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# HOPE HEADLINES

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## “Great Pilot of My Onward Way”

Have you ever heard the church being called a ship, or a boat? Maybe not, since we are prairie people. But Jesus calls followers to take their boats out onto the water “to fish for people” (Matthew 4:19). Jesus is in the boat with the disciples when great windstorm arises (Mark 4:35). Jesus calls out, “Peace! Be still.” The wind ceases, allowing the boat to carry on taking Jesus and the disciples where Jesus wants them to go.

Early church art paints Disciple Peter at the helm of a boat, the church. The flag of Paris shows an image of a boat, full of people of the church. The Latin motto reads “It flows and does not sink.”

A trip to Washington Island north of Door County, Wisconsin, included seeing models of boats or small ships suspended in the middle of the space above the seating in the sanctuary. The life of these island residents is deeply connected to the life and risk of the water. The presence of the boat in worship holds meaning in several ways: Christ, protect us on the water as we go through the week, Christ, protect the church (a “boat”) on its waters, and Christ, steer us on where you would have us go!

This last image is powerful – Christ steering the boat, Christ steering and guiding the church. It is even more powerful when one combines the direction Christ gives to the boat with power from God’s Spirit gives for the boat. We are not wallowing. Our sails are full, we are on the move – in a direction and under the power of God through Jesus and the Spirit!

Even before our family began sailing regularly at Cheney Lake when I was in junior high, I already knew one of my favorite hymns, the words of which are given below. Read these old, but delightful words. Great Pilot of my onward way! What a beautiful description of God. What a call for us to lift our sails! We can rest assured we are not alone on any sea.

## I Feel the Winds of God Today

Jessie Adams

1 I feel the winds of God today;  
today my sail I lift,  
though heavy oft with drenching spray  
and torn with many a rift;  
if hope but light the water’s crest,  
and Christ my barque (boat) will use,  
I’ll seek the seas at his behest,  
and brave another cruise.

2 It is the wind of God that dries  
my vain regretful tears,  
until with braver thoughts shall rise  
the purer, brighter years;  
if cast on shores of selfish ease  
or pleasure I should be,  
O let me feel your freshening breeze,  
and I’ll put back to sea.

3 If ever I forget your love  
and how that love was shown,  
lift high the blood-red flag above;  
it bears your name alone.  
Great pilot of my onward way,  
you will not let me drift;  
I feel the winds of God today,  
today my sail I lift.

~~Pastor Susan



## Events and Updates from the Care and Nurture Commission

The summer is flying by! We hope that despite the incredible heat, you have had great vacations and had some relaxing moments. We are planning a fun time together Sunday morning **August 21** for casual (and probably competitive!) fellowship. Stay for snacks and indoor games after the church service for an hour or so.

Another upcoming date is **September 11**, the Sunday we will say our farewells to Pastor Susan. There will be a potluck carry-in lunch after Sunday School. This is the start of the new Sunday School year and the beginning of staffing the nursery during the church service hour.

We welcome your thoughts on returning Hope Friends to the church calendar. Feedback would be appreciated.

When planning your Fall calendar, be sure to save **October 22 and 23** for our church retreat to Camp Mennoscah. Great memories are made there! More details to come concerning the theme, menu, and activities. A signup sheet will soon be posted on the bulletin board. Our deposit to hold our reservation has been made. We would love to fill the Retreat Center this year!

We will be experimenting with a new disposable paper product for drinking cups in the kitchen. The red plastic cups will be replaced with an eco-friendly hot/cold cup. We encourage you to use the dishes and cups and place them in the dishwasher to keep the disposable items to a minimum, including paper towels, as we have a healthy supply of kitchen linens.

In attempting to make coffee time suitable for all dietary restrictions, monk fruit (LoHan) is an option for a sweetener instead of sugar or Splenda. The mini-moos (1/2 and 1/2 milk product, unsweetened) are available. An oat milk or almond milk creamer will be added as a non-dairy item instead of Coffee Mate.

Please feel free to contact any of us with thoughts or concerns.

Annette Chlumsky  
Heidi Johnson  
Lori Regier  
Jan Worley



## DISCIPLESHIP COMMISSION NEWS

The Discipleship Commission & Library Committee believe our Hope Mennonite Church Library plays a vital role in promoting faith formation and spiritual growth for the children, youth and adults in our congregation. In order to assist in making decisions regarding the library and more effectively serving the congregation, it is important to gather information from you. In a few weeks, you will be receiving a library survey via Survey Monkey regarding your current & future use of the library. Please take a few minutes to answer this brief survey.

### Children's Corner proposal

The Library Committee is proposing a children's corner in the library. The purpose would be to make the

library more inviting to children and to encourage library use by them and their parents. It would be located in the south east corner, to the right of the entrance. It would include a tree mural and two small bean bag chairs. Our artist would be Joanna Pinkerton. A question can be found on the library survey regarding this proposal. Below is the scale drawing and a copy can also be found on the library window.



**Just a reminder...** Updated picture taking for the 2022 picture directory will be **August 21 & 28**, and **September 11**. Photos will be taken in Room 2 downstairs after church in August, and between church and Sunday school on September 11. Anyone can get a new picture taken, but if things in your family have changed, or you are new to Hope, its time for a new picture!





## MENNONITE DISASTER SERVICE QUIZ

Mennonite Disaster Service has a history of nearly 73 years of responding to disasters. How well do you know MDS?

True or false...

1. MDS was a part of Mennonite Central Committee (MCC).
2. MDS responds to disasters all around the world.
3. MDS is first on the scene as an early response agency.
4. All MDS work is coordinated out of Lititz, PA.
5. MDS does not receive government grants for staff salaries.
6. MDS responds only to floods, fires, tornados, earthquakes and hurricane disasters.
7. MDS is only for men, except for cooks.
8. Leadership volunteers are required to stay a minimum of one year.
9. About half of MDS volunteers are 35 or younger.
10. All MDS projects close down during hot weather so there is no need for volunteers during the summer.
11. Our support cost in the last five years has averaged under 20%.

**See answers on next page.**

*Bits & Pieces*

Isaac Epp was named to the 2022 All Metro high school baseball team. Check out the article on the bulletin board.



**Camp Sing on Saturday, August 6, at 2:30 pm here at Hope Mennonite Church!** Camp Mennoscah will be celebrating a

wonderful summer through song! Everyone is invited to come and sing camp songs (both "traditional" ones from across the years and newer Praise & Worship ones).

The final details are yet to be determined, but there will be soda pop--generic or otherwise! Put it on your calendar and come be part of the fun!



## August reminders...

### August 8-Fruits & Seeds

**Worship Leader**-Connie

**Scripture**-Mike M.

**Pianist**-Ruthie

**Song Leader**-Lowell

**Tech**-Michelle J.

**Zoom**-Lee

### August 14-Children & Church

**Worship Leader**-Mike V.

**Scripture**-Barb V.

**Pianist**-Vicki

**Song Leader**-Kendrick

**Tech**-Michelle J.

**Zoom**-Brenda

### August 21-Intergenerational including adults

**Worship Leader**-Mike V.

**Scripture**-Lowell

**Pianist**-Laurie

**Song Leader**-Jared

**Tech**-Michelle J.

**Zoom**-Brenda

### August 28-Jesus & Questions

**Worship Leader**-Connie

**Scripture**-Ruthie

**Pianist**-Cynthia

**Song Leader**-Galen

**Tech**-Michelle J.

**Zoom**-Lee

### Sanctuary Prep

August 7-Heidi

August 14-Joanna

August 21-Lori M.

August 28-Ruthie

### Mowing

August 7-Jim B.

August 14-Grant

August 21-Scott

August 28-Jerold

### Coffee

August 7-Marcus & Cynthia

August 14-Mike & Kim

August 21-Scott & Connie

August 28-Chris B.

### Memorial Garden

July 31-Aug 13-Ruthie

Aug 14-27-Marcus

Aug 28-31-Connie

# August



## MDS answers

1. TRUE. However, in 1993 MDS was incorporated as a 501©3 non-profit organization in the US and amiably separated from MCC. Now on its own, MDS relies on some 4,000 volunteers from Mennonite, Amish and Brethren in Christ churches to annually carry out its ministry.
2. FALSE. MDS takes the lead in responding to disasters in Canada, US, Puerto Rico and the protectorate states and territories, i.e. Micronesia, etc.
3. FALSE. MDS is primarily a long-term response agency that repairs and rebuilds houses by providing free construction labor. It is true that MDS workers often arrive on the scene soon after the disaster to assess and clean up. MDS does chainsaw work and covers roofs to prevent secondary damage – but we there for the long haul.
4. FALSE. WE are based on a grassroots structure of nearly 50 units and four regions throughout Canada and the US. Word in Canada is coordinated by MDS Canada, which is separately incorporated in that country.
5. TRUE. Our primary support comes from donations from our constituency to support staff, fund travel, provide stipends for long-term volunteers, tool trailers and RV's in safe condition.
6. FALSE. MDS has also responded to drought-stricken farmers in both Canada and the US, the 9/11 terrorist attack, and the African-American church fires in the US and COVID-19 to name a few 'nontraditional' disasters.
7. FALSE. Women are not only found in the office and kitchen, but serve as project directors, crew leaders, constructions workers and crisis support workers.
8. FALSE. May leadership volunteers stay for as little as four weeks.
9. TRUE. On average, over the last five years, 49% of our volunteers are 35 or younger. 20% are 66 and older.
10. FALSE. At the time of this writing there are nearly a dozen locations with volunteer responses.
11. TRUE. If we were to add the value of volunteer labor to our balance sheet, support cost would average 8%.