

THE SECOND CENTURY CHRONICLE



September , 2009

EAST UNION MENNONITE CHURCH

Vol. XX,

No. 9

I want to take a little space on the cover page to draw your attention to several additional pages in the Chronicle this month. In the included pages are resolutions upheld by Mennonite Church USA; "Agreeing and Disagreeing in Love," "Resolution on following Christ and growing together as communities even in conflict," and "A call to Affirm, Confession and Covenant Regarding Human Sexuality, 1987."

The reason these documents are being included is the on-going dialogue and debate, civically and in the life of the church, around human sexuality and more specifically around the issue of homosexuality. It is the desire of the Board of Elders for people to take personal responsibility with regards to open communication. It is important for members to share their thoughts and opinions with each other whether in agreement or in disagreement. In order to inform and aid discussion, the Elder Board thought that the Chronicle would be an appropriate resource for the congregation to access these public resolutions of this past year and from Assemblies of the past.

There are usually several issues of discussion at any time. There are issues of health care, environment, immigration, and the definition of marriage and family. I hope as pastor, this information will be helpful and will assist in further discussing issues of faith and the church as we strive to unite ourselves to obedience to God Word in the love and redeeming grace of Christ Jesus.

Blessings,
Pastor Jay



EAST UNION WEB SITE:

www.eastunionmennonite.org

Phone Numbers:

Pastor: Jay Miiller – 683-3158 - home

Elders:

Charlene Rhodes - 679-2823

Keith Dickel – 683-2360

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Notes From Past Bulletins:

50 years ago: 1959

Sept. 6 – Our furlough has come to an end and we are ready to return to India, the land which God has called us. We want to thank you for the various groups & the church, who have given cash & helped in many other ways to get ready to return. As we return we depend on you for prayers. The Jacob Flisher family

Sept. 13 – Notice Brethren: Please pick up from the ushers a leaflet entitled: “A Statement of Guiding Principles about Civil Defense”. You will want to read it carefully.

Sept. 27 – New committee for Services at the Sunshine Mission: Mr. & Mrs. Leo Christner & Mr. & Mrs. Edwin L. Yoder.

40 years ago: 1969

Sept. 14 – Evening Service by John Thomas, State Director for CROP. He will show slides of a recent tour throughout parts of Europe and the Near East telling the story of CROP.

Sept. 21 – Evening Service by the IMS teachers.

Sept. 28 – We welcome the return of Dale & Charlene Rhodes & Donald Zook from their terms of VS.

30 years ago: 1979

Sept. 2 – 4:00 p.m. Annual Fellowship and picnic at Wellman Park.

Sept. 9 – Noon fellowship meal with Rev. Paul Goosen speaking after the meal.

Sept. 23 – The MYF and sponsors & Lonnie Yoder are in Ames today worshipping with our six ISU students.

Today you will be handed a questionnaire for your opinion concerning a Jr. High at IMS.

Sept. 30 – The sudden death of Lois Yoder on Friday afternoon has been a severe shock to all of us. We express our heartfelt sympathy to Dale and the family. Memorial services will be held on Monday forenoon at 10:00.

Glen Miller from Goshen plans to be at Green Center Book Store on Tues., Oct. 2 from 1:30 – 5:30 p.m. to autograph his new book, “The Deer Creek Story”.

20 years ago: 1989

Sept. 3 – Baby dedication for Ryan Joseph Bontrager, son of Errol & Coletta Bontrager.

4:00 p.m. Annual Church Picnic at Kalona City Park.

Sept. 10 – Sermon by Dean Rhodes.

Sept. 17 – Wed. evening, our annual Business Meeting will be held at the church at 7:30 p.m.

Sept. 24 – Sermon “Asking Questions About Lifestyle” Hezekiah 21 by Michael Loss.

Baptism service for Bobbie Hershberger.



Giving to East Union Online!

Beginning Sept 6th repetitive and one-time giving to East Union Mennonite Church can be done online. The PCI compliant website linked to EU's Home Page will give our church family from near and far the opportunity to manage their tithing from their own computer. Dennis Miller, Church Financial Officer will be available in the foyer during fellowship and Sunday School time on Sept. 6th & 13th to demonstrate how to use this new feature and answer any questions.

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.



Church Position Changes

The Gifts Discernment Committee is listing the names and their positions starting in September, 2009.

Mennonite Women will begin a new year at the church on Tuesday, Sept. 1. The theme for this year is “For the Beauty of the Earth”. Our project for this month is a cash offering for Central Plains Confe3rnece that will be helping women in Pakistan.

We welcome your donation as well as your participation in our group.

CPMC Mennonite Women Projects

The Mennonite Women have chosen two MEDA projects involving women for the conference wide project this year. You may support one or both.

Life is hard for poor, marginalized women in Pakistan, where more than a third live on less than \$1 a day. MEDA’s Pathways & Pursestrings project is helping 16,000 women in the embroidery, glass bangle, dairy and seedling businesses access valuable markets for their goods so they can increase their standard of living using skills they already have. With a gift of only \$70, you can help one woman start and grow her own business, so she can lift her family out of poverty!

Despite immense challenges, women in war-torn Afghanistan are eager to earn a living through horticulture. Kitchen gardens are ideal for Afghan women: they allow them to remain in their home compound, where they can care for their children while they work. By learning better agriculture techniques, they are able to improve their yields, feed their family and sell the surplus in their community. Your gift of \$50 can provide seeds and tools for one woman to grow a simple kitchen garden.

Please indicate which project you are supporting and send your contributions to: Lauralee Kauffman, 4154 Maier Ave. SW, Iowa City, IA 52240

- Adult Sunday School Superintendent –
Errol Bontrager
- Primary/Junior Sunday School Superintendent –
Cindy Dickel
- Trustee – Ben Miller
- Music Committee Co-Chair– Beth Swartzendruber
- Church Council Member-at-Large – Tim Litwiller
- Christina Nurture Committee Co-Chair –
Janet Geyer
- Extension Committee/Iowa Mennonite Benevolent
Association – Ed Yoder
- Library Committee – Renae Miller
- Bible School Committee – Sonia Miiller
- Service Committee – Gaylord & Shirley Yoder
9/09 – 8/10
Phil & Judy Yoder 3/10 – 2/11
- Church Council Secretary – Carol Gingerich
- MCC Sale Representative – Lauralee Kauffman,
Bruce Harvey
- Worship Committee – Allison Miller
- Gifts Discernment Committee – Sally Miller
- Sr. MYF Sponsors – Derek & Nici Bontrager
- Central Plains Delegate – Ed Yoder, Dale Miller,
Linda Miller
- General Assembly Delegates – Janet Geyer,
Nelson Miller
- Head Ushers – Chase & Angie Gingerich
- Assistant Ushers – Joel Miiller, Jon Miiller, James
Boller, Steve Dachtler
- PA Operators – Errol Bontrager, Derek Bontrager,
Dave Yoder, Norman Schrock

I would like to thank the Gifts Discernment Committee for willingly helping with this process. They are: Lisa Yoder, Elvesta Hochstedler, Jim Miller, Jay Miiller.

Norman Schrock, Elder

Mandie and the Mysterious Bells

East Union Townhall Meeting--Wednesday, September 23, 2009 at 7pm in Fellowship Hall: If you haven't attended the past 3 meetings, we invite you to join us! We are working on agenda and would welcome your ideas. You can put them in Jeff Swartzentruber's church box or email him at jeffbev@kctc.net with your ideas. We do want to interact with each other on items of interest to you, so submit your ideas! Items currently under consideration for this meeting are: Report on our Marriage Care program just underway; a report on the revised Membership Guidelines since last meeting; and discussion of Wheelchair seating areas in the Sanctuary. Hope to see you there!



In this book you will read about Mandie going back to school after Thanksgiving vacation. At the end of Mandie's last mystery her grandmother sent her a letter to come back early, but why?

Mandie's grandmother has a mystery for her back in Ashville where Mandie goes to school. The mystery is how at midnight or any other time the church bell will ring one more time than it should. The townspeople are mad that someone would do that to the Lord's House. A big flu outbreak comes and the townspeople want the mystery solved and the person in jail. Will Mandie and her friend's Joe and Celia solve the case? And what is the big surprise back home? Reach Mandie and the Mysterious Bells that will have a surprising ending. And don't forget to read the next book, Mandie and the Holiday Surprise.

Reviews written by *Jenna Boller*

Book Reports

Mandie and the Hidden Treasure

In this book, you will read about Mandie trying to find a hidden treasure with a map a ten-year-old girl made the day before she died 50 years ago. The girl was Mandie's aunt who she, her uncle, and her father never knew about.

She will believe her dead aunt and try to find the treasure. But where are all of these places on the map? And what was going on with the cook and the gardener so many years ago? Who is Dr. Plumbley? Will Mandie and her friends find the treasure? Will it be worth anything? Read Mandie and the Hidden Treasure. You will not want to stop reading it, and don't forget to read the next book Mandie and the Mysterious Bells.

Published monthly by and for the members and friends of the East Union Mennonite Church, P.O. Box 760, Kalona, Iowa 52247. Editor: Joyce Schrock, 656-2590. Oct. Chronicle deadline is Sept. 20, 2009. All contributions are welcome.



“But let
Justice
roll on like a river,
Righteousness
like a never-
failing stream!” AMOS 5:24

The following articles are printed as a tribute to show how the ladies of the East Union Mennonite Congregation have cooperated in community projects within the local community, and with other churches as providing a means of interaction with others which was very good and productive.

**EASTERN IOWA CUTTING ROOM:
ITS SCOPE IS WONDERFUL**

The following article was published in the
Des Moines Register May 30, 1971.
By Ellen Rebecca Fenn

Kalona, Iowa – This town is a small bustling village in the heart of Iowa’s Amish-Mennonite settlement. Nowhere in the Midwest will one find a more complete assemblage of every fact of American life.

The “Old” Order Amish rub elbows with modernization. They work and plan together, so it is not surprising that the Eastern Iowa Cutting Room was born here.

It was started 30 years ago when Mrs. Lila Hershberger, a Mennonite lady invited a group of Amish ladies to her home. Her intent was to sew clothing for the missionary field. The project burst with possibilities, and soon outgrew a home’s space.

A building was moved from a rural setting to its present location. A few improvements gave it a face lifting in a 27 by 30 foot size.

The new unit soon became interdenominational. Here was a clearinghouse for missionary needs and for local relief purposes.

Here also was an outlet for women with families grown, and for those who sought ways of being useful, though elderly.

The women regularly attend sewing sessions, are all volunteers. From quilts to comforters, they enlarged to all modes of dress wear and soon were sewing garments by the hundreds for children in mission fields.

AFTER OUTGROWING this endeavor, the group began larger projects. Soon they were retailing bolts of clothing material, mostly cotton, to other groups who wished to prepare mission material. The other local citizens who wished to spend time wisely in either purchased cut out garments singly, or in groups.

There are usually eight to ten women who meet regularly at the cutting center to mark patterns on yardage, and then cut and assemble in a package the unseamed garments. As many as forty-eight thicknesses can be cut in one operation with a cutter. As many as 1,500 garments can be cut in one day.

Layettes, men’s shirts and pajamas, boys’ trousers and shirts, women’s nightgowns and dresses are the main objectives. No scrap is wasted down to the least in size. Washcloths, booties, earmuffs and bandages are all packaged and mailed to relief areas where needed.

The cutting room now cuts and assembles the pieces only. Groups who purchase materials for relief projects at cost, and the cutting room personnel are interdenominational. The cutting room is a nonprofit adventure.

The women of the Amish-Mennonite faith send their finished goods to Newton, Kansas, where the regional Mennonite missionary headquarters bundles and bales all the materials and goods. The bales are then trucked to Akron, Pennsylvania for

shipping overseas. Relief funds are sent anywhere they are needed.

Other groups in the community purchase the "cut" garments for their missionary needs or local distribution.

In one recent year, the Amish-Mennonite provided 40 tons of bandages, 20,000 sheets, 30,000 towels, 100,000 yards of various goods, and thousands of small items stemming from various projects throughout the U.S.A.

A number of pictures were included in the article of various women at work in the cutting room. They included Martha Mullet of our congregation along with Mrs. Dave Marner, Ruby Bontrager and Mrs. Mark Swartzendruber and a picture of the building.

The site of the Cutting Room was on highway No. 22 in Kalona and is now the location of a local reality company.

RURAL WOMEN ATTEND RUG MAKING SESSION

This article was printed in the Iowa City Press citizen quite a number of years ago.

Crocheted rugs are very popular among homemakers in this area as materials used in pieces are easily obtained and the craft of crocheting is a familiar art. Rural women in the county received additional information in construction of the crocheted rugs. Mrs. Harvey Thomas watched Mrs. Lucy Swartzendruber of Kalona at the rug demonstration this week as shown in a picture.

Having made over 100 hooked rugs for her self and friends, Mrs. Charles Lacina is a qualified instructor to share in the rural women's rug instruction school. Her work is done with and without the use of a wooden frame. Mrs. Fred Frey of Kalona paid special attention in the artwork as a representative from Washington Township.

Representatives from the various women clubs in Johnson County participated in the rug making training school held Thursday at the Mayflower Inn.

With the information obtained at the all-day meeting these women will be in charge of presenting the material to the members of the respective clubs as the units launch their programs.

This year the county rural women will be undertaking projects in rug making. The program has been set up to include work with braided rugs, crocheted rugs and hooped rugs.

In addition to learning the actual techniques needed to construct the rugs, the instruction school also pointed out the importance of color, shape and design in relation to the family home.

Instructions for the training school include Mrs. Charles Lacina, Mrs. Lee Bader of Iowa City, and Mrs. Lucy Swartzendruber of Kalona.

Each of the instructors conducted demonstrations sessions as well as answer questions

Among those attending were Mrs. Nathan Frederick, Mrs. Gerald Forbes and Mrs. Daniel Duffy of Fremont Township, Mrs. D. L Armstrong and Mrs. S. D. Hensleigh of Iowa City, Mrs. Eugene Casey, Mrs. Ben Wilson, and Ora Sexton of Scott township, Mrs. C. W. Lillick of East Lucas township and Mrs. Clara Lacina.

Others present were Mrs. Fred Frey, and Mrs. Emery Yoder of Washington Township; Mrs. Milton Winborn and Mrs. Harvey Thomas of Sharon Township; Mrs. Lloyd Myer, Mrs. Mahlon Amish and Mrs. T. I. Gringer of Liberty Township; Mrs. Elmer Sedlacek, Mrs. Milton Cladina and Mrs. Ben Dusihar of Monroe Township.

Also participating in the school were Mrs. Edwin Beicka, Mrs. Edward Vislisl and Mrs. Albin Devoky of Cedar Township; Mrs. Orval J. Hora of Graham Township; Mrs. Frank A. Colony and Jessie Linger of Pen Township; Mrs. Edward Kos, Mrs. Frank Ziskovsky and Francis Birky of Jefferson Township; Others included Mrs. R. C. Fountain of Pleasant Valley Township; Mrs. Wilbur Idle and Mrs. Edith Schusser pf Lincoln Township; and Mrs. Bert Thomas of West Lucas Township.

This article is a tribute to the many members of East Union and Neighboring Mennonite Church Groups Cooperating in Mission Projects for MCC International

QUALITY QUILTS help Mennonites help others.

This is another example of people working together and sharing ideas to help others in need.

The Iowa City Press Citizen had an article concerning the upcoming annual MCC Relief sale in May of 1991.

The article was by Lyle Muller.

It's Friday, at the beginning of the annual Iowa Mennonite Relief Sale, and about 125 colorful quilts are hanging in two rows.

Dorothy Schumann in charge of the quilts, talks about how these handmade quilts can bring from \$300 to as much as \$1,800 apiece when sold at auction. "No," Leola Hershberger replies, "I hope one goes real high this time."

If anything can bring a good price at this popular annual fundraiser, it may be the quilts. Always a strong draw, they go on sale at 9:30 a.m. today.

The 12th Annual Iowa Mennonite Relief Sale will wrap up this afternoon at the Johnson County Fairgrounds. Proceeds will go to Mennonite churches national and world relief projects.

Local organizers are hoping to raise about \$100,000. A good crowd usually is about 4,000 at any given time they say.

Fresh food, livestock and wooden crafts also are sold here. Handmade crafts include doll houses, oak and walnut roll-top desks, grandfather clocks and other antiques.

The sale started Friday and included a 5 p.m. livestock auction and 8 p.m. mini- auction. It resumes at 6:30 a.m. today with breakfast/brunch. Food and craft shops open at 7:00 a.m.

Other auctions on today's schedule; a 9 a.m. general auction and the major auction at noon. Thirty Eastern Iowa Mennonite churches band together for this sale.

Preliminary planning begins a few weeks after the last sale, but the work does not begin until November, when committees get organized and projects get doled out.

For example, Schumann says, some-one first gets pieces ready for the quilt tops so the piecework can be sent to the churches. Then the quilters go to work about once a month, spending a couple of months on each quilt, she says.

The sale originally was IN Washington, then at the Iowa City Recreation Center; this is the fourth year at the fairgrounds. Organizers were hoping rain would stay away.

"The Lord has been good to us the last three years" says Ellis Swartzendruber o Kalona, one of the sale's directors. We haven't had any bad weather since we we've been here.

Swartzendruber was in charge of the fresh foods: homemade cakes, pies, and bread as well as eggs and honey and meat sold from booths. Apple butter is being made in a large kettle.

Bread is baked nearby. "It's fresh and it's good," says Daniel K. Yoder of Wellman, in charge of a booth where you buy cornmeal, popcorn, noodles, and other fresh food. "When we run out, we quit. We aim to run out".

Submitted by the Church Historian