nature of our work here. Repairs are often on small homes and only on one floor, or one section of a home. There are many challenges to these jobs, but lots of huge rewards in the gratitude of the homeowners.

HATTIESBURG, MISSISSIPPI

Disaster: 2013 Tornado

This week, as we closed out the fall project, we added a small room to Ms. Emma's house so she has a place to put a washer and dryer. We also repaired the kitchen and bathroom floor and put down new flooring.

HIGH RIVER, ALBERTA

Disaster: 2013 Flood

We are pleased to have the MDS site in High River, Alberta. up and running. MDS volunteers

We are pleased to have the MDS site in High River, Alberta, up and running. MDS volunteers have had the opportunity to be involved in two homes the last two months. The first house belongs to Ms. Kayleigh and her mother. The house had been flooded and serious mold had set in. The second house is home to a family. The first floor of their home was destroyed by the flood.

Click here to view photos of the [High River project on Facebook](#).

MINOT, NORTH DAKOTA

Disaster: 2011 Floods

We had a big group of volunteers the last two weeks and were able to finish work on several homes. With the Minot project closing down, meaningful services of appreciation were held at the United Church of Christ and at the Bible Fellowship Church.

SHAWNEE, OKLAHOMA

Disaster: 2013 Tornados

What a wonderful last week we had before the project shut down for the Christmas holidays. It continues to be amazing how each week our volunteers come from so many different places, ages, and backgrounds to make a difference here in Oklahoma. Insulation was installed in Mr. Charles' home. A re-roof job was completed for Ms. Misty's mobile home. Storage sheds were constructed for Ms. Cindy and Ms. Kathy's homes. Ms. Pat's well was enclosed and a problem with the pressure tank was fixed.

STATEN ISLAND, NEW YORK

Disaster: 2012 Hurricane Sandy

We had a productive week with a small group of volunteers. Eight jobs cards were signed off this week (some of which had been completed earlier), two house dedications (Ms. Laurie and Ms. Blair), and we welcomed a guest speaker, Ms. Thea. Our six short-term volunteers along with six long-term volunteers, split up into four groups completing work at the homes of Ms. Rosemarie, Mr. Billy, Ms. Concetta, Mr. Cartwright, Mr. Keith, and Ms. Suzanne. Flooring, drywall, mudding, framing, plumbing, and finish work was performed to complete these jobs before we close for the holidays.

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](#)