

## Connecting with Phil and Marian Rutt

Marian and Phil are philosophical about life. They consider adversity as an opportunity. Strength, courage, trust, and determination are a few of the traits that have underlined their life script. Their commitment and patience has been the signature that ties it all together. Marian in the role of advocate, with the loving support of Phil, has made them powerful role models for others.

These extraordinary people came from ordinary families. They met at Lancaster Mennonite School and have been life partners for forty-two years, as well as business partners for fifteen years.

Marian Magdalene Hollinger was born and raised in Ephrata with happy memories as third in a family of seven. Her parents Warren and Mary owned the renowned Hollinger's Farm Market, so life was a blend of work and play.

Marian cooked for the family of nine, and liked that she could shop next door for all her needs.

Mary was the fabulous pie baker, plump pies and full of fruit. Marian inherited this gift and continues to make her pies from scratch.

Marian's family was involved with a church ministry in Roedersville, going there once a month and for summer Bible school.

Meanwhile, across the way in the village of Blue Ball, Phil was also the third of seven children to parents Gladys and Mervin Rutt. He walked to a two-room school his first years with all the children in town. He remembers playing with the neighborhood kids until dark. His two cousins and a neighbor boy were his constant companions.

New Holland Mennonite Church was Phil's home church. He felt secure about who he was in his place in this community. Phil saw his church on the cutting edge of Lancaster Mennonite Conference and was fascinated by the many businessmen.

The assassination of President Kennedy made a deep impression on fifth grader Phil. The events following that gave the Rutt children their first marathon television watching opportunity! Spellbound, they watched the grainy black and white reels of the shooting and then the funeral procession with the riderless horse pulling the casket through the streets of Washington D.C.

That fall during revival services, Phil stood up during the third verse of "Just as I am." As an eleven year old, he wasn't taking any chances. If the president could be killed, he needed to guard himself against the fires of hell by standing, in order to secure his place in heaven. It was like fire insurance.

This good standing was relatively short lived when Phil began middle school. He made friends with sports team members who liked to have fun. He and his best friend looked out for each other. He was brawn and Phil the brain. He was from a family who didn't go to church, and Phil found himself denying that he was Mennonite or even went to church.

Phil found popularity but not success. With a low GPA, he made a monumental decision at the end of his junior year and transferred to LMS. Marian was a classmate. They began dating at the end of their senior year and graduated in 1971.



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### Worship Schedule

- Mar. 5 . . . . . Rachel Nolt
- 12 . . . . . Karyn Nancarvis
- 19 . . . . . Rachel Nolt
- 26 . . . . . Rachel Nolt

While Phil worked for Landis Transmission after high school, he got a call from Larry Newswanger at EMM who asked if he was interested in going to Belize as a mechanic. He accepted the offer and was assigned to partner with Jim Shenk. They were good friends from high school, a bonus.



Jim and Phil worked in agricultural development and church youth programs. This experience helped Phil decide what he wanted to do in life. He became involved in an agricultural supply store operation and found that he liked the business world.

Meanwhile Marian went to school part-time while she worked to save money to visit Phil in VS. She and Donna Mack would travel together to see Phil and Jim.

When Phil returned from service, he and Marian were married at New Holland Mennonite Church by uncle Jason Steffy with Donna and Jim as their attendants. They joined the Hollinger family business for a year.



College was calling and they headed to EMU. Phil made a commitment to be a serious student, enrolling in business. College was a great experience for him. He worked part-time as residence director as his GPA rose. Phil began to believe in himself and set his goal for graduate school at The College of William and Mary.

Marian earned a BS in Liberal Arts at the same time, being the first in her family to attend college.

Before enrolling at William and Mary, Phil was employed at EMU in student life programs. That year Marian was assistant director of food services at EMU.

When Phil entered the MBA program at W&M, Marian transferred there as director of the college pub. They laugh as they recall this Mennonite girl running a college pub!

Highlights of this position included serving lunch to Prince Charles, as well as the 1983 International G7 Summit dignitaries.



Marian returned to EMU as director of food services and catering where she enjoyed the management of the cafeteria staff, overseeing a million-dollar budget.

The decision to have a family was a time of discernment for Marian and Phil. Little did they know how deeply their lives would be changed forever. Marian spent time with Outward Bound on a sailing expedition to help her find clarity. Was there some internal message telling her that this would not be an easy path?

They were expecting their first child in early 1985 when Marian sensed something amiss and admitted herself to Rockingham Memorial Hospital at twenty-nine weeks gestation. Philip was born ten weeks premature at 2 lb. 15 oz. with an Apgar score of zero and miraculously survived. Marian survived toxemia and placenta abruption.

During this traumatic time, they experienced the power of prayer first hand. Marian's sister Joyce Haller and AMC created a prayer chain for this fragile family. It was only the beginning of years of sleepless nights, doctor appointments, and therapies. This was not an easy journey but they were committed.

Phil and Marian moved back to Pennsylvania where Phil worked in the Hollinger family business for five years.

Navigating the unknown was made easier with the help of Nancy Chapman who had knowledge of community services that would benefit Philip with his blindness, cerebral palsy and a seizure disorder. The Chapmans and Rutts met at the Susquehanna Valley Association for the Blind. They had similar concerns for their sons and this led to a deep friendship.

Urbane Peachey visited in these early months, and that opened the door to bring them to AMC. It was Alta Landis who kept close contact with Marian, reminding her to honor self-care and take time for herself. Alta helped to make this possible by helping with Philip's care.

Later Marian introduced Urbane to the Chapmans when Philip was in the hospital. They visited AMC and were impressed.

Though Philip is non-verbal, his life has spoken volumes to Marian. Though he is blind, he sees right through her and knows her uniquely. Though he can't walk, he has taken her farther than she ever knew she could go. As they both healed from this traumatic birth, Marian fell in love in a way she never could understand otherwise.

Philip has become part of the AMC family. A highlight for the family was his baptism three years ago. People express

to Marian and Phil how much they appreciate hearing his “amen” on a given Sunday morning.

Marian has overwhelming gratitude for the volunteers who took turns with Philip during the second hour to give her and Phil time to visit. These angels were Nancy Chapman, Alta Landis, Lynette Meck, Marilyn Langeman, Ethel Shank, Donna Shenk, Gudrun Matthies, Vernon Glick, and Sue Horst.

Marian is a risk taker and rises to challenge. After pre-pregnancy tests and given the odds, they welcomed Peter two years later. Peter brought joy and a sense of normalcy to their family life. He was named in honor of Lloyd and Nancy Chapman’s Peter who died in infancy that same year.

Phil’s next venture was joining brother-in-law at Four Seasons Produce as its CEO. He spent twelve years there before joining Marian in the real estate business.

It was during this time that Phil and Marian made the big decision to adopt a daughter. They wanted a sister for the boys and to offer a child a loving home.

Marian flew to Vietnam to meet Thanh Thi Nguyen. Born near Hanoi and born of “my heart,” Elizabeth became part of their family at age ten.

Elizabeth spoke no English and studied with Janet Stoner and Aunt Gloria, as well as late nights with parents. A live-in nanny helped through these full years of care. Many ongoing challenges, but as always, they were committed.

Another gift from AMC friends was when Phil and Marian took Elizabeth to Vietnam to see her brother and her country. Peter went along. Donna and Jim Shenk formed a team of caretakers for Philip back home.

When Liz and Peter headed off to college, they left a void. Marian learned that DSECC was looking for housing for an IVEPer, and they decided to pursue this possibility. Ploy Kamonsin arrived and it was love at first sight. She spent the entire year with them. They now consider her their “Thai daughter.”

The year 2010 is a year never to be forgotten. College graduations, Philip moved to Friendship Community, Sam and Ruth Wenger’s accident, (mentors to Liz and Peter), sold their house and relocated to Akron, Philip hospitalized twice, Liz and Brent’s wedding, and then Marian’s father passed away in December.

Two years later Marian’s mother passed, and the circle of life continued with the birth of their first granddaughter. She greeted a sister in 2015.

Phil and Marian are very involved in the life of their granddaughters who bring them joy beyond anything they could imagine.

Phil finds satisfaction in making wine and cider. His dream adventure in retirement is to tend a vineyard and make wine when he isn’t traveling or playing with grandkids.

Marian and Phil are partners in a successful real estate venture. The seed was planted for Marian while Phil was in graduate school at William and Mary. She became intrigued with real estate through a wife of a colleague of his. Marian passed her real estate license exam in 1989. Interest rates were 16% and she had a successful first year, and each year her sales grew.

Marian believes that the strengths she brings to her business clearly stem from what her children have taught her. She underscores overcoming adversity, finding the good in the difficult, teaching clear communication, inclusiveness, taking responsibility, perseverance, and believing in herself.

## THE MARIANRUTT.COM TEAM

*Lancaster and Surrounding Area Real Estate*

717-859-7019 • PRUTT@PTD.NET

Phil joined her in 2003 and they formed The Marian Rutt Team. Phil’s support and business acumen have been invaluable. He works with buyers and she works with sellers. Together they make a winning team.

One main incentive for this career change was to make the parents more available to the children as they went through high school. They would be leaving home soon, and this flexible schedule allowed more family time.

Commitment for Phil and Marian includes giving back to AMC for all the care/support they received when Philip was young. They both served on church council. Phil taught Sunday school, served on DSECC board, scholarship committee, and is currently a trustee.

Marian is currently completing a term as deacon. She served two terms on hospitality committee, and is currently on the Gift Discernment committee. They will both be joining Jean Buchen's community meals committee for AMC outreach.

Finding balance is important to Marian and Phil. They take time away to be alone together. They enjoyed a trip to the British Isles to celebrate forty years of marriage.

Marian has a goal to write her personal story. The title of her book: I Can't Do This! A lament cried out while she was very sick at Philip's birth, as she realized that her world would never be the same again. It will reflect her experience of daily living with uncertainty. Marian rose to the challenge of overcoming negativity with the help of God, family, church, and community.

~Priscilla Ziegler

### ***Pastor's Perspective: The Gift and Challenge of Empathy, The Gift and Challenge of Tears***



Empathy: the action of understanding, being aware of, being sensitive to, and vicariously experiencing the feelings, thoughts, and experience of another of either the past or present without having the feelings, thoughts, and experience fully communicated in an objectively explicit manner; also: the capacity for this.

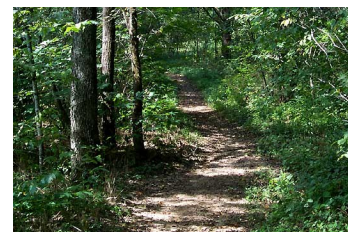
I am blessed with the gift of tears. For years I could not call tears a blessing. For years I tried to repress my tears. I felt ashamed and embarrassed by my tears. They made me feel vulnerable.

During a unit of Clinical Pastoral Education, my supervisor challenged me to accept my tears rather than hide them. I was encouraged to allow my tears to be part of my accompanying others. I don't always know where my tears come from...probably some of them are connected to my perceived understanding that strong emotions were not encouraged in my childhood home, but many of my tears are shed for you and the world. Many of my tears are shed in empathy for the stories I hear. My tears are shed for your pain and for your insights of God's presence in your life. My tears are shed for your sadness and loneliness and also for your great achievements. My tears are often shed as I am overwhelmed by God's incredible love and care for all of us and all of creation.

The challenge of empathy and tears comes when I hold on to them and make them my own. That is unhealthy. So I practice placing your stories into God's light. Each evening, during my walk, I release all that I heard into God's care, since they are not my stories and they are not my work. They are your stories and they are your work. They are part of God's story and part of God's work.

So I will cry for you and for the world. And I will release you and the world into God's care.

~Rachel Nolt



*Please send in your submissions for the April newsletter by Monday, March 27.*

*Thanks.*



### Sensing Wholeness: Our Lenten Experience

God's delight in humanity is proclaimed in the creation story when God created humans in the image of the Divine. Further affirmation is given when God announced the entire creation was very good. God's love for humanity is incarnated in the birth and life of Jesus. John wrote, "The Word became flesh, and lived among us." Eugene Peterson translated in *The Message*: "The word became flesh and blood and moved into the neighborhood." Jesus comes to live among us to show us how to be truly human and how to truly live.



During this Lenten experience, we, as humans, walk with Jesus on his journey to the cross. On his journey, Jesus encountered his own humanity and the humanity of others as they wonder about, thirst for, see, breathe into, hope for, and live into a relationship with God. During this Lenten season we, too, want to grow in our relationship and knowledge of God through our very human senses.

Our hunger, wonder, thirst, sight, breath, hope and joy in life point us to God. This journey leads to our death but in the end we realize that life is stronger than death, God's love is not destroyed by death. In the end we see Jesus' resurrection and know we, too, are resurrected. We experience the ongoing cycle of life, death and resurrection.

~Rachel Nolt

### 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	Honey (Marilyn) Hernley
Carolyn & John Horst	Becca Martin
Paul Martin     Philip Rutt	Amela & Randy Puljek-Shank



### Men's Choir Festival

AMC's Men's Choir will be participating in a Men's Choir Festival on Sunday, March 26 at Hinkletown Mennonite Church. This program begins at 6:30 pm.

Participating groups include: Akron Mennonite Men's Choir, Blooming Glen Mennonite Men's Chorus, Men's Ensemble of the Mennonite Children's Choir, and Men with a Song. Each choir will sing three individual selections and the combine to sing nine songs chosen by the guest conductor, Wendell Nisly. He is from Virginia and is director of the Oasis Chorale.

An offering will be taken to support Mennonite Disaster Service's rebuilding of bridges in West Virginia.

All are welcome to attend.

~Pat Martin

## **2017 Worship Statistics**

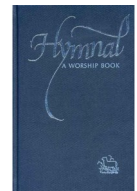
One aspect of my job at AMC is to track the usage of hymns and report their use to a copyright license holder service. Most of the copyrighted hymns that AMC uses are administered by OneLicense.net. Included in this copyright license is the ability to podcast our worship services. This past year (2016), 56 worship services were available. 46 of the 52 weeks had at least one hymn covered by a copyright that was reported. A total of 97 hymns were reported this past year – 38 from Hymnal: A Worship Book, 34 from Sing the Journey, 14 from Sing the Story, and 11 were hymns and anthems from other sources. Some of the reporting includes the same hymn sung for multiple weeks.

Another aspect of my job is recording and tracking the hymns used for the worship services. I track which hymns are sung and how often. For 2016, we sang a total of 205 hymns with almost a third (31%) being sung more than one time throughout the year.

Other sources	11
HWB (blue)	135 (27 were sung twice, 11 were sung three times, 1 was sung four times, 1 was sung 5 times, 1 was sung 6 times, 1 sung as a response)
STJ (green)	34 (8 were sung twice, 3 sung three times, 1 was sung four times)
STS (purple)	25 (8 sung twice, 1 sung three times, 2 as a response)
205 different hymns sung in 2016	

There are a total of 900 hymns available for singing from the three books we currently use. In 2016 we sang 23% of available hymns with the following breakdown:

HWB	21%
STJ	29%
STS	20%



Another area that I record and gather statistics for is people participating in various aspects of the worship service. The following list shows the number of persons who served in each area during 2016.



22	persons served as worship leader
77	persons read scripture
9	persons shared in the children's time
23	persons led the prayers of the people
8	persons served as song leader
24	persons played an instrument
6	persons served as sound operator
8	persons helped plan worship services

In addition to the above list, persons were also involved in musical ways:

Children's Choir	sang 2 times
Men's Choir	sang 7 times
Soloists	8 persons (many sang more than one time)

Not included in the information that I track are persons who serve as ushers and greeters.

As I look over the participation in the various aspects of the morning worship service, it becomes very evident that our worship is truly "the work of the people." Realizing that some persons serve in more than one of the above categories, in 2016, over 100 persons who call AMC their congregation served in some aspect of worship. I thank you for partnering with us in our weekly worship at AMC.

*Patricia Martin, Minister of Music and Worship*



## Attention AMC Women 2017 Half-Day Women's Retreat

Please plan to join the 2017 AMC Women's Retreat on Saturday morning, April 8. Here are some details:

- Date and Time:** Saturday April 8, 2017  
9:00 AM-12:00 PM-Program and Coffee/Tea Break  
12:00 PM-1:00 PM-Lunch
- Location:** AMC Assembly Room
- Guest Presenter:** Karen Sensenig, Chaplain at Philhaven & Former Pastor of Habecker Mennonite
- Title:** Stepping into a Whirling World with a Centered Heart
- Registration Info:** Brochure and Registration forms will be distributed in mailboxes. Return Registration forms to Elaine Brubaker.
- Additional Info:** Karen will use clay as a metaphor during the presentation. If you wish to try your hand at the potter's wheel, please inform Melanie Baer in advance to schedule.
- Retreat Planners:** Melanie Baer, Jane Hartzler, Elaine Brubaker, Agnes Hacker



## Guess Who's Coming to Dinner

**Who:** All AMC friends and families

**What:** Dinner with friends

**When:** Saturday, April 1, 2017 No Fooling!

**Where:** to be determined

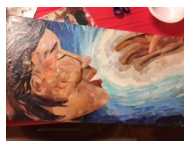
Hosts will provide a setting and beverage. Guests will provide a dish to share.

A sign-up form was placed in your mailbox. Please return to Susan Martin no later than March 12. You will receive your destination or hosting assignment on March 19.

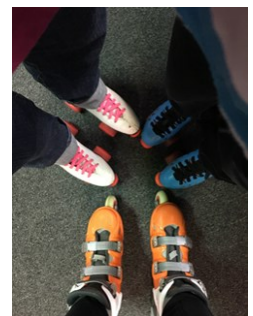


## Connect!

On Feb. 1, Audrey Kenagy shared her love of and talent for Mod Podge artwork. Participants created original designs.



Connect! ventured out into the Castle Roller Rink on Feb. 22 bringing together both newer and more experienced (read rusty) skaters of all ages. Thank you, Dylan Nolt, for sharing with us the skating session won through a drawing!





## Keeping up with AMC's Youth

### MYF

The MYF spaghetti supper on January 28 raised \$1,761 toward convention costs. The theme was "Diverse Cultures of Disney", and special guests included Winnie the Pooh, Mary Poppins, and a pirate (among others).



February 12 was a busy day for the MYF. A dessert fundraiser raised an additional \$522. MYF also packed care packages for AMC's college and university students. Feel the love!





**Upcoming MYF events:**

- March 4: Mystery dinner; meet at AMC at 4 p.m. to carpool.
- March 10: "Girls night" pajama party at the home of Susan King @ 7 p.m.
- March 18: Auction fundraiser
- Mar 31-Apr 2: Girls/guys weekend at Kevin King's cabin



**Looking Ahead:**

- April 7-8: Lock in @ AMC
- April 29: Supper Club hosted by Sandi and Norm Wood.
- May 7: Mug washing/dessert fundraiser
- May 21: Senior Recognition
- July 4-9: Orlando convention



# Jr. MYF

On February 18, the Jr. MYF helped at Peter's Porch, a ministry of Zion Lutheran Church in Akron. Peter's Porch helps local families in need with food and clothing. Jr. MYF helped by meeting individuals and families, and carrying bags of groceries out to their cars.



# F.L.I.P.

F.L.I.P. (Family Life is Precious) enjoyed an afternoon of roller-skating at the Mt. Gretna Roller Rink on February 12.

**Upcoming joint Jr. MYF/F.L.I.P activity:**

**Sunday, March 5: Laser tag at the Laser Dome at 1:30 pm**

**A hike on the Lancaster Junction Trail at 2:45 pm**

**All are welcome to join!**

## Schizophrenia

Schizophrenia is a complex brain disease. Dr. E Fuller Torrey is a research psychiatrist specializing in schizophrenia and bipolar disorder. He had a sister with schizophrenia. His manual "Surviving Schizophrenia" attempts to view schizophrenia from the inside and outside, describe conditions that may be confused with schizophrenia, outline the onset and course of the disease, and include most recent research findings and treatment.



He says that "developing the right attitude is the single most important thing an individual or family can do to survive schizophrenia. The right attitude evolves naturally once there is resolution of the twin monsters of schizophrenia – blame and shame. These lie just beneath the surface of many families, impeding the family from moving forward, souring relations among family members, and threatening to explode in a frenzy of finger pointing, accusations, and recriminations... Feelings of blame and shame are completely irrational. There is no evidence whatsoever that schizophrenia is caused by how people have been treated either as children or as adults; it is a biological disease of the brain, unrelated to interpersonal events of childhood or adulthood."

A Beautiful Mind is a movie depicting the life of mathematician John Nash, who received a Nobel Prize for work done before the onset of his illness. It is an excellent description of what it is like to have schizophrenia. "The movie poignantly demonstrates how difficult this disease is for family members. The importance of medication in recovery is appropriately stressed." (Surviving Schizophrenia, page 342)

**Come see "A Beautiful Mind" in the AMC assembly room on Sunday, March 19 at approximately noon. Sign up on the bulletin board if you would like pizza or bring your own lunch.**

~ Marilyn Langeman



## HOSPICE & COMMUNITY CARE

*"Beautiful mosaics are made of broken pieces."*

~Lori Jenessa Nelson



Hospice & Community Care invites you, your family and friends to attend a special Service of Remembrance in memory of loved ones who died in 2016.

**Sunday, March 19, 2017, 2:00 p.m.**  
**Highland Presbyterian Church**  
**500 E. Roseville Road, Lancaster, Pennsylvania**

and

**Sunday, March 26, 2017, 2:00 p.m.**  
**Luther Memorial Church**  
**1907 Hollywood Drive, York, Pennsylvania**

Child care is available at the Lancaster service. For more information call (717) 391-2413.

## March (and beyond) at AMC & In the Community

### MARCH UPCOMING EVENTS

- March 1** Ash Wednesday Service @ 6:30 pm in Assembly Room
- 2** Men's Breakfast @ 7 am @ Udder Choice Steve Nolt, presenter
- 2** Men's Mass Choir Festival Rehearsal 7 pm @ Metzler Mennonite Church
- 4** MYF Mystery Dinner; meet @ 4 pm to carpool
- 5** Jr. MYF/FLIP event: Laser Dome @ 1:30 pm & Hike at Lancaster Junction Trail @ 2:45 pm
- 7** Lunch Bunch @ Oregon Dairy @ 11:30 am
- 8** Connect! @ AMC @ 6:00 pm
- 10** MYF Girls' Sleepover @ Susan King's @ 7 pm
- 12** ADNet lunch and movie "A Beautiful Mind" in Assembly Room at noon
- 15** Connect! @ AMC @ 6:00 pm
- 16** Men's Mass Choir Festival Rehearsal 7 pm @ Metzler Mennonite Church
- 18** MYF Pig Roast & Auction @ 4:30
- 26** Men's Chorus Festival, 6:30 pm @ Hinkletown Mennonite Church
- 29** Connect! @ AMC @ 6:00 pm
- 31—Apr. 1** MCC PA Relief Sale
- 31 to Apr. 2** MYF weekend at Kings' Cabin

### SAVE THESE DATES

- April 1 Spring mulching @ AMC
- April 1 Guess Who Is Coming to Dinner?
- April 8 AMC Women's Retreat @ AMC  
9:00 am to 1:00 pm
- April 8 Fundraising dinner for Bangladesh
- April 15 Share-A-Life service project at MRC  
9:00 am to 12:00 pm
- June 9-11 Annual AMC camping weekend  
at Locust Lake State Park



Friendship heart  
GALLERY  
...expressing capabilities

**MARCH 30, 2017**

**Annual Art Auction**  
benefiting Artists with intellectual and developmental disabilities

ARTWORK WILL BE BRIGHT  
FARE WILL BE LIGHT  
CELEBRATE THE NIGHT  
IN BLACK AND WHITE!



Support Artists with disabilities like Chris & Taylor!  
Photo Credit: FIG Industries

Pennsylvania College of Health Sciences  
850 Greenfield Road, Lancaster  
Entrance in Rear of Building  
**8:30PM Meet the Artists & Silent Auction**  
**7:30PM Live Auction**

Please RSVP by March 15: [EventBrite.com](http://EventBrite.com)  
Search "Friendship Heart Gallery"  
or Call 717.656.2466 ext 1101

\$25/Ticket



### The MYF Auction is nearly here!

Your auction donations are needed.

See a member of the MYF after the Sunday service to get a donation form. Return the form to Rebecca in the church office by March 12.

Also needed are donations of desserts for the meal. See the sign up on the bulletin board.

**Plan to attend this exciting event on March 18 at 4:30 pm.**



Parish  
Resource  
Center

### Don't miss "An Evening with Krista Tippet"!

**Date/Time: March 4, 7:00—9:00 pm**

**Venue: Lancaster Mennonite School**

Beloved for her "On Being" podcast, the *New York Times* bestselling author and Peabody-award-winning broadcaster, will speak Saturday, March 4 at 7:00 pm at Lancaster Mennonite School's Fine Arts Center. Each ticket includes a copy of Tippet's latest book, [Becoming Wise](#). For more information call the Parish Resource Center at 717-299-1113.





**FUNDRAISER FOR KAREN YOUTH AT HABECKER:** Come enjoy an Asian meal prepared by Karen cooks on Saturday, March 11, 2017 at Habecker Mennonite Church! The proceeds from this meal will assist three participants (Mi Mi Poe, Pree Pree Paw, and Ler Shee) from our congregation to join the Mennonite Children's Choir of Lancaster on their June 15-19 tour to Ohio and Michigan. The meal will include soup, egg rolls, rice with chicken curry, vegetarian noodle dish, along with other tasty food. The meal will be served from 1 to 2:30 PM at Habecker Mennonite Church, 451 Habecker Church Road, Lancaster PA 17603. Tickets are \$10.00 per person. Tickets are limited and must be reserved in advance by contacting Chris Landes at [cdlandes@habeckerchurch.com](mailto:cdlandes@habeckerchurch.com) by Mar. 1.



### 2017 Quilt Preview

Join us Thursday-Saturday, March 2-4, 2017, for this year's quilt preview of the Pennsylvania Relief Sale. Check out over 100 quilts, shop Quilter's Corner and upcycled items made by volunteers at the Material Resources Center and support MCC! The preview runs Thursday and Friday from 9 a.m. - 8 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the MCC EC Material Resources Center (517 W. Trout Run Road, Ephrata, PA 17522). For more information, call (717) 733-2847 or email [EastCoastMRC@mcc.org](mailto:EastCoastMRC@mcc.org).

**Change of Date for Fraktur Classes**—The dates for the fraktur classes this winter have changed. A "Taste for Fraktur," which focuses on the distinctive imagery of fraktur, will now be held from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Saturday, March 4. "The Illuminated Letter," focusing on the calligraphy of fraktur, will be held from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Saturday, March 18.



Learn more about these classes on [lmhs.org](http://lmhs.org).

**Pa. German Dialect Classes**—Open for registration now! Beginner classes run Thursdays, 7 to 9 p.m., from March 9 through May 11. Intermediate classes are on Saturdays, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., March 11 through May 13. To register, visit [www.lmhs.org/classes](http://www.lmhs.org/classes) or call (717) 393-9745.

**"Dutchirican" Exhibit Opens**—"Dutchirican: History of Latinos of Central Pennsylvania," featuring the long history of Hispanics in Central Pennsylvania which includes the history of Hispanics in Mennonite churches in the region is now open at the Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society Library. This free exhibit is open Tuesday through Saturday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:40 p.m., through May 10.

**Annual Banquet**—Learn and reflect on Lancaster County history and culture during this year's Annual Banquet of the Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society, featuring Jack Brubaker, author of the "The Scribbler" column in the Lancaster Newspapers. He will share on the topic "Ten of My Favorite Historical Anecdotes about Lancaster County." The banquet will be held at 6 p.m. on Saturday, March 25. Tickets cost \$30 and can be purchased at [lmhs.org](http://lmhs.org), or by calling (717) 393-9745. The deadline for registration is Saturday, March 18.

P E N N S Y L V A N I A  
**RELIEF SALE**  
Celebrating Community. CREATING HOPE.

**The Craft Stand coordinators are in need of volunteers to help set up, sell, and/or tear down at the PA Relief Sale March 31-April 1, 2017. Come and enjoy the sale but donate an hour or two of your time at our stand. Please call or email us if you think you can help us. Remember: all proceeds benefit MCC.**

**Janet Runion Patton: 717-272-1708, [cjpatton99@aol.com](mailto:cjpatton99@aol.com);**

**Ruth Runion Slear: 717-533-9423, [singchorale@hotmail.com](mailto:singchorale@hotmail.com)**

# March Birthdays

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 Steve Krafft
5	6 Agnes Hacker	7 Irma Bowman	8 Margaret Eby	9 Carla Neufeld	10	11
12 Ira Nolt	13 Judy Horst Paul Martin	14	15	16 Kevin Erb	17 Daryl Mack Hans Peter Neufeld	18
19 Alaa Jabri	20	21 Elvin Stoltzfus Lisa Zimmerman Mara Zimmerman	22 Jean Buchen	23 Sarah Longenecker Wendy Sundberg	24 Gavin Shenk	25 Will Broaddus
26	27 Boramei Chap John Weaver	28	29 Mike Longenecker	30	31 Richard Leaman	

## Akron Mennonite Church

1311 Diamond Street  
Akron, PA 17501  
P: (717) 859-1488  
E: [amc@akronmench.org](mailto:amc@akronmench.org)

[www.akronmench.org](http://www.akronmench.org)

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

### Staff

Rachel Nolt  
Pastor  
[rnolt@akronmench.org](mailto:rnolt@akronmench.org)

Karyn Nancarvis  
Interim Director of Children & Youth Ministries  
[knancarvis@akronmench.org](mailto:knancarvis@akronmench.org)

Melody Rupley  
Director of Equipping Ministries  
[mrupley@akronmench.org](mailto:mrupley@akronmench.org)

Patricia Martin  
Minister of Music and Worship  
[pmartin@akronmench.org](mailto:pmartin@akronmench.org)

Rebecca Pereverzoff  
Administrator  
[rpereverzoff@akronmench.org](mailto:rpereverzoff@akronmench.org)  
[amc@akronmench.org](mailto:amc@akronmench.org)



### Contact Updates

Please note these email address changes:

Ed Miller: [Miller2t@windstream.net](mailto:Miller2t@windstream.net)

Sarah Eby & Kent Douple: [seby@windstream.net](mailto:seby@windstream.net)

Sara Wiegner: [saralwiegner@gmail.com](mailto:saralwiegner@gmail.com)

### 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.*