

East Union Mennonite Church

5615 Gable Ave. SW (319) 656-2590 www.eastunionmennonite.org

Interim Pastor: Sonya Stauffer Kurtz

Elders: Paulette Hershberger, Larry Detweiler,

Lauralee Kauffman, Jeff Swartzentruber

Mission Statement:

East Union Mennonite Church is a community of love and worship where the Scriptures and the Spirit guide all to faithful living, all are welcome to grow in the way of Jesus, and we share God's love with others in word and service, so that we are a light of hope here and around the world.

Vol. LXII	March 23, 2014	No. 12
-----------	----------------	--------

Worship Leader:	Marvin & Betsy Slabaugh
Sermon:	Josh Lundberg
Pre-Service, Offertory, Postlude:	Bruce Harvey
Congregational Singing:	Nici Bontrager & Quartet
Children's Time	Sheila Niemeyer, Sam Yoder, Trent Yoder

WORSHIP

Call to Worship - back of bulletin
 Opening Prayer - back of bulletin
 Congregational Singing
 Confession & Assurance - bulletin insert
 First Fruits Offering
 Business of the Community of Faith
 Children's Time
 Sermon Scripture - John 4:1-42
 Sermon: "The Living Water"
 Song of Response
 Sharing of Testimony and Concerns, Prayer
 Parting Song
 Sending & Postlude
 Dismissal

15 minutes of coffee/fellowship time

10:45 a.m. Sunday School

Toddler Room Staff during Worship Service:

Today: Rebecca & Tom Miller

Next Sunday: Bev Swartzentruber & Jenna Boller

Toddler Room Staff during Sunday School:

March: Beth Swartzendruber & Elvesta Hochstedler

April: Derek & Nici Bontrager

For Parents/Caregivers of Young Children:

The Nursery Rooms at the back of the church (located to the right as you enter the sanctuary) are available as quiet rooms for infants during the worship service. This area is not staffed during the worship service, but is staffed during the Sunday School hour. If you have a "noisy" infant, we suggest you take the child to the Toddler Room (room #47 up the back hallway). This room is also available for children (up to 3 years of age) for play during the worship service and is staffed during both the worship service (after the opening songs) and Sunday School hour.

PRAYER REMINDERS

Pleasantview Home Residents: Eldon & Dorothy Rhodes

Pray for Frank & Mary Hochstetler as their changing health conditions have required them to move to Pleasantview.

College Students: Emily Higdon, Anya Slabaugh, Vince Kurtz

We intercede to God on behalf of East Union brothers and sisters who are lonely, grieving, in pain, need healing or employment, or are carrying heavy burdens.

From Last Week's Sharing: Chris Rhodes' nephew, Brent (life choices).

Global Concerns

Iglesia Centro Cristiano & Pastor Martha Hernandez

From Central Plains Conference: Pray for the Mennonite Camping Association meeting this week. Crooked Creek Christian Camp will host this annual gathering of Mennonite camp staffers which includes Swan Lake and Wilderness Wind camp staff.

Please keep Max & Gloria Villatoro and their family in your prayers in the coming weeks. Max and his attorney, Dan Vondra, will be appearing before a three-judge panel in St. Louis on April 16. This is a crucial meeting and may be Max's last chance for obtaining permanent legal status in the US.

From Mennonite Mission Network: Pray for opportunities for Mennonite Mission Network's Brian & Kelly McPhail to share Jesus' love with their students in China where they serve through Mennonite Partners in China.

Phone Numbers

Jeff Swartzentruber: 656-4542 Paulette Hershberger: 656-3208
Lauralee Kauffman: 354-3304 Sonya Kurtz: 585-831-6722
Larry Detweiler: 828-4461

Sonya’s office hours: Tuesday - Friday mornings (afternoon by appt.)
You can reach her at the church number during those times, at her cell phone number at other times, or via email sonyakurtz@gmail.com.

Attendance Last Sunday:	
Morning Worship: 141	Sunday School: 125
Giving through 3.16.14	
March 16 Giving	\$ 4,845.00
Year-to-Date Giving	\$ 62,067.00
Average Weekly Giving Needed:	\$ 6,082.93

Bulletin announcements should be in the office by 9:30 a.m. on Fridays.
E-mail address for bulletin announcements: eucares@kctc.net

THIS WEEK’S ACTIVITIES

Today, Sunday, March 23

- Women’s Bible Study, 3:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Save The Date!! Ladies, jot down the evening of April 30 in your calendars for the Annual Spring Women’s Banquet. More info to come!

Summer Sunday School Teachers Needed!! Please see the sign-up sheet in the foyer or ask Carrie or Sarah for details.

Interviews with the Roadmap Listening Group: On Saturday, April 5, Tim Detweiler, Central Plains Conference Minister, and a listening group from outside East Union will be available from 9am - 4pm for personal and couple interviews. These timeslots will give you a voice into the Roadmap process for our time with Firman Gingerich. Sign-up sheets for those timeslots are on the table outside the library. Contact an Elder if you have questions.

Roadmap Survey Documents: Survey documents were placed in your mailboxes last Sunday. These will help us develop the priorities for our time with our Transitional Pastor, Firman Gingerich. The cover letter also gives instructions. Please complete and return them to the box marked “Roadmap Surveys” under the mailboxes by TODAY. Contact an Elder if you have questions.

Crowded Closet News: A baby quilt has been set up on the sales floor. If you enjoy quilting, bring a quilter friend and consider coming to work on the quilt for as long a time as you wish. The quilt will be given to a lucky customer.

CHOW will next meet on Wednesday, April 2. Mike Zahs, a great historian and story-teller, will share his 120-year-old movies and magic lantern slides with us. This is made possible by a grant from Humanities of Iowa. Supper will be served from 6:00 - 6:30, with activities for all ages beginning at 6:45.

Volunteer Bus Drivers: Pleasantview Home is looking for persons with a “passenger CDL” driver’s license. They will be driving primarily for Independent Living residents in the Village and some for the nursing residents, and will get the privilege of enjoying the company of the residents. Please contact Becky Yoder at Pleasantview at 656-2421 if you are interested.

The finished quilt hanging in the back of the sanctuary is the one East Union has made and is giving to Jay & Sonia as a “Thank You” in appreciation of their years of service to our congregation. The quilt was pieced by Leola White and quilted at Mennonite Women Sewing, and several extra afternoons of quilting with many putting in stitches. Thank you to all!

The search committee for the new principal at Iowa Mennonite School has continued to meet, work, and pray every month. We have been reviewing resumes and are in the process of planning interviews with candidates. There is much work that goes into this process, but it is also exciting. We are confident that God is working in our midst and will bring about the right person in the right time for our school. We ask for your prayers as we continue our work and for IMS as it continues its mission in our community.

The IMS Culinary Arts Class will again be serving meals in the lobby outside Celebration Hall. United Café, featuring regional food of the United States, will be open March 26 (Pacific Hawaiian), April 2 (Western US), and April 23 (Southern US). Serving will begin at 8:30 a.m., and the cost is \$8 per person. Reservations are required and seating is limited; please call the office at 656-2073 or 683-2586. Raneé Brokaw instructs the class.

A night of Southern Gospel Music! The Inspirations will be in concert with the Bontrager Family Singers on Saturday, April 12 at 6:30 p.m. at Fairview Mennonite Church. No tickets are required, a love offering will be taken. All are invited to attend!

A note from the Everence office in Kalona:

We at the Everence office would like to thank Norman Schrock for the time and effort it took to become a Three-Star Everence Advocate this year. Norman was successful in helping members of your congregation become aware of happenings and services with Everence. As part of this effort, Sharing Fund matching grants of \$2,450 were used to help three persons in need of financial assistance. Everence matching grants provided more than \$900,000 nationally to help people in need last year. Sharing Fund grants are made possible by members who use Everence services for their insurance and investment needs - Connecting Faith and Financial Decisions. Because of the organization's unique tax status, money that would be paid in various taxes is distributed instead through mutual aid, including the Sharing Fund. The fund's resources also come from donors and Everence staff contributions, sending contributions directly to the Sharing Fund. Everence offers banking, insurance, and financial services with community benefits and stewardship education. Everence is a ministry of Mennonite Church USA and other churches.

Confessing Our Sin

Leader: When will this journey be over?
Where is the end of all our traveling?
How long will we wander, thirsty and hungry,
strangers in a strange land?
Deliver us, Lord, from our misery.
You have said that you will give us water that flows from the rock;
that you will quench our thirst,
that never again will our souls be parched.
But we do not listen to your voice.
We ignore what we see around us, the evidence of your gift;
asking for new signs, we demand proof of your grace.
We harden our hearts against you;
we draw from wells that run dry;
we sip on that which does not satisfy.
Lord, hear our prayer. [Silence]

Claiming Our Assurance

***All: You have met us at the well
and offered us a spring of water gushing to eternal life.
Now we have heard for ourselves
and we know that you are truly the Savior of the world.***