

THE AGAPE FUND offers us a particular opportunity to serve one another throughout the whole year. Funded largely through the offering during the Maundy Thursday service, the Agape Fund was created as a practical way for us to lend spiritual support to one another and to ease unusually heavy financial burdens. Any family/individual is invited to request help from the Agape Fund by contacting their Deacon or anyone on the Deacon Leadership Team or the Pastor. **Donations to AMC designated for the Agape Fund are accepted throughout the year.**

DISCOVERY: A COMIC LAMENT will be performed at Forest Hills Mennonite Church (100 Quarry Rd, Leola, PA) at 6:00 PM on April 21 by Ted and Company. The play is about the Doctrine of Discovery, the legal framework that justifies theft of land and oppression of Indigenous Peoples. It finds unexpected humor at the crossroads of justice and land use, offering both comic and challenging glimpses into the absurdity of white settler oppression of Indigenous Peoples and the land we live on. A show about love, loss, and of land, *Discovery* nudges us to question our stories with honesty and integrity. A freewill offering will be taken following the play's conclusion and a short panel discussion will conclude the evening.

HARMONIES ANNUAL HYMN SING will be held this Sunday, April 8 (**today**), at 6:30 p.m., at the Blossom Hill Mennonite Church, 333 Delp Road, Lancaster. If you love traditional hymns and acappella singing you won't want to miss it. All are welcome. Details at www.harmonies.org

THE MENNONITE CHILDREN'S CHOIR OF LANCASTER has announced its Spring Concert Series schedule:

- Sunday, April 8, at 4 p.m. -- Strasburg Mennonite Church, Strasburg
 - Sunday, April 22, at 4 p.m. -- First Presbyterian Church, Lancaster
 - Saturday, April 28, at 7 p.m. -- St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Lancaster
 - Sunday, April 29, at 4 p.m. -- Forest Hills Mennonite Church, Leola
 - Sunday, June 10, at 7 p.m. -- Mount Gretna Tabernacle, Mount Gretna
- Tickets are not required; a freewill offering will be received.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: Oregon Dairy is hosting a fundraiser to benefit the ACC Youth Committee on Tuesday, May 8. Anyone who eats in the Oregon Dairy Restaurant from 3 – 8 pm and mentions the ACC youth committee will have 20% of their check donated to the committee.

GIVING & BUDGET

| | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Giving for General Fund | <u>Last Week</u> | <u>Year-to-Date</u> |
| | \$ 14,016 | \$ 106,149 |
| 2018 Budget Goals | <u>Weekly</u> | <u>Year-to-Date</u> |
| | \$ 9,800 | \$ 127,500 |
| 2018 Income Budget: | \$ 510,000 | |
| Attendance Last Sunday: | 232 | |

Church office hours are Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:30pm
 Church Office: (717) 859-1488 || 1311 Diamond Street || Akron, PA 17501

AKRON MENNONITE CHURCH
April 8, 2018
Living in the Resurrection

GATHERING/PRAISING

Prelude music Patricia Martin

Welcome & lighting of the peace lamp
 Choral call to worship *Salaam aleikum*

HWB 275 (blue) *Lift your glad voices*
 STJ 5 (green) *Come and be light for our eyes*

Offering and offertory Patricia Martin
 Offertory prayer

HEARING GOD'S WORD

STJ 17 (green) *Halle, halle, hallelujah!*
 Children's time Sandra Richard Wood
 Children ages 2-4 are dismissed for preschool church in Room 16 with H.A. Penner, Donna Shenk, and Esther Nolt

Spring carol Adult choir

Scripture John 20:19-31
 Sermon *Believe it or not* Randall Justice
Ginny Hartman

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

HWB 570 (blue) *We walk by faith*
 Prayers of the people Randall Justice

LIVING AS GOD'S COMMUNITY

Introduction of guests & Announcements

HWB 269 (blue) *Thine is the glory*
 Choral Benediction *Salaam aleikum*

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Musicians Linda Good, Cheryl Zook Justice, Patricia Martin, & Leon Myers
 Song Leader Jon Clemens
 Worship Leader Randall Justice

Scripture next week: Acts 9:1-19a ; Rachel Nolt, preacher

PLEASE JOIN US (10:15 – 10:40)

Everyone is welcome to participate in coffee/tea fellowship following the worship service. Guests, please sign the guest book in the foyer next to the Welcome Desk.

SECOND HOUR FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES (10:40 – 11:40)

Adults

Terry Wible is facilitating a class based on the book The Sin of Certainty by Peter Enns. This class explores the difference between right believing, certainty and a lived out faith. Bring your questions, fears, and thoughts as participants discuss with each other the contrast between head knowledge and a lived out experience of God. Class meets in the Assembly Room.

Children and Youth

Taught by members of the church who graciously volunteer their time. See below for locations.

| | | |
|---|-------|-----------------------------------|
| Nursery age | ----- | Nursery |
| Ages 2 -4 | ----- | Rooms 16/18 |
| Kindergarten-5th Grade | ----- | Rooms 131, 132, 133 (lower level) |
| Jr. MYF (6-8 th Grade Youth) | ----- | MYF Room (temporarily) |
| MYF (High School Youth) | ----- | MYF Room |

AMONG THOSE SERVING TODAY

Greeters: Lloyd & Nancy Chapman, Ann Zimmerman **Sound/AV Operator:** Bryan Beyer
Nursery Worship: as needed **Nursery DH:** as needed
Coffee Servers: Marilyn & Ken Langeman **Mug Washers:** Karen King & Jean Buchen
Ushers: Don Good (Head usher), Tim Langeman, David Frey, Linda Frey

UPCOMING EVENTS

- April 11 Landis Homes residents’ gathering; 10:00 – 11:30 am; Kirkview Lounge
- April 11 Luther Acres residents’ gathering; 12:00 – 1:00 pm; The Round
- April 11 Connect! @ AMC 6:00 – 7:30 pm; UNO tournament with prizes
- April 12 AMC Council meeting 7:00 pm
- April 14 AMC Women’s Retreat; 9:00 am – 1:00 pm in AMC Assembly Room
- April 17 AMC Women’s Brown Bag Luncheon 11:00 – 1:00 @ Agnes Hacker’s home
- April 18 Landis Homes residents’ gathering; 10- 11:30 am; Hybrid #1 Comm. Room
- April 18 DSECC Friendship Concert @ AMC @ 6:45 pm
- April 22 Men’s Choir rehearsal @ 8:00; sing for 9:00 am service
- April 22 55+ meets at noon; Rolando Santiago, presenter
- April 28 Bangladesh fund-raising dinner c/o Richard Sarker

Lectio Divina meets each Tuesday at 7:30 am, and the Congregational Prayer Group meets each Thursday at 12:30 pm. Both meetings are in Rachel’s office.

Save these Dates:

- May 5 Final Safe Church training for those who work with children and youth
8:15 am – 12:30 pm @ AMC
- October 26-27 ACC Fall Assembly @ AMC; details to be announced

Mennonite Youth Fellowship (MYF - Grades 9-12):

- April 15 Supper Club @ John & Lizzie Hoffman’s 5 – 8 pm
- April 20-21 MYF Lock-in @ AMC
- June 10 Senior Recognition Sunday
- June 17-23 DOOR service project in Denver, CO

PRAYERS

Nelson Blessing began radiation and chemo treatments this week. Susan and he are grateful for our prayers.

Many thanks for your thoughts, prayers and visits while Mom (Grace Brubaker) is recuperating at Maple Farms. She loves your visits and flowers, keep them coming, as she has several more weeks of rehab!! She now walks to meals with her walker! We will let you know when she moves back to Garden Spot Village.--the Brubaker Family

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE AMC SPRING WOMEN’S RETREAT will be held Saturday morning April 14, from 9:00 AM-1:00 PM in the Assembly Room. The topic for the morning will be “The Stories We Live”, with Rachel Nolt as our presenter. The morning will feature coffee, tea and a delicious lunch prepared by our AMC men. Bring a picture book or novel that has been important in your life. Please register with Ruth Weaver (rsweaver1440@gmail.com or 717-581-3812) by Sunday, April 8 (**today**). --Women’s Retreat Committee, Agnes Hacker, Sarah Eby, Ruth Weaver, Melanie Baer-Drescher

PLEASE CHECK the Lost & Found table for any items you may have mislaid in the past few months. The table will remain up for several weeks. Unclaimed items will then be donated to the Ephrata ReUzit Store.

THE 55+ MEETING on Sunday, April 22 at noon will feature Dr. Rolando Santiago. Rolando was born, grew up, and married in Puerto Rico. As a Puerto Rican Mennonite, he has explored over his lifetime how faith interacts with culture to produce institutions that promote the well-being of entire populations. He will provide a short history of Mennonites in Puerto Rico, and report on post-hurricane recovery there.

THE AGENDA for the April 12 council meeting is posted on the AMC bulletin board.

ACC SPRING ASSEMBLY is April 28, 9:00-3:30 at Hope Community Church in Fleetwood. Dennis Ernest and Lynne Beth are AMC delegates. All are invited to participate and to register no later than April 25.