KALEID SCOPE

BETHEL COLLEGE MENNONITE CHURCH

February — March 2013 7:1

-

What's Happening in the Library?



As one walks into the sanctuary, one cannot help but notice the tables of books set up in the back. Are these books from our library? What is happening? We asked Norma Johnson, library chair, to tell us. Her story follows. She gave us the names of a few people who frequently use the library. Let's take a look at what kind of books members of BCMC are reading.

- Jake Goering is interested in books related to the conscious and unconscious element, such as people who are unaware of what is stored in our memory. He is also interested in books that explore the conflict between science and religion.
- Monica Gross leans to reading novels and biographies. She likes novels that have an underlying purpose. She sometimes reads books

Bethel College Mennonite Church

that have a political leaning.

• Willis Harder was too busy for 50 years to read, so is enjoying catching up on his reading. He enjoys biographies and autobiographies, and started on the north side of the library checking out books (not every book, but the bios

of interest). He has read about 40 during the past year.

- Keith and Susan Rhoades love to read, and Keith leans toward historical and historical fiction books, while Susan wants to read current books just joining the library shelves.
- Brenda Turner has much enjoyed the quilting stories, the Amish books, books that may have some element of mystery, but tell of daily life, friendships.
- Among young people, Mark Kreider checks out books frequently.

While the number of children checking out books has dropped dramatically, several of our young people use the library extensively—Anne Koontz, daughter of Nathan and Esther and Maddox Crabtree, son of Nancy Mueller and grandson of Jim and Melanie Mueller.

Here's what Norma J. Johnson, chair of the Library Committee, has to say about tabulations and the history of BCMC's library.

"Where is the card catalog? Computer programs streamlined the process of processing books and the card catalog became obsolete.

Why is the *And When* they Shall Ask video not available? VHS videos were replaced and this title is on DVD. CDs replaced cassette tapes.

What is the need for culling books? New books are added and shelf space was getting full. If a book hadn't been checked out for 10 years it was probably culled.

How much is the library used? Records are kept of the number of items checked out rather than how many people used the library.

Interesting book facts are: highest and lowest number according to age groups.

- Adult: 1,088 in 2010, 717 in 2001
- Junior: 191 in 1994, 13 in 2010
- Easy: 885 in 1994, 117 in 2007

The highest number of all library items, including AV's was 1,824 in 1994 and the lowest was 1,085 in 2002. In 2011, 1,252 items were checked out.

Change is a part of life and our library is no exception. We'll help you find a book by using the library's computer work station. It's not possible to meet all the needs of the congregation. Large print books won't be added nor will we add digital/e-books. We believe the library has a lot to offer. To use a phrase from my mother, we are 'humbly proud' of our BCMC library."

~ Karen Penner



Janet Stucky Prepares for Service in Ethiopia



Plans for Janet Stucky to leave Kansas for service in Ethiopia with Mennonite Mission Network are developing as a potential beginning date of

March/April 2013 draws closer.

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316-283-3667 office.bcmc@sbcglobal.net web: bcmc.ks.us.mennonite.net Editorial committee: Karen Penner, Lois Goertzen,

2600 College Ave., P.O. Box 364, North Newton, KS 67117

Editorial committee: Karen Penner, Lois Goertzen, Ruth R. Harder and Monica Lichti

BCMC Kaleidoscope

Janet Stucky continued

The Ministry Support Team (MST), made up of BCMC members and friends of Janet, has been fundraising and spreading the word about Janet's service as a nutritionist with the Relief and Development Association of the Meserete Kristos Church—an indigenous church in Ethiopia composed of over 990 congregations, 800+ church planting centers and a total membership of nearly 400,000. The MST goal of fully funding Janet's two-year term is \$62,000 and over \$42,000 has already been raised or committed including the BCMC Witness Commission's support of \$5,000 per year.

Thank you, also, to the many individuals who have committed themselves to prayer and financial support for Janet's service term. If anyone has questions or needs information, please contact MST chair, Dorothy Nickel Friesen (dorothynf@cox.net). Contributions should be sent to Mennonite Mission Network, 718 N. Main St., Newton, KS 67114 with "Stucky-Ethiopia" in the memo line. ~ *Dorothy Nickel Friesen*

Frank Stucky in Africa

Here are a few excerpts from a letter received from Frank Stucky following his return to Kansas from a December trip to Africa.

"Visiting Burkina Faso to determine the viability of building a secondary school in Kanougou and laying some ground work for this project turned out to be a positive experience. These people are poor by material standards, but rich in family, pride, dignity and respect for each other. The reception received by the six chiefs and villagers of the areas surrounding Kanougou will never be forgotten. I was shown the land that was given to build the school on and they killed chickens for the feast after the ceremonies. Following was a visit to Kenya where I helped launch the new scholarship program and view the work being done by a foundation that daughter Vanessa started during her Peace Corps years. Ruby's Library project is small but well used and the soapstone plaque they have for her there is moving."

~ Submitted by Lois Goertzen



Kenya ↑

Burkina Faso J



Witness Commission and Bethel College Students for Social Change



Pictured here: Attending the January BCMC Witness Commission meeting were Joseph Kondziola, Elizabeth Akins, Olivia Gehring, (Gustavo Palacios also attended, but is not pictured) members of Students for Social change, a Bethel College student club, Caleb Lazaro, Bethel College multicultural advisor and Valetta Seymour, member of the BCMC Witness Commission. Thanks in part to funding provided out of the Witness Commission annual budget, these students were among the 13 Bethel students who attended the School of Americas Watch November 16-18 in Fort Benning, GA. Dwight Krehbiel,

Witness Commission member, summarized the joint discussion in this way: "The students reported having had experiences that were both highly informative and very moving, including numerous presentations about the School of the Americas (now called 'Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation') and many opportunities to share with others who had common interests and concerns. They truly seemed to have benefited greatly in an intellectual as well as a spiritual sense. They responded to many questions from Witness Commission members and expressed their gratitude for the support provided by BCMC."



11 BCMCers participated in the January 2-23, 2013 Jerusalem Seminar co-led by Patty Shelly, professor of Bible and Religion at Bethel College and Doug Miller, professor of Biblical and Religious Studies at Tabor College. Pictured here are front row: Lou Gomez, Leah Bartel and Ben Kreider. Back row: Patty Shelly, Elizabeth Raid, Lotti Boschmann, Harald Boschmann, Howard and Marilyn Schmidt, Jim and Lois Brubacher. A note from Patty Shelly: "There are now 22 people who are currently members at BCMC who have been part of the Jerusalem Seminar in the past 27 years. (This does not include me). Included in this list are a number of former (or current) pastors of our congregation: John and Bernice Esau, Dotty (and Heinz) Janzen, Norma Preheim, Heidi and David Kreider."

BCMC Kaleidoscope 2 February-March 2013

Happy 80th Birthday Marlin Frey!



Marlin Frey was the third child born to Ed and Augusta (Neufeld)Frey, March 14, 1933. Ray and Earla preceded Marlin

and Nila followed. The family lived a mile north of the Tabor Church. Marlin recalls helping his father, custodian at Tabor Church, shovel coal into the furnace while preparing the fire on Saturday and then stoking it up on Sunday morning. He clearly remembers the white gloves his father wore to check for dust on the pews! Marlin attended grades 1-8 at the Greenfield country school. A fond memory is when the boys drove their young teacher's car around the playground. He was baptized into the Tabor Mennonite church, recalling Pastor H. B. Schmidt preaching in English and Pastor Rickert in German. High school years were in Goessel where he enioved plaving basketball until the summer before his senior year. He recalls feeling very tired, and then not being able to use his right leg. Unfortunately, he had contracted polio. He received "Sister-Kenny-Treatments," which consisted of hot wool packs wrapped around his leg. He used a brace for several years and an ankle surgery helped to add strength. Marlin attended Bethel College, graduating in 1958 with a degree in elementary education/manual training; learning not only how to teach but also woodworking and electrical skills. It was at Bethel College that he became acquainted with two particularly significant people; Deane Dreier, whom he married in 1957,

and Horton Flaming, a fellow polio victim. Marlin and good friend Horton were exposed to the stigma of being "crips" associated with their handicap. However, this did not deter either of them, he notes with satisfaction! After two years of college he obtained a certificate to teach and began work with sixth graders in Park City, KS. Next he taught one year of elementary school in Hesston, KS, before being promoted to Principal. In 1961 he received a Master's Degree in Administration from Emporia State and from 1965-94 he was Elementary Principal for the Newton school district. Marlin was instrumental in starting the GED, Alternative High School, and Adult Education programs. Over these years, Marlin and Deane raised their children, Gary and Kim, and enjoyed many family outings. Special memories are associated with the "Beaver-Bunch." This bunch consisted of several family units who gathered at Beaver Lake for sailing, skiing, and lots of family fun and games. Marlin tells how he built a boat, and because of cold weather he needed to glue the keel in the family living room. Another fond memory is associated with his part in getting Santa Claus pulled into Hesston Elementary school... one year with two ponies then another year with his little Fiat! Upon retirement Marlin and Deane volunteered with roofing and building projects in Texas and North Carolina with SOW-ER. "Servants on Wheels Ever Ready." These days, four beloved grandchildren grace their lives. As members of BCMC, Marlin and Deane have found much joy in serving with the Sojourners Sunday School class. Marlin sang with the Kansas Mennonite Men's Chorus for years. "I must tell Jesus," was a favorite song. Marlin, God has richly blessed you with eighty years of full life. Many other lives have been enriched by your faithful use of talent and creativity. Thanks be to God! ~ Susan Wheeler

Happy 80th Birthday Alison Hiebert!



Alvin and Annie (Sawatzky) Deckert welcomed a daughter, Alison on Mar. 31, 1933. She was born on

the family farm near Richey, Montana, and grew up along with brothers Kenneth and Marion (who are also BCMC members) as "one of the gang" joining in farm chores and exploring the out-of-doors. She remembers her mother providing each child with a small section of garden to nurture, and her father's appreciation for the land: roots of her lifelong love of the natural environment. Alison and her family attended Bethlehem Mennonite Church, where she took catechism and was baptized. When Alison's family out-grew their small farm house they moved to a house in town. She began elementary school at the country school, then graduated from high school in Richey. A sad event for her at age 13 was the death of her best childhood girlfriend.

Alison attended Bethel College and graduated in 1955, majoring in English with Honora Becker as a favorite professor. During college she worked as a secretary for Erland Waltner in the Bible and religion department. It was at Bethel that Alison met Harvey Hiebert; they were married

two years later, after she did a year of voluntary service in Newfoundland, and taught at a one-room school for a year back home in Montana. They lived for three years in North Newton (where daughter Jennifer was born), and then at Indiana University where Harvey attended graduate school and Alison enjoyed meeting students in her work as a medical records clerk in university health services. After several years in Lawrence, KS, (where daughter Greta was born) they moved to Bluffton, OH, for Harvey's work in the College library. Alison filled her time with homemaking, gardening, involvement at First Mennonite Church, and pursuing her interest in plants and birds, including activities with botanist Maurice Kaufmann and naturalist Roy Henry.

In 1997 Alison and Harvey moved to North Newton and joined BCMC. Living here allowed Alison to be present with her mother in the final years of her life at Kidron Bethel Village, and close to grandchildren. In addition to family activities, Alison enjoys gardening, reading, family history, participating in the Bible Study Sunday school class and Social Committee at BCMC, and attending musical events with Harvey.

Alison cites 1 Thessalonians 4:11 as a fitting expression of her life: Let it be your ambition to keep calm and look after your own business, and to work with your hands. On Alison's 80th birthday, we give thanks for the creative and nurturing work of her hands, her curiosity about the natural world, and the way her life reminds us of our spiritual connection with the earth and all its creatures.

~ Heidi Regier Kreider

Obituaries

Effie M. Schmidt Koppes October 10, 1914 — December 10, 2012

Effie Myrtle Koppes, 98, of North Newton, died Monday (Dec. 10, 2012) at Asbury Park in Newton.

Her father's family immigrated to the United States in 1874 when he was four years old. They settled in the Pawnee Rock, Kansas area. That is where she was born on October 10, 1914, the daughter of John J. and Effie Wedel Schmidt. Effie graduated from Pawnee Rock High School in 1934. She came to Bethel College in 1937 where she would receive her teaching certificate. Effie taught for two years at a Country School in Barton County and taught Second Grade in Burlington, KS, for two years. While attending Bethel College, she met Clinton Koppes. They were married on July 16, 1944 at the Bethel College Mennonite Church. They moved to Lincoln, Nebraska to live until returning to North Newton in 1946.

Effie was very active at the Bethel College Mennonite Church where she taught Sunday School and Bible School. For 26 years she was the Accounting Clerk at the Mennonite Press.

Survivors include her husband Clinton of the home in North Newton; sons Duane of Newton and Clayton of Cleveland, Ohio; daughter Barbara Beal of Glen Carbon, Ill., and granddaughter Kathryn Preuss of Bloomington, Indiana. Effie was preceded in death by her parents; three brothers Anton, Glen and John Schmidt; and two sisters Clara Deckert and Arpha Kliver.

Funeral services were Dec. 14, 2012 at the Broadway Colonial Funeral Home in Newton. Interment will be in the Greenwood Cemetery. A memorial has been established with Bethel College Mennonite Church.



Gladys Irene Dester Regier April 10, 1926 – January 8, 2013

Gladys Irene Dester was born April 10, 1926, and died January 8, 2013, at Kidron/Bethel Village due to complications of congestive heart failure. She was born to Emil and Edna (Wicke) Dester at their farm home two miles south of Deer Creek, Oklahoma. Gladys had older brothers Marvin and Wilbur and younger brothers Eugene, Delbert and James. A sister, Margaret, had died at birth and another brother died at age five. Gladys was the only girl among five brothers. The family, including Gladys, were members of the Deer Creek Mennonite Church.

Gladys had her grade school and high school in the Deer Creek public schools and went on to Bethel College, graduating in 1948. She had a biology major and minors in English and Physical Education. Gladys taught for two years in Caldwell High School. In 1950 she married Raymond Regier who she met at Bethel. Gladys and Raymond lived on neighbor, a colleague in community and church activities, a gracious hostess. Born to peo ple who sought to follow God leading and to bring good things from the earth, she walked forward with her keen mind, her sense of grace and beauty, and her willing hands and heart to make her own contributions to the common good. Many people will miss

Funeral services were Dec. 14, the Regier family farm south-2012 at the Broadway Colonial west of Moundridge where Funeral Home in Newton. Interment will be in the Greentrice, Bruce and Christine.

> While living on the farm Gladys was busy. She taught at the Cloverleaf Grade School for two years and did some substitute teaching. She was active in Extension work, especially EHU; as a child she had been an active 4-H club member and when her children were in 4-H, she was an active leader. She joined the Hebron Mennonite Church where she took her turns as librarian. Sunday School teacher, and was active in the women's group. After retiring to North Newton she joined the Bethel College Mennonite Church where she continued her activities with the quilting group and as librarian. Gladys loved to sew, quilt and do gardening. She was involved in the organization of the Newton Et Cetera shop and volunteered there until her health deteriorated.

Mourning her death in addition to her husband, are Patrice and her husband James Krause, Bruce and his wife, Sarah, Christine and her husband Bruce Toews, three grand -daughters, Angelica Regier, Chelsea Toews and Alexa Toews, and three greatgrandchildren, Skye, Jayden and Jasmine. Over the years, people have known Gladys as a daughter, a sister, a cousin, a friend, a student, a teacher, a wife, a mother, a 4-H leader, a neighbor, a colleague in community and church activities, a gracious hostess. Born to people who sought to follow God's leading and to bring good things from the earth, she walked forward with her keen mind, her sense of grace and and heart to make her own contributions to the common good. Many people will miss

her, and will feel gratitude for her life.



Emry Arthur Ruth May 10, 1916—January 15, 2013

Emry Arthur Ruth was born to Homer G. and Lydia (Krehbiel) Ruth on May 10, 1916, at the home farm in rural Moundridge. The family moved from the farm to LaJunta, CO, in 1920, and back to Kansas in 1924 because of crop failures three years in a row. Emry was baptized in 1931 in the Garden Township Mennonite Church. Emry attended public schools in Harvey County, KS and LaJunta, CO, and graduated from Moundridge High School in 1934. His scholastic achievements included spelling awards as well as academic excellence through his school years. After high school Emry attended Findlay Engineering College in Kansas City, MO, where he took electrical training, automotive training, and a course in drafting. Emry married Fern Pankratz in 1941 and moved to a farm near Brookville, KS. In 1943 they moved to Sedgwick and farmed for several years before moving to Wichita in 1945. There Emry began his career as automotive repairman where he wound armatures and repaired starters and generators for Mitchell Battery and Electric, and later spent approximately fifteen years in auto-electric, tune-up and carburetor work with Chrysler and

Emry Ruth continued

General Motors dealerships. In 1964-66 Emry owned and operated Emry's Carburetor and Electric Service in Wichita, and in 1966 he went to work for Cowie Electric and specialized in carburetion and tune-up for fifteen years. Emry served as Service-Manager Assistant and Shop Foreman with British cars and Volvo at Continental Motors for two years and as Service Advisor and Dispatcher with American Motors Rambler for three years before retiring. He received special recognition from the national Institute of Automotive Service Excellence, Washington, DC, in electrical systems, heat and air conditioning and engine tuneup. In 1942 a daughter, Rachel was born to Emry and Fern at Brookville, and in 1944 a son Jay Raymond was born at Sedgwick. There are two grandsons, Samuel Kunio Poling and Benjamin Katsuhisa Poling, and two greatgrandchildren. Emry was active in the church choir and men's chorus at Lorraine Avenue Mennonite Church in Wichita, and also a member of the Newton Lions Club after retiring in North Newton. He enjoyed traveling over much of the United States, to Japan, and took several trips to Europe to ancestral homes in Switzerland, Germany and other points of interest. Emry was fond of good music and played flute and piccolo in the high school band and orchestra. He and Fern attended the Wichita Symphony regularly for a number of years. After retiring he reenrolled and attended classes at Wichita State University relating to history and current events. Emry and Fern moved to North Newton in 1985, and transferred membership to Bethel College Mennonite Church in 1987. Emry was preceded in death by his parents, his wife Fern (Pankratz) Ruth, and sister Elinor (Ruth) Ewy. He is survived by his sister Maxine (Ruth) and Orlando Fast, daughter Rachel (Ruth) Poling, Jay Raymond Ruth, grandchildren Samuel Kunio Poling and Benjamin Katsuhisa Poling, and two great-grandchildren.

Congratulations!



In late 2012 Carol Flickinger and South Breeze Elementary School received the KAKE TV Reading Caravan Award. The \$500 check accompanying the award was presented by Susan Peters of KAKE and Brian Walker from EMC Insurance who sponsors the gift. Carol who is librarian at the school, and the school principal were presented the check which is to be used to buy books for the library. In an interview with Carol, she said the money has already been used to buy more than 30 books for the school. A first grade parent nominated Carol and South Breeze for this honor. Congratulations, Carol, for doing a great job in helping educate some of the children of the Newton community. ~ Lois Goertzen

Pancake Extravaganza!

The third annual Bethel Interterm Pancake Extravaganza was Saturday, January 12, at 10:00 a.m. The Bethel College Relations Team and several other invited guests co-hosted this event for Bethel College students, faculty and staff. Special thanks to the Lehman family for donating syrup for this event! -Bethel College Relations Team members are Darlene Dick, Doug Siemens, Victoria Janzen, Cliff Dick, Frank Nachtigal and Ruth R. Harder. About 100 Bethel College students attended the event and 25 BCMC members.









Bethel students



Many thanks to our intrepid dishwashers Dave Kreider and Angus Siemens!

With Our Members

Welcome to New Members: Ron and Lois Preheim joined BCMC December 30, 2012. Ron and Lois transferred their membership from Bethesda Mennonite Church, Henderson, Nebraska.

Meet the Seekers Sunday school class

At one time some members of the Seekers Sunday School Class were part of the Fine Arts Lounge Class which met in the front of the art gallery at the Bethel College Fine Arts Center. Because this group became so large in the Fall of 1994 a new class was formed which became the present Seekers. Currently their membership is around 30 with an average of 20 attending Sunday mornings. Their meeting room is #21 on the second floor of the church where they meet around tables. Contact persons through the years have been Miner and Valetta Seymour, Duane and Liz Friesen, and currently Hugo and Mary Ann Boschmann. Class members take turns leading discussions and hosting invited speakers.

Reading and discussing books is a common theme. Some of the books have included Dietrich Bonhoeffer's biography, Marcus Borg, class member James Yoder's book on Simon Weil, Bayard Rustin, Wendell Berry, and Barry Lopez as well as short stories and poetry. Recently they used *Christian Century* articles to study the Mormon faith.

Members have shared their life stories and they bring concerns and personal stories of health issues, service, voluntary service projects, travel, and writing they are currently working on.

The class has studied immigration, environmental, economic, peace, and social justice issues. After considering Mennonite Church USA's position on human sexuality, and out of concern for members of the class with family members who are gay, the

class joined the Supportive Congregations Network. A very meaningful and key hands -on project was the Mennonite Central Committee sponsored "Return to the Earth." They met at the home of Karen and Glen Ediger to make cedar boxes and hand-stitched muslin cloths to hold the unburied remains of Native Americans. Previous to this they studied the history of Native Americans in this area.

In addition to their weekly programming, other projects of interest have been providing and serving meals for the Homeless Shelter, donations to MCC, Victim Offender Ministry, and Nathan Toews' work in Colombia.

Socials have been a yearly Christmas dinner and potlucks in members' homes.

Meeting with Duane and Liz Friesen it became very obvious that this is a thoughtful and caring group of people who discuss meaningful topics and engage in life-changing projects. So many times these smaller groups within a church become much of what holds us all together, and this appears to be what the Seekers are to each other.

Current class members are Hugo and Mary Ann Boschmann, Glen and Karen Ediger, Duane and Liz Friesen, Larry Friesen, Omer and Zona Galle, Don and Eleanor Kaufman, John and Judy Kliewer, Bonnie Krehbiel, Ruth Linscheid, Dwight and LaVonne Platt, Kamala Platt, Valetta and Miner Seymour, Francis and Margaret Toews, Arnold and Delores Wedel, Lee and Susan Wheeler, James and Lonabelle Yoder and Ted and Darlene Wynn.

Written by Duane and Liz Friesen and Lois Goertzen



Seekers Class Meets In Room #21





Class Members work on MCC sponsored "Return to the Earth"





Off Off-—Way Off —Broadway— BCMC Presents The musical Godspell Junior

Mark your calendars for Sunday, March 10, 7:00 p.m. when the production of Godspell Junior is performed at Bethel College Mennonite Church by young stars of our congregation, directed by Renee Reimer, Junior Choir director. Renee gives the following synopsis of this upcoming musical: "Godspell Junior is taken from the gospel according to Matthew. There are stories about forgiveness, love, kindness, and generosity. It is a bit shorter than the original Godspell, but has kept all of the best songs! All of the kids are on stage at all times and it is a very interactive performance. It has been great watching the high school students help the elementary and junior high youth work through each rehearsal. Rehearsal turnouts have been great! There will be a lot to look forward to on March 10."

Members of the cast are excited about this upcoming production. Here are a few of their comments:

- * Nicholas Lepard: "I like it! I'm one of the narrators."
- * Zoe Siemens: "It's really, really fun. You get to use all of your energy."
- * John Mark Koontz and Jonah Schloneger: "We like our lines—and we each have a solo!"

- * Elizabeth Tran: "I get to interact with younger children."
- * Elizabeth Friesen: "It's fun. It tells the story of God and Jesus."
- * Mark Kreider: "Godspell has been a great way to have fun, try something new, and help create a great production. The musical itself is a good way to be reminded in a new way of Jesus' life, parables, and teachings. It also has some great songs that I think we all enjoy singing the audience will really enjoy hearing them as well."
- * Nat Dick: "The stage is a great place to express yourself in ways you don't normally get to. It's fun to really get into character and be part of a production."

Nat

Dick.

Nicholas

Lepard

and

Mark Kreider

The *Godspell* musical is by Stephen Schwartz, and the book was written by John-Michael Tebelak. It was first produced in 1970 at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburg, PA, then on off-Broadway in 1971. The musical was revived in 2011 and played on Broadway from October 13, 2011 to June 24, 2012. Did you know the title is derived from the Old English word "Godspell," the root of the modern word gospel? We hope to see you all on March 10! ~ Karen Penner

Note: March sessions of Faith Forum, an Adult Sunday school elective, will explore the role of drama in presenting the gospel, with particular focus on Godspell on March

10 and 17. Watch bulletins for session titles.

Jonah Schloneger studies the script









Pastor's Corner— Ruth R. Harder Beware the Silver Chicken!

The following conversation took place when I was 12 years old in my home church, where my dad served as pastor. Church guest: "Where is the pastor?" Church member points to my dad and says, "Over there." Church guest: "Ah yes, I figured he was the pastor. You can always spot a pastor by his grim, serious face." Church member and guest laugh together. I wanted more than anything in that moment for my dad, who was across the room, to laugh heartily, just to prove this church guest wrong. After all,

I knew my dad wasn't always grim. Little did I know then that I would one day become a pastor and be in this company of grim and serious people! And little did I know then that this conversation

would replay in my mind again and again including at my seminary graduation and ordination service. Would I be known for my serious pastoral presence, I wondered?

Given that these are things I wonder about from time to time, I am grateful more than ever for people in this community who have the gift of stirring up laughter and good natured fun. I am grateful for people like Keith Rhoades who remind me every single

Sunday to keep smiling. Or people like Dick Koontz, who at our fall leadership retreat, surprised us all with a

speech. He got up and reminded us that it is important that we take our church work seriously, but not too seriously. And to help remind us of this, he initiated a new and special award as a symbol of fun and mutual support: The Silver Chicken Award. He said, "Some awards have great significance and value. The Silver Chicken Award has no value or significance, expect that it is given with positive intent and good humor." He then proceeded to name Pastor Heidi as the winner of the first BCMC Silver Chicken Award. As the



new holder of this award, she could award the silver chicken to anyone at anytime for no apparent reason at all. So on Sunday, November 18, the silver chicken made its way to worship and "flew" into the arms of Harold Thieszen, who made us all smile when he walked to the front of the sanctuary making chicken sounds. And again on February, the chicken flew to greater heights and was awarded to one of our tallest BCMC members, Jim Robb.

Thank God for these odd and yet refreshing moments of joy and good humor. I'll be on the look-out for these precious occasions, and of course, the

course, the silver chicken, in 2013. Will you?



Return service requested

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Worship and events schedule (Check weekly bulletins

and church web site, bcmc.ks.us.mennonite.net, for updates)

9:30 *a.m.*— Worship

10:30 a.m —Fellowship time

10:50 a.m.—Christian education

February 2013

February 3, 2013

Worship with sermon by Ruth R. Harder; music by Cherub Choir and Junior Choir

February 10, 2013

Worship with sermon by Heidi Regier Kreider; music by Chancel Choir



February 13, 2013 — Ash Wednesday
6:45 p.m. Ash Wednesday service—Sanctuary



February 17, 2013 — First Sunday in Lent

Worship with sermon by Heidi Regier Kreider; music by Chancel Bells; communion will be served.

February 24, 2013—Second Sunday in Lent

Worship with sermon by Heidi Regier Kreider; music by Chancel Choir

March 2013

March 3, 2013—Third Sunday in Lent

Worship with sermon by Heidi Regier Kreider; music by Cherub Choir and Chancel Choir

March 10, 2013—Fourth Sunday in Lent

(Daylight Savings Time Begins — Turn your clocks ahead one hour)
Worship with sermon by Heidi Regier
Kreider; music by Junior Choir and Youth Bells
7:00 p.m. Presentation of the play, *Godspell Junior* in the sanctuary

March 17, 2013—Fifth Sunday in Lent

Worship with sermon by Ruth R. Harder; music by Chancel Bells



March 24, 2013—Palm Sunday

Worship with sermon by Heidi Regier Kreider

March 28, 2013—Maundy Thursday service at 7:00 p.m.

March 31, 2013—Easter

7:00 a.m. Sunrise Service—location to be announced

9:30 a.m. Organ Prelude with organist, Eleanor Kaufman

10:00 a.m. Worship with sermon by Heidi Regier Kreider; music by Chancel Choir



BCMC Kaleidoscope 8 February-March 2013