

# KALEIDOSCOPE

BETHEL COLLEGE MENNONITE CHURCH

February—March 2014 8:1



## We are re-dedicating a church here.....

### Living Stones Update

*We are re-dedicating a church here...*

*...where children can be nurtured to grow in grace and goodness and learn to love God.*

*...where youth can be challenged to claim our future, and prepare to serve in the name of Christ.*

*...where we can fellowship and build together a community of hope and peace.*

*"Like living stones, may we be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ."*

This is an excerpt from the *Litany of Dedication for Living Stones Renovations* in the worship service at BCMC on January 26, celebrating the comple-

tion of the new nursery at the rear of the sanctuary, handicapped-accessible restrooms and Gathering Place (the name selected by Hospitality Commission for the enlarged lobby with kitchenette/coffee-maker, mailboxes, water fountains and coat-racks). At the soup lunch served by the senior high youth on January 26, we recognized with appreciation guests from PBA Architects and Regier Construction Company, along with staff and volunteers from BCMC who were instrumental in the renovation process.

### Other Living Stones projects are in process:

\* Interior signage for the church facility is being developed by Bob Regier and David Kreider, and an ad hoc visual arts team is reviewing place-

ment of the ceramic mural, bulletin boards, and other artwork in the church facility.

- Scholarships for young adults to participate in Mennonite-related education and service will be funded through a combination of budget and special funds, under the direction of a new Education and Service Scholarship Committee appointed by Church Board.

\* The Möller organ renovated by Dobson Organ Builders was delivered to the church January 19, unloaded and reinstalled in the organ chamber with the help of volunteers carrying organ pipes and parts to assist the Dobson staff, Lynn Dobson, president; Randy Housman, Bob Savage and Jim Streufert. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! to the thirty volunteers: Harald Boschmann, Jim Brubacher, Wade

Brubacher, Mike Crawford, church custodian; Diane Epp, Harvey Hiebert, Eleanor Kaufman, Organ-Renovation Task Force and refreshments; Matt Koontz, Phil Koontz, Richard Koontz, David Kreider,

Heidi Regier Kreider, photographer; Alan Lepard, Nicholas Lepard, Markus Lepard, Monica Lichti, administrative assistant; Weldon Martens, pastor; Ron Peters, Marles Preheim, Ron Preheim, Rebecca Schloneger, music director; Lily Schloneger, Howard Schmidt, Chris Shaw, ORTF recording secretary; Lowell Stucky, Marilyn Stucky, Steve Stucky, Carl D. Thieszen, Esther M. Thieszen, refreshments; Harold D. Thieszen, ORTF chair and volunteer coordinator. And the friends who volunteered: Alan Crane, Wichita State University professor of piano and piano technician; Donna Ratzlaff Hetrick, Bethel College organ instructor; spouse, Bill and sons, Andrew and Luke; Roseann Penner Kaufman, organist at Rainbow Mennonite Church, Kansas City & former Bethel College organ instructor; Jacob Kresky, organ student of Chris Shaw; Mika Patron, Bethel College organ student and Mika's brothers; Neal Patron and Matt Patron, and friend; Amy Postier and parent; Kathy Patron. The installation was completed on January 30 by



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Heidi Regier Kreider and Monica Lichti

↑ The Senior High Youth Group cooked and served a delicious soup lunch on January 26

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Jim Streufert and Bob Savage. The voicers, John Panning and John Streufert began the tonal finishing on February 10. The completion date is March 7. Dedication of the organ is scheduled for March 9 during worship, and on April 19 at 3:00 p.m., Christopher Shaw will lead an organ recital and hymn festival to celebrate Holy Week and the renovated organ, with a freewill offering for Living Stones.

Thanks for your support of BCMC's Living Stones! Continuing contributions are crucial for funding the projects in our long-range plan, and reducing our debt in the future.

*Report compiled by Heidi Regier Kreider, pastor; and Harold D. Thieszen, Organ Renovation Task Force chairperson*

## Moving Music by Harvey Hiebert

Re-installing our pipe organ begins, of course, with unloading a large U-Haul van backed up to the absolute limit of the church front door. Then the sorting and re-sorting of long trays of pipes into the order they go onto the wind chests. Ah, wind chests. Are we talking air? We're talking very heavy finely worked and finished hardwood lumber, covered on top with dozens of holes that only fractionally reduce the several hundreds of pounds of weight. Under that weight are six or more men hefting that wind chest, in

tight space, up five feet onto two narrow end rails, while looking for footing over wind ducts and bellows on the floor as well as struts for the supporting frame. So what are the thoughts while working? Are we thinking of the King of Instruments which reached an apex of tonal beauty in the 18th century, and that by carrying pipes we're making music now? Thinking about that fountainhead of western music and his great oeuvre of organ music, J. S. Bach? or maybe Mendelssohn, or Messiaen? Maybe not. We're thinking, if this is dropped we're cooked. We can say that all five wind chests not only came off the truck but went into place successfully without incident.

As we feed the pipes in to the Dobson men--the very biggest wooden ones first--and they are set onto the chests, the sense of making music probably has more of a chance. As the pipes get smaller, finally down to less than a foot long, the work tempo increases to at least an *allegro* (*presto* would endanger them) and we can just about hear the sound.

What about those large, very heavy panels that make the chamber for the swell box with its louvers? They have to be hoisted vertically to rest about five feet up and fastened tightly--nothing can be left to vibrate in this chamber except air.

Between our work sessions the Dobson men have handled all the intricate connections and hookups. And some of us have handled, with

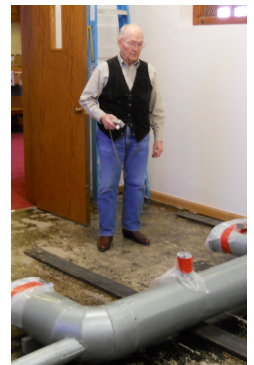
gloves, just about all of the 1,552 pipes we will soon welcome back with our ears. Not only that, but have met Lynn Dobson himself. And we find that our three installers and the two voicers are the same who put in large and highly acclaimed organs in Philadelphia and Los Angeles and Merton College, Oxford University, London, England.



BCMC Organist, Eleanor Kaufman welcomes back her old friend



Harold Thieszen  
→



## Report of January 26 Congregational Meeting

The BCMC Winter Congregational Meeting took place January 26, in the sanctuary, following the senior high youth's soup dinner to raise money for their service trip to Denver, and the re-dedication of the "refurbished portions of the church" during the worship service. The meeting was called to order by Jim Robb, Moderator Elect. Devotions were given by George

Leary who reflected on what the sights, smells, sounds and feelings of the remodeled area would be. He used as an analogy the experience he and Jeanette had during the Kansas Day Festivities at Kauffman Museum. The minutes of the September 22, 2013, congregational meeting were presented by Marilyn Schmidt, Clerk and were approved. A Living Stones update was given by Jim Robb, highlighting things yet to be done; Harold Thieszen pre-

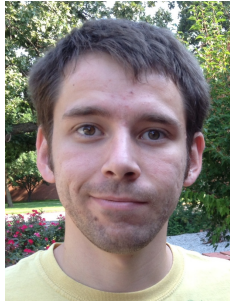


sented an auditory and visual report of the organ renovation and re-arrival at the church; and Richard Friesen presented the amendments needed to the Mission and Service Endowment Fund so that the Service element of the Education and Service Scholarship program could be funded. After some discussion these changes were approved. Omar Voran presented the Audit Report which was approved by the congregation. Richard Friesen, treasurer, presented both the 2013 financial report and 2014 budget of \$496,568 recommended by Church Board. His presentation was well received and the 2014 budget was approved. Dorothy Nickel Friesen, chair of the Gifts Discernment Committee reminded the congregation to complete the on-line survey of interests and abilities by February 2. Heidi Regier Kreider gave her pastor's report specifying some of the things that she has been involved in this past few months, and calling our attention to the need to serve our neighbor and to use the church space for service. She also thanked staff and others who contribute to the work of the church, the worship services, and who have had to go above and beyond in many ways during the period of construction. Weldon Martens, Interim Associate Pastor for Faith Formation, thanked the congregation for the hospitality shown him and his wife Jenny, and complimented the church and members for the positives that he and Jenny have experienced. Jim Robb closed the meeting with prayer.

...and to all who participated, we say "Thank you, Thank you, Thank you." !

~ Jim Robb

## Welcome to our own Joe Kondziola—Second Semester Intern



It is a privilege to have one of our members, Joe Kondziola, a Bethel College senior social work major, as the BCMC Visitation and Caring Ministries Intern for the second semester. He has begun his work by planning a worship service for Bethesda Home at Goessel, with Associate Pastor Susan Wheeler, including choosing the hymns. He will also work with Deacon Fred Obold on Mondays to show the BCMC worship DVD at Kidron Bethel Health Care. In his visitations, he wants to interact with BCMC members and learn to know them. Another activity in which he hopes to participate to meet this goal, is to play Scrabble with Kidron Bethel residents from 10 a.m. to noon on certain days during his internship. He is excited about this opportunity to interact with BCMC members and attendees.

As part of his Social Work major, he earlier completed an internship with Kidron Bethel. It helped him learn to know people from BCMC, including Ruth Schmidt, whose life's story touched him, as she has been widowed three times. He appreciates his work at Kidron and Bethesda. It is an inspiration to him and gives him a broader view of life. He had hoped to have a second major in Bible and Religion, in addition to social work, but he may not have enough hours for the double major. However, he will be participating in a Bible and Religion Seminar.

Joe was born in Wichita, and attended an elementary

Catholic School in Wichita. His father is a staunch Catholic and his mother a protestant. His family moved to North Newton when he was in fifth grade. He met Ben Kreider, who was a classmate, and he "blames" Ben for getting him "addicted" to running. As a result, Joe ended up on the track team, the cross country team, which led to running marathons. Running gives Joe a *high*! (Thanks Ben!) Ben invited him to attend the BCMC youth group. During his freshman year of track season he was with Ben, and Kevin Leary gave them rides home. After that he began attending BCMC – and the rest is history! Oh by the way, Joe went into shock and was utterly confused the first Sunday he attended BCMC – women pastors? He didn't understand! (It was the Sunday Ruth Harder was installed as Associate Pastor).

In looking into the future, Joe dreams of working with LGBT children/teens displaced by their parents, perhaps in a clinical social work setting. He doesn't know the process of where this area of social work will take him, but he is sure God will open doors for him. He wants to make an impact on these children, keep them off the streets, and let them know there are Christians who care for, and love them. In reflecting on his internship at BCMC, and his worship experiences within our congregation, he notes that the meaningful worship at BCMC has created a culture for his spiritual development – wherein the *seed* became a *sapling*, and with hope it will grow into an *oak tree*. Our prayer for you, Joe, is that God will guide you to become this *oak tree*.

~ Karen Penner

## Mennonite Central Committee Relief Sale is April 11 and 12, 2014

The Mennonite Central Committee Relief Sale will be held in Hutchinson, at the State Fair Grounds on April 11 and 12. Last year the sale brought in over \$490,000 to be used for peace, charity and development in 60 countries around the world. The sale is sponsored by over 70 congregations of Mennonite and Anabaptist origins. Each of these congregations contribute. Some contribute by supplying food, crafts, quilts, and other items for sale. Many congregations help to supply the huge number of volunteers necessary to run this auction/festival. It is indeed a coming together of the people of Christ to work for the benefit of the world.

BCMC is connected to the other congregations by a six member committee (three couples). This committee, Jim and Beaty Robb, Dennis and Kathy Campbell and Ron and Carol Peters, organizes the Penny Power project, collects volunteer commitments for baking, working and contributing, and acts as the liaison between the sale committee and the congregation. Sale activities are assisted at the congregational level by the committee. The congregational liaisons are also responsible for taking the crafts, pies, and baked goods to the sale on Friday and Saturday morning. Our congregation has the opportunity to contribute to this great event by helping to provide for the sale itself. You can contribute by attending one of the fellowship meals. We are called upon to supply zwieback, pies, and bread. We have the opportunity to help serve the many people who

continued next page



come to this event. We can serve at the Feeding of the Multitude. We can serve by providing plants, for the "Plants and Things" area. We can contribute the handiwork of needle and thread. We can provide the artfully created quilts, a mainstay of the sale. The big issue facing the sale is the need for volunteers to commit to the sale committees responsible for food production and sales. The verenike committee has resigned after many years and there is a difficulty in finding replacements. The bohne berogi committee has also experienced this difficulty in recent years. As long term volunteers age and turn the reins over, there is a lack of people to accept those reins. Perhaps this marks a change in the Mennonite church as a whole, with more and more people living in cities away from the farm, with less time to commit to the sale. The Executive Committee of the sale is struggling with the direction the sale might need to take. Please give this your prayers and your support. We have the opportunity to go, to socialize, to pray, and to contribute to the work that has been going on in Kansas, and in other area relief sales for over 45 years. The needs of the world are great. May we contribute to the betterment of the world by our participation in the MCC Sale. Later in the spring, opportunities will be provided to sign up and volunteer. May we pray that our involvement will be great, that our contributions will be meaningful, that God's will might be done.

~ *BCMC Relief Sale Committee, Jim and Beaty Robb, Ron and Carol Peters, Dennis and Kathy Campbell*



## The Death Penalty in Kansas

2014 could be the year for Kansas to abolish the death penalty, and Witness Commission has taken up the cause to mobilize action in the BCMC congregation to help make this a reality. Kansas Coalition Against the Death Penalty (KCADP) is making a well-organized effort to facilitate the passage of legislation working its way through the Kansas House and Senate that would eliminate the death penalty and replace it with life imprisonment without parole. The work of KCADP is very helpful to our efforts.

On January 12, Kristi Smith, KCADP board member, spoke to the Seekers SS class and others interested. She told of the reconciliation that took place between her and one of her father's murderers 15 years after his murder in 1978. She was able to move toward healing from her pain through this reconciliation process. Putting the offender to death would have eliminated the possibility of their meeting. After Kristi spoke with us, we spent the remainder of the SS hour writing letters to our Kansas legislators. Letter-writing opportunities have been available during fellowship time on Jan. 19 and 26 as well. Through these efforts, we have generated at least 52 letters. Most of these were collected and sent to KCADP, and they will send these on to representatives and senators when KCADP feels they will have the most impact.

MCUSA adopted a resolution in 2001 opposing the death penalty. In 2009, the Western District Conference adopted a statement explaining the basis for Mennonites' opposition to capital punishment, and there is an

ongoing Western District End the Death Penalty Task Force. BCMC member Duane Friesen is a member of this task force. The legislative process is a bit complicated, and, assuming that the legislation will come to a vote, the timing of this is uncertain at the time of this writing. One can follow the process on KCADP's website, [www.ksabolition.org](http://www.ksabolition.org). It is not too late to send letters to your representative and senator. In 2010, there was a vote to repeal the death penalty, and one Kansas Senator voted for the repeal in spite of his own belief to support capital punishment because he received so many letters asking him to vote for repeal. So our actions can make a difference.

~ *Valetta Seymour, Witness Commission member*

## With Our Members

### Weddings:

Victoria Janzen and Marshall Schmidt were married at BCMC on December 27, 2013—Congratulations Victoria and Marshall!

### Anniversaries:



65 years Wedding Anniversary  
Congratulations to Maxine (Ruth) and Orlando Fast  
Married March 20, 1949

## Wednesday Night Suppers Feb. 19-April 9, 2014

BCMC Spring Wednesday night suppers begin Feb. 19 at 6 p.m. and adult programs at 6:45 p.m. Cherub and Junior Choirs will practice from 6:30 to 7:15 p.m., followed by Venture Club for grades 3-5 and Junior High Club for grades 6-8 at 7:15 p.m. Senior High Youth will meet at 7 p.m., followed by Youth Bells at 8 p.m. Chancel Choir will rehearse, as usual, at 7:30 p.m. and Chancel Bells at 8:30 p.m. Adult Programs at 6:45 p.m. are as follows:

**Feb. 19** – Presentation by John Panning, vice president, and John Streufert from the Dobson Organ Company—Sanctuary

**Feb. 26** - *Perspectives on Aging: Conscious Aging* – Orlyn Zehr

**March 5** - Ash Wednesday service—Sanctuary

**March 12** - *Perspectives on Aging: Spirituality of Aging* – Eric Massanari, chaplain at Kidron Bethel Village

**March 19** - Concert by Bethel College Concert Choir—Sanctuary

**March 26** – *Perspectives on Aging: Managing Illness* – Fred Obold and Anne Neufeld Rupp  
**April 2** – *Perspectives on Aging: Family Relationships and Transitions* – Judy Goertzen, Director of Social Services at Asbury Park.

**April 9** – *Perspectives on Aging: Intergenerational Conversations* - Jake Goering, Lois Goertzen, Joe Kondziola and Katelyn Melgren

Join with others from the BCMC church community for food, fellowship and conversation. The meals include dishes such as red beans and rice, beef and barley soup and potato soup, meatloaf, marinated chicken, pulled pork sandwiches, chicken Alfredo, biscuits and gravy, ham with au gratin potatoes.

## Meet the Open Circle Sunday School Class



The Open Circle Sunday School class began in 2010 with the distinct purpose of including guests and new church members to encourage participation and to aid in the inclusion of those visiting or new to our church.

Our focus at the beginning of each session is to reflect on the worship service. What moved us? What was appreciated? What new insights were experienced?

Several class members take notes during the service to help us recall aspects of the sermon—particular words or phrases that caught our attention. Our class structure is defini-

nitely discussion with ample opportunity for all to participate. The participants enjoy the camaraderie that has formed through these weekly interactions.

Occasionally we have potluck meals or social gatherings.

The class membership includes Lois Deckert, Richard and Dorothy Nickel Friesen, Dick and Barb Koontz, Marlin and Monica Lichti, Frank and Helen Nachtigal, Fred and Ruth Obold, Ron and Carol Peters, Ron and Lois Preheim, Ron and Lavonne Sawatzky, Stephen and Jeanette Stucky, and Lee and Di Suderman.

~ information furnished by Jeanette Stucky

## *You Are My Beloved* (Matthew 3:13-17) Baptismal Stories



**Front Row:** Esko Loewen, Laurie Brubacher, Joan Prouty, Carolyn Goertzen, Janna Harrold (deceased), John Esau; **Second Row:** Greg Gaeddert, Marc Rhoades, Murray Penner; **Third Row:** Eric Shelly, Scott Funk, David Esau; **Fourth Row:**

Timothy Soth (deceased), ; **Fifth Row:** Robert Harder, Steve Regier, Paul Boese; **Back Row:** Kenton Wiens, Alan Deckert

A baptismal service for 17 youth at BCMC on June 6,

1976, was conducted by Pastor John Esau, assisted by

Pastor Esko Loewen, of which the water used was partially from the Jordan River in which Jesus was baptized. The picture is of this group of baptismal candidates from 38 years ago. All except one still have family members at BCMC.

In a recent Sunday morning sermon, Heidi Regier Kreider described Jesus' baptism by John the Baptist and used her own baptism as an illustration. This triggered personal memories by individuals within the congregation regarding what experiences they had at the time of their baptism. Following are memories of some selected members about their baptism.

**\* Marlene Violet (Cole) Faul** was baptized at the age of one month at Yellow Medicine Lutheran Church, Hanley Falls, MN (Evangelical Lutheran Church of America). Her three grandparents and an uncle were her sponsors. After a three year confirmation class, she was quizzed by the congregation on "Luther's Small Catechism," and confirmed in 1952 in the church where she was baptized. It was so scary, but also a very special occasion in her life. She then experienced her first communion with a large wafer and wine. That fall she joined the "Pocket Testament League" through Luther League and to this day carries her King James New Testament with her in her purse.

**\* Deane (Dreier) Frey** was baptized on June 2, 1935. She was born February 28, 1935. She was

confirmed on April 10, 1949, at the Highland Evangelical and Reformed Church, now Highland United Church of Christ, near North Newton. Before being confirmed, she had to take instruction with the church minister. Along with being confirmed, she attended the performance of the Messiah in Lindsborg, which made the day a special memory.

**\* Joe Kondziola First Baptism:** His mother recounts the story of how the St. Jukes Catholic Church *tried* to baptize Joe at about the age of two. He kept trying to get loose and ran up and down the isle, screaming and yelling, but eventually was captured and baptized.

**Second Baptism:** He made the decision to be baptized again as a result of his decision to follow Christ. He began attending BCMC as a freshman in high school, and his friends played a big influence on him and he worked to follow their lead. He chose to take the catechism class and be baptized at BCMC while in high school. This has made a profound influence in his life.

**\* Karen Suderman Penner** Upon her confession of faith before her congregation, she was baptized by immersion at the age of 11 at the Schlehuerpond near Hillsboro on June 23, 1950, and joined the Ebenfeld Mennonite Brethren Church. Not only was she very shy, she was also terrified of being immersed in water. In spite of her fears and with the encouragement of her Dad, she made the decision to be baptized and join the church in her journey to follow Jesus Christ. Later that day at the church, all members participated in a foot-washing service. It was the second defining moment in her spiritual journey as a young girl, the



first being her conversion several years earlier.

\* **Rebecca Trumble**, Bethel College student, was baptized at the age of 20 at BCMC. She chose to go through catechism with her best friend during her sophomore year in college. Quoting Rebecca - "I did not understand baptism as a high school student and chose to not take catechism at that time." She went on to say that being baptized was one of the most important and special events of her life. She remembers the amount of support from family, friends and the congregation during the process, which made her baptism even more special.

\* **Keith Rhoades** was baptized at the Methodist church in Ashland, Kansas, when he was nine years old. His parents did not believe in infant baptism even though they were warned by the church what the consequences would be if he wasn't baptized. He was the only one baptized at that time. Soon they moved to Eureka so he didn't have either catechism or confirmation. In Sunday school they did learn about the meaning of baptism.

\* **Laura Ann Schrag** grew up Old Order Amish. She was baptized at the age of 17 with a group of young people. She was living in rural Nappanee, Indiana at the time. In the Amish tradition, church was held in the homes of church members. This event was in the summer in a barn. Prior to baptism the group met with the ministers at the church for nine Sundays for instruction. Then for two more Sundays they met together with a group of elders. The next Sunday they were baptized. A lady in the church removed the girls' coverings, and the candidates were instructed to kneel. After the water was poured over their

heads, the woman helped them up and gave them a holy kiss. Foot washing was part of the morning with everyone washing each others feet. On these special occasions church was from around 9 in the morning until 3 in the afternoon. During communion the pastor had a slice of bread and broke off pieces for each one. They drank homemade wine from a common cup, and were received into the church of about 30 large families. There was always a noon meal of store bought bread with peanut butter and sorghum combined with marshmallow crème. Also served were pickles, red beets, coffee and water. No baptismal certificate was received at the time, but their record of baptism was with the church.

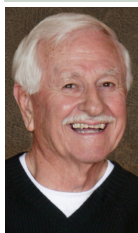
\* **Lou Gomez** was baptized one week after he was born in the Catholic church. His grandparents, parents, and a friend of his father who was his godfather were present. He went through confirmation while attending Our Lady of Guadalupe church and was so impressed with this, at twelve he became a priest. Later, his desire to have a family caused him to make a different decision.

He was re-baptized (reaffirmation to God as he put it) at Walton's Lake east of Newton. At that time he attended a small non-denominational church and was very aware of his thoughts and personal feelings, and believed this decision would be good for his life. Quoting Lou - "What I personally remember are the feelings of joy and cleanliness coming out of that water. I truly felt I had left something in the lake on that day." Again quoting Lou "On that day in July, not one person said they saw any doves as two

others that day were immersed. What I am very thankful for is my awareness of God grew on the 25<sup>th</sup> of July, 1980 and to me that will always be a very special memory and reality to my faith relationship."

~ Karen Penner

## Obituaries



**Marlin Lee Frey**  
**March 14, 1933 –**  
**December 16,**  
**2013**

Marlin was born on March 14, 1933 in Goessel, Kansas.

He was the third child of four children born to Ed H. and Augusta Frey. While attending Bethel College, he married Luella "Deane" Dreier May 25, 1957. He graduated from Bethel College in 1958 and earned his Master's Degree from Emporia State Teachers College in 1961.

He began his teaching career at Park City and went shortly thereafter to Hesston to teach and become principal of the Hesston School District. He spent the bulk of his educational career as a teacher, principal, and administrator in the Newton School District. He had a passion for serving others through education from elementary age children to adult education students. He even founded the nation's first GED program for over-the-road truckers.

Marlin and Deane were married for over 56 years and are parents to Gary and Kim and grandparents to Josiah, Zachary, Alec, and Taylor and great grandson, Judah.



**Clyde Henry Prouty II**  
**June 16, 1929 –**  
**December 27,**  
**2013**

Clyde was born June 16, 1929

the son of Clyde Henry and Maggie (Billau) Prouty in Newton.

Clyde grew up attending St. Luke's Presbyterian Church. Clyde attended the Prouty School in Macon township through the 8th grade. He graduated in 1947 from Newton High School. He served in the US Army from January 1953 - January 1955, stationed in Germany. He married El Vera Abrahams on March 9, 1958 at Goessel Mennonite Church. To this union, 5 children were born, son Bill, twin daughters Cindy and Terry, daughter Joan and son Clyde Henry III. Clyde was a lifelong farmer in Harvey County. He served on the Macon County Township Board for over 20 years, was a member of Kansas Farm Bureau, and Bethel College Mennonite Church.

Clyde is survived by his wife of 55 years, Vera; Children; Bill (Mary) Prouty, New Hampton, IA; Cindy Ratts, Hutchinson; Terry (Gordon) Wiebe, Whitewater; Joan (Paul) Minkevitch, Newton; and Clyde Henry III (Elaine) Prouty, Newton. Grandchildren: Tracie (Gordon) MacLeod, Danae (Matt) Epp, Troy (Aubrie) Wiebe, Levi (Logan) Minkevitch, Zach Prouty, Sadie Minkevitch, Silas Minkevitch, Denny Wiebe, Titus Minkevitch, Taylor Wiebe and Austin Prouty and sister Dorothy Ford, numerous nieces and nephews. Clyde was preceded in death by his parents, brother; Wilbur Prouty and sisters Pauline Vinroe and Gladys Wright.



**Gladys Ruth Woelk Esau**  
**February 19,**  
**1931 –**  
**December 31,**  
**2013**

Gladys Ruth (Woelk) Esau was born February 19, 1931, in Goessel, KS

to Henry and Anna Woelk. Gladys attended Highland Grade School and graduated from Walton High School in 1949. She married Marvin Esau at the Walton Mennonite Church on November 6, 1949. She became a member of the Bethel College Mennonite Church where she taught in the nursery and the pre-school Sunday School Class for over 39 years. She taught at the Newton Community Play-school for years; worked for the Newton School District as a para-professional in the Early Childhood Special Education program for two years; worked at the Farmers Grain Cooperative in Walton as a bookkeeper and then became the Vice-President of the Walton State Bank. She is survived by her husband Marvin Esau of Walton, daughters Donna (Keith) Woolery of North Newton, Linda (David Miller) of Wichita, and son John (Shirley) Esau of Walton, KS, and daughter-in-law Becky Esau of Walton; sisters Ruby Baresch and Norma (David) Agatstein of New York City, brother-in-law Irvin Peters of Buhler, sister-in-law Marcie Woelk of Hutchinson and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her oldest son Dwaine in November; by two brothers, Randy (Violet) Woelk of Wichita and Ron Woelk of Hutchinson and one sister, Irma Peters, Buhler.



**Barbara Lenore Miller Friesen**  
**February 11,**  
**1923—January**  
**5, 2014**

Barbara was born February 11, 1923, in Newton, KS to Arnold and May Andes Miller. She attended high school in Hesston, then Hesston College

and received a teaching certificate in 1942. She taught in a one-room school near Hesston for three years; from 1945–1947 she taught first and second grades at Walton Elementary; 1948 she attended Bethel College and received her bachelor's degree in social work. While at Bethel she met Orlando J. Friesen, whom she married on August 21, 1950. To this union were born Steve, Phil and Kathy. Barbara taught first grade in Lawrence, KS and she taught in Overland Park until 1957 when they moved to Buhler, KS. For the next 33 years they made their home in Buhler, attending the Buhler Mennonite Church. From 1980–1988 she was a substitute teacher in Buhler. Barbara and Orlando moved to North Newton in 1990. She joined the Bethel College Mennonite Church where she was an active member. She is survived by son Steve Friesen (Monta Lee Dakin) Littleton, CO; son Phil Friesen (Lisa Lister), Colorado Springs, CO; daughter Kathryn Campbell (Dennis Campbell), North Newton; brother, Kenneth Miller (Evelyn), Hesston; and sister, Dorothy Yoder (Gene), Hesston. Grandchildren: Emily Schmidt (Mark), Alan Skinner (Sierra Hostetler), Brian Skinner, James Dakin Owens, Elizabeth Friesen (Julian Gonzalez Salamanca), Forrest Friesen, and Evan Friesen. Great grandchildren are Zachary Schmidt and Kaitlyn Schmidt. She was preceded in death by her husband, Orlando; her parents; and sister, Wilma Fury.



**Griselda Aurora Gehman Shelly**  
**January 31,**  
**1925—January**  
**19, 2014**

Griselda was born 1925 to Lizzie (Hiestand) and Gilbert Gehman near Newark, Delaware. Her family moved to Pennsylvania, and she was baptized at Cookman Methodist Episcopal Church in Columbia, PA. After her father died when Griselda was seven, she moved with her mother to Washington, DC, to live with her grandparents until her grandfather died when she was nine years old. Griselda and her mother moved back to Pennsylvania where she attended a one-room school in Chapel, PA, and East Greenville High School. There she met Maynard Shelly, and together they went to Bluffton College. Griselda and Maynard were married September 7, 1945, and they moved to Chicago. Son, Javan was born in 1948. The family lived in Hopedale, IL, and Allentown, PA, where Maynard was pastor of Mennonite churches. In 1955 they moved to Newton, where Griselda joined Bethel College Mennonite Church in 1956. In 1971, Griselda and Maynard went to East Pakistan shortly before it became Bangladesh, where they served for three years with Mennonite Central Committee. In Newton Griselda edited the *Junior Messenger* magazine, a children's story paper, from 1955 to 1959, and served as a proofreader and copy editor for the Commission on Education of the General Conference Mennonite Church. From 1976 to 1987 Griselda served as director for Men-

nonite Central Committee Central States. Survivors include her son, Javan (Sue) Shelly of Cincinnati, OH; two step-grandsons David (Kim) Allen of Cincinnati and Douglas Brock of Washington, D.C.; two step-great-granddaughters Lindsey and Katelin; a step-great-great-grandson Braedon; two brothers-in-law Howard (Marilyn) of Bluffton, OH and Alton (Els) of Goshen, IN; and five sisters-in-law June Shelly of Newton, Helen Shelly Klassen of Abbotsford, British Columbia, Elizabeth Shelly of Bluffton, OH, Alma Shelly of North Newton, and Marjorie Nester of Normal, IL; and 27 nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents and husband Maynard; brothers-in-law Irwin, Kenneth, Ralph, Walter, and Sterling Shelly and Don Nester; and sisters-in-law Carol and Edna Shelly.



## Pastor's Corner— Susan Wheeler

I am looking forward to our Spring Wednesday evening programs, "Perspectives on Aging." These sessions will be focused around some of the issues, dilemmas, and stressors we all face as we age. Along with our own aging, many of us also are dealing with parents and other loved ones who need assistance in making decisions and necessary changes as physical and mental decline becomes more apparent. This January my sisters and I helped our father move into a nursing facility in La Junta, Colorado. I have been blessed by the grace dad has been able to extend - to himself - as well as to us and to those caring for him. But all of us are grieving, too, in having to face this end stage of life.

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**Pastor’s Corner continued**

This move signifies more clearly that he will die and leave this earth. Because mother is already gone, the impending loss of dad brings with it a lonely sense of being “orphaned,” a very real feeling I know many people experience when both parents are gone. As I have been driving to and from La Junta these past months, I have been listening to a CD series by Franciscan Priest,

Richard Rohr, titled *Great Themes of Paul - Life as Participation*. Not only have I been inspired by Rohr’s most contemporary teachings in regards to Saint Paul’s theology, I have also been deeply encouraged by a new recognition of the fullness of our participating in the body of Christ. Rohr explains that our participation in Christ enables us to bear the weight of sin and the weight of glory. We cannot bear

either of these on our own. Today, this means to me that because I can participate in Christ, within the body of Christ, the church, I am never alone and will always have what is necessary for life. Dad and I have been able to talk about this too. He stated so clearly on the day we were moving him, “I no longer exist.” We discussed that perhaps it

was important to consider another level of understanding Galatians 2:20, “I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.”



**Worship schedule** (Check weekly bulletins and church web site, [bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org](http://bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org), for updates and details on worship and other events)  
**9:30 a.m.**—Worship (unless otherwise noted)

**February 2014**

- February 2**—Sermon by Weldon Martens; music by Chancel Bells
- February 9**—Sermon by Heidi Regier Kreider; music by Chancel Choir and Junior Choir
- February 16**—Sermon by Heidi Regier Kreider; music by Menno Ringers and Cherub Choir
- February 23**—Sermon by Heidi Regier Kreider; music by Chancel Choir



**March 2014**

- March 2**—Sermon by Weldon Martens; music by Chancel Bells and Junior Choir; Reception of new members
- March 9—1st Sunday in Lent**—Sermon by Heidi Regier Kreider; music by Chancel Choir and Cherub Choir; Organ will be dedicated; Communion will be served
- March 16—2nd Sunday in Lent**—Sermon by Heidi Regier Kreider; music by Chancel Choir
- March 23—3rd Sunday in Lent**—Sermon by Heidi Regier Kreider; music by Chancel Bells
- March 30—4th Sunday in Lent**—Worship led by Weldon Martens and Senior High Youth; music by Chancel Choir