

Beyond the Congregation – May 31, 2015

EVENTS – LOCAL & BEYOND

- ♪ **Spring Benefit Concert by The Jubilation Male Chorus** - Sunday evening, May 31 at 7:00 pm. A free-will offering will be received with proceeds to be divided equally between The Food Bank and The Community Justice Initiatives, both of Waterloo Region. This concert, directed by Music Director Robert Shantz, will be held at the Waterloo-Kitchener United Mennonite Church at 15 George Street, Waterloo.
- ♪ **Inter-Mennonite Children's Choir** offers a chance for children ages 6-14 to have an excellent music education experience while singing with their friends. Learn music from varying eras, proper voice techniques, and grow in self-confidence and performance skills. The IMCC has been training young singers for almost 50 years, and is currently accepting new choristers for Fall 2015. Vocal interviews will be held on June 3 and June 10. The registration link is available at www.menoosingers.com/imcc (under join the choir) or email imcc.conductor@rogers.com for more info.
- **Youth Event at Crosshill Mennonite Church** Friday June 5, 7 pm until ? Rain or Shine! Bonfire and games at the home of Mike and Margaret Holst, 2210 Hackbart Road, Wellesley. If it is pouring rain we will go to the church at 2537 Hutchison Road, Crosshill.
- ♪ **Ninth Annual Shaped Note Singing** from the *Harmonia Sacra* Singing School and Hymn Book Sunday, June 7, 2 :3 at Detweiler Meetinghouse. This is the oldest shaped note music book (1832) in continuous use. Led by Laurence Martin. A freewill offering in support of Meetinghouse operations will be held. Everyone welcome. More information: Laurence Martin 519-208-4591
- **Hidden Acres Mennonite Camp annual BBQ and pie auction** is on Tuesday June 9 from 5:30 to 8:30. Proceeds support Hidden Acres summer camp ministry to underprivileged children. Regular meal \$15, small size \$11, take-out available. Advance tickets only, available from Mike and Carolyn Strathdee, or info@hiddenacres.ca
 - ♪ **Fairview Mennonite Home Talent Show**, Wednesday June 10 @ 7:00pm in the Centre Auditorium. Free admission, concession available.
 - **Mennonite Historical Society of Ontario Bus Trip and annual meeting** Saturday, June 13, 1:00 pm, at Essex Kent Mennonite Historical Association, 31 Pickwick Dr., Leamington. Presentation on Essex County Mennonites and tour of their museum. Also tours of Essex County Mennonite churches and a local Mennonite greenhouse. Bus leaves Rockway Mennonite Collegiate at 8:00 a.m., returning early evening. For further information and to reserve a bus seat (\$40/\$30 for students) contact Sam Steiner: secretary@mhso.org 519-884-1040
 - **Canadian Mennonite University's Canadian School of Peacebuilding** invites you to come this summer to learn with other peacebuilders – local and international, young and old, students, practitioners and those new to peacebuilding – on June 15 – 19; 22 – 26. More information is available at www.csop.cmu.ca or csop@cmu.ca
 - **MennoHomes annual Bike-a-thon**, Out-Spok'n, will be held on Saturday June 20 at Elmira Mennonite Church. All proceeds to new affordable housing project in Elmira. Details at www.mennohomes.com or contact Dan Driedger at 226-476-2535 or ddridger@mennohomes.com
 - **Fairview Mennonite Home Strawberry Social**, Wednesday June 24 at 2:00pm and 7:00pm, Centre Auditorium Fairview Vocal and Handbell Choirs Present: "All Things Bright and Beautiful; God Made Them". Refreshment tickets \$5.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children under 12
 - **Family camping at Hidden Acres Mennonite Camp**, June 26 - 28. More info at www.hiddenacres.ca or to reserve a cabin, call (519)625-8602 or email info@hiddenacres.ca
 - **Skylight Festival** is coming to Paris, Ontario from July 31 to August 2. The festival offers music, art, film and inspiring conversations on faith, peace and justice – in a celebratory space created to nurture a narrative of hope, joy and transformation. All are welcome. Free camping for everyone. Register NOW to get the Box Office Special price of only \$119 for the first 50 registrants. Regular price is \$179 so register today! All the information can be found on our website www.skylightfestival.ca including our current line-up of inspiring musicians, speakers and artists. Be sure to "like" our Facebook page facebook.com/skylightfestival
 - **Women's Canoe Trip** - Join Tanya Dyck Steinmann and Rebekah Caldwell from August 3-7 (4 days on the canoe trip and balance at camp) for a paddle through beautiful inland lakes surrounded by towering cliffs in Massasaugua Provincial Park. For more information please visit www.slmc.ca/retreats or call Silver Lake Mennonite Camp 519-422-3200
 - **CommonWord Bookstore and Resource Centre at CMU** – CommonWord provides thousands of home and congregational resources for sale, loan, and download. Take advantage of competitive pricing as well as free shipping and downloads. Largest Anabaptist resource centre in Canada. Visit commonword.ca today
 - **Canadian Mennonite University's** new student registration is open for fall and winter courses! Questions about registration? Visit us online at cmu.ca.

SUMMER CAMPS

• **Youth Leadership Opportunities at Fraser Lake Camp** - Are you 15-16 years old and looking for an adventure this summer? Fraser Lake's LIT program offers leadership development and a 9 day canoe trip through Algonquin Park! Our CIT program trains youth to become camp counsellors in a beautiful Canadian Shield setting. For more info contact the FLC Director, Kristen Berg, kberg@fraserlakecamp.com

♪ **Ontario Mennonite Music Camp** Are you between 12 and 16 years old? Do you enjoy music? There is still time to register for OMMC for a wonderful camp experience combining music and traditional camp activities. This overnight camp is held at Conrad Grebel Aug 16 - 28. Register before June 14 for early bird rate. Register online at:

www.grebel.uwaterloo.ca/ommc/

• **Silver Lake Mennonite Camp** – Programming available for campers ages 6-16 including Mini Camp, Teen Camp, Family Camp and many others. Campership Funds (subsidies) are available. For more information, please visit www.slmc.ca or contact Dave Erb at dave@slmc.ca or 519-422-1401.

• **Silver Lake Mennonite Camp wants our messages!!** This summer, Silver Lake campers and staff will be exploring Menno Media's proposed theme, "Message Received." What messages do we receive from the media, social media, and song lyrics? ...from friends, family, and neighbours? ...from nature, and from our bodies? What messages do we send, or might we wish to send, to others and to Creation? How does God communicate with us? ...and how do we respond to God?

To help us consider our theme, we would like you – individuals, families, committees, classes, pastoral teams, or entire congregations – to send us messages! Your message can be about anything you feel inspired to share. Maybe you'd like to tell us about your days as a Silver Lake camper, staff person, or volunteer. Maybe you'd like to pass along an important life lesson, a scripture, an invitation, an excerpt, a song, a hope, a challenge, an amazing idea... something puzzling that's been on your mind!

You can send your message via mail to Attn: Messages, Silver Lake Mennonite Camp, 72 Pine Forest Dr., Sauble Beach, ON, N0H 2G0. You can send it via email to messages@slmc.ca. You can also send your message in an audio or visual format, in a package, or request to be a guest and (if we can make it work!) deliver your message live!

We hope to receive TONS of messages, with representation from all our constituent congregations. In addition, we have invited MCCers from around the world to send messages, either their own or those of their neighbours. And former SLMC staff member, Mary Fehr, will send us messages as she bikes across Canada to raise money for MEDA, then deliver an in-person message when she reaches us, during Arts and Adventure Camp!

Our staff will draw from your messages, and share them during Morning Watches, devotions, resource sessions, and other special events. When you send your message, please indicate if you DO NOT wish us to post it on our website and/or Facebook page. As we share messages at camp, (unless permission is declined) we'll post them, throughout the summer, so you can hear and read what others have to say to the Silver Lake community, too!

If you have questions, or are interested in delivering an in-person message, please contact Melanie Cameron, Summer Camp Director, at melanie@slmc.ca or 226-751-4007. Otherwise, we'll be excited to discover your message in the messages@slmc.ca inbox, or waiting at our office door

• **Summer Job Opportunities at Hidden Acres Mennonite Camp** - If you would like to spend your summer out in nature, positively impacting the lives of hundreds of young people, building great relationships with the other staff members and sharing and developing your faith, then check out Hidden Acres. For more information or to fill out an application, go to our website at www.hiddenacres.ca or contact Chris Pot at 519-625-8602 or chrisspot@hiddenacres.ca

• **Silver Lake Mennonite Camp has asked our church to supply 5 volunteers** for the week of Camp 5 from August 9-15, during their summer camp program. Primarily they are looking for people to help prepare meals in the kitchen and help with various maintenance tasks. See details on hall bulletin board.

• **Ontario Mennonite Music Camp (OMMC)** registration is now open for summer 2015! OMMC is a wonderful opportunity for youth age 12 to 16 to form friendships, enhance their musical abilities, grow in their faith, and develop leadership skills. This overnight camp will be held at Conrad Grebel University College Aug 16 – 28. Register online at www.grebel.ca/ommc before May 31 for early-bird rate.

• **Camp Shalom Cambridge** is looking for counselors, kitchen and maintenance staff. If you love Jesus and like working with kids or individuals with special needs, then this might be for you. All positions are paid and you must be 17 before Dec. 31, 2015 to apply. Visit www.countrysidecamp.com to apply.

MCC – MCCO – MCEC – MDS – MEDA – MC CANADA – MSCU – MDS NEWS & EVENTS

• **Mennonite Disaster Service has a service opportunity** for the whole family. Families of children and adults of all ages are encouraged to serve together building cabins for a week at Camp Elim near Swift Current, Saskatchewan between August 3 & 28. For more info and to register call 866-261-1274 or at mds.mennonite.net/projects/campelimfamily project.

• **Do you have a passion for sewing or quilting** and love to share your skills with others. MCC Ontario is seeking volunteers to run several sewing and quilting classes at 50 Kent. If you are interested please call Wendy Cotter at 519-745-8458 x 248 or go to mcccanada.ca/get-involved/serve/volunteer/sewing-quilting-teachers for more info.

• **Mennonite Coalition for Refugee Support (MCRS) has focused on the growing need for support** for the reunification of local refugee claimant families. Many families are split up due to war and conflict - one family member escapes, taking a dangerous path that will bring them to Canada. If their refugee claim is accepted they can begin the process of bringing their loved ones to safety. They are often separated for prolonged periods, due to policies that delay reunification. Sometimes they are forced to wait years to be reunited with their spouses and children, who may be in situations of danger or persecution. And children are the hardest hit.

Learn more about how you can help - and do contact me if you have any queries, by telephone at 519-571-1912 ext. 4. Or via email at resourcedevelopment@mcrs.ca Thank you for your continued prayers and support.

• **MCC urgently needs KIT BAGS:** Please help us replenish our inventory. Use medium or lightweight fabric. Sewing instructions are available at mcco.ca/kits or by calling Wendy Cotter at 519-745-8458 ext 248.

Come early for a bus tour of the local area and experience the diversity of the Aylmer area Low German Mennonite Communities' businesses, churches, schools and culture. Up close and personal with your guide, Abe Harms. The cost will be \$10 per person.

• **MCC Ontario Annual General Meeting** Thursday, June 18 Sommerfeld Mennonite Church, Aylmer. 3:30 pm tour of the local Low German Community; 6-6:45 pm - Supper served (no charge, but advance registration is required); 7 pm - Worship, speakers and business meeting

• **Mennonite Savings and Credit Union Centre for Peace Advancement and Conrad Grebel University College** are pleased to announce the extension of *Taking Community from the Farm to the World*, an exhibition of David L Hunsberger's iconic photographs. On display until August 14 at Conrad Grebel, Monday to Friday, 8:30 am – 4:30 pm..

Mennonite World Conference

• **Experience an Assembly Scattered event:** The North American church is ready and eager to host you in their communities. Consider planning a few extra days, either before or after PA 2015 in Harrisburg, to see God at work at one of 15 Assembly Scattered locations. From the Pacific region's multi-cultural gateway of Los Angeles to the east coast historic city of Philadelphia, and from the far north in Anchorage, Alaska to the southern metropolis of Miami, Florida, the church is beckoning you. Experience firsthand the complexity of immigration issues at the Texas-Mexico border with the San Antonio Mennonite Church. Learn about Mennonite Brethren churches started in North Carolina during segregation in the south and their vibrant ministries in the mountain communities, or the work of churches in Central Kansas or Harrisonburg, VA. For more information on these and other incredible opportunities to experience the rich diversity of MWC churches in the US, go to <https://www.mwc-cmm.org/pennsylvania-2015/assembly-scattered>

• **Call for Worship and Contemporary Art** -- Art of many kinds will be on display at PA 2015, the global Assembly of Mennonite World Conference that will be held July 21-26 in Harrisburg, PA. Artists are invited to submit contemporary art for a juried exhibit. Churches are invited to display worship art (banners, tapestries, or other

• **Thinking of registering for PA 2015?** The time is now! Register while options are still available for tours and service opportunities. PA 2015, the global Assembly of Mennonite World Conference, will be held July 21-26 in Harrisburg, PA. For more information and to register, go to <https://www.mwc-cmm.org/PA2015>

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

• **MCEC's interactive web space**, the exchange is a place to connect with others and to find and to share resources. A 10 hour/week contract position is being established to promote and assist in its use. Individuals who have expertise with social media technology, are comfortable communicating with congregational leaders and pastors, and who have an awareness of the MCEC ministry context are invited to inquire.

Contact Jeff Steckley, Congregational Ministries Minister - jsteckley@mcec.ca (226) 476-2500 ext. 707