
HOPE HEADLINES

A PUBLICATION OF HOPE MENNONITE CHURCH

Volume 27 Number 6

June 2013



THE ANCHOR

“Songs We Sing: Part V”

I sat in the parking lot captivated by one of those NPR interviews that keeps you rooted to the spot. Car running. Listening. And I didn't like what I was hearing.

The guest was making the claim that the musician Prince (the artist formally known by a symbol) provided the soundtrack for Generation X (those born between 1961-1981). “That's just ridiculous!” I said. I looked around to see if other people in their cars heard me talking to myself. Bruce Springsteen, maybe. U2, maybe. Michael Jackson, maybe. But I balked at Prince.

I was surprised by how worked up I was getting over the question of whose music provided the beats and melodies, perspectives and insights for my generation. As a former punk rocker, I thought, there isn't a single artist who could summarize an entire swathe of people. I pondered. Moments like these always end in introspection. And introspection almost always leads me to Jesus. It's just the way my mind works.

My mental meanderings eventually settled on an idea that surprised me. There *can* be one song for a generation. Despite the diversity of taste and perspective, as a Christian, I believe that there already *is* a song, not just for a generation, but for all people through time. His name is Jesus.

For years I've been enamored with the Sing the Journey hymn “Lord Jesus, you shall be my song.” The tune is lovely. The words are convicting (“As long as I live, Jesus, make me your servant to carry your cross and to share all your burdens and tears.” YIKES!). The community that gave this song birth is inspiring.

The song is a gift to us from the L'Arche Community. Jean Vanier founded L'Arche (French for “The Ark”) in 1964 and it has since grown into an international collection of communities that “bear witness to the reality that persons with intellectual disabilities possess inherent qualities of welcome, wonderment, spirituality, and friendship. We make explicit the dignity of every human being by building inclusive communities of

faith and friendship where people with and without intellectual disabilities share life together.”

Whenever we sing “Lord Jesus, you shall be my song,” I think of L'Arche. I think of Kevin and Tony, L'Arche residents in Pasadena who attended Pasadena Mennonite Church. Esther and I would bring Kevin and Tony to church. Tony loved to talk during congregational sharing time, often making up wild stories. I always got a kick out of watching the congregation's anxiety level palpably ratchet up whenever Tony reached for the mic! I think of Doug, a friend without intellectual disability, who has given his life to loving people in the spirit of L'Arche. I think of the possibility that all—*all*—are invited into the song of Jesus' life. I think of the longing for the “earth and the sea and the sky join my song” as all creation pulses with the sacredness of life. But most of all, I think about Jesus. As the song proclaims, he alone is “our life and our peace and our love.” Brothers and sisters, love him. Sing him with your life. Praise him. Gaze on his face when you struggle. Walk with him. In three years as your pastor I've only had one message: love Jesus. Jesus is the final word of my final Anchor. Let him be your song.

The late Pope John Paul II once said that “Christians are an Easter people and resurrection is our song.” Jesus, and his gift of new creation through the Holy Spirit, is our song. As long as we journey let us sing Jesus.

~~Pastor Brett





Note from Vision Council

It is with great joy that Vision Council is able to announce members of the Pastor Search Committee:

Lori Miller (Chair)	Amy Bellar
Eldon Chlumsky	Jason Jantz
Heidi Johnson-Laws	Mick Lehman
Jim Zielke	

Future steps for this committee include meeting with Clarence Rempel, Conference Minister, to go over the processes and procedures of this task; surveying the congregation for specific attributes/talents/skills desired in a potential pastor; and reviewing applications of potential candidates. There is really no specific time frame required for these steps, but certainly the desire is to complete them sooner rather than later. If you have concerns or questions concerning the process, please don't hesitate to ask any of the committee members.

Please keep the Pastor Search Committee in your thoughts and prayers as they begin this important journey together. -- Eric Hofer-Holdeman, Moderator

CHEESE!



NEW PICTURE DIRECTORY

Yes – it is that time again! Our last picture directory was done in the fall of 2010. Our dates for picture taking are:

Friday, **August 23** 2-8:30 p.m.
 Saturday, **August 24** 10 a.m –5p.m.
 Wednesday, **August 28** 2-8:30 p.m.

This year there will be an on-line option to sign up for appointments as well as regular sign-ups on Sundays. So, please mark your calendars and stay tuned for further information. Our goal is to include all of our regular attendees so that we can present a new pastor with an updated directory. ***FYI – Olan Mills, our past directory company, has been purchased by Life Touch. Our church representative has remained the same.



****William James Moyer**, son of Diana (Hope member) & Pete Moyer and granddaughter of Jan (Hope member) & Galen Worley, was born on April 23 in Kansas City. He was 9 lbs 4 oz and 20"long. "Little Will" and family are doing great.

****Joshua Warkentine and Staci Kearns** were married on Friday, May 3rd, at Camp Hawk. Their address is: Josh & Staci Warkentine (Liddyah and Levi) – 418 w. 7th, Newton, KS 67114

****1st baby of 1st baby** --- Vivienne Pearl Chlumsky, daughter of Christopher (Hope member) and Jennifer and granddaughter of Eldon & Annette, was born on May 3 in Salina. She was 7lb 9.8oz and 19in long. Christopher was our first Hope baby in 1985.

****Grant Bellar** took 2nd in the 3-2-1A tennis regional at Kiowa-South Barber and qualified as a member of Conway Springs tennis team for the state tournament in Hillsboro, May 10-11. Chris Bellar is the team's coach.

****Collin Kasitz** was a member of the Maize South golf team. They took 1st in their league tournament and Collin took 2nd individually; they finished 2nd in their regional and placed 3rd at state on May 20.

****Jarett Wynn** was a member of the Colwich Middle School Odyssey of the Mind team that competed at the World Finals at Michigan State University in Lansing held May 22-25.

****Kyle Howard** will begin a one-year Mennonite Voluntary Service (MVS) assignment in the New York, NY unit serving with Urban Justice Center. His term will start in August. Russ Ronnebaum has agreed to serve as his advocate as a liaison between Kyle and Hope.

Discipleship News...

During the month of June all adult Sunday school classes will be meeting together in the sanctuary to start learning about the "Seven Deadly Sins on Gilligan's Island". The Biblical principles are the Seven Deadly Sins, and the key scripture is Mark 7:21-23: "For from within, out of men's hearts, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. All these evils come from inside and make a man `unclean.'" See the seven deadly sins of our seven stranded Castaways as they finally get the chance to go home! But before they escape the island, predictably, Gilligan gets lazy, the Skipper becomes angry, the Professor grows prideful, Ginger incites lust, Mary Ann envies Ginger, Mr. Howell gets greedy and Lovey Howell gets gluttonous. Remember the "Mayberry Bible Study" we did several years ago? This is very similar. Galen Fast will be leading.

Remember there is NO Sunday school on June 30 so that we may all celebrate the ministry of Pastor Brett and Esther and the girls.

Summer hiatus of Sunday School officially starts on July 7.

VBS is June 3-7; 9-11:30 a.m. at Church of the Brethren, 1103 N. Jefferson.



DO I KNOW YOU?

Steve, Marilyn, Madeline & Drake Regier

Steve is the Chief Financial Officer at Medical Development Management. In his free time, he enjoys playing golf, reading & traveling.

Marilyn is an RN in the neonatal intensive care unit at Wesley Medical Center. She runs (those she doesn't like it), reads, travels and loves to container garden.

Madeline will be a junior next fall at Wichita East High School. This summer she will be appearing in the production "Hairspray" at Crown Uptown Theatre and will perform with the Teen Choir at Music Theatre of Wichita. She loves music, the theatre and dance.

Drake will be an 8th grader at Robinson Middle School. He likes playing X-box, sports and is a KU basketball fan.

The Regiers have been attending Hope for 15 years.



LOTS...AND I MEAN LOTS OF CAMP NEWS

Thank You and Welcome! Camp Mennoscah extends a huge, mega-sized Thank You to Mike Albright for the time he spent as our Maintenance Coordinator. We wish him the best of all good things in all that his future holds. We also offer a warm (soon to be hot) Camp Mennoscah welcome to Gardell Stucky, our new Campus and Facilities Director. Gardell will begin full-time later this month. Tell Mike and Gardell "thank you" and "welcome" when you see them next. Camp Mennoscah wouldn't be any fun without someone to fix the toilets.

Want to share a meal? Camp Mennoscah is looking for folks or groups who would be willing to provide a simple meal for 10 summer staffers (including Patrick Loganbill & Jared Regehr from Hope) during our orientation week, June 3-8. Each meal provided gives staff approximately 1 hour more to cover orientation materials and prepare for all those wonderful youth campers! Wishing...Camp Mennoscah is so beloved and so well visited that we always have items that we need. Some items are: matching pairs of twin comforters, non-skid floor mats (for bedrooms and bathrooms), large tea towels, 3-5 night lights with sensors, counter brushes, and sturdy plastic dust pans. If you'd like to enhance someone's experience at camp by providing any of these items, items can be dropped off at your next visit or a check sent. Please mark all donations either "wish list"

for general donations or with the specific item. Your generosity makes all our wishes come true!

Coming Soon! It's almost time for our absolutely stunning and amazingly fun summer youth camps! Camps start June 9, so there's still time to grab a friend and send in your registration forms. Our theme this summer is All Things New: Look What God is Doing! We're also celebrating the Year of the Bible, so when you get the scriptures for the summer--start memorizing! We really can hardly wait these next two weeks before camps start.

Whoop-de-doodle! We've got Family Camp! Camp Mennoscah is re-introducing Family Camp this summer, July 27-28. It's inter-generational! Monty & Hope Graber will lead us in a weekend of fun and family. Be prepared for all sorts of great stuff.

Missing--Two Nurses - Who will put the Band-aids on? Camp Mennoscah is needing one nurse each for the weeks of July 14-20 and July 21-27. Nurses receive a stipend or a camper discount. Spend some time in the company of the next generation of cool folks while dispensing bandages, bug spray, and sunscreen! We'd be sad and sticker-ful without our nurses. Nurses are some of our camp heroes!

For more information or details any of the above go to camp's website www.campmennoscah.org or email at campmno@mennowdc.org or call 620-297-3290.

HEALTH CORNER NEWS

**Fruits and vegetables with the most pesticide residues are: apples, cherries, imported grapes from Chili, nectarines, peaches, pears, raspberries, strawberries, bell peppers, celery, potatoes, and spinach.



**Manufacturers of high fructose corn syrup may be changing the name on labels to "corn sugar". Read carefully! Eating large amounts of high fructose corn syrup may cause weight gain, especially abdominal weight, interfere with satiety-signaling hormones, elevate blood pressure, elevate triglyceride levels, elevate liver enzymes and uric acid levels, and reduce insulin sensitivity

**In a large population study, people who ate nuts 5 day a week added an average of 2.9 years to their lives. Fresh raw nuts are healthier and have less fat than roasted.

Upcoming Events

On Friday **June 28**, 7:00 p.m. at Hope Mennonite Church, Bethel College student Renee Reimer (Bethel College student and daughter of Ray Reimer, our former

supply pastor) will perform the one-person play "My Name is Rachel Corrie," which tells the story of a young American activist who was killed by a bulldozer in Gaza.

Renee performed this play at Bethel College this spring and received great praise.

Prior to the above event on Thursday **June 13** at 7:00 p.m. at Lorraine Avenue Mennonite Church, Dr. Paul Tarazi, Professor of Old Testament at St. Vladimir's Seminary in Crestwood, NY, will present a lecture entitled "The Promised Land: According to the Bible." Dr. Tarazi's lecture will focus on the nature of God's promises in the Hebrew Bible, with special emphasis on the concept of the promised land.

Both events will be co-hosted by the Lorraine Avenue Mennonite Church Peace Committee (as a member group of the national Christian organization "Friends of Sabeel—North America) and The Palestine Study Group of Wichita. They will be free and open to the public, so invite your friends, co-workers, and neighbors; free-will offerings will be received to help offset expenses.

Pick My Brain - Screen-Free Challenge!



by Marlene Bogard, Minister of Christian Formation

"The Decline and Fall of Reading." This headline beckoned me, but oh how I didn't want to go there. This recent news-byte in Group Magazine was accompanied by a graph that lists activities teenagers do instead of reading. Want to guess? It's probably the same list that we as adults have as we gravitate more and more to a "screen-based" existence (my term) and less to a paper-based existence.

Instead of reading, we go on line for fun or to fill empty silence. Instead of reading, we use our cell (smart) phones for talk, text or maneuver on the web. Instead of reading we visit social networks. All of these things may provide an important connection to the world, or they may be the biggest time-sucker ever. The truth is...internet-based technology is shoving traditional reading out of our everyday rhythms. As a Christian educator and librarian, I wonder what it will mean in the long run.

This week I also heard of several young families who are doing a "Screen-Free" week. No computer, TV, movies, video games. Previously, one family issued eight 30-minute tickets per week to their boys for screen-time privileges. I asked their mom, Tina Schrag, from Hesston, Kansas, what prompted these new restrictions.

Tina notes, "We were noticing some unhealthy behaviors. Bickering, zombie behavior and some screen stupor." So beginning on Sunday of last week the family embarked on an experiment. No Screen Time all week. The result? Noah, age 7 and Levi, age 5 rediscovered toys, spent lots of floor time with cars, trucks and Legos and explored some neighborhood creeks. They didn't complain until Friday. Tina and her husband Ben were amazed by their response. In addition to more time for reading, they feel like life was somehow healthier for the week. The next possibility is for the family to try to be screen free one or two days a week.

In another town the Screen-Free challenge was issued to all students from their school. Hannah, age 11, needed to remind her "I-pad-happy" grandma that "googling" was not acceptable during the week. Hannah stayed strong, even when a restaurant's TV screen blasted at her during a Mexican meal out. "It's hard!" she expressed, but went on to be victorious, did extra reading time with grandpa and claimed her prize - a really big cookie.

In the WDC Resource Library, we are also noticing a decline in children and family reading. The children's library, deliciously filled with award winning authors and illustrators, carefully selected to support Christian faith themes is only busy during our weekly story-times. It is my hope and dream that parents still want to raise readers, that they still want cuddle time before bed with a good book, that reading together as families is seen as character-building and faith formation. I want to hear more parents exclaim, "My 11 year old boy still lets me read to him....what shall I choose?" Make a date with a child and take them to a library!

This summer the Conference Resource Library can serve the children of your home, neighborhood and congregation. We can pack up a box of 20 + fantastic books for you to circulate in your church. They can support your VBS or summer Sunday school sessions. They can go with you to church retreat or on vacation. You can use them for your own church or home-based summer reading program. Call or email me for ideas or themes! I would love to help!

Books = Fun is the theme for our Summer Story time here in the Resource Leader. Gifted teachers Barb Koontz and Jeanette Roberts will lead children age 3 - 8 for six sessions, beginning Wed. June 19th at 10 am. For those of you in the Newton area, call or email to sign up.

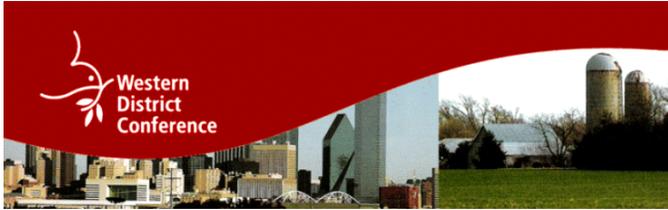
Suggested reading:

***The Reading Promise: My father and the books we shared by Alice Ozma.** A father and daughter embark (continued on the back of page 5, calendar)

on a read-out-loud session every night before bed - for eight years straight, 2012.

***The Book Whisperer: awakening the inner reader in every child** by Donalyn Miller, 2009.

***25 Books Every Christian Should Read: a guide to essential spiritual classics** selected by Renovare', 2011.



Clarence's Clarion Call - Fear?

by Clarence Rempel, WDC Conference Minister

With the destruction of 9/11 still imbedded in our consciousness, the bombing at the Boston Marathon triggered latent feelings of fear. "Oh, no, here we go again!" Fear is permeating our social culture more that we realize. Four out of ten Americans are fearful of walking a mile from their home after dark. Fear has resulted in massive expenditures for home security systems in the past ten years – \$28.2 billion in 2009. The budget for Homeland Security, a new cabinet position since 9/11, was \$46.9 billion in 2012. Do all these expenditures make our world safer? Do they make us *feel* safer?

One of the most frequently repeated imperatives in Scripture is "Do not be afraid." It appears some 80 times. The foundation for fearlessness is based in a deep security cemented in our relationship with God. "The Lord is my light and my salvation, whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life – of whom shall I be afraid?"(Psalm 27:1)

In the church we are also experiencing fear in the ethical and cultural turbulence around human sexuality. News in the past few weeks has included Supreme Court hearings, state votes regarding homosexual "marriage," and a variety of prominent personal affirmations and pronouncements of homosexual relationships. The winds are strong, and our boat of Western District Conference is rocking and taking on water. For some it is the fear of being co-opted by the world's values and being unfaithful to God and the instruction of Scripture. For others it is the fear of being irrelevant, unloving, inhospitable, and unfaithful in following Jesus. Other motivations are in the mix, but fear seems to have a powerful grip.

In the midst of the above news headlines, I came to Matthew 14 in my reading through the New Testament this year. The disciples experienced the fear of a vicious storm on the Sea of Galilee. They experienced the fear of

a ghost-like appearance of Jesus walking on the water. In a moment of audacious faith, Peter stepped out of the boat, but then experienced the fear of wind and waves. He began to sink. I identify with Peter's cry, "Lord, save me!"

"Lord, save us." In all these storms I sense a deep need for the presence and intervention of Jesus. Is it possible to face into the storm when our faith is focused on Jesus? Might we even walk on water? What would that look like in our fellowship of churches?

I believe there is a way through the storms of life when Jesus is primary, the focus of our faith. Jesus climbed into the boat and the wind died down. And the disciples worshiped him, saying, "Truly, you are the Son of God."



Men's health is a family matter.

Hope Mennonite Church is once again hosting Life Line Screening, the nation's leading provider of preventive health screenings on Wednesday, June 19, 2013. The screenings provided focus on vascular disease, a leading cause of illness, death and disability among men.

Screenings are fast, painless and affordable. Three key tests check for blocked carotid arteries, an irregular heart rhythm called atrial fibrillation, and high blood pressure, which are the three leading risk factors for stroke. Nearly 800,000 strokes will occur this year, taking a life approximately every four minutes.

Other tests check for abdominal aortic aneurysms and hardening of the arteries in the legs. A bone density screening to assess osteoporosis risk is also offered and is appropriate for both men and women. This event also offer blood tests, including cholesterol, glucose and c-reactive protein screenings, as well as take-home colon cancer early detection tests.

Screening packages start at \$139. Single tests cost around \$60. **By signing up for this health event, not only will you be able to receive \$10 off any package of \$149 or more, but Hope Mennonite Church will also receive a \$10 donation for every member who signs up and attends this Life Line Screening event.** There are 2 ways to schedule your appointment and to receive this special offer.

Phone 1-800-324-9458

Online: www.helpinghandsforhealth.com

Join in the fight against vascular disease!