

**THE SECOND
CENTURY
CHRONICLE**



June 2014

EAST UNION MENNONITE CHURCH

Vol. XXIV

No. 2

From the Pastor's Desk:

Are you old enough to remember the book *Journey Inward, Journey Outward* by Elizabeth O'Connor of the Church of the Savior in Washington, DC? Her basic premise, that individuals and congregations need to tend their inner journey with God and each other, and also tend their outward journey of service to their community, continues to resonate with me. The interesting things going on at East Union in the near future remind me that healthy congregations spend time looking both inward and outward. We will have opportunities to do both of those things in the coming months as we walk together into the future God has for us.

First of all, we will hear from Tim Detweiler on Sunday morning, June 8, during the Sunday School hour about the "Roadmap" for us to follow with Firman Gingerich when he joins us soon as our transitional interim pastor. Tim and three other listeners from Central Plains conference spent a full Saturday hearing our concerns and hopes for the future of this congregation. Tim has thoughtfully summarized those comments and, based on the congregation's input, crafted some recommendations for Firman and East Union to work on together during the coming interim time.

You will find copies of the Roadmap Assessment report in your mailboxes this week. Join us during the Sunday School hour on June 8 to hear Tim present about the Roadmap and get our feedback.

Vacation Bible School gives us an opportunity to reach out into the community at the same time we help educate our children about God's love and care. If you aren't teaching, please pray for teachers, staff and students as they work and learn together June 20 and 21. We look forward to hearing about VBS during worship time on Sunday, June 22.

At the same time as Bible School, Central Plains conference has its annual meeting just one hour south of us at Iowa Wesleyan College in Mt Pleasant. Jewel Gingerich Longenecker (a Kalona native and IMS grad, whose parents and brother are buried in our cemetery) will speak on being formed by God's Word. Her messages include: 'Starving for Your Word', 'Called to Teach so that All Might Feast', and 'Formed to Teach, Formed to Lead'.

Along with delegate sessions, there are also workshops on topics ranging from the Ecuador Partnership to Social Media and the Church. Check the bulletin board outside the library for the weekend schedule and a list of workshop offerings. See Crystal in the church office for a registration form if you plan to attend.

Meanwhile, Gifts Discernment Committee may be tapping you on the shoulder soon to fill one job or another in the church. If you are asked, please prayerfully consider saying "yes!" Requests to serve mean that a number of people have discerned that you have the gifts and graces, as they say in some churches, to fill a particular role.

Prayer for all of these changes is always needed! If you think you can't participate much in the life of the church - don't underestimate how important your prayers are! We solicit your prayers for times of transition, for gifts discernment and for Firman and Susan as they are making their way westward to their new home among us next month.

**Grace and Peace,
Sonya Stauffer Kurtz**

Our History



~ 60 years ago: 1954 ~

June 6 – The Summer Vacation Bible School Program will be Friday evening at 8 o'clock. Interest and attendance has been very good. Enrollment is 124.

June 20 – The marriage of Paul Hochstetler and Ila Roth and Leo Hochstetler and Lois Miller will be solemnized here at the church this afternoon at 2 o'clock. The public is invited.

June 27 – The Goodwill Sewing will meet on Wednesday, June 30. The project will be sewing kits for relief.

~ 50 years ago: 1964 ~

June 14 – Busy Bees will meet at the church Monday evening at 7 o'clock. We'll be making party hats for the Hospital School for Handicapped children in Iowa City.

June 25 – Fifty-five new students registered at IMS on June 8. Freshmen and transfers who have not yet registered may do so Wednesday, July 1.

~ 40 years ago: 1974 ~

June 2 – MYF meet at the church Tuesday night at 6:30 p.m. to wash windows. There will be a weiner roast following at Nelson Miller's. Bring buckets and rags.

June 9 – The *Missionary Challenge* is here. Get your copy today.

June 23 – Jerome Graber from Indiana will show slides of the Berlin Wall on Tuesday evening 7:45 o'clock at IMS.

~ 30 years ago: 1984 ~

June 3 – Congratulations to Doyle Geyer and Janet Erb who were married in a service at the church yesterday afternoon.

June 24 – J. Paul and Velma Yoder are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary this afternoon from 2-4:30 pm in the church Fellowship Hall. You are invited to share in this.

Mennonite Women meeting Tuesday, June 3, 2014.

Surprising Witness: The Samaritan Woman.

Scripture: John 4:1-42.

Devotional leader: Verna Zook;
Project: Sewing Kits; Sack lunch.

*Prayer is asking for rain,
Faith is carrying an umbrella.*



Dad

God took the strength of a mountain,
The majesty of a tree,
The warmth of a summer sun,
The calm of a quiet sea,
The generous soul of nature,
The comforting arm of night,
The wisdom of the ages,
The power of the eagle's flight,
The joy of a morning in spring,
The faith of a mustard seed,
The patience of eternity,
The depth of a family need,
Then God combined these qualities,
When there was nothing more to add,
He knew His masterpiece was complete

And so, He called it....Dad

- Author Unknown



EAST UNION MENNONITE CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

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Are you ready for a weekend of fun in the sun while learning about God's love? This year's theme for Bible School is *SonTreasure Island: God's Love is a Treasure*. We will be following the treasure map to learn about God's love through I Corinthians 13. We will watch as Marty and Gilligan are stranded on a desert island and use a map to follow clues to find the buried treasure. Children will be listening to Bible stories, doing crafts, playing games outside, and singing songs to learn more about the awesome love of God. We will also be collecting an offering for the tropical island of Haiti to give to Mennonite Central Committee.

Bible School will be on Friday June 20 from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. with registration starting at 12:30 and Saturday June 21 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m for Children age 3 to grade 6. There will be a Sunday morning program to share some of the songs and what we learned throughout the week. Children and staff will be given supper on Friday and lunch on Saturday. It will be a great weekend so invite your friends!

Please RSVP by JUNE 10th to CAMP EAST UNION: eunionvbs@gmail.com (or mail a letter to East Union Mennonite Church Attn: VBS, PO Box 760, Kalona IA 52247) so appropriate food and materials are ordered! Hope to see you there!!

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer contact Jill Lundberg, Tammy Yoder, or Emily Miller.

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July deadline is June 22, 2014. All contributions are welcome.

BIBLE WORD SEARCH!

BASIC WORDS OF THE BIBLE

G	E	N	T	I	L	E	B	I	B	L	E	D
O	B	A	A	B	R	T	J	E	M	D	I	I
D	P	I	I	E	S	I	M	N	I	P	B	N
T	E	M	P	T	A	T	I	O	N	J	A	H
H	R	P	S	H	L	H	R	P	I	E	P	O
E	S	R	A	L	V	E	A	N	S	R	T	L
F	E	A	C	E	A	H	C	A	T	U	I	Y
A	C	Y	R	H	T	O	L	Z	R	S	Z	S
T	U	E	I	E	I	L	E	A	Y	A	E	P
H	T	I	F	M	O	Y	J	R	H	L	N	I
E	E	S	I	N	N	A	J	E	W	E	H	R
R	W	E	C	L	F	A	I	T	H	M	L	I
B	S	J	E	S	U	S	C	H	R	I	S	T

JESUS CHRIST	PRAY	MIRACLE
SALVATION	TITHE	NAZARETH
JEW	MINISTRY	BETHLEHEM
GENTILE	BIBLE	JERUSALEM
HOLY SPIRIT	HOLY	BAPTIZE
GOD THE FATHER	SACRIFICE	TEMPTATION
PERSECUTE	FAITH	SIN

CREATED BY MELINDA SKAGGS