

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 30, 2014	No. 13
-----------	----------------	--------

Worship Leader:	Marvin & Betsy Slabaugh
Sermon:	Sonya Stauffer Kurtz
Pre-Service, Offertory, Postlude:	Nici Bontrager
Congregational Singing:	Steve Groenewold & Quartet
Children's Time	Don & Verna Zook, Henry & 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 9:1-41
 Sermon: "Come and Be Light For Our Eyes"
 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: Bev Swartzentruber & Jenna Boller

Next Sunday: Wanda Yoder & Avery Blauvelt

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: Edith Boese, Dorothy Helmut
 Pray for Frank & Mary Hochstetler as their changing health conditions have required them to move to Pleasantview.

College Students: Justin Boller, Rebecca Rhodes, Laura Stoltzfus
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: Tammy Yoder's mom (heart issues)

Global Concerns

Iglesia Centro Cristiano & Pastor Martha Hernandez

From Central Plains Conference: The Ecuador Partnership invites you to pray for Mennonite brothers and sisters in Venezuela who are experiencing high inflation and insecurities about the safety of their families due to the political situation there.

From Mennonite Mission Network: Mennonite Mission Network requests prayers of protection for members of the Colombia Mennonite Church as they engage in human rights ministry and provide support for displaced people.

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.

We welcome Crystal Wade as our Office Manager! Her office hours will be 8:30 - 5:30, Tuesday and Wednesday, and 8:30 - 12:30 Friday. She can be contacted in the office via phone, email (eucares@kctc.net), or via the Office Manager mailbox.

Attendance Last Sunday:	
Morning Worship: 157	Sunday School: 119
Giving through 3.23.14	
March 23 Giving	\$ 8,926.00
Year-to-Date Giving	\$ 70,993.00
Average Weekly Giving Needed:	\$ 6,010.03

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 30

- The IMS Touring Choir will present a program of music at Wellman Mennonite Church at 6:00 p.m. All are invited to hear the 19-voice choir, comprised of junior and senior women, under the direction of Josh Tyson.

Tuesday, April 1

- Iowa Mennonite School is hosting an evening of information for interested 8th grade students and parents at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be in Celebration Hall and will include an information session, a chance to meet teachers, and hear from current students and parents. Please contact Candi Schmieder at the school for more information.

Wednesday, April 2

- CHOW will meet, with supper from 6-6:30 and activities for all ages beginning at 6:45. 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.

Saturday, April 5 & Sunday, April 6

- IMS students will perform "Boring, BORING Book Bop" and "Put Your Pants On!" at 7:00 p.m. (Saturday) and 2:00 p.m. (Sunday) in this year's Children's Drama performances. Mary Forney directs the 28 students in this hour of ridiculousness aimed at the whole family. Admission is by donation only, benefitting the IMS drama department.

Women's Banquet Tickets: Reserve your seat for "When Friends Gather for Tea" April 30 at 6:30 p.m. at East Union. Tickets, at a cost of \$8, will be available from Elvesta Hochstetler or Janet Geyer at CHOW (April 2) and each Sunday through April 13. We encourage you to bring a friend!

Tickets are still available for the Steel Wheels' performance at IMS on April 29 (7:00 p.m.). Please call to reserve your seats; they are available at \$15 for adults and \$12 for students.

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 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 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!

You are invited to join West Union Mennonite Church on Thursday, April 10 at 7:00 p.m. for an evening of choral worship given by the Christopher Dock Mennonite High School choir from Lansdale, PA. They are traveling to the Mennonite High School Music Festival in Freeman, SD and are being hosted by West Union en route.

The Annual BBQ Pork Dinner fundraiser for ministry expenses of CrossWorks Youth Ministries will be April 13 from 11:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m. at Upper Deer Creek Church. Cost is on a donation basis.

Youth and youth sponsors, mark your calendars now to come to Youth Escape August 1-3! You can look forward to worship music led by Jeremy Kempf, having fun getting to know other Central Plains youth, and deepening your connection to Jesus and the church. If you are interested in helping with the planning, please contact Shana at (319) 936-5906 or shanaboshart@gmail.com.

Confessing Our Sin

Leader: We walk in the vale of death's shadow.
Our deeds are unjust and bear no fruit.
Our disobediences are secret, hidden from sight.
Darkness lies over your land and your people stumble.
Our hearts are beating but only for ourselves.
We have only pity for those who have less.
We have only anger at those who have more.
We cannot spare compassion for those with whom we disagree.
Our eyes are open but we cannot see.
We are blind to the neighbor beside us.
Unwilling to look on those different from us.
Refusing to lift our gaze beyond the ground at our feet.
We anoint the unworthy.
We put our hope in the surface of things.
We doubt and question those who speak truth.
We blame others for what we cannot see.
Lord, hear our prayer. [Silence]

Words of Assurance

All: *The Lord is our shepherd,
We shall not want.
In grass meadows, the Lord makes us lie down,
by quiet waters guides us.
Our life the Lord brings back.
The Lord leads us on pathways of justice.
Though we walk in the vale of death's shadow,
We fear no harm,
for you are with us.
Your rod and your staff—
it is they that console us.
You set out a table before us
in the face of our foes.
You moisten our heads with oil,
our cup overflows.*

In an effort to improve our offering money handling procedures, please write the donation amount on the outside of your envelope (for those of you using the envelope system). Thanks!

The Family of Cleo Dickel wishes to thank you for all the prayers, cards, visits, and acts of kindness during the illness and death of our husband, father, and grandfather.

First Mennonite Church of Iowa City will be offering GriefShare, a 13-week discussion/support group for persons who have lost a loved one on Tuesdays, from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m., beginning on April 15. Each session will begin with a video, followed by group discussion of the topic. Each participant will receive a workbook to use during the week. Topics to be covered include: living with grief, the journey of grief, the effects of grief, your family and grief, why?, the uniqueness of grief, when your family member or spouse dies, God's prescription for grief, feelings of guilt and forgiveness, stuck in grief, top twenty lessons of grief, and heaven. If you are interested in attending, or would like more information, please contact either Marian Schwabbauer (319-466-3094) or Marilyn Rose (319-887-5285), facilitators, or go to www.griefshare.org. Please pass this information along to any family members, friends, or neighbors who might wish to attend.

Supplies Needed for Mission Trip! Aimee Moberly and the rest of the team traveling to Sierra Leone, Africa, this May on their mission trip are currently collecting supplies to take along! If you're interested in donating any of the following items, please get them to Lisa or Greg Schmidt, and if you have any questions email Aimee at aimeembrly@yahoo.com or ask Lisa. Collected items: diapers (sz 1, 2, and 6 are most needed), wipes, baby shampoo, diaper rash cream, diaper rash ointment, clothes (18 mo. to 2T, shorts and t-shirts preferred), and twin size sheets. All donations are welcome and greatly appreciated. Thank you for your continued support as the team prepares for the trip!

MCC Central States is currently recruiting for a "Young Adult Program Coordinator" position. This is a full-time position, working with the young adult programs for Central States, as well as leadership development. The location is open within the Central States region, with a preference for an urban setting. Persons interested can send a letter of intent and resume to Melissa Waltner (melissawaltner@mcc.org). You can view the job description at <http://serve.mcc.org/positions/young-adult-program-coordinator-cs>.

French Toast Benefit Breakfast: You are invited to a French Toast Breakfast on Saturday, April 12 to benefit the non-profit group Heifer International, from 6:30 - 10:30 a.m. at Kalona Mennonite Church. Come join us as we raise money to send an "ark" of animals to people living in poverty all over the world. The menu will include French Toast, scrambled eggs, sausage, and homemade rolls. There will be a free-will donation and carry outs are available. Call Trent and Tammy Yoder (656-3743) with any questions.

Leola White is Turning 90!! Come help us celebrate Leola White's 90th birthday at an Open House on Sunday, April 6 from 2-4 p.m. in the Pleasantview Friendship Center.