

Newsletter

Howard-Miami Mennonite Church
3976 East 1400 South
Kokomo, IN 46901-8849

November, 2017

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Harvesting our crop

It's November.



Our garden produce is in jars in our pantries and boxes or bags in our freezer.

The dust in the fields is settling as the beans and corn come down.

The nights are longer and cooler.

The leaves have fallen off the trees and have been raked up.



The earth is preparing to rest for the winter before bringing a new season of spring growth.

You, dear reader, are no doubt expecting me to write the obligatory, "So now what are you thankful for?" Thanksgiving column. As we think about the Lord of the Harvest, let me give the typical Thanksgiving article a twist.

Consider these two questions:

- 1) What are you harvesting right now?
- 2) What do you hope to harvest in the next season of your life?

Christian finance guru Dave Ramsey is fond of saying, "We live in a sowing and reaping environment." The thought behind this is not original to Dave—it comes from Scripture.

Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh; but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit. So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up.

Galatians 6:7-9

What are you harvesting in your life right now? Are you bringing in a harvest of anxiety? Discord? Broken relationships? Busyness? Anger? Harshness? Lack of meaning? Lack of purpose? Isolation?

Are you harvesting love? Joy? Peace? Patience? Kindness? Goodness? Faithfulness? Gentleness? Self-control? (If you recognize this list, come to me for your gold-star sticker... If you don't, read Galatians 5:22-23 to be caught up!)



If we are regularly planting seeds of faithfulness, obedience, and prayer, chances are we are having a pretty good harvest!

If we are neglecting to plant good seeds... harvest time is much less enjoyable.

Of course, there are storms that come and weeds that grow that affect the harvest we take in. One difficult harvest season does not mean that we are planting bad seeds. There are other factors. We must discern the reasons behind a difficult harvest season.

With harvest also comes the time of planning for the next season's harvest. Every farmer already knows what is going in their fields next spring. What kinds of seeds will you begin to plant for the next season of your life?

If you have a dream or a change you want to make, plant good seed by doing one thing to move in that direction today. The harvest does not come overnight, but after a season of tending the crops. Your dream will not be achieved tomorrow. Change will not come in a day. Souls will only come to Jesus after the gospel is planted and tended in them over time.

The good harvest comes at the end of the season when we plant good seeds in the spring.



What do you want the harvest to look like in the next season of your life?

What seeds will you plant now to make that harvest a reality?

Pastor Ben

Women's Sewing

October 5, 2017



Eleven friends, neighbors, and ladies from our church gathered for the monthly workday. We always welcome ladies from the community to join us the first Thursday for quilting, knotting comforters, unpacking boxes from the Rescue Mission, or packing boxes for Mennonite Central Committee to be sent overseas. There is always something for everyone to do.

Vice-president Jeanie Miller opened our meeting and devotional time. She had a reading about October in relation to the stages of life we see in nature during the fall. She also showed us two quilt tops pieced by her son's mother-in-law, Judy Conrad, from Ohio. When Judy was visiting here, Jeanie shared some fabric with her from the abundance of fabric we have received. She then gifted us with quilt tops she made from the fabric. Thank you Jeanie for sharing and thanks to Judy for the quilt tops.

Linda Mast led in devotions from Earth Psalms by Francine Rivers. This is a devotional book Linda has appreciated reading over the last year. Sunrises and sunsets are amazing to watch from day to day. Each day is different with various shades of color and swirls across the skies. The author encourages us to be reminded of God's faithfulness. "The faithful love of the Lord never ends! His mercies never cease. Great is his faithfulness; his mercies begin afresh each morning." Lamentations 3:22-23. Think about the sunrise as God saying "Good morning!" reminding his tender mercies are there for us all day long. The sunset is God saying "Good night." It is a reminder he watches over us. "O Lord, what a variety of things you have made."

Psalms 104:24. He loves variety in people as well as all the different kinds of apples he created. Stop and think about the variety in creation whether it be in apples, flowers, vegetables, crops, trees, or animals. Oh my, the list could go on and on. Aren't you glad he didn't just make one kind of apple, flower, tree, and etc.? What an amazing creator!

She also referred to the autumn colors of leaves which are there at all times, we just can't see it until the chlorophyll is no longer produced in the leaves. Then, the full color of autumn is displayed. We believe it will happen even though we can't see it. Just like we believe God is present even when we can't tell he is. We must have faith he is present. "We don't look at the troubles we can see now, rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever." 2 Corinthians 4:18

Twelve school kits were packed for MCC. Our monthly project was socks of all sizes. In November, we will continue to collect socks, hats, gloves, and scarves. They will be given to the Kokomo Rescue Mission. We knotted two comforters. We also donated one comforter and ninety-one pies to the Mennonite Relief Sale in September.

Our next meeting will be November 2. Jeff Newton will be our speaker, telling about the work of Kokomo Urban Outreach. Bring your sack lunch and join us for the day or a few hours.

Linda Mast, Secretary



Report from MCC Relief Sale

The Michiana Mennonite Relief Sale Board would like to send a huge thank you to all the volunteers, donors and patrons of the sale this year. We had a great time celebrating the 50th anniversary with a record topping \$600,000! Thank you again for your participation and generous donations!



From Laura Shue

I wanted to say **thank you** to all of you for your work at the Craft Sale!

Thank you to all the amazing children and adults at Howard-Miami Mennonite for your energy and enthusiasm in collecting \$1,293.64 for My Coins Count this year. Your collection, along with the special 50th Anniversary push for matches from local businesses helped raise over \$210,000 to support water and other projects through My Coins Count.

Your funds help build handwashing stations to allow girls to attend school in Uganda, irrigate crops for farmers in India, provide water catchment systems to water vegetable gardens in Honduras and Guatemala, and pipe water into poor people's homes in Egypt. Your support offers more than just life-giving water, it offers hope to families struggling with challenging circumstances.

Thank you for your generosity and creativity in sharing the love of Christ around the world through Mennonite Central Committee and My Coins Count.

. - Les Gustafson-Zook, My Coins Count Coordinator, Michiana Mennonite Relief Sale.

Successful Events for Women's Ministry Council

On Saturday, October 7, about 25 women attended the Ladies' Morning Out. Dawn Wilson led the women in painting and each woman created a



beautiful and unique snowman welcome sign. Everyone had a wonderful time and they plan to paint again next Spring.

On Sunday, October 22, approximately 50 people attended the Soup Cook-off and Silent Auction. The winning soups were Potato and Broccoli (Brian Mast), Zucchini Garden Chowder (Ben Schlegel), and Copycat Zuppa Toscana, (Peggy Coon). The event raised a total of \$1,346.00, with half of the funds going to support the Gibson family. Thank you to everyone who supported this fundraiser event!



Amigo Centre is a camp and retreat facility that belongs to the IN-MI Conference congregations and is located near Sturgis, MI. In its effort to be good stewards of Amigo's resources and your resources, Amigo Centre heats its three largest buildings with wood from the Amigo property. *Amigo is for all types of groups-- families, churches, business groups, and more. Amigo is special every season!*

2017 Adult Programs

Oct. 29-Nov. 3 Road Scholar
#12343 A Study in Shared Heritage:
 The Amish and Mennonite
#20986 Women of the Bible Quilt



Dec. 1-3 Scrapbooking, Crafting & Quilting Retreat
 and Mother-Daughter Scrap Retreat

For Additional Information or to register visit

www.amigocentre.org/adult-programs or call

Contact Information: phone: 269-651 2811
info@amigocentre.org

After a worship service, a mother with a fidgety seven-year old told me how she finally got her son to sit still and be quiet. About half way through the sermon, she leaned over and whispered "if you're not quiet, Pastor Charlton is going to lose his place and will have to start his sermon all over again."

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Saturday, November 11, 7 am

Come and enjoy a good meal, a good message and GREAT fellowship



Faith and Football, with the Indianapolis Colts.

Sunday, November 26 The Colts play the Tennessee Titans at 1:00 pm. After the game there will be an opportunity to go on the field, hear from Colts players and coaches about their faith, and a chance for autographs. Currently tickets are \$67, but will go up as tickets are sold out.

Contact Pastor Ben if you are interested in attending Faith and Football with the Colts. Feel free to invite other friends and family who would be interested as well.



November 2017, Sermon Texts

The Year of Story!

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Texts:</u>
Nov.5	Colossians 3:22-4:1
Nov 12	Matthew 16:13-23
Nov 19	Chelsea VanCamp
Nov 26	Kenny Cole

DAYLIGHT-SAVING
TIME ENDS ON
NOV. 5, 2017
AT 2:00 A.M.

Treasurers' Update:

Regular Monthly Offerings:
13,151.50

(Oct. 1 – Oct. 22)

2017, Year-to-date Offerings: \$150,599.95



2017 Worship Attendance:

Oct. 01	67
Oct. 08	77
Oct. 15	73
Oct. 22	72

2017 Yearly Average: 78



BUDDY BAGS

The first Wednesday of each month, at 6:30 p.m. several people from Howard Miami meet in Kokomo and pack Buddy Bags for Kokomo Urban Outreach. It takes a little less than an hour. If you would like to help, you will be very welcome. Contact Brian or Jane Mast for details.

Plastic Grocery bags are always needed, so if you have some to get rid of send them our way.



WEDNESDAY MORNING “COME FOR COFFEE”



Each Wednesday morning throughout November, you are invited to “Come for Coffee” in the church fellowship hall, beginning at 9:30 am. Visit with friends and neighbors, and bring someone with you who would enjoy a morning out. We have had a good turnout and would enjoy seeing some new faces.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- 12/6 Pack Buddy Bags KUO 6:30 p.m.
- 12/7 Women's Sewing & Fellowship 9 am – 3 pm
- 12/7 Pastors/Elders 7 p.m.
- 12/9 Men's Breakfast 7 a.m.
- 12/17 Pastor Elders 8 a.m.
- 12/24 Christmas Eve service 5 p.m.

Please note: The service time for the Christmas Eve service is changed to **5 p.m.** Over the past couple of years, we have heard from people who really love having this service at 11 p.m., and others who would like to do it earlier. We will try out this different service time this year, see how it goes, and then use feedback to make a decision about the time for the Christmas Eve service in future years.



HURRICANE RELIEF

Caring for Texas

Brian Miller (Alma Miller's son) is organizing a truckload of supplies to be delivered to the Houston area in response to the hurricane this past fall. Howard-Miami will be one of nine sites to drop-off for items. He is organizing under the name Caring for Texas, and is working with the Red Cross to deliver to an area that FEMA is not able to respond to. Specific items: new or gently used clothing and shoes, hygiene products, games and toys. He will be delivering near Christmas time and hopes to have some presents for children. You can bring donations to the church through the month of November.



During Bible studies, I asked my fifth-grade students to name the first couple. They correctly answered Adam and Eve. But when I asked about the first children they were silent. So I said, “One son's name started with C, for Cain. The second son's name started with A, for ___”
One student shouted, “Adam Junior!”

THE YEAR OF STORY

FEATURING Pauline Rhine



November 2017

I was born on December 2, 1928 in Howard County to Alvin and Polly Miller. I am the middle child and my siblings are Hilda Schrock and Barbara Myers. My father passed away when I was five years old. My

mother passed away in 2006 at 104 years old.

The memories of my father are of him buying me a pair of coveralls and red barn boots so I could help with outside work. I vividly remember walking the lane with him to bring in the cows and occasionally he would draw my attention to things about nature. I distinctly remember watching the “dung” beetles make perfect round balls out of cow manure and rolling them to their destination.

From my mother and grandmother Hochstedler I learned to cook bake and entertain. My first attempt to make a cake at about four years of age (I couldn't read) was edible but with a strong flavor of soda. My directions were I simply watched my mother numerous times and that was as good as reading a recipe. Big sister also had a hand in this.

My school years were mostly at Clay Twp. Miami Co. (now Maconaquah). In third grade I attended school in Biloxi, Mississippi. In high school my sophomore year and one semester of my junior year were at Hesston Academy. After graduating from Clay I attended Goshen College for one year and then worked as a bookkeeper for three years in a furniture store.

In 1951 Paul Dale Myers and I were married. We had 10 children; Cheryl (Ken) Steinborn Teresa (Carey) Miller, Ann (Dale, deceased) Graber, Triplet daughters, deceased, Tom (Marge), Brent (Kim), Alan (Sharon), and Krista

(Wayne) Bradley. The first years of our marriage we lived at Tiskilwa, Illinois where Paul worked for a farmer. After moving back to Indiana we did grain, dairy, and pig farming. I was a stay-at-home-wife-mother-farm hand-and milkmaid. Somehow I became interested in decorating cakes which led to making birthday cakes, special occasion cakes, and on to wedding cakes, then catering. Paul became ill with a malignant brain tumor and soon after our 25th wedding anniversary he passed away. This was a difficult period in my life as well as in the life of my children. After his death I started full time catering. In 1979 I married Richard Rhine who had two sons, Rick and Rod. We had 34 good years together when he died in 2013.

In the community I am involved in 4-H cake decorating, adult style show (county fair), and Indiana Extension Homemakers. Quilting, sewing, all things kitchen, reading, and spending time with my children, grands, and greats, and keeping up with friends keeps my life interesting.

My journey as a Christian began when I was baptized at eleven years old. Up until then my father and mother laid a good foundation in introducing the Bible through Bible stories and their faithfulness in attending and supporting the church. Most of my involvement in church work was in music. Over twenty years I was music director at Bon Air/Parkview and through the years organized and sang in quartets, sextets, trios, and choirs. Sewing day was also a high priority.

Some of my favorite Bible verses and Isaiah 40:31, Psalms 27:1, and Philippians 4:11&13. What the future holds is a mystery. And so, whatever, I can rest assured in God and his promises. Psalms 30:56.....weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning. Embrace JOY!!

“IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME”

.....MY STORY

I have a new home,I am in your fellowship hall
Would you like to hear my story?

I became a table in 1926, when my creator Albert Sommers fashioned me after a dream, he had in his mind.

My birthplace was at Howard Township School, where Albert was a junior in high school. Even before that, the master creator had placed me in the right environment to grow into a large oak tree. When I was chopped down, I didn't know what would become of me. I was sawed into lumber, put up to dry and was left alone for a couple years. Then Albert came to the lumber yard where I was stored and took me home with him.

I always held a place of honor in Albert and Julia's home because I was a "Library Table." Many books were placed on my top. In my drawer was where the very important papers were stored, as well as the green fountain pen, which the children were not allowed to touch.

The children did play under me however, sometimes I became a fire truck, at other times I was a play house. I could tell many, many stories.....I was moved into four different houses. Always, I held the respect and care of the Sommers family..

In 1963 Albert loaded me into a trailer and took me to Menno Kauffman's woodworking shop. There I was remodeled into a communion table. I looked much slimmer and trimmer. Then Alvin Kiem sandblasted the letters on my front. "IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME". I was so pleased to become a constant reminder of my master creator.

I was then moved to Santa Fe Mennonite Church, where I remained until 1975. Once again I moved back into the home of Julia and Albert, and Glen. But it seemed, Albert had a new dream for me. I heard him tell pastor Lee, "one day when we are both gone, I want the table to be placed in the Howard Miami church, if you want it."

So that's my story.....

Whenever you read the words,--- "IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME" WILL YOU REMEMBER, JESUS THE SAVIOR AND CREATOR OF US ALL IN MEMORY OF OUR FATHER.

DONNA SOMMERS HENSLER

10/198

RECIPE -

Creamy Potatoes and Cabbage (Ireland)

This dish, reputed to have
Been the favorite dish of
Writer Jonathan Swift, is
Served especially on All
Saints Day.

serves 6

Strip green leaves from
1 lb. cabbage or kale
Shred cabbage or Kale place in
Sauce pan with a little water, and
bring to a boil. Reduce and simmer
until crisp-tender, 5-10 min. Drain
well. Liquefy in blender
(optional)
Boil separately, covered, until
tender:

**1 lb. potatoes, peeled and
diced (about 4 potatoes)**
In small saucepan, cook about 10
min:

**2 small leeks or onions, or 6
green onions with tops, chopped**
½ c. cream or milk

Mash potatoes then season with:

¼ t. salt

1/8 t. pepper

1/8 t. mace

***option:**

Substitute ground nutmeg

For mace

Mix in onions and milk. Combine potato mixture with
cabbage or kale, beating it to pale green fluff over low heat. Pour
into deep warmed dish. Dab with butter or margarine.
Leftovers can be fried in oil until crisp and brown on both sides.



You are Welcome here

Sundays

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship

Pastors: Ben & Sarah Schlegel

When it rains the phones sometimes do not work. An
alternate number is Pastor Ben: (765) 480-6416

The Howard-Miami Mennonite Church Newsletter is published
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