

THE SECOND CENTURY CHRONICLE



October , 2009

EAST UNION MENNONITE CHURCH

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Ministry and Beyond

I have shared in the past that I have observed or have heard of people in the congregation ministering their gifts to one another or to people at work, in the community, or in their own families. In October and November there will be several opportunities to hear of ministries in the community and even around the world.

On October 18 Candace Wilson from Teen Challenge will share of their ministry committed to equipping those they serve to find freedom from addictive behavior, to become socially and emotionally healthy, physically well and spiritually alive. Teen Challenge is a well founded recovery ministry that is a viable resource to aid ministry in the local congregation.

Many people are aware of Gideons International and their ministry of placing Bibles in hotels and handing out pocket testaments to many youth, college students, nurses, and people in the armed forces. I was a member of the Seward County Chapter in Nebraska before entering the pastorate. Pastors are not permitted to be Gideon members but, pastors may yield time in worship for a Gideon member to share of how the work of distributing Bibles is creating hope for people in crisis to find salvation in Christ. A Gideon representative will share October 25.

The following Sunday we will have our Fall Missions Speakers. Evie and Wallace Shellenberger will share of their experiences living with people in Iran. Further biography information is printed in the following pages of the Chronicle. With the issues facing Christians and nations alike around the world today, this presentation of ministry will be informative and assist our desires to pray for the concerns around

the world. It will also serve to support Mennonite Mission Network as they reveal Christ's redeem work and hope.

On November 8, Roger and Mary Lou Farmer will minister in several ways. Mary Lou will have a brief Crooked Creek Christian Camp presentation and Roger will share inspirational thoughts around the theme being a witness in our world and how that correlates to the witness of early Anabaptist and Mennonite beginnings. Roger and Mary Lou will also share information and slides during Sunday School of when they participated in a tour of Anabaptist history in Europe this past Spring.

I know some will be asking were I will be in all this opportunity of learning of other ministries. Sometimes in scheduling continuing education and vacation time, the timing of it all does not always work as well as one hopes. October 15 - 21 I will be taking a personal weekend followed by scheduled continuing education through Lombard Mennonite Peace Center. October 25 - November 8 will be vacation time which will include Sonia and I celebrating 30 years of marriage with our family. Sonia's 30 years of marriage to me is a ministry in and of itself.

I am sure there are many other local ministries to feature and hopefully we'll be able to invite others to share in the coming year. God is at work and we have the privilege to not only support financially but also by watching and being alert, to help others less fortunate and to lead the lost to God's redeeming salvation in Christ.

Blessings,

Pastor Jay

Notes From Past Bulletins:

50 years ago: 1959

Oct. 4 - Morning Service: "Providing for Senior Citizens" by D. G. Yoder concerning Pleasantview Home.

Oct. 18 - Kenneth Hochstetler has returned from his two years of PAX Service in Algeria.

Oct. 25 - The Kalona Mennonite Church has voted to ordain Eugene Garber to the Christian Ministry. The ordination service is planned for the near future.

40 years ago: 1969

Oct. 5 - Evening Service: Dale & Charlene Rhodes will show pictures and talk about their two years in VS.

Oct. 12 - Sunday School Offering: &78.50, Church Offering: \$512.00.

Oct. 19 - Tues. at 5:30 p.m. Chuck Wagon Supper at Mullet Stables.

Margaret Logan has completed her VS assignment and has returned home.

30 years ago: 1979

Oct. 7 - Evening Service: "Refreshment Committee" a singing group from Ankeny, IA will present the program.

We welcome Dan Fisher back from his VS experience in Ireland.

Oct. 21 - The large calendar pad on the bulletin board has been placed for the benefit of all of us to be informed of the various activities of the church. If you plan to use any of the facilities, you should write this on the calendar, the proper date and time and what part of the building you will be using.

20 years ago: 1989

Oct. 1 - Evening service: Steve Reschley, a former pastor at Cedar Community, will be here to talk about the Mennonites in Wright County.

The flowers in the front of the church today were placed in memory of Lois Yoder by Dave, Lisa Lindsay & Rachel Yoder.

Oct. 8 - Church Council notes: Additional land was purchased for cemetery use at a cost of \$200, plus legal fees. They also approved the purchase of three tape players for the Sunday School department.

Oct. 15 - Communion Service: Sermon: "The Church, A Reconciled Community" by Michael Loss.

Oct. 22 - Evening Service: at 6:15 a finger food supper with Sunnyside congregation as our guests. Sunnyside will have the program beginning at 7:30 p.m.

The MYF will rake leaves again this year. Contact Cindy Dickel or Janet Geyer if you want you leaves raked. The date will depend on the leaves and the weather.

Oct. 29 - We welcome Laban Peachy, the Vice President of Marketing for MMA at Goshen to our worship service this morning.



EAST UNION WEB SITE:

www.eastunionmennonite.org

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Book Report-A Cousin's Promise #1 by Wanda E. Brunstetter

When a group of eight cousins and friends leaves their Indiana Amish community for a weekend getaway, a horrific accident brings them home forever changed.

Permanently disabled by the accident, Wayne Lambright struggles to take care of himself. He can't imagine being able to be the kind of husband his fiancée, Loraine Miller, needs. Determined to sacrifice his happiness to give her a better life, he breaks their engagement.

Loraine refuses to believe Wayne doesn't love her anymore. But when her old boyfriend Jake Beechy returns from exploring the English world, Wayne does everything in his power to help Jake regain Loraine's love.

For better or worse, Loraine wants to be Wayne's wife, but if he won't agree, should she promise her love to Jake? How will God work to bring Loraine the true desires of her heart?

A lot of blame was spread around after the accident. Wayne was an only child and his mother was over protective of Wayne after the accident and was very rude to Loraine, even Wayne was trying to push Loraine away but she kept her promise to Wayne. Through prayer and reading the Bible she knew what she was to do as she felt God leading her. Did she make the right decision in choosing Wayne or Jake Beechy, her old boyfriend?

Read the book for the answer.

Anna Yoder

These are books that have recently added to the church library—please come check them out! We added a new section in the library for "group study" books, which are books to facilitate small group study.

Fiction:

A Cousin's Promise (Book 1) by Wanda Brunstetter, published by Barbour Publishing, Inc.

Shadows of Lancaster County by Mindy Starns Clark, published by Harvest House Publishers.

Devotional:

Hymns—365 Devotional Readings (based on great hymns of faith) by Robert K. Brown, published by Tyndale Publishers.

Proverbs by William Mouser, published by Inter-Varsity Press.

The Acts of the Apostles by William Kurz, published by Liturgical Press.

Developing a Christian Worldview of the Problem of Evil, by Charles Colson, published by Tyndale.

Developing a Christian Worldview of Science and Evolution, by Charles Colson, published by Tyndale.

Developing a Christian Worldview of the Christian in Today's Culture, by Charles Colson, published by Tyndale.

Easy Reader (Children's books):

The Word Song Bible by Stephen Elkins, published by Broadman & Holman.

Home & Family:

Laughing in the Dark by Chonda Pierce, published by Howard Books.

Reference:

Daily Life at the time of Jesus, by Miriam Vamosh, published by Abingdon.

The Essential Bible Companion by John Walton, published by Zondervan.

Women Together—Ideas for Groups by Cathleen Hockman-Wert, published by Mennonite Press.

How to Stay Christian in College by J. Budziszewski, published by NavPress.

Peace & Service:

Beliefs: Mennonite Faith and Practice by John D. Roth, published by Herald Press.

Group Study:

Ready for Life by David Veerman, published by Tyndale.

The following books are all by Dr. Les Parrott & published by Zondervan:

Questions for Couples to Ask

51 Creative Ideas for Marriage Mentors

Marriage Mentor Manual for Husbands

Marriage Mentor Manual for Wives

The Complete Guide to Marriage Mentoring



Evie and Wallace Shellenberger will be here November 1, 2009 to share with us about their experiences and learning in living with people in Iran. The Shellenberger's were medical missionaries in Nigeria in the 1960's and I met them following that. They live in Paoli, IN. and are part of the Paoli Mennonite Fellowship. They were sent by MCC to study at the Imam Khomeini Education and Research Institute in Qom, Iran, from 2001-2004. They were there during the September 11 terror attacks and as U.S. military began campaigns on Afghanistan and Iraq. They returned to Iran for an additional 6 months visit which ended this spring. We look forward to their being with us for Sunday morning service and Sunday School time. You can read some reflections of the Shellenbergers at www.mcc.org/iran/student/shellenbergers.html.

Nyle Kauffman

Psalm 23

This may be an eye opener for some. We never looked at Psalm 23 this way even though we may say it over and over.

The Lord is my shepherd,
That's relationship.
I shall not want,
That's supply.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures,
That's rest.
He leadeth me beside the still waters,
That's refreshment.
He restoreth my soul,
That's healing.
He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness,
That's guidance.
For His names sake,
That's purpose.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
That's testing.
I will fear no evil,
That's protection.
For thou art with me,
That's faithfulness.
Thy rod and thy staff they comfort me,
That's comfort.
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies,
That's hope.
Thou anointest my head with oil,
That's consecration.
My cup runneth over,
That's abundance.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
That's blessing.
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord,
That's security.
Forever,
That's eternity.

Face it. The Lord loves you. What is most valuable is not what we have in our lives, but who we have in our hearts.



Because of legal privacy policies and varying personal opinions as to what information is private and what is public, out of respect to those who attend East Union, the Office staff is requesting that the following types of announcements please be submitted by immediate family members: Bereavement announcements of relatives not currently attending East Union, prayer concerns not negotiated through a pastoral or Elder Board Member visit, and individual congratulations.

Change of address is preferred to come from the person or family changing address but, the office will accept change of address from extended family members.

Also, many phone numbers are considered public information. If you want your phone number to remain private, (not posted on any publication), please specifically indicate such notation every time you provide your phone number.

For Sale:

“Giant” 21 speed ladies bike. Suspension seat post; 26” wheels. Very good condition; ridden only a few times.

Marianna Miller 656-2638

Children's Advent calendar from MMA :

This colorful calendar, illustrated with artwork from an MMA coloring contest, retells the Christmas story using daily tabs children can flip open. Under each flap is a Scripture verse and corresponding artwork. Available at: www.bookstore.mma-online.org.

Norman Schrock (EU MMA Advocate)

The reports below are a part of the 1952 conference meeting.

Provided by L. David Yoder, Church Historian

Report of the
Iowa-Nebraska Conference
Bethel Mennonite Church
Wayland, Iowa
August 12-15-1952

Organization of the Conference:

Moderator – Edward Birkey,
Assistant Moderator – Royden Schweitzer
Treasurer – John R. Troyer
Secretary – Willard Leichy

Special committees appointed for this session of conference:

Nominating Committee - William R, Eicher, Alvin Gascho, Nick Stoltzfus
Resolutions Committee: L. O. Schlegel, Noah Landis, Silas Horst

Tuesday, August 12

Devotions – Paul Glanzer, South Dakota
Reports to conference and other business.

Tuesday Evening

Devotions – Eugene Blosser, Wellman, IA
Sermon – C. L. Graber, Goshen Indiana

Wednesday Forenoon August 13

Devotions – P. R. Kennel, Shickley, NE
Announcement of committees appointed.
Conference Sermon– Samuel Oswald, Lyon, NE
Testimonials
Reports to conference.

Wednesday Afternoon August 13

Devotions - Sterling Stauffer, Beaver Crossing, Nebraska
Reports to Conference.
Origin and Foundation of the Church – A. Lloyd Swartzendruber, Kalona IA
Earnestly Contending for the Faith – Fred Gingerich, Chappell, NE
Reports to Conference.

Wednesday Evening August 13

Devotions – Max Yoder, Parnell, Iowa
Reports to Conference.
Foundations for Faithful Living – Paul T. Guengerich Parnell, IA
Offering for Daytonville and Thurman
Sermon – Eugene Blosser - Wellman, IA

Thursday Forenoon August, 14

Devotions – John M. Yoder Parnell, IA
Reports to Conference
Rightly Dividing the World of Truth – Samuel B, Nafziger, Kalona, IA
Established, Strengthened, Settled –William R. Eicher, Milford, NE

Ordinations

Ordinations during the past year and accepted as members of conference:

Bishop – Noah Landis, Alpha, MN

Ministers: Eli Yutzy, Robert K. Yoder, Kalona, IA; Virgil Brenneman, Iowa City;

Ezra Shenk, Wellman, IA;

Deacon: Wilford Stutzman; Wellman, IA;

Licensed Ministers: Leroy Kennel, Iowa City; Earl Yeachley, Thurman, CO.

Motions Adopted

It was carried that conference elect a director to the Board of Mennonite Mutual Aid, Inc. The Executive Committee of conference was empowered to make an annual appointment to the Local Board of the Children's Home at Kansas City.

The request of the Iowa Valley Mennonite Congregation near Lone Tree, Iowa, for conference membership was granted. This congregation was organized on May 25, 1952.

The motion was adopted that we have 1,000 copies of our Conference Discipline printed.

Conference approved the motion that a committee be appointed by the Executive Committee of Conference to purchase new songbooks for conference during the coming year.

It was carried that we give our Secretary of Church Music encouragement to go ahead and promote the music program in our district, according to his convictions, after consultation with the local ministry, and that his expenses be met by the Conference Treasurer.

The motion was made and seconded that the nominating committee should put Brother Harry Wenger's name on the ballot along with others for the office of Director of Mennonite Mutual Aid, Inc.; the term to be two years.

Report of Bishop's Council

August 11, 1952

Bishops present – Ed Birkey, P.R. Kennel, Sam Oswald, P.J. Blosser, Noah Landis, Wm. R. Eicher and L. O. Schlegel

Brother Ed Birkey, moderator of conference was in charge of the meeting. Brother P. R. Kennel led in prayer.

Noah Landis was elected secretary and read the minutes of last years meeting and was approved.

Report of the Bishops' respective congregations:

Brother P. J. Blosser for his congregation at South English reported a very satisfactory spiritual condition. The Hammer revival meetings are credited for producing some gratifying results.

The Wellman congregation has a fine working group of young people who are promoting a better future of the church. Brother Wilford Stutzman was ordained deacon.

At Daytonville the membership has reached 37. The spiritual condition is very satisfactory. The organization of the congregation has been affected. Brother Ezra Shenk was ordained pastor of the congregation.

P. R. Kennel reported a normal condition existing in the Shickley congregation. Conditions of worldliness are threatening. Interest in mission outpost work is growing here.

At Broken Bow, the congregation is getting along very well. There has been some loss here but there is a new interest among the membership in general.

The Roseland group continues to merit our deep concern. There are no children to make the future of the church promising.

Brother Sam Oswald for the Bresner congregation reported a growth in numbers and spiritual progress is quite satisfactory. Mid-week meetings have been added to the weekly schedule here.

The Miller South Dakota group are wide awake and zealous in the work of the Lord. Brother Glanzer is doing good work with the membership here. There is a promising group of children here.

Brother Ed Birkey reported for his congregation at Manson. In the midst of things that discourage we are experiencing a spiritual revival and increased interest in witnessing. Unity and peace prevail in the brotherhood. A full schedule of Bible conference and revival meetings is planned for the fall and winter season.

Brother Simon Gingerich Reports for the Bethel and Sugar Creek congregations. I have nothing outstanding to report. We have had baptismal and communion services at both churches since conference met. We have regular Bible study and prayer meetings for both the young folks and the married. Each are held every alternate week and the manifested interest has been good. If present plans carry we expect to hold a series of meetings again this fall beginning the last Sunday in September and running a week at each church. We have engaged Brother H. N. Troyer of Oyster Point, VA., to be our evangelist. Summer Bible schools were held at both Bethel and Sugar Creek churches with good interest and another one was conducted at Pleasant Point where a Sunday School is conducted now for several sessions.

Since I have passed the three score and ten mark in age I feel that the time has come when the bishop work of Sugar Creek and Bethel congregations should be passed on to a younger brother. Therefore, I hereby request that I be granted the privilege to effect such an ordination provided the proper church voice can be obtained.

Very Sincerely Yours, Simon Gingerich

Wm. R. Eicher reported for the following churches; Thurman, Chappell, Woodriver, East Fairview, and his home church West Fairview. We have held communion regular in all of these churches except Thurman, with good attendance. There are healthy signs of good spiritual growth in the lives of many, on the part of others there is an indifference and spiritual coolness. Materialism has gained a definite foothold in some places. Ease, pleasure, etc. holds a big place in the lives of some. There is still a tendency to disregard the plain teachings of the Bible and the regulations of the church, on some of the vital issues confronting her. Such things a popular hair cutting, amusement, wordiness, etc.

As to Thurman, we have not yet seen our way clear to hold communion. We feel that first of all efforts should be made to organize a mission church, and invite such as would join. Brother Earl has been licensed for a year, which will soon expire. We do not feel that the time is here to ordain him, so that leaves the question of renewing his license open.

As to Woodriver, we have counseled with others in regard to the ordination of a bishop there, and have decided to await more favorable developments before proceeding to even take the voice of the congregation in regards to it.

Brother Noah Landis reported for the Alpha congregation. A growth in numbers and spiritual strength is evident. The problem of worldliness is facing the group constantly. Our mission outpost work at Fox Lake continues with interest.

Brother L. O. Schlegel reported for Milford A.M. The threat of worldliness is very apparent. A fine summer Bible School was held with good attendance. Quite an outreach in witnessing is being carried on recently. In our last communion service there was an unusual expression of peace and unity.

Privilege was granted by the bishop body to Brother Simon Gingerich to effect the ordination of one to have oversight of the Sugar Creek and Bethel congregations.

Report of the Iowa City Mennonite Missions Congregation - 1952

This report concerning the activity and church program at the Iowa City Mennonite Missions Congregation, Iowa City, Iowa. The regular Sunday School and Sunday morning and evening church services have been well attended with a more recent average attendance of 135. A Mid-Week service on "**Doctrines of the Mennonites**" by John C. Wenger is now being studied with classes of four different age groups, for a total of about 70 people. Summer Bible School was conducted during June with an enrollment of 92. Opening new fields have been hospital ministry, radio programs, a fellowship for Mennonite University students, and coordination of city tract distribution. Other church activities include and active MYF groups, Ladies Sewing Circle, and a Mennonite Girls Club.

Noah Landis (1953)

Sam Oswald (1953)

Congregational Report

Number of congregations 22; Mission Church 2; Mission Sunday School 5.

Bishops 10; Ministers 34; deacons 17

Membership August 1, 1951.....4,115

Received by Baptism.....132

Received by Letter.....72

Reclaimed.....7

Other Denominations.....7

Total Gain..... 238

Lost by Death.....31

Lost by Letter.....64

Excommunication.....7

Other causes.....63

Total Loss.....165

Net Gain.....73

Membership as of August 1, 1952.....4,188

All have regular Sunday Morning Services.

All but four have regular Sunday Evening Services

All but one have regular Mission offerings.

Respectfully submitted,

Willard Leichy, Secretary