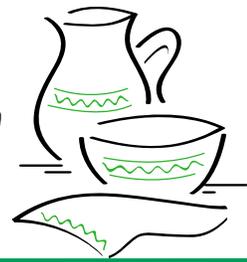


CONESTOGA Connections



January 2014
Vol. XXV
No. 1

Advent Sundays at Conestoga Mennonite





Down To The River To Pray

As I went down in the river to pray
Studying about that good ol' way
And who shall wear the starry crown?
Good Lord, show me the way!

*Doug, we will meet you at the River someday!
~ Love from your Conestoga family*



CONESTOGA MENNONITE CHURCH

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Monthly newsletter for Conestoga Mennonite Church published since 1988. Deadline for articles and photos is the 20th of the preceding month of publication.

Editor: Lois Ann Mast
Assistant Editor: Elizabeth Petersheim
Reporters: Bonnie Beam and Sharon Stoltzfus





Sewing Circle

Sewing Circle met on December 4, 2013. There were 16 ladies present. Completed items included five comforters and 20 hygiene kits.

Election of officers was held with Violet Beam officiating. Verna Buckwalter was nominated for the position of vice-president. There were no other nominations. A motion was made by Virginia Hertzler and seconded by Julia Yoder to accept Verna as vice-president. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Shirley Nolt and seconded by Kathryn Stoltzfus to retain Betty Cannell as secretary. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Shirley and seconded by Reba Yoder to retain Julia Yoder as treasurer. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Lois Petersheim and seconded by Lillian Stoltzfus to retain Shirley Nolt as chaplain. The motion carried.

Pat Gascho was nominated to serve on the Kitchen Committee. This motion was made by Virginia Hertzler and seconded by Verna Buckwalter.

Reba Yoder, past vice-president, moves up to the position of president.

For devotions, we sang "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear." Luke 2:8-14 was read (followed by a devotional entitled "Peace on Earth?")

The special offering amounted to \$72.00 for hygiene kits. We sang "O Come All Ye Faithful" before adjourning.

- Betty Cannell, Secretary



NEIGHBORS caring & sharing

Neighbors meets on Tuesday mornings during the academic school year in our church fellowship hall from 9:15 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Everyone is welcome for this time of fellowship!

— January 7 —

"The Art of Creativity—It Sets Us Free"

Bible Study by Stan Deen

— January 14 —

"More Satisfying Than Chocolate"

A craving God kind of talk by Tami Horst

— January 21 —

Hearts United for Haiti

by Crystal Funk

— January 28 —

"Praying to Hit the Mark"

by Ann Gibble

Did You Know That . . .

. . . **Vida Beiler's** niece, Anna Groff, was recently named interim editor of the monthly periodical *The Mennonite*—the denominational periodical of Mennonite Church U.S.A? Groff has been serving as associate editor since 2006 and will begin her new role on February 1, 2014, in Tucson, Arizona.

. . . there was a team of men cleaning up the parking lot at church to allow for more parking availability and safety before Doug's funeral on Dec. 19—**Jerry Petersheim, Ryan Petersheim, Mike Petersheim, Fred Peachey, John Miller, Gary Stoltzfus, Titus Beam, Matt Beam, and Dylan Beam.** Thank You!!!

. . . in February tickets need to be reserved for **Conestoga's Bus Trip** on June 27, 2014, to New York City to sail on a "tall ship" past the Statue of Liberty, Brooklyn Bridge, Ellis Island, and other sites. Cost is \$78 for adults and \$54 for children ages 12 and under. Please tell Lois Ann Mast (mast@masthof.com or 484-798-8556) if you wish to reserve a seat on the chartered bus.

. . . our **church library** needs children's DVDs with a Christian theme? Do you have some that your family has outgrown? Our library sure would appreciate receiving more!



*The **Art Show** at Conestoga to benefit Still Waters Ministries included a wonderful variety of paintings and other artwork plus delightful entertainment (pictured on the right). Becky Yoder's granddaughter was one of the artists (pictured below).*



Tel Hai 5K Turkey Bowl Race

Conestoga persons who ran in the Tel Hai 5K Turkey Bowl Race on November 28, 2013, included Ryan and Laurell Bostdorf, Liz Petersheim, Rachel Mast, and Karen Horning. The 5K (3.1 mile) race, benefitting Tel Hai Camp & Retreat, was a cross-country type race through the beautiful camp and around the lake. Great job, runners!





Carmen's homemade angel food cakes were another great fundraiser!

Knotted comforter by the youth—thanks to Violet's help!

Youth Auction in 2013!



Homemade food, baked goods, Christmas goodies, canned food, and even leftovers from the evening dinner were auctioned!



Dan Mast helped Greg Petersheim in auctioneering—providing more fun!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

to

Elma Peachey

*who turns age 90 on
January 12, 2014!*

*In this photo, Elma and
her sisters are playing their
musical instruments.*

*Birthday cards may be sent to:
Elma Peachey
Garden Spot, B-22
433 S. Kinzer Ave.
New Holland, PA 17557.*

New Library Books

Our children really need to know how much their parents love them. But do we know how to make them feel loved? And what makes siblings respond differently to the same expressions of love or the same parenting style?

The Five Love Languages of Children is one of several parenting books recently added to our library. These authors say "If your love language is different from your children's, you'd better learn to translate fast!" This book will help you do that.

Ross Campbell co-authors this book (along with Gary Chapman). Dr. Campbell is a noted author and lecturer on parent-child relationships. As a young mother, I found Dr. Campbell's writings so helpful in learning how to better love my children; his writings changed how I parented! Two additional books by Dr. Campbell recently placed in our library are: How to Really Love Your Child and How to Really Parent Your Child. I highly recommend them to anyone wanting to be an effective parent.

- Dot Leatherman



The Grandparent Shower for Tina and Lyle Essick was great fun for all on Sunday, December 1. Blessings to both of you as you anticipate this new chapter in your life coming up in 2014!



Christmas Senior Connections

As we sat around tables intermixed with seniors and children from Conestoga Christian School's second grade class, we enjoyed a ham loaf dinner followed by a concert and drama by the second graders. Then Sandy and Marian handed a bag of Christmas joy to each second grader. Some of the seniors also compiled Christmas bags to distribute to all the Food Pantry children (bottom photo).



Senior Connections on Thursday, January 9

Enjoy lunch with other seniors and then participate (if you wish) in a Bible quiz . . . plus more!

Happy New Year!



Hope Has Hands

In search of a child, they travel so far,
 Led by a star to a place of joy,
 Now the wise men tell a beautiful story,
 Describing the glory of a baby boy.

Hope has hands,
 Freedom has feet,
 Truth will stand,
 The word will speak;
 The holy and lowly will
 finally embrace,
 For love has a heartbeat,
 And grace has a face.

Compassion has a tear,
 Joy has a laughter,
 And here ever after peace
 has a smile,
 Redemption's blood has veins
 to flow in,
 A temple to glow in,
 Light is a child.

Hope has hands,
 Freedom has feet,
 Truth will stand
 the world will sleep,
 The holy and lowly
 will finally embrace,
 For love has a heartbeat,
 And grace has a face,

The holy and lowly
 will finally embrace,
 For love has a heartbeat,
 Love has a heartbeat,
 And grace has a face.

*~ Donna Godshall, soloist, sang this s
 song at Conestoga's Christmas Eve service.
 It was composed by Russell Mauldin.*

