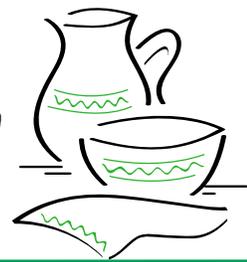


CONESTOGA Connections



May 2014
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No. 5

Conestoga's Young Adult Retreat at the Mountains



The Young Adults traveled to Bob and Karen Horning's cabin for a Spiritual Life Weekend! They were challenged and encouraged by speaker Michael Guertin, and also enjoyed playing a variety of games, as well as just relaxing!





Dr. Omar with Lemar.

Do I always allow God to guide me continually?

(Isaiah 58:11)

by J. Lemar Mast

At the suggestion of the Pastoral Team for all of us, I have been trying to continually be aware of God working in my life, and giving Him credit when due. At times, it has been somewhat of a chore to keep track and recognize it.

About two years ago, we were invited by some friends to plan a river cruise from Berlin, Germany, to Prague, Czech Republic. This was long before health issues began creeping up on me. About one month before we left, we informed the other two couples that we were cancelling. We felt that God was saying “no” to our trip.

Two weeks later, I was feeling much better, and I decided that I could definitely handle this trip! Now God seemed to be saying “yes” to our trip. So after both my urologist and physical therapist said that I could handle the trip, although not to over-do it, certainly God was saying that we could enjoy our vacation. This especially delighted our friends who were reluctant to go without us.

Each day before our departure date, I increasingly felt better, so it was with anticipation that we headed to the Philadelphia Airport to fly to London and then on to Berlin, Germany, with our long-time friends!

We saw many sites in Berlin during the three days we were there: remains of the Berlin Wall (came down

25 years ago), site where President Kennedy gave his “*Ich bin ein Berliner*” speech in 1963, Checkpoint Charlie, the Brandenburg Gate where President Reagan challenged President Gorbachev to, “Tear down this wall!” in 1987, a three-hour boat ride through Berlin’s canals, and a delicious German pork and saurkraut dinner. Thank you God for the great time and fellowship with friends!

The day before we boarded our river boat for the cruise on the Elbe River, we visited Potsdam where Roosevelt, Churchill, and Stalin met face-to-face at the Big Three Conference during World War II.

At the town of Magdeburg, I detected what I thought might be bronchitis, and then that night, I had difficulty breathing when I laid down to sleep. From midnight on, I sat up to try to sleep. By morning, we called the EMT on board and he suggested I get checked out at the hospital. Thus, began the question of whether God was blessing this trip. I hardly thought so.

We had just docked that morning at Dessau where there was a new modern teaching hospital specializing in cardiac issues. Well, maybe this was God at work in my life. After many tests and exams, a heart attack was ruled out, but a blood clot was found in my lung. I found myself hooked up to a lot of wires, blood pressure, oxygen machines, and was given an anticoagulant (blood thinner) and antibiotics. I was relieved that the hospital provided a room for Lois Ann each night—she was by my side almost all the time! My condition was stabilized the next day and I was moved to another room minus all the machines. Another exam revealed the origin of the blood clot in my right leg. There wasn’t much to do except rest, and “try” to converse with my German roommates who could not speak English.

I had to wonder as I reflected on our trip: “Did I allow God to lead or did I lead God?” Or perhaps, does God just step in when needed in spite of where we are?

Now that it is all over, and I am back home, I am happy with God for His comfort and peace in the times of trouble! Yes, God does bring “good” out of troubled times. My prayer is that God is happy with me!



CONESTOGA MENNONITE CHURCH

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Assistant Editor: Elizabeth Petersheim
Contributing Editor: Anna Martin



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!

— May 6 —

Walk at Hopewell Village

Sign up ahead of time for transportation leaving from the church. We will arrive at the Village parking lot and visitor center at 10:00 a.m.

— June 10 —

Tour of Zimhaven Farms

Barb and Dale Zimmerman will serve as our hosts at 10:00 a.m.

on their farm at Route 23, East Earl, before Shady Maple on the right.

Then it is on to Poole Forge for a picnic lunch.



Sewing Circle

Sewing Circle met on Wednesday, April 2, 2014. There were 11 ladies present. Completed items included 15 baby blankets, 1 comforter, and 28 hygiene kits.

Before devotions, we sang, "Christ Arose." This was followed by the reading of Hebrews 10:11-18 after which we heard a devotional reading entitled "Easter Every Day."

The special offering amounted to \$57.00 to be used for hygiene kits. We sang, "Christ the Lord is Risen Today" before adjourning.

- Betty Cannell, Secretary



As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby.

1 Peter 2:2



Special Sunday School Class for Parents of Preschoolers

Three different sessions on "Christian Parenting Skills" will be offered June 8, July 13, and August 10, during the Sunday School hour. Parents of infants, toddlers, and preschoolers, are encouraged to be part of this program. Child care will be provided for all children of participants. Look for more details in future bulletins.

~ Lisa Miller, Sunday School Superintendent



Conestoga's Version of Duck Dynasty!

Great job!

Some of the Jr. Youth guys recently enjoyed an evening of fun dressing up as Duck Dynasty followers! Pictured left to right: Zack Johnson, Nelson Beam, Dan Mast, and Alan Perez.

Quizzers and Sponsors' Party . . .

Sponsoring a quizzer during the Quiz season is fun for both the quizzer and the sponsor, but then the special evening of games where sponsors are revealed, ends another great quiz season—until next year!





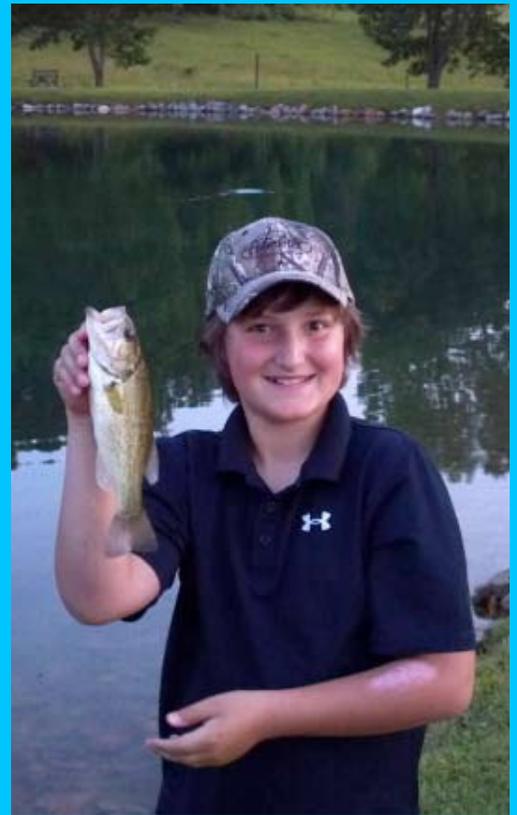
**Father/Children
(cross the generations)
Fishing Derby
on**

**Friday, June 6, 2014,
after 6:00 p.m.
at Pastor Bob & Cindy
Petersheim's Pond.**

*A light supper will
be provided, plus prizes!*

**Sign-up
on the church
bulletin board
by May 26, 2014.**

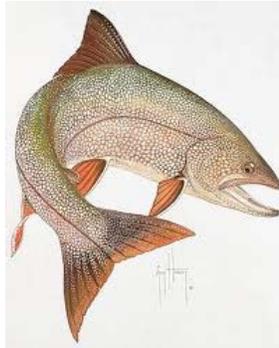
**Coordinators for this
2014 Fishing Derby
are Mason Stoltzfus,
Bronson Fox, Abe
Oberholtzer, and
Cindy Petersheim.**



Above photos taken at the June 2012 Fishing Derby.



*Kaiti Fox caught the largest
fish on Easter weekend in
N.Y. until Bronson caught his
monster of a fish weighing in
at 14 pounds—a 34-inch lake
trout! Wow . . .*





Thank You to the workers on Conestoga's Work Day!





Six kinds of homemade pies were the “hit” at a recent Sr. Connections luncheon. Thanks to our three J’s—Jane, Jo, and Julia!

Sr. Connections

Thursday, May 8, 2012

12:00 noon

“Celebrating Mothers” will be the theme, plus special music by Jill Waters.

Even though Mother’s Day will have already passed, we will celebrate our mothers by sharing something special about her.

Connections meets once a month on the second Thursday each month. Anyone age 60+ is invited to join us!



2014 Conestoga Softball Schedule

Games start at 6:45 p.m.

- Monday, April 28 - CEFC vs. Conestoga at West Nantmeal
- Monday, May 5 - Grace Fellowship vs. Conestoga at New Holland West Field
- Tuesday, May 13 - Conestoga vs. Bethany at Bowmansville
- Tuesday, May 20 - Summit View vs. Conestoga at Bowmansville, Late Game at 8:45 p.m.
- Tuesday, May 27 - Conestoga vs. Pine Grove at West Nantmeal
- Tuesday, June 3 - Conestoga vs. Calvary at West Nantmeal
- Tuesday, June 10 - Conestoga vs. CFC2 at West Nantmeal
- Thursday, June 19 - Mt Zion vs. Conestoga at Mt. Zion
- Tuesday, June 24 - Conestoga vs. Lighthouse at West Nantmeal
- Tuesday, July 8 - Conestoga vs. CFC1 at West Nantmeal
- Tuesday, July 15 - Conestoga vs. NH Nazarene at West Nantmeal
- Tuesday, July 22 - Twin Valley vs. Conestoga at Mt. Zion

Coach Mike Petersheim • Assistant Coach Ryan Bosdorf

For questions, contact Mike Petersheim at 484-364-6193.



Welcoming our New Members!

Freda Petersheim welcomes (left to right): Arlan and Louise Kurtz who have five children and live on a farm along Best Road, Morgantown. Arlan’s sister is Kathleen Weaver. Ruth Essick (standing beside Louise) lives at Tel Hai Community, and is the mother of Lyle Essick. Welcome—we are happy to have you join our church family here at Conestoga!



Ladies' Sunday School class at Conestoga in November 1970. See names listed below right.



Conestoga opened its first Sunday School in 1900, and then in 1925, ordered the very first quarterlies published by Mennonite Publishing House (now MennoMedia)—the first year that they were available.

The ladies in the Sunday School class at Conestoga in November 1970 pictured in the middle of this page: first row, left to right: Edith Mast (Mrs. Lloyd), Sadie Stoltzfus (Mrs. Jesse), Katie Stoltzfus (Mrs. Leroy), Lavern Petersheim (Mrs. John), Sara Zook (Mrs. Menno), and Edna Hochstetler (Mrs. Neal). Second row, left to right: Bertha Mast (Mrs. Horace), Amanda Stoltzfus (Mrs. Elam), Joyce Mast (Mrs. Melvin), Vera Kurtz (Mrs. Stephen), and Elma Peachey (Mrs. Raymond); third row, left to right: Lorraine Petersheim (Mrs. Walter), ?Elsie Weaver (Mrs. David), and Sara (Yoder) Scott.

