

Menno Bulletin Weekly

Bulletin Announcements for August 30, 2015

Witmer Heights Church Life Activities Calendar

Aug. 30 – Safe Church training during Sunday school hour. Attendance highly encouraged. Details below.

Sept. 25-27 – Annual Church Retreat at Penn Valley Retreat Center. Details below and on registration form.

Oct. 19 – MCC Volunteer day at MCC Resource Center 9:00 am-3:00 pm.

	<u>Sunday, August 23</u>	<u>Sunday, August 30</u>
Message	Randy Keener	Randy Keener
Greeters	Mary Zehr and Wes Newswanger	John/Nathan/Mim Buckwalter

~Safe Church Initiative

As part of our Safe Church Planning and Preparedness, Samaritan Counseling Center is providing the second of two trainings from 9:30-10:30 am this Sunday, August 30. Please plan to attend. Childcare is provided.

How Sexual Offenders "Groom" Children: What Every Adult Needs to Know

Description: This session is intended for all adults in the congregation who want to protect children and teens in the church, family and community from sexual harm. It includes an overview of the 5-step grooming process offenders often use to engage children in a trusting relationship prior to sexually exploiting the child. We will also view the compelling video "It's not Just Jenna", based on a true story of a teen sexually abused by a family friend. Her story illustrates how insidious the grooming process is, and helps viewers to better recognize the "red flags" that Jenna's parents missed. Their courage, good counseling, and faith in God allowed Jenna's family to heal from this tragedy, and now they want to share their wisdom with others.

Audience: Adults in the congregation, with a particular emphasis on parents, and also staff and volunteers working with children. Teens, age 13 and older are encouraged to attend and to discuss with their parents or church staff the story of Jenna in the video. Not suitable for younger children. ~Presented by Bethany Woodcock.

~**Church Retreat is only 4 weeks away - Sept. 25-27.** Registration forms were in church mailboxes. Return your registration and money to Dave & Shelby Swartley **by September 13.** Resource persons will be Jimm and Kaylene Derksen who will share on the theme of "Sabbath and Healthful Rhythm." They will also lead us in times of worship through singing.

~**The Retreat Planning Committee needs your help** collecting items for our Saturday evening activity. We would welcome contributions of the following items put in a box that will be under the mailboxes in the east hallway.

- empty paper towel rolls
- empty toilet paper rolls
- empty, clean tin cans

Thanks! We look forward to our time together at Penn Valley!

~**Choose a date:** As many of you are aware, the Lancaster Mennonite Conference has entered into a time of discernment in regards to its relationship to MC USA. All members of Lancaster Mennonite Conference are encouraged to attend one of the meetings to learn more about the process and discuss together the future of the conference relationship to MC USA. Let us be in prayer for these meetings, for our congregation, our conference, and our denomination. ~Grace & Peace, Pastor Randy

Remaining meeting dates are:

September 1 - Lancaster County Willow Street Mennonite Church

September 3 - North Penn Agape Fellowship

September 5 - New York City United Revival in Brooklyn

September 8 - Lancaster County Garden Spot Village

~Give Back! Donate a Backpack!

CVCCS is distributing backpacks to needy students in the Conestoga Valley school district. Beginning this Sunday, August 16th through September 6th, both Witmer Heights and Mellingers congregations are being invited to donate backpacks for this worthy cause in our community. A box will be available in the back of the sanctuary. Please contact Jansen Kachel at janman@ptd.net with any questions.

~From the CVCCS Newsletter on the church Bulletin Board: Keep CVCCS in mind when you are harvesting your garden produce! They will take donations of fresh fruits and vegetables; fresh enough to keep refrigerated a couple of days without spoiling. Please call ahead and inquire if they have room for your donations. (717)208-3711

Save the dates: Sept. 21-25 - Chick-Fil-A Fundraiser Week for CVCCS. Rally night is Tuesday, Sept 22 from 5-7 pm. October 25 – CVCCS Open House – 12-4 pm.

~School kits are needed for MCC. Just a few more days left to fill school kit bags for MCC. Our thanks to Ruth Ann Reinford who sewed the bags for us to fill. Empty bags can be found at the back of the sanctuary.

Fill bags with...

- 4 spiral or perforated notebooks (8.5 in. x 10.5 in. and 70 sheets)
- 8 unsharpened pencils
- 1 ruler (flat, flexible plastic; indicating both 30 cm. and 12 in.)
- 12 colored pencils (in packaging)
- 1 large pencil eraser

~Landis Homes Retirement Community will hold it's annual Fellowship Day on Saturday, September 12. The creative, caring hands of many will make Fellowship Day possible. Whether you plan to participate in person or are present in spirit, join in the fun. Become an auction patron, donate an item, volunteer, host a Share-A-Meal or create excitement by providing a matching bid--your personal touch is part of a community touch. Auction proceeds go to the Caring Fund which helps support the benevolent ministry of Landis Homes. Check their website for the schedule.

<http://www.landishomes.org/Home/Sections/Giving/Benefit%20Events/Benefit%20Auction>

~You are invited to attend the Sunday School Meditations fall Banquet and Hymn Sing on Saturday, September 19 at 6:00 pm in the Midway Reception Center, just off route 501, north of Lititz. After a great meal, the hymn sing will be led by Spare Parts. Reservations are needed! Call now; 717-665-0573 or 569-3008. We hope to see you there!

~Lancaster Mennonite Fall Festival and Homecoming Weekend will be held on **October 2 and 3** this year. Check their website for the events and more information on how to be involved. Bring a friend.

<http://www.lancastermennonite.org/support/fallfestival/index.php>

~Lancaster Mennonite School is seeking a third-shift custodian at the Lancaster Campus. Candidates must be able to provide custodial services that ensure safe and clean facilities. This is a full-time, twelve-month hourly position with full benefits. Persons of underrepresented racial/ethnic groups are encouraged to apply. Applications are online at www.lancastermennonite.org. For more information please contact Troy Hurst at hursttd@lancastermennonite.org.