July 2016

Akron Mennonite Church

Connecting with Diane Gehman

Diane has been offering her gifts at AMC for twenty years. She came here with many MCC connections and began playing piano for worship services. She continues to play as well as sing in various groups.

Her love of music lines her inner fabric. Her dad, Don Gehman, was an innovative music director, introducing choral music in Lancaster Mennonite Conference. For many years his chorus sang in high schools and other places, since choral music was not accepted in the church. Diane remembers going to his programs when she was very young, and later to hear him in Lancaster Franconia Singers concerts after he stopped directing the chorus. Later their roles were switched, and he came to her concerts.



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Worship Schedule

- July 3 ~ Jonathan Bornman
- July 10 ~ Spare Parts
- July 17~ Herman Bontrager
 July 24 ~ JW Sprunger/
 - Communion
- July 31 ~ MYF DOOR Report

Diane was born and raised near Gap where she grew up in a neighborhood of boys. She and her brother Fred spent their days playing softball, basketball, sledding or biking, active in all seasons. They all loved swimming in the Pequea Creek while their mothers sat on the bank under a tree. Her childhood was tranquil and memorable.

Her family was fully involved in Hershey Mennonite Church, near Kinzers. When the church was open, they were there. She and Fred, three years younger, became involved in the youth group. The church and neighborhood activities bonded these two siblings.

The youth group was active with work weekends at Camp Hebron, as well as weeks of service beyond the community. They went to Johns Island, South Carolina every summer while one man from their church was there in alternative service. Diane went to Johns Island as least seven years, during high school, college, and then as cook with an LMH mini-course. She has been there as recently as 2013 with adults from Hershey Mennonite where she still has close ties.

Diane notes that this exposure to service, as well as writing letters, as a child, to her great aunt Mary Gehman in Somalia, imprinted in her conscience that service is an important part of our Christian walk. She lived that out later by volunteering with MCC to serve in Kentucky and Cambodia.



Diane began piano lessons at age eight. She continued lessons through high school, going on to major in music education at Messiah College. She looks back on full years of good music experiences, singing in various choirs, playing flute and percussion in the Wind Ensemble, and accompanying soloists on the piano.

With her music education degree, Diane was offered a teaching position at Linville Hill Mennonite School and New Danville Mennonite School. One of the positions changed from Linville Hill to West Fallowfield Christian School. She found the challenge of directing two Christmas programs and a church musical were more

than she needed.

Diane left teaching to accept a position with MCC in Hindman, Kentucky, rural Appalachia. She lived and worked at the Hindman Settlement School, a community of music, art, Montessori preschool and adult education teachers. Her experience was varied and rewarding. She even accompanied a contestant who sang in a beauty pageant.

Diane came back to MCC headquarters and worked with Urbane Peachey and later Herman Bontrager in the Peace office.

The next assignment took her to Cambodia with MCC, working in Phnom Penh. Diane felt the restrictions imposed by the Khmer Rouge who were still active there. She heard stories from friends who experienced first-hand the horror of genocide. Diane is still in touch with her tutor who had experienced life with the Khmer Rouge while Diane was oblivious of all, back home in college. She reflects on how different their lives were, yet how close they became as friends.



Diane next found herself in Tokyo where she was invited to teach English. However plans changed when she received an invitation from MCC, so she returned to Akron in the Peace and Justice Ministries office.

Diane took a break from MCC to experience the school environment, this time

from a different perspective. She was Administrative Assistant for three years at Locust Grove Mennonite School. During this time she did graduate studies at West Chester University, studying piano and matriculated in a program for Piano Pedagogy.

Back to MCC in 1996 and this time, Diane found herself in the East Asia office. The perks of this position included travel to Asia as her job shifted to China Program Coordinator and then Asia Program Associate. Diane thoroughly enjoyed her visits with MCC personnel and national staff. Her friendships continue even now.

Diane continued attending Hershey Mennonite all of these years, deeply involved as teacher, superintendent, music coordinator, song leader and pianist. She sensed it was time for a change and began coming to AMC in 1996. Diane found it easy to be involved playing the piano and continues to gift us with her talent.

Life for Diane changed abruptly beginning 2012 when she lost her job at MCC in the restructure process. Very soon after that, her dad died the same week that her only brother was diagnosed with leukemia. She was thrilled to be an exact match for him for a bone marrow transplant. The exchange was successful and they were hopeful. However, Fred contracted a major lung infection and Diane lost her brother.

That was surely a lot for Diane to experience. Now she was left with her mother. She was devastated when her mother was diagnosed with breast cancer the next year. In two years Diane lost her entire family as well as her job.

In retrospect, Diane is thankful for those months of full support from MCC while she cared for family and then settled her brother's estate. Just as her support from MCC ended, she began work at Robson Forensic in Lancaster. Diane enjoyed this new challenge and making new friends, as well as the perk of walking to work



Christmas 2006 at the Amtrak Train Station, Lancaster, PA

and to Central Market for lunch.

Most recently Diane has begun another venture with employment at Landis Homes. She is learning the ropes of being the nursing scheduler in health and personal care.

In her free time, Diane enjoys playing the piano, singing with Lancaster Chamber Singers, attending concerts and sporting events. She is a nature lover, walking on local trails or working in her small yard on East Fulton Street in Lancaster. She follows her

(contínued on pg. 3)

mother's footsteps in her care for roses and other flowers. She transplanted some of her mother's rose bushes to her own place.



Diane has always loved travel and now it's mostly memories since her life has shifted to new jobs and circumstances. She is invigorated with time at the beach where she can relax and let her spirit soar.

Diane experiences bitter sweet memories now as she continues the tradition that she had with Fred, attending sports events and watching sports on TV.

Resiliency and attitude are key points for Diane these days. Her life without immediate family has been a jolt that leaves its mark everywhere. She could sense despair when looking ahead, and she is aware of this temp-tation. Diane is very thankful for extended family and friends who stand by her and support her in grief and in joy.

~Priscilla Ziegler



Pray For One Another

James 5:16

The purpose of "Pray For One Another" is to help us be aware of and pray for members of AMC who, for whatever reason, are unable to participate in Sunday morning worship services on a regular basis. Scripture admonishes us to pray. It is one of the joys of the Christian life and part of what makes us community. The names of people listed may change from time to time. If you know of someone you would like to be included with those named here, please be in touch with the church office.



Charlotte Biris Irma Bowman Honey (Marilyn) Hernley Carolyn & John Horst Paul & Dorothy Martin Phillip Rutt Amela & Randy Puljek-Shank

Joy for Our Journey Together

Our journey in this transition time sometimes seems full of uncertainty. That's OK—we're sort of building the bridge as we walk across it. We know that even when applied awkwardly, God's truth carries a life-changing power. We know that we choose to walk together as we seek God's leading. We know that we strive to live out God's purpose for our lives as we journey together.

Let's rejoice that not everything about this journey is uncertain! We know that we can build on the multiple strengths with which we are already equipped—when we acknowledge and appreciate what doesn't need to be changed in our congregation, we create a trusting atmosphere. We know that the healthiest changes come when, as a starting point, people take time to ask what God is already doing rather than assuming that God is doing nothing. We know that we want to encourage the creativity we see in one another as we commit to keep on keepin' on toward new discoveries on our journey. We know we can hold each other's hands as we learn the next steps of our journey. We know that lay people in the



body of Christ can plan well, given time and encouragement. Let's hold on to these certainties if we feel drawn to fork off onto a path that appears to promise a shorter, easier journey or a more visible destination or if we feel lost because we cannot see a clear path ahead.

Along the way, in the meantime, let's remember that our journey is not an idle time. Let's remind each other that as each of us steps into a new day of life, we are called to *live* our faith in everything we do. Each of us has incredible daily opportunities to live out what we say we believe in. As we journey together, let's remember to nurture one another so that we are equipped daily to witness to God's love at work in us and in the world around us. Let's affirm one another when we "catch" each other in behaviors that are examples of how we live out our beliefs.

Sue Mallory talks about "a believers' community where everyone is in"—let's be a community like that. Let's keep our focus clearly on following Christ, even as we live with uncertainty, and joyfully anticipate where God will lead us. ~ *Melody Rupley*



Karyn Nancarvis Graduates from Eastern Mennonite University

HARRISONBURG, Va. (June 3, 2016) - Karyn Nancarvis from Lititz was recognized as a member of the 2016 graduating class of Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, Va.

Nancarvis received a Graduate Certificate in Seminary: Ministry Leadership.



It all started with a dream. As I "retired" from a career as "Homeschooling Mom" of 17 years, and my children were transitioning into schools outside of our home, it was time for a new beginning. As I discerned through prayer, conversations and journaling, I began to sheepishly search for my place in the church. I felt the nudging God was doing in my heart, but with five children and a busy husband's schedule to consider, I wasn't sure how to move forward.

Then the phone call... from my pastor at the time, Jim Amstutz. He was on sabbatical and it was a surprise to hear from him. He too had a vision, and asked the question: "Have you ever thought of seminary?" From there, we explored the many options which opened a new path

for my life. Within six months I would be enrolled as a full-time student at Eastern Mennonite Seminary! After my first year, a joint effort between AMC and EMS allowed for me to have an internship earning 6 credits, coupled with part-time employment of 15 hours a week as Interim Director of Children and Youth Ministries at AMC. Since I've graduated from the internship, I was asked to stay on and still humbly and thankfully serve AMC in this role. I continue to directly benefit from the generous support of AMC through the scholarship fund and express my deep appreciation for this financial support.

At the end of four semesters and two summers of course work (December 2015) I earned 30 credits equaling a Certificate in Ministry Leadership! Whew! I could not have done it without the support of my loving family, guidance of EMS staff and praying church members and friends. It's been a journey of profound learning, deep spiritual growth, and a redefined connection with God.

My ultimate goal to is to obtain a Master's of Divinity degree, however, slowing my pace to no more than 2 classes per semester. Recovering from Lyme Disease (diagnosed one year ago, July 4, 2015) has taught me much about sacrifice, the importance of quality time with my family and balancing life goals. The additional 60 credits of course work will get done as God allows it to happen. If I've learned anything it is that life is about God's timing and not my own. What a privilege to have begun such an amazing journey walking through the doors of AMC in 1999. Thank you for all you are and how we continue to equip all those who enter here. Blessings to all as we journey with God together.



AMC's Senior Recognition Sunday May 22, 2016

photo by Nancy Chapman

Becca Martin to serve with MVS

My name is Karen King and I am an advocate for Becca Martin. Becca is the middle daughter of David and Rachel Martin. She has been part of our community at AMC her whole life and we share her enthusiasm as she begins yet another chapter of her life! She will be sharing more of her assignment in DC working with Refugee families, on August 14th. Hear how she describes her upcoming assignment...

Living here in Germany, I have had the opportunity to see first hand how issues surrounding the refugee crisis and the challenges of asylum and integration play out. This inspired me to take a break from my graduate program and explore service options where I can learn more about displaced people and, where possible, provide assistance. I am excited to announce that I have been accepted to serve with Mennonite Voluntary Service in Washington, DC with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees as a Protection Counselor. My primary responsibility will be providing assistance to refugees and asylum seekers and guiding them through the legal process in the United States. As needed, additional responsibilities could include visiting detention centers as well as attending immigration hearings. The US Protection Unit in DC is currently working on



expanding their reach to unaccompanied minors, which is a project I will also be closely involved with. In DC I will be living in the MVS house with 4-6 other volunteers. The MVS DC unit is supported by 3 local DC Mennonite churches. Emotionally this will be a very demanding placement, but I welcome the challenge and look forward to the opportunity to learn about the US asylum process and the stories of those who choose to come to the US despite all odds.

Our Missional fund is committed to contributing \$1,500. towards her needed \$3,000. If you are interested in contributing in addition to this amount, please make your checks payable to AMC and in the memo line mention "Becca Martin MVS", or go to http://www.mennonitemission.net/givetoservice. Cash can be given to me or placed in an envelope in my mailbox marked Becca Martin. Another equipped young adult from our congregation helping to shape our world! There can be no greater joy! Thanks for your consideration!



News from the MYF

It's that time of year where we pause to reflect on our accomplishments and look towards the future with excitement. The past few weeks have been wonderfully exciting!

Grad Tables



Anna's



Matthew's



Makena's

Three MYF seniors graduated from high school this year! On May 22nd these promising young adults; Anna Clemens, Matthew Nancarvis and Makenna Zimmerman; were blessed by the AMC community though a senior recognition program during worship service. The same day, after "Second Hour", a graduation celebration was held in the assembly room for the seniors. Family, friends and fellow parishioners were able to spend personal time with each graduate. A table for each graduate, with pictures and memorabilia, were set up in the lobby for all to enjoy. Food and snacks were served as well, so each person could have an opportunity to relax and wish the new graduates well. The wonderful BBQ chicken, prepared by Don Good, was a highlight!

During Second-Hour this spring, the MYF has been enjoying "A Journey through Faith Stories", where AMC members are invited to speak to the MYF to share their personal faith story. This segment was wrapped up on Sunday June 12th by a final presentation from Kevin King. It was inspiring to hear about Kevin's journey. The youth were especially fortunate to hear about some of the great work Kevin and the Mennonite Disaster Service have done in the past. We also learned about a current initiative by the MDS to rebuild bridges in West Virginia. Kevin's presentation was inspiring and informative. Thank you Kevin!

The MYF is now preparing for our summer service trip to Denver, Colorado. 13 youth and 5 advisers will be leaving on Sunday July 10th and returning on Sun-

day July 16th. Our preparation includes several Sunday school lessons designed to open the hearts and minds of the youth so they can benefit the most from this experience. Our service will be focused on the Denver urban community, where we will explore the challenges of unemployment, poverty and home-lessness. We will be working through the Mennonite Mission Network's Door / Discover program, which is described on their website as follows: "Through DOOR's Discover program, groups spend time serving with a variety of local agencies and ministries and learning through evening speakers and activities. The experience is about more than preparing a meal at a soup kitchen or playing with children at a day camp. It is an opportunity to work alongside local community members, to learn from local leaders, and to listen to the stories of neighbors, clients, and churches". If you would like to learn more, you can copy and paste this link into your browser; http://www.doornetwork.org/denver. Thank you for your

support, and continue to keep the MYF in your thoughts and prayers as we travel to Denver. ~Tim Nancarvis



Dates to Remember

July 1 and 4	Church office will be closed
July 5	Lunch Bunch @ 11:30 am, Oregon Dairy
July 7	AMC Men's Breakfast @ 7 am @ Udder Choice; Tim Nancarvis, presenter
July 10	Council Open Hours in library during Discipleship Hour; hosted by Deb Sprunger & Sandra
	Richard Wood
July 10-16	MYF DOOR service project in Denver, CO
July 14	Congregational Council meeting at 7:00 pm
July 17-21	Vacation Bible School @ Forest Hills Mennonite Church, 6:15—8:30 pm
August 5-7	MYF Planning Retreat
August 11	AMC to prepare and serve Ephrata Community Meal
October 29	Ted and Co. to present "Peace, Pies, and Prophets" at AMC
November 5-6	Fall Fest weekend
March 18, 2017	MYF Auction



Party for Graduating Seniors Anna Clemens, Matthew Nancarvis, and Makena Zimmerman at AMC May 22, 2016



IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO ADD TO THE AUGUST NEWSLETTER, PLEASE SUB-MIT YOUR ENTRY VIA EMAIL TO AMC@AKRONMENCH.ORG NO LATER THAN WED., JULY 20. THANKYOU!

Opportunities for Meaningful Connections with Women Attending AMC

Service Projects:

Currently, no service projects are planned for the Summer.

Stories that Heal and Shape Us

We are continuing to offering the series of Sister Care discipleship hour storytelling sessions through July 31. The weekly sessions will involve a different AMC sister each Sunday speaking from her life journey, focusing on themes of joy or loss or selecting pivotal experiences that greatly influenced her. Women of AMC, plan to come and learn to know your AMC sisters better!

	Women Sharing	<u>Convener</u>
July 3	No Class	
July 10	Sandra Wood	Ethel Shank
July 17	Amy Martin	Jean Buchen
July 24	Tanya Wenger	Jean Buchen
July 31	Sally Wise	Marilyn Langeman
Room: #10		

THE STORIES OF SISTERHOOD

Room: #10

Planners— Jean Buchen, Marilyn Langeman, Ethel Shank & Twila Miller

Third Tuesday Brown Bag Lunch / 11:00 – 1:00

No brown bag lunches are planned for the summer.



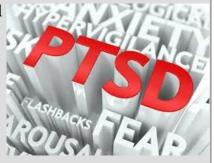


Post Traumatic Stress Syndrome (PTSD)

Anyone can develop PTSD at any age. This includes war veterans, children, and people who have been through a physical or sexual assault, abuse, accident, disaster, or many other serious events. According to <u>the National Center for PTSD</u>, about 7 or 8 out of every 100 people will experience PTSD at some point in their lives. Women are more likely to develop PTSD than men, and genes may make some people more likely to develop PTSD than others.

Not every traumatized person develops ongoing (chronic) or even short-term (acute) PTSD. Symptoms usually begin early, within 3 months of the traumatic incident, but sometimes they begin years afterward. Symptoms must last more than a month to be considered PTSD. The course of the illness varies. Some people recover within 6 months, while others have symptoms that last much longer. In some people, the condition becomes chronic. Vietnam veterans who developed PTSD more than 35 years ago may still live with symptoms now. They may abuse drugs or alcohol, have disrupted sleep, and be hyper vigilant and irritable.

Refugees are at high risk for PTSD. Typically their experience is divided into three categories: preflight, flight and resettlement. The preflight phase may include, for example, physical and emotional trauma to the family, the witnessing of murder, and social upheaval. Refugees may spend many years at refugee camps. The resettlement process includes challenges such as the loss of culture, community, and language as well as the need to adapt to a new and foreign environment. Children often straddle the old and new cultures as they learn new languages and cultural norms more quickly than their elders.



Recommended treatment for PTSD is a combination of medication for anxiety and depression, and talk therapy. Good diet, exercise and socialization (not isolation) are important. For refugees, talk therapy is often difficult to obtain due to language and cultural barriers.

We in our congregations can help in the healing of people with PTSD by listening with compassion when they are ready to talk. ~ *Marilyn Langeman*

<u>http://refugeehealthta.org/physical-mental-health/mental-health/</u> <u>https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#all/1550ad7b9455f395</u> (video of PTSD expert Martha Metter and veteran Charles Clyde who suffers from PTSD) <u>http://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/topics/post-traumatic-stress-disorder-ptsd/index.shtml</u>

July (and beyond) at AMC & In the Community

Pray for the MYF and their advisors as they participate in the DOOR service project July 10-16 in Denver, CO.

AMC will join Forest Hills Mennonite Church for Vacation Bible School as they host *Cave Quest – following Jesus, the light of the world*. This program is for children age 3 through those who have completed Grade 5 and will run from Sunday, July 17 through Thursday, July 21. Each session will begin at 6:15 p.m. and conclude at 8:30 p.m. All children in the community are invited to participate. For more information or to preregister children for this event, contact the church by phone at 717-656-6227. Online registration is available at <u>www.foresthillschurch.org</u>. Registrations received by Sunday, July 3, will be entered into a drawing for a \$10 gift card to Sweet Frog.



July 2016



Your help is needed for the Ephrata Community Meal held on Thursday, August 11th. Ephrata area churches serve a meal for low income residents in the Akron/Ephrata area every Thursday evening. Our congregation is responsible for the meal on the 11th. We need people to donate 3 dozen cookies. Also needed are volunteers for meal prep, serving and c lean up. The meal will be at the First United Methodist Church at the corner of Church and Locust Streets in Ephrata. Please contact Jean Buchen if you are interested in helping. Cookies can be dropped at the First Methodist Church between 4:00 and 5:30 or at AMC before 2:00 on the 11th. You can reach Jean at jbuchen@kthighland.com or 396-0025 (work).

Pies will be needed for the October 29 Ted and Company production of "Peace, Pies, and Prophets" at AMC that will benefit Christian Peacemaker Teams. (See page 13 for more information). If you are a baker, please consider offering your pie-baking skills for this event. More details to come in the near future.

Job Openings in the Community:

SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS NEEDED: Hinkletown Mennonite School is looking for bus drivers for daily routes. Extra or substitute hours also available. Willing to train. Contact the school at: <u>of-fice@hmsk8.org</u> or (717) 354-7100.



Position Opening: Administrative Assistant at Akron Grace EC Church

<u>Qualifications:</u> Strong administrative skill sets; proficiency with Microsoft Office and Quick Books required. Candidate must have a history of learning and adapting to new computer programs, and enjoy working in a busy environment. Must be able to keep confidential all records and conversations. Accurate, efficient data entry skills are required.

<u>Reports to</u>: Senior Pastor and Finance Commission Chair.

<u>Hours:</u> 8:00 – 12:00 or 9:00 – 1:00; M – F

Detailed Job Description available upon request.

Please Send Resume to: Pastor Les Cool

(717) 859-2700 <u>revcool@ptd.net</u>



Want to learn how to restore groups in conflict and build participatory community? Join the Center for Community Peacemaking at Elizabethtown College in Restorative Circles Training for Working with Young People, Sept. 22-24 led by Kay Pranis, one of the nation's leading trainers in this process. Interested? Register by Aug. 31, \$350 (professional), \$125 (volunteer for CCP), scholarships and group rates also available. Visit <u>www.CCP.org</u> for more information or call 717-397-2404.



From October 31 - November 4, join the Mennonite Central Committee **Native American learning tour** organized by MCC East Coast and Circle Legacy Center. The tour is designed to shed light on untold histo-

ry in Pennsylvania and beyond and will include daily trips from the MCC Welcoming Place in Akron, Pa., to destinations in central Pennsylvania and Washington, DC. Participants will learn about topics including early Native American life and settlements in Lancaster County, the Conestoga massacre, the breaking of treaties and the Carlisle Indian Industrial School. Those who are unable to participate in the entire tour are welcome to register only for the first day (October 31), which will cover the theology and ideology that shaped European exceptionalism and the Doctrine of Discovery. For more information, visit <u>mcc.org</u> or contact Curtis Book, MCC East Coast peace and justice coordinator, at <u>cbook@mcc.org</u> or 215-316-6528.

Mennonite Central Committee has an **urgent need** for 8,000 hygiene kits and 2,000 relief kits. These kits are sent to people in need around the world in countries like Syria, Ukraine and Honduras. For more details, visit <u>mcc.org/</u><u>kits</u> or contact the MCC East Coast Material Resources Center at 717-733-2847.

Lancaster Mennoníte Hístorícal Socíety

Folk Art Fun for Kids and Adults: Hearth Cooking—Learn about hearth cooking with Patricia Motter on Wednesday, July 6, 2016, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. This class is designed for children ages 10 and up with an accompanying adult. Register online at <u>www.hansherr.org</u> or by phone at (717) 464-4438. The class costs \$25 per person; the registration deadline is June 29, 2016.

Music in the Orchard—Come to the 1719 Hans Herr House & Museum for the third summer concert on Saturday July 9, 6 pm. It will feature the Celtic and American folk music of Seasons and an opening by Native American band Raven Sun. Tickets are \$8 for adults on concert day at the site. Children under 12 are free.

Seminars provided by people from across the church are a valued program component. Do you have a 60-minute seminar you'd like to share at the July 4-8, 2017, convention? Complete the seminar submission form atconvention.mennoniteusa.org/seminars.

Celebrate summer with international culture and flavor at EMM's biggest event of the year! Join us on Saturday, July 9, 2016, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., at the Hans Herr House in Willow Street, Pa., to enjoy EMM's 21st annual Global Fair: an open-air missions and culture festival. Each year, thousands of people meet the world through international activities like henna tattoos, African dance, or friendly alpacas. And there



is always delicious international food! Come talk to mission workers and hear their stories about God's work in different countries around the world. Go on free tours of Hans Herr exhibits. For more information, visit <u>emm.org/globalfair</u> or contact Jessica Fellenger at 717 898-2251 ext. 235.

CAMP MEND A HEART

If your family has experienced a loss, Camp Mend A Heart can help. Camp Mend A Heart is a one-day grief camp for families and children (age 6-18) to help them cope with the loss of a loved one.

Saturday, August 6, 2016 Penn Grove Retreat Center

Applications must be received by July 15.

Thanks to the support of the Hospice Circle of Friends and the community, the cost to attend Camp Mend a Heart is \$15 per person or \$50 per family of four or more, and financial assistance is available. Call the Pathways Center for Grief & Loss at (717) 391-2413 or (800) 924-7610 for more information or visit us online.





Peace, Pies, and Prophets will be coming on AMC on Saturday, October 29. Ted & Company players Ted Swartz and Tim Ruebke are bringing a live performance of *I'd Like to Buy an Enemy* for this one night event. The show unpacks issues of justice and peace building through humorous and poignant storytelling.

This interactive event is for people interested in engaging in laughter, thoughtful dialogue and pie. Yes, Peace Pies... The evening includes a hand crafted pie auction where pie sale proceeds will go toward the support of Christian Peacemaker Teams. Over the past three years, Peace Pies and Prophets has toured across North America, raising over \$175,000 for Christian Peacemaker Teams!

In this hilarious and poignant satire we find a talking banana sharing his personal story about fair trade practices, witness the brain responding using both its rational and impulse-driven parts, and are welcomed into the shop of a persuasive salesperson who insists on our need to buy an enemy to ensure "optimistic living and comfortable maintenance of the American Dream."

This event gives participants an opportunity to engage in the ongoing story of God's restorative work in our world and our neighborhood. It is an event that speaks across denominations, generations and backgrounds, for people who aim to be the change we seek.

Find a preview of the show here or go on the Ted & Company website: www.tedandcompany.com

"Ted and Company remind us; laughter is a prophetic art, 'loving our enemy' is a fine art, and criticalthinking is [too often] a lost art. "I'd Like to Buy an Enemy" is not simply a lament of how much fear has yet to be cast out of our cultures, it's a call to lovingly exorcise this fear from ourselves and our world, by laughing at it!"----Jarrod McKenna, Australian Peace Award Recipient



July Birthdays

Sun	Mon	Тие	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Nancy Long	4	5 Carter Burkhold- er	6 Kevin King Mary Martin	7	8 Leah Amstutz Kerry Broaddus	9
10 Don Hertzler Ken Long	11 Апдкеа Frey	12	13 Presley Clicquennoi Liaoi Magill	14 Aorela Puljek- Shank	15 Tara Leaman	16
17 Allıah Bontrager	18 Carolyn Horst Clyde Martin Anna Wiegner	19 Sally Wise	20	21 Gladys Gingerich Cheт Raber	22 Martha Gascho Kercnıt Yoder	23 Janessa Ziooorer- oran
24 Bonnie Stauffer	25	26 Randall Jusтice	27	28 Donald Mellinger	29 John Hostetler	30 Joanne Ocasio
31 Joshua Bonткаçer Cora Broaddus Doug Drescher						

Akron Mennonite Church

1311 Diamond Street Akron, PA 17501 P: (717) 859-1488 E: <u>amc@akronmench.org</u>

www.akronmench.org

- ◊ Worship @ 9:00 am
- ◊ Coffee/Tea Fellowship from 10:15-10:40 am
- Christian Education & Discipleship Hour from 10:40-11:30 am

Staff

Karyn Nancarvis Interim Director of Children & Youth Ministries <u>knancarvis@akronmench.org</u>

> Melody Rupley Director of Equipping Ministries <u>mrupley@akronmench.org</u>

Patricia Martin Minister of Music and Worship <u>pmartin@akronmench.org</u>

Rebecca Pereverzoff Administrator <u>rpereverzoff@akronmench.org</u> <u>amc@akronmench.org</u>



Contact Updates

New address for Kenton Martin: 114 Mountain View Drive Enola, PA 17025

AMC Vision Statement

Akron Mennonite Church will be fully engaged in God's mission in a broken world as we are called, equipped and sent by the Holy Spirit to follow Christ in life. Shaped by the gifts and vision of our members, we will keep Christ and church at the center of our lives as we reach out to neighbors near and far and witness to the world around us through an Anabaptist-Mennonite expression of faith.

Statement on Human Sexuality

We are a community of believers seeking to respond with God's love to all people. We celebrate the strength of our unity in the midst of our diversity of experiences, perspectives and understanding of Scripture. We seek to be a community of grace and reconciliation and so welcome into membership all who confess faith in Jesus Christ, including those in same-gender covenant relationships. We are committed to engaging in God's mission in a broken world through an Anabaptist-Mennonite faith perspective.