

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HOUR

### **Class:**

Early Childhood ( <i>Ages 0-3 years</i> ).....	Parents
Preschool ( <i>Ages 3-5 years</i> ).....	Evie Shellenberger, Stori Sullivan
Primary ( <i>Grades 1-3</i> ).....	Crystal Shellenberger, Darlene Larrison
Middler ( <i>Grades 4 &amp; 5</i> ) .....	Doris Weaver, Veronika Sukup
Junior High ( <i>Grades 6&amp;7</i> ) .....	Andrew Blount, Mary Beth Gibbons
Youth ( <i>Grades 8-12</i> ).....	Matt Pflederer

### **Teachers:**

**Adult Classes:** The Bible as Story led by Bonnie Beachy.  
"Jesus and the Scriptures" - Understanding Jesus in light of the Old Testament

### For Prayer

Give thanks to God for the safe birth of Irene and Sallie, twin daughters of Kirsten and Jason. Excited grandparents are Jim and Bonnie Beachy. May God grant strength and joy to each one.

Ask for the Holy Spirit's direction as we engage in discerning gifts to carry out the various ministries of PMF.

There are 31 camps and retreat centers in the U.S. who belong to the Mennonite Camping Association, including Amigo Centre and Camp Friedenswald. Pray for the staff, volunteers, and summer staff of these camps as they are preparing now for the summer camp season.

Continue to hold Sarah and Terry Whiteman in prayer, that God would sustain them and give them peace. Pray also for others in our fellowship and community who are facing health concerns, including: Mica's mother, Deb Giles' step-father.

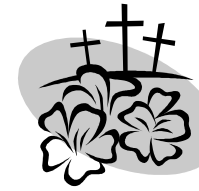
Fellow Conference congregations to pray for this week: Clinton Frame Mennonite Church, Goshen IN, College Mennonite Church, Goshen IN, Emmaus Road Mennonite Fellowship, Berne IN.

Many Latin American women found healing and renewal in Sister Care workshops last year. Pray for them as they share what they learned through relationships with other women, and in facilitating workshops at local and regional levels.

### **Sending**

**All:** We have encountered God's love and call.  
Let us go then as witnesses to that love,  
Eager to call others to the generosity we've experienced,  
On the lookout in the week ahead  
For where God is meeting us – body, mind, and spirit.

# PAOLI MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP



**March 16, 2014**

*We welcome all persons  
to worship, study and fellowship with us as we continually  
seek to be faithful disciples of Jesus*

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**Lent 2**

**Encountering God: What have we witnessed...in our blessings?**

*Focus Statement:* Encountering God through "new birth" often involves risk and disorientation.

### **Encountering God**

Prelude music and gathering song  
Welcome and Introductions  
Call to Worship (see insert)  
Praising with Song

Opportunities for Generosity  
Special Giving for March is Paoli Food Pantry

Scripture Reading: Genesis 12:1-4; Psalm 121  
Confession and assurance (see insert)

### **What have we witnessed?**

Celebrating Shalom: Wally Shellenberger  
Children's Time  
Scripture: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17, John 3:1-17  
Meditation  
Responding

### **Sent as witnesses**

Sharing Joys and Concerns/Prayer  
Announcements  
Sending (see back)

**PASTOR-ELDER TEAM**

Rebecca Kauffman, Pastor 653-4140  
Matt Pflederer, Pastor (574) 606-6727  
Mary Beth Gibbons 723-2723  
Mica Beauregard 723-4502  
Ted Larrison 723-3826

**MINISTERS**

All the congregation

**CHURCH OFFICE**

**Pastors:** Rebecca Kauffman; Office Hours - Tues 9-4, Wed 9-1, Thurs 1-5  
Matt Pflederer; Office Hours – Mon, 1-3 pm, Tues, Wed, Fri. 9:00 am – 12:00 pm  
**Secretary:** Deb Giles; Office Hours – Wed. and Fri. 9:00 am – 12:00 noon  
**Phone:** (812) 723-2414; **Fax:** (812) 723-3515 **email:** mennos.paoli@gmail.com  
**Address:** 2589 N. CR 100 W., Paoli, IN 47454

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**OUR COVENANT**

In covenanting together, we affirm that Jesus Christ is Lord. We gratefully acknowledge him as our Lord and accept his teaching as the way to live. We recognize the importance of:

- Regular Bible study, worship with others, and prayer as a vital part of our Christian life.
- Taking each other seriously, contributing our gifts and caring for one another in love to strengthen the Christian body.
- Living and sharing the Good News as Christ has taught us and as the Holy Spirit enables.

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**TODAY** March 16, 2014 (worship at 9:30)

*Encountering God: What have we witnessed?*

Worship Leader: Lonnie Sears  
Music Leader: Hannah Thill  
Meditation: Matt Pflederer  
Greeters: Louise O’Connell  
Nursery: Jamie Sullivan/Bonnie Beachy  
A.V.: Larry Lehman

**NEXT SUNDAY** March 23, 2014 (worship at 9:30)

*Encountering God: What have we witnessed?*

Worship Leader: Kym Kinsey  
Music Leader: Marlene Beachy  
Meditation:  
Greeter: Trish and Larry Moore  
Nursery: Evie Shellenberger/Trish Moore  
AV: Larry Lehman

**TODAY**

We hear the story of Nicodemus' encounter with Jesus. An encounter that is marked with questions and misunderstandings. How does Jesus offer of "new birth" explode, rearranged and reconfigure our settled ideas and force us to re-think the things we already thought we knew.

**All parents of youth** in grade 5, 6, and 7 are invited to stay for lunch following the education hour, to discuss and learn more about the upcoming sexuality classes. If you cannot make it please contact Evie.

Community Youth Group, 6:00 pm at Paoli United Methodist Church.

**NEXT SUNDAY**

Jesus meets a Samaritan woman at the well, speaks of living water and true worship. to prepare for next Sunday please read John 4:5-42.

**THIS WEEK**

March 18, 11:00 am – Gift Discernment committee meeting

Save the date: on April 9<sup>th</sup> the choir from Iowa Mennonite School will share a concert with us, and also spend the night at the PMF building as they are on choir tour. More details to come.

**UPCOMING**

March 27, 7:00 pm – PET meeting

**Shalom Sunday** on March 30 will be a time to fellowship, eat, and (re)discover parts of our beautiful church grounds. Meet at the church at 11am for some singing and then we'll have a pitch-in meal at noon. After the meal there will be a number of options for interacting with the land surrounding the church building. An activity for children is being planned. Wear clothes that you'll be comfortable walking around and doing some light work in.

There will be a seated activity for those not wanting to be active. In event of rain, we'll have board games and a hymn sing inside. -Shalom Sunday Committee

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

An Informational **webinar entitled: “Retiring Soon?”** will be presented by Everence on March 26 and 27. It will include basic information on Medicare, signing up for Social Security, working after age 65 and more. If you are interested, contact Wendell Lantz for more details.

**Gift Discernment** response forms are due today. Prayerfully consider your own gifts and interests, as well as those of others; and think about how to apply these gifts to fit the needs of our congregation.

Sign up sheets for **summer camp** are located on the bulletin board. If your child plans on attending one of the camps at Camp Amigo or Camp Friedenswald, please sign them up as soon as possible. We need to start planning fund raising activities accordingly. If you have any questions please contact Stori.

During this season of Lent in March, we are **collecting soap, towels and fabric for MCC** as one way of gratefully remembering what Jesus gave for us. Details are in your mailbox.

New in the magazine rack: **“The Marketplace”** magazine by Mennonite Economic Development Association (MEDA).

Facing illness, death, and grief are both unavoidable and a natural part of being human. Yet these are often painful times that leave us feeling bewildered or alone. As a Christian community we turn to our faith and one another to help us walk these journeys. PMF's Circle of Care committee has set up a **new Resource Shelf**. It will feature "Care Notes" which you are welcome to take for yourself or give to a friend.

### Call to Worship

Leader: We look to the hills and to the mountain tops;  
**People:** here does our help come from?  
Leader: We look to the sun, to the moon, and the stars above;  
**People:** where does our help come from?  
Leader: We look to the God of Abraham, maker of heaven and earth;  
**All:** our help comes from the Lord!

### Confessing our sin:

Leader: We think that who we are makes us heir to God's kingdom:  
**Left:** the family we are born into,  
**Right:** the name game we play.  
Leader: We think that what we have done makes us citizens of God's nation:  
**Left:** which school we went to,  
Right: what agency we volunteered with.  
Leader: We think that what we look like will make us worthy of God's blessing:  
**Left:** the marks we do (or don't) put on our bodies,  
**Right:** the clothes we wear.  
Leader: We think that what we believe will save us from death:  
**Left:** the laws we follow to the letter,  
**Right:** the certitudes we're confident we know because we've verified them.  
**All:** **We want who we are,**  
                  **where we come from,**  
                  **what we have done,**  
                  **what we believe to be enough.**  
**Like Nicodemus, we do not understand how to be reborn. We speak only about**  
**what we know, Testify only to what we can prove.**  
**Lord, hear our prayer. (Silence)**

### Claiming our assurance

Leader: Let go of who you are,  
let go of where you come from,  
let go of what you have done,  
let go of what you believe.  
Receive new birth:  
Open your hands to God's gift of a transformed life.

**All:** For the gift of Jesus Christ is the gift of rebirth as a child of God.  
an heir to the heavenly kingdom,  
and is ours through faith and not our works.

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