

KALEIDOSCOPE

BETHEL COLLEGE MENNONITE CHURCH

June—July—August 2015 9:3



Reflections: The Past 15 Years and a New Challenge



After a number of years serving as pastor at a small church in Florida, Heidi Regier Kreider recalls she began thinking about making a move to the central states area. Her parents, Fremont and Sara Regier were retiring from mission work in Africa and David's parents already lived in North Newton – perhaps it was time for their family – including 7-year-old Ben and 5-year-old Mark — to move to this area. She received a call from Dale Schrag about a pastoral opening at BCMC. Heidi felt a confirmation of God's will, and the Regier Kreider family made the move to North Newton.

Coming to BCMC

brought new challenges and a steep learning curve for Heidi in learning our organizational system, as well as learning about administration and staff supervision. And there was the reality of life at BCMC. In the first month there were four deaths and memorial services. During the same time, there was an attack of army worms on the front lawn of the church! Through these challenges, she felt strong support from the congregation. She also early on recognized the gift of the elders in the church, not only their appreciation of life, but their healthy approach to death and dying.

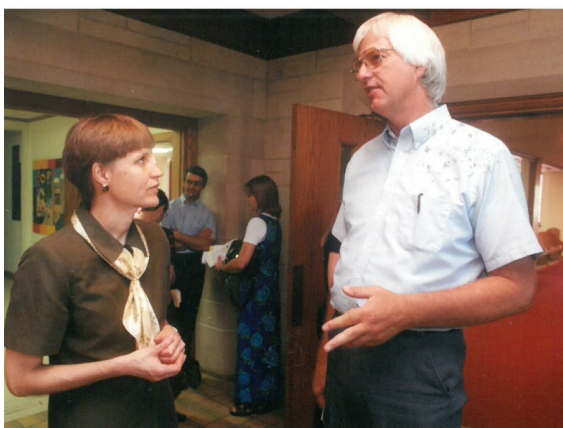
One of the big joys for Heidi has been the opportunity to work in a setting of a congregation with a wonderful musical background, with a

deep appreciation for music. Another exciting part of her tenure at BCMC has been ministry in a college environment, and being part of life at Bethel College. What a rich relationship these years have brought to Heidi and her family.

Life moves on, and Heidi senses a call to serve the church in a new way, and again God opened a door through a variety of voices. She will be moving to the Western District Conference offices, serving as Conference Minister. Heidi feels personally ready for this new challenge and growth. She will again be working with good people, and God is faithful. She looks forward to a positive transition. At the same time, there is a sadness in letting go of the

good things she loves at BCMC, and her relationship with staff members and faithful parishioners.

As Heidi prepares to leave, she goes knowing and trusting that the church has



wonderful resources, and God has provided ways for it to move forward. As she begins her work at Western District Conference, we are aware that she and David will be in transition and will not be attending BCMC for the foreseeable future. We wish you God's blessings, Heidi, as you answer God's call to Western District Conference.

~ Karen Penner

Pastoral Transition

"Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to a known God"

~ Corrie Ten Boom

We are on the verge of a transition in our congregation. The next two months will go by quickly and we will be saying good bye to Pastor Heidi and David. Heidi's last day will be July 31. She will start her duties as Conference Minister with the Western District Conference on Aug. 17. On July 26 we will celebrate the past 15 years with a potluck meal at noon and a time of farewell and recalling of memories. It is a day that will allow us to thank Heidi and David, Benjamin and Mark

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↑ In the year 2000 — New BCMC pastor, Heidi Regier Kreider has a serious conversation with the Church Moderator/ Church Board Chair at that time, Jim Robb

for their contributions to our congregational life, for their friendship with us, and for the many ways the entire community has benefited as a result of their interests and ministries. Although they are not leaving the community, they will be leaving us as Heidi starts her new duties.

The Church Board has met with Clarence Rempel, currently the Conference Minister for the Western District, and has decided that an Interim Minister will be secured. A committee made up of members of the SCRC and the Church Board will work with Rev. Rempel to evaluate candidates and make a recommendation to the Board. We will establish the parameters for the Interim Pastor at the June Board Meeting. It is the hope of the Board to have an interim pastor secured as soon as possible after July 31.

In June the Board will also start the process to put together a Search Committee for the Settled Pastor. It will take some time for the Search Committee to be selected and to organize and prepare for the work of the review and the selection of potential candidates. It is conceivable that the time frame for the selection of a Settled Pastor could be anywhere from 6 months to 12 months, or possibly longer.

In the meantime we will pray for guidance, work together to continue the work of the church, work diligently with the Western District, and continue to put our trust in the God of our fathers and mothers, and the God of our faith. Please keep the church leadership in your prayers as we trust our future to a known and loving God.

~ Jim Robb, Moderator

Meet Allie Shoup, BCMC's Summer 2015 Ministry Inquiry Student



Allie is excited to be working at BCMC this summer in the Ministry Inquiry Program, a service-learning experience sponsored by Mennonite Church USA. She will work alongside Pastor Heidi in a variety of activities as she explores pastoral ministry. She and her husband Will are both seniors at Bethel College.

Growing up in Wichita, she and her family were involved in the Church of God (Anderson, IN) church, Central Community Church. Allie graduated from Maize High School in 2011. She and her younger brother also spent several years on a mission field in Papua New Guinea with her parents, Rhonda and Steven Shook, who were teachers at a mission school.

After high school, Allie spent one semester at William Jewell College, before transferring to Wichita State University for three semesters, a move that transformed her life. Her eyes met Will in a class on the Letters of the Apostle Paul being taught by Wes Bergen. Within this academic setting, Will and Allie not only con-

nected with one another, but were challenged by Wes to live radically for Christ as voices for nonviolence, justice, and the importance of intentional community. Five months after the first day of class, Allie and Will were married by Wes on Will's childhood farm north of Pratt, KS.

After their marriage, they moved to Lawrence for a year, where they attended Peace Mennonite Church. It was at this time they made an intentional decision to finish their undergraduate education at a Mennonite institution and enrolled at Bethel College in the fall of 2014. Through Allie's involvement on campus, Peter Goerzen, (campus pastor at Bethel) became acquainted with Allie and her interest in ministry and encouraged her to consider this as a possible future path. As part of this encouragement, Peter invited Allie and Will to visit Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary in November and suggested she might try the MC USA Ministry Inquiry Program this summer. This possibility of a vocation in ministry opened a new world for Allie, who had grown up in a church with no women pastors, and had been a member at churches that strictly forbade female leadership.

Allie is a young woman with many talents and interests. She sings in the Bethel College Concert Choir as a soprano section leader, is on the editorial staff of the college's literary magazine YAWP!, is a student chaplain, and has a passion for the fine arts, among many other interests.

She will be following in Pastor Heidi's footsteps this summer for 60 days, through

July 31, exploring the many activities of a pastor. You will see her in a variety of activities:

- * Working alongside Pastor Heidi in her office.
- * Sitting in on Sunday Schools
- * Hanging out with the youth and accompanying them to Mennonite Church USA Convention in Kansas City
- * Running the *Active Response* time during Vacation Bible School
- * Participating in the worship services on Sunday mornings
- * Giving sermons twice this summer
- * Accompanying the pastors to hospital rooms, visiting with families in grief, and to BCMC committee meetings.

Allie is filled with thanks and excitement as she begins her adventure in exploring the world of a pastor. She cannot wait to meet the people at BCMC. She and Will look forward to making many new friends as they share not only worship and meetings, but also visiting the homes of, and sharing *vegetarian* meals with BCMC members (she and Will are both practicing vegetarians!). And Allie, we all look forward to learning to know both you and Will. Your energy, your many talents, and your excitement for living a radical Christian life is refreshing and a pleasure to observe.

~ Karen Penner



BCMC Members Volunteer at the EtCetera Shop



There are many reasons to shop at the local Et-Cetera Shop, from the obvious ones of recycling unused items to shopping for vintage items with which to decorate your abode. Another reason is to contribute to the local community. To quote from the Et Cetera website: “For the third year in a row, the Newton Et Cetera Shop is preparing to give a portion of its profits to local nonprofit groups. In 2013, Et Cetera’s local giving awards totaled over \$17,000, and in 2014 \$25,000 was granted. The amount set to be given in May 2015 is \$33,000.

Et Cetera Shop has been a part of downtown Newton since 1976. Its mission is to provide quality, affordable, recycled merchandise to the community; encourage volunteerism, stewardship and recycling; and benefit the work of Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) and the local community. Mennonite Central Committee works around the world to meet basic human needs and promote peace and justice. Since opening, Et Cetera Shop has donated over \$3,000,000 to MCC. Most of Et Cetera’s work is done by volunteers. ‘Our 240 volunteers make Et Cetera Shop the special place it is,’ says Cynthia Linscheid, general manager. ‘Day after day,

they are smiling and ready to do whatever needs to be done. Et Cetera’s mission wouldn’t go forward without their dedication and hard work, and it is their energy that has made it possible for us to once again increase our local giving.”

That brings us to another reason to visit the local Et Cetera Shop — the BCMC volunteers. You might be surprised at the number of BCMC volunteers. Their responsibilities range from working with housewares/linens, sewing, electronics, books, clerking, toys, clothing, music, videos, janitorial. Some volunteers began as early as 1977, with some just signing on this year. Cynthia Linscheid is currently the overall manager, a paid position. BCMC volunteers are: Mary Ann Boschmann, Marlene Faul, Mary Gaeddert, Margret Gaeddert, Lois Goertzen, Barbara Graber, Dorothy Harder, Shirley Harms, Rose Haury, Willye Hinz, Gayle Jackson, Tom Jackson, Judy Kliewer, Edie Krehbiel, Ruth Linscheid, Frank Nachtigal, Gladys Niles, Helen Pauls, Ron Peters, Vern Preheim, Evelyn Quiring, Vernetta Regier, Keith Rhoades, Susan Rhoades, Hartzel Schmidt, Ilene Schmidt, Laura Ann Schrag, Kathryn Simmons, Aldine Sprunger, Vel Teichroew, LaWanda Wiens and Lawrence Yoder. Until most recently the following members served as volunteers: Howard Buller, Lois Deckert, Jon Unruh and Lonabelle Yoder. *(Lois Goertzen states: “From my experience at EtCetera, we are all a family – working together for the same cause.” List compiled by Lois Goertzen with help from EtCetera shop office; opening comments by Monica Lichti; quotes from the EtCetera Website; pictures taken from the EtCetera Facebook page.)*



Barb Graber ↑



Howard Buller



Dorothy Harder and friends →

Edie Krehbiel ↓



Frank Nachtigal →



Hartzel & Ilene Schmidt



Vel Teichroew



Take me out to the ball park ... which is just what the Agape Sunday School class is doing this summer. Thanks to Tim and Bethany Schrag, who signed up the class to play, the “Menno Ballers” are up and swinging. The team plays every Sunday at the Athletic Park ball field

through June 28. The team's record for this year is 1 and 1 – but who is keeping track? Ball players are: Josh and Erin Brubacher, Suzy and Brad Burch, Joel and Crystal Gaeddert, Matt Koontz, Sheri Leopard, Nancy Mueller, Adam and Jill Robb, Tim and Bethany Schrag and John and Amy Tyson.

The Agape Class also had their 3rd annual Hog Roast out at Brubacher's pond. This idea was hatched three years ago when the class was trying to come up with a family oriented get together. Someone mentioned a hog roast and everyone thought that was a good idea even though no one had any idea how to roast a whole hog. But that did not stop the guys. So a hog was purchased from Matt Koontz's uncle and a roaster was built and the rest is history. The guys are still perfecting their method of roasting the hog but it is a good time had by all out at the pond. Not only is there the roasting of the hog, but fishing, camping, and other games and outdoor activities.
~ Alan and Sheri Leopard

Celebrating Artistic Gifts

On Pentecost Sunday, BCMC's worship service and a bulletin cover designed by Bob Regier celebrated the gifts of the Spirit expressed through art. The Time with Children featured the ceramic mural *We are the Church Together*, created in 1997 during a children's Summer Sunday school



to observe BCMC's centennial. LaDonna Unruh Voth, Kathy Schroeder, Conrad

Snider, and E Josef Voth told about their involvement in the mural project, and how it was made. Following recent renovations at BCMC, the mural has been moved from its original location in the foyer, and reinstalled by Conrad Snider in the Fellowship Hall. Also during the worship service, David Kreider and John Gaeddert reflected on the process leading to creation of *Many Gifts, One Spirit*, a 7-piece sculpture



of different kinds of wood, created by John and commissioned by the BCMC Art Committee. It was recently installed by David Kreider in collaboration with Flint Hills Design and consultation with Bob Regier, with support from the Elda Yoder Memorial Fund. Thanks be to God for the many gifts that enrich BCMC! (Members of the BCMC Art Committee are Darlene Dick, chair; Bob Regier, LaDonna Unruh Voth, David Kreider, and Margo Schrag). ~ Heidi Regier Kreider

BCMC Connections to the Kidron Bethel Village Peace Garden

The Kidron Bethel Village Peace Garden was dedicated on May 14, following two years of planning and work. Our member, Brad Burch, head maintenance keeper at Kidron Bethel, designed the garden. His daughters, Faith, 4, and Lucy, 8, had fun examining "animal tracks" in the Peace Garden. The garden was created as an inter-generational place for community and family members to

socialize, relax, pray, meditate and play. It began in tragedy with the 2010 beating death of 19-month-old Vincent Hill by his mother's live-in boyfriend, and was financed from the toddler's memorial fund and community donations. John Gaeddert built an Osage Orange wooden sculpture that stands on the grounds. Dotty Janzen is quoted as saying that in this age of smart phones and ipads, many of us suffer from "creation deficit disorder," and quoted from the book of Genesis, saying the scriptures "begin and end in a garden. May all of us be inspired and helped by this place."

~ Karen Penner



At the base of Gaeddert's sculpture: "Nature's Nuances" Donated and sculpted in Osage Orange by John Gaeddert

Faith and Lucy Burch ↓



Delegates Prepare for MC USA Assembly

BCMC delegates for the upcoming MC USA Assembly are Dianne Epp, Lou Gomez,

Ben Kreider, Heidi Regier Kreider, Lois Preheim, Vern Preheim, and Jon Zerger. A six-week study and prayer guide for delegates has been created by Leo Hartshorn, MC USA staff. These materials are to aid in the process of discernment for the delegate sessions. Five resolutions have been prepared for delegates to consider: Israel-Palestine Resolution, Faithful Witness Amid Endless War Resolution, Resolution on the Status of the Membership Guidelines, Resolution on Forbearance in the Midst of Difference, and Church wide Statement on Sexual Abuse.

BCMC delegates invite interested members of the congregation to join them at an open meeting on Wed., June 17, 7:30-8:30 p.m. in the BCMC Chapel, for delegates to hear your perspectives and feedback on the resolutions.

On July 12 during the Sunday school hour, the delegates will report to the congregation. Please pray for the delegates in preparation for the June 30-July 5 assembly.

~ Lois Preheim, delegate chair

Summer Sunday School Faith Forums

- June 14: Andy Brubacher Kaethler, AMBS professor – Sanctuary
- July 5: Fellowship & faspas...games and light snacks – Fellowship Hall
- July 12: Convention delegates to report – Sanctuary
- July 19: Megan Leary to report on SALT experience – Sanctuary
- July 26: Faith & technology – Sanctuary
- August 2: Faith & technology – Sanctuary
- August 9: Faith & technology – Sanctuary

~ John Tyson

With Our Members

Happy 80th Birthday Vern Preheim!



Vern, the firstborn of Jac Roy and Selma (Miller), was welcomed onto the family farm located in Turner County, South Dakota, just east of Freeman. He grew up with three sisters and with German spoken at home. The family attended Salem Mennonite Church where he was baptized. He fondly recalls driving tractor, riding a pony, 4-H, and showing registered Hereford Cattle. After High School at Freeman Academy and one year of Junior College he transferred to South Dakota State, preparing to teach agriculture until it was time to farm. However, his heart was stirred and he answered God's call to a vocation in ministry upon experiencing the theatrical production, *A Man Called Peter*. In 1957 he graduated from Bethel College in North Newton, majoring in Social Sciences, along with the faith-shaping influence of Bible Professor Erland Waltner. Also impactful in faith development were two "student pastor" assignments; in Beatrice, NE, and in Reedly, CA. It was at seminary in Chicago where he and Marion Keeney met. They married in 1958.

They served in Algeria with MCC where with Church World Service Vern helped displaced people and distributed food aid. Children Jay and Jan were born during these years. Upon receiving a letter from the General Conference office in Newton, KS, requesting his services with the Board of Church Service, Department of Peace and Justice, they moved to Kansas. Daughter Beth joined the family, Korean son Brian was adopted, and then Lorie completed the family. In 1965, now back in Akron, PA, Vern was the MCC Overseas Administrator and also worked in Congo, Africa from 1972-1974. He then directed the Africa Department and later the Asia Department. 1980, back in Newton once again, Vern accepted the position of General Secretary for the General Conference, a post held for sixteen years. From 1996-2002, he worked with MCC Central States in Resource Development. Vern had to face the sad realization of a failed marriage in 1996. Yet it was with joy he and Norma Johnson were married in August, 1998, with the Children's Choir adding notes of blessing. Now-a-days (officially retired!) Vern has managed the Book Reviews store for seven years and currently works half time selling books on the Internet through ABE-books.com. It is appropriate that he always rides his bike to and fro because in every job he held, at least in the United States, he biked to work. Playing tennis twice a week is a favorite hobby. The hymn, "Come, come, ye

saints... all is well, all is well," and Galations 2:19-21, "The life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God," are especially meaningful. Vern, your lifetime of service to God has enriched and empowered the local and wider church, Mennonite Central Committee, and countless lives. May this 80th year bring joy as you remember and celebrate, but also as you explore new tomorrows with gusto!

~ Susan Wheeler

Getting to know Elaine Prouty



Elaine Schroeder Prouty grew up in Newton, attended Newton

grade school and high school there. Most recently she obtained an online bachelors degree in Health Sciences and Health Information Administration from the University of Cincinnati. For the past four years she has worked at Via Christi – St. Francis and prior to that she worked at Wesley Hospital for 11 years. For three years after high school she worked in a nursing home and Horst Pharmacy in downtown Newton. Influential to her interest in a caring health related profession was her mother who was a nurse, and a sister as a radiology technician. She always knew she wanted to be in some sort of caring career. Her father was a Mennonite and her mother a devout Catholic, so she was raised in St. Mary's Catholic Church. Her

family includes three brothers and one sister. Her parents are both deceased.

At the urging of a friend and sister of Hank's she met him at a New Years' Eve party. And, I guess as the saying goes, the rest is history. Since their marriage she has been faithful to BCMC.

Elaine knows the power of prayer as she experienced a serious cancer situation 11 years ago. She is now eight years in remission, and even her doctors admit that it was probably prayer that helped get her this far.

This past school year an added bonus to her family was an exchange student from Sweden, Robin Östman. He and Austin were seniors this year and graduated together from Newton High School. After a family vacation including Robin, he returned home to Sweden.

(Editor's note: Elaine has always appeared to me to be a very caring person – always with a friendly greeting when you meet her. She obviously is in the right professional field, and I congratulate her on her most recent degree. We are so fortunate to have her and her family among us at church.)

~ Lois Goertzen

Babies Born to BCMC Members

* **Grayson Mallet-Prevost Murphy V** born to Kate Brubacher and Grayson Murphy in New York, May 12, 2015

* **Tucker Harold Brubacher** born to Jacob and Marie Brubacher in Boston, May 29, 2015

With Our Members



Spotlight On Youth

Congratulations to Graduates!

From High School: Emily Kondziola, Robin Östman, Austin Prouty, Serena Wong and Gus Williams

From College: Emily Harder, Joe Kondziola, Ben Kreider, Jerrell Williams from Bethel College

Post-Graduate: Stephanie Krehbiel – PhD in American Studies at the University of Kansas; Matt Schloneger – PhD in Vocal Pedagogy from the University of Kansas; Victoria Janzen Schmidt— Master’s degree in Special Education from Wichita State University

* **Sarah Turner** will be spending her senior year of high school as an exchange student in Barcelona, Spain

* **Ben Kreider** will be spending the next year in Honduras with the Mennonite Central Committee SALT program

* **Emily Harder** will be spending the next year with Mennonite Voluntary Service in Washington DC serving with Women’s Alliance for Theology, Ethics and Ritual (WATER)

Anniversary Congratulations!



65 Years
Mary Esther (Graber)
and Lanoy Loganbill
August 6, 1950



60 Years
LaWanda (Schmidt) and
A. Emerson Wiens
June 3, 1955



60 Years
Norma (Vorán) and
Marles Preheim
June 26, 1955



60 Years
Harold and
Carolyn (Mast)
Schultz
August 27, 1955

They write that they will be celebrating their anniversary with family at Chesley Lake, Ontario, where Carolyn and Harold first met.



25 Years
LaVonne
(Goossen)
and Ron
Sawatzky
August 4,
1990



During the final week of May, BCMC hosted 62 wonderful children and emerging youth for a week of Vacation Bible School. The theme of the week focused on hearing God’s call in our lives through the stories of several biblical characters. Activities included worship music and drama as well as engagement with the arts, physical

activity, and a generous offering to Camp Mennoscah. Thank you to all of the teachers, Senior High youth helpers, and many others who contributed to VBS week! ~ John Tyson

Also celebrating anniversaries these months:

* **Howard and Marilyn
(Foth) Schmidt**
June 5, 1965
50 years

* **Orlyn and Janis
(Shantz) Zehr**
August 20, 1955
60 years

Obituaries



**Javan Shelly—
February 21,
1948—April
21, 2015**

Javan, age 67, passed away unexpectedly, April 21, 2015. Son of the late Maynard and Griselda Shelly. Husband of 30 years to Brenda Sue (nee Robbins) Shelly. Father to David C. (Kim) Allen and Douglas F. Brock. Grandfather of Lindsey and Katelin Allen, Ian and Nicholas Ashwell and great-grandfather of Braedon. The funeral service was Apr. 28 in Evendale, OH.



**Evelyn J. Franz
Lohrentz—
December 4,
1937—May 15,
2015**

Evelyn was born in Hutchinson, KS to Peter T. and Selma (Plett) Franz. Her sisters were Lovella and Verna Mae. She was preceded in death by a stillborn sister, Mary Lou, and her sister Verna Mae. She attended Inman schools and later received a teaching degree from Bethel College. She married Howard R. Lohrentz June 4, 1960 at Hebron Mennonite Church, Buhler. Those who survive are husband Howard; children, Janelle (Denis) Levitt of Tucson, Greg (Jane) Lohrentz of Manhattan, grandchildren Matthew, Melanie, Alexa Kate and Amanda, and one sister Lovella (Albert) Franz of Buhler.



**Esther Bohn
Groves—
November 27,
1925—June 3,
2015**

Esther was born

to Rev. Ernest J. and Nora Lantz Bohn in Topeka, Ind. She married Carlyle Groves in 1951. He preceded her in death in 1991. She was a member of Bethel College Mennonite Church. Survivors include son, Nathan Carlyle Groves and wife, Devasia McClain Groves, Liberal; daughter, Debra Groves Bollinger and husband, Rob Bollinger, Austin, Texas; siblings: Catherine Bohn Hartman, the Rev. Stanley Bohn, John Bohn and Eleanor Bohn Unruh; grandchildren: Brent, Katherine, Arthur Groves and spouses; and seven great-grandchildren. She was also preceded in death by sister, Helen Bohn Klassen; son, Quentin; and brother, Alden Bohn. Memorial services are June 29 at BCMC.



**El Vera
Abrahams
Prouty
October 9,
1932—June 9,
2015**

El Vera (Vera) was born the youngest child of George and Helena (Richert) Abrahams in Goessel. Vera attended Gordon Elementary School in rural Goessel through the 8th grade and graduated in 1950 from Goessel High School. Vera was baptized into the Goessel Mennonite Church. After graduation she attended Bethel College in North Newton. On March 9, 1958 she married Clyde Henry Prouty II at Goessel Mennonite Church. To this union, five children were born, son Bill, twin daughters Cindy & Terry, daughter Joan and son Clyde Henry III (Hank). Vera is survived by her children; Bill (Mary) Prouty, New Hampton, IA; Cindy

Ratts, Newton; Terry (Gordon) Wiebe, Whitewater; Joan (Paul) Minkevitch, Newton; and Hank (Elaine) Prouty, Newton. Grandchildren: Tracie (Gordon) MacLeod, Danae (Matt) Epp, Troy (Aubrie) Wiebe, Levi (Logan) Minkevitch, Zach Prouty, Sadie Minkevitch, Silas Minkevitch (fiancé Shauna Denton), Denny Wiebe, Titus Minkevitch, Taylor Wiebe and Austin Prouty, Great Grandchildren Lincoln Epp and Brielle Wiebe and sister Grace Schroeder, numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, Clyde, parents, and brother, Willis Abrahams.

**Pastor's
Corner—
Heidi Regier
Kreider**



Our family recently observed the 5th anniversary of my father's death. It was a sad time, but also an occasion to recall favorite memories. I remember how my father always had a story or a joke at the tip of his tongue. The one that came to my mind recently, as I have been contemplating my upcoming transition (from pastor at BCMC to Conference Minister at Western District Conference) is the story about the church which had a Bible verse posted over the door to their crib nursery. It was a verse from 1 Corinthians 15:51: *"Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed!"* Corny, I know... but it reflects a truth. Whether we are hoping for resurrection or just some dry diapers, whether we are adults still grieving the loss of a

parent, or a pastor and a congregation anticipating a leadership transition, we will be changed.

Change is an inevitable part of life, yet our impulse is usually to resist change – to hold out against the loss, grief and disruption that change brings to our lives. As I prepare to leave my role as pastor after 15 years at BCMC, there are times I would rather just “sleep” than “be changed.” There are moments I would rather just toss all my files in the recycling bin than sort through them carefully to decide what to put in the archives. There are moments I would rather just disappear quietly than go through the exhausting emotional process of saying farewell to congregation members and co-workers. There are even moments I would rather just stay with “business as usual” at BCMC than push the congregation and myself into the deep and uncertain waters of pastoral transition.

Even the changes we plan for - such as graduation, marriage, retirement, or a new vocation – can bring stress, anxiety and sadness at leaving behind things that are good. At the same time, change is essential for growing, learning, health and vitality. Transition brings us into a “liminal” time, a concept first used by anthropologists to describe rites of passage and the stage of ambiguity between what has ended and what has not yet fully begun. This word comes from the Latin “limen” which means “threshold.” When congregations and their leaders cross new

continued next page

Return service requested

Pastor's Corner continued

thresholds, it involves disorientation, grief and stress.

Yet it also creates fresh vision, an opportunity for people to use their gifts in new ways, and deeper dependence on God and realization of the Spirit's guidance.

As we move across the threshold of pastoral transition, I'd like to post over the door some more verses - my prayer for BCMC: *Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your*

requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. ...God will fully satisfy every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ

Jesus. To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen." (Philippians 4:5-7, 19-20)

Worship schedule (Check weekly bulletins and church web site, bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org, for updates and details on worship and other events) Sunday worship is at 9:30 a.m., unless otherwise noted.

June 2015

June 7

Worship with sermon by Heidi Regier Kreider; music by Sarah Turner, clarinet with Donna Woolery, piano; commissioning of new officers, commissions, committees; Children's summer Sunday school begins

June 14

Worship with sermon by Andy Brubacher Kaethler; music by elementary and early middle school students

June 21—Father's Day

Worship with sermon by John Tyson; music by Vada Snider, flute

June 28

Worship with sermon by Allie Shoup; music by children and youth; Kingdom Report by Janet Stucky, Mennonite Mission Network worker in Benin, West Africa; Fellowship time with Janet Stucky (coffee and refreshments served)

July 2015

July 5

Worship with music by Margaret Toews, flute; sermon to be announced

July 12

Worship with sermon by Heidi Regier Kreider; music by Maggie Dungan and Brent Dungan

July 19

Worship with sermon by Allie Shoup; music to be announced

July 26

Worship with sermon by Heidi Regier Kreider; music to be announced; Farewell for Ministry Inquiry Program Intern Allie Shoup; Noon potluck lunch and farewell for Pastor Heidi Regier Kreider

See page 4 of this issue of *The Kaleidoscope* for a list of the July and August Faith Forums.

August details of worship to be announced later