

Newsletter

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

April, 2018

Vol. 36 Issue 10

Revive Us Again

Today we celebrate again the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!



It is easy to lose the shock factor of that statement. A dead man is alive again!

By the power of the God of Israel, the spark of life that had left Jesus three days before was revived in his body. And when his friends went to look for him in the tomb, he was not there, because he was alive! Take a moment and let that sink in!

And ever since that day, Jesus has been making dead things come alive! That spark of life that was put in him has been making sinners new. Making new creations out of hearts and souls that had been dead in sin.

There is no other way to God than through Jesus Christ. And the way to Jesus is to see and confess our sin, to repent and desire change in our life, and to give ourselves fully to Jesus. Then we are in his hands to do what he wants with our lives. Following Jesus is the most difficult and most fulfilling decision we could ever make! Because when we give our lives to him, we receive salvation through his name, and that spark that made Jesus alive is passed on to us. Our hearts burst into flames when the love of Jesus comes into our souls!

When have you experienced this? - Perhaps at your baptism? - Maybe you felt the spark of life in Jesus at the birth of a child? - Maybe while serving others? - Maybe in a time of prayer? - Each of us is different, so we all have a different story and different ways we have experienced the spark of Jesus setting us on fire. That's a beautiful thing about Jesus; he reaches each of us in the way we need to be reached!

We cannot be a follower of Jesus if we have not confessed our sins, given our life to him, and had our hearts set on fire by him. It cannot be done. We must have Jesus in our heart in order to follow him.

But following Jesus is so much more than just a moment in time! Following Jesus is a way of life. So the fire in our hearts starts when Jesus gives us the spark of his life. But we have to keep adding fuel to the fire if it is going to survive. We have to stay connected to Jesus if the fire will continue to burn. Spending time with the Lord and obeying his voice is like throwing another big log onto the fire in our hearts.

And while it is much easier to keep a fire going than to start a new one, if the fire for Jesus in your heart is dwindling, he can give you a new spark to start the fire again. - To revive your heart again.

Is the fire of Jesus in your heart burning hot? If not, what needs to happen? Is it a matter of just adding some fuel to the fire? Or do you need Jesus to totally revive the fire in you?

I love to pray for people who are struggling through hard times. It is a true honor to pray with people who are facing surgery or the death of a loved one. It is amazing to see what God can do. And I love to be a part of that.



But I also want to pray with you if you realize the fire for Jesus in your heart is cooling and you need to be revived again. That's my invitation to you this Easter.

Let's set Kokomo, Peru, Marion, and all of Howard and Miami counties on fire with the reviving love of Jesus Christ!

Pastor Ben

Mennonite Women Sewing



March first was a windy, blustery day when 10 ladies gathered to quilt, knot comforters and sort boxes from the Rescue Mission. One (1) comforter was completed. Our project for the month was paper products for The Crossing, an alternative school in Kokomo.

Danny Miller was our speaker for our devotional time. He used Proverbs 3:5-6 about trusting the Lord. "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take."

He said we talk about "the good old days" but we are living in the good old days. Now is the day of Salvation. Life has been difficult the last few years but through it all, God has been faithful. He is very appreciative of his family and was blessed by the church family, as well.

THESE
ARE THE
GOOD OLD
DAYS

During 2017 he lost friends, had two grandchildren get married, had a heart attack and heart surgery and got his first great-grandchild. But, the year was good because God is good. Ryan and Jill named their new baby girl, Evelyn, which was special.

He shared details of his heart attack and surgery. He drove himself to the hospital but was quickly taken to Indianapolis by ambulance. Even though he had to sign a paper saying if he died, they were not responsible, but he was at peace, close to God and ready for heaven. He did appreciate seeing Pastor Ben and his daughter, Anita, when he arrived and assured Anita that "Everything's gonna be alright."

He slept the whole weekend following his surgery but as he was waking up Monday morning, he had a vision of Evelyn and got a glimpse of heaven but was not able to talk to her. He knew he'd had heart surgery but was eager to get up and then asked to walk. He walked, quite a distance, further than the nurse thought possible. His doctor was so amazed that all he could do was shake his head and promptly made plans to send him home. God is good.

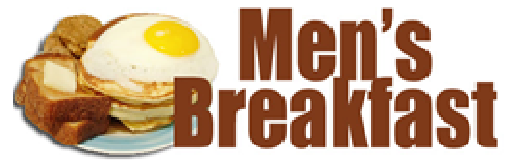
Next month we will have a sack lunch and our project will be a monetary donation for Kokomo Urban Outreach. Margi Bontrager will be the speaker.



Jeanie Miller for Linda Mast

The Gospel of Christ's resurrection fills the heart with joy!
A triumphant love song is already beginning.

-Catherine Doherty



**Saturday, April 14
7 a.m.**

**Come join us for food and
fellowship**



Howard-Miami Congregational Meeting

Our **Spring Congregational Meeting** is planned for **Sunday, April 15.**

This is an **open meeting** for all members and regular attenders at Howard-Miami to review what has happened in the past 6 months and share plans and visions for the future of our church!

Don't miss this chance to hear how God is working among us and to share your dreams with us. Stay after church and share in a **Carry-in meal** before the meeting at 1 p.m.

Celebrate with Us!

The Stewardship Team wants to celebrate the generosity of the congregation in 2017. Generous financial giving exceeded our expenses for 2017, and we were able to tithe an additional \$2,225 to Mennonite Mission Network (MMN), Mennonite Central Committee (MCC), Evana Network, and Kokomo Urban Outreach (KUO).

We will celebrate the generosity of the congregation at the Spring Congregational meeting on Sunday, April 15.



Spring Secret Sister Fun!

Back by popular demand, the Women's Ministry Council is hosting Secret Sister April, May and June. Secret Sisters will be assigned on Sunday, April 8, and the Secret Sister Reveal Dessert will be Sunday, June 24, at Main Occasions Catering in Greentown. There are forms you can fill out at the Information Center. Contact Emily Dever or Jeanne DeAngulo with any questions.

Annual Peace Scholarship Awards presentation and Benefit



First Friends Meeting on Zartman Road, Kokomo will host this annual event on **Sunday April 22**. You are invited to attend. Our speaker will be Peter Anderson. Peter grew up in a small town in Indiana and started training for the military in college (along with a large ROTC scholarship), but gave up the Army and the scholarship after wrestling with Jesus's teachings on loving one's enemies.

After spending three years as a youth pastor at a Mennonite church in Chicago, Peter spent six years in a low-income area of London, UK as part of a missional community with Inner CHANGE.

In London Peter's primary ministries included community building with a diverse group of people in the public housing complex and community; peacebuilding work between Christian and Muslim teenagers; teaching peacemaking skills through a martial arts class; running a holiday club for at-risk local kids; and walking alongside our neighbors in their spiritual and personal lives.

Peter is currently studying Theology and Peace Studies at AMBS, and works part-time with Peace Catalyst International doing Christian-Muslim peacebuilding in the US, as well as teaches peacemaking through martial arts at the Peacemakers Academy in Goshen.

At 5:00 p.m., a light supper will be served. At 6:00 p.m. awards will be presented and students will read their essays. No tickets are required but a freewill offering will be taken for future scholarships.

April Sermon Texts:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Texts</u>
April 1	Luke 24:1-35
April 8	John 20:11-31
Memory verse:	John 20:30-31
April 15	Ephesians 2:1-7
Memory verse:	Ephesians 2:4-5
April 22	Matthew 28:16-20
Memory verse:	Matthew 28:19-20
April 29	1 Samuel 16:1-13
Memory Verse:	1 Samuel 16:7

Coffee and Canvas Ladies Morning Out

Saturday, April 21, 9 a.m. - Noon

The Women's Ministry Council is hosting another Coffee and Canvas Ladies Morning Out. Dawn Wilson will help us decorate our "canvas" with a Spring Welcome design. If you were at the last Coffee and Canvas, please bring your board with the snowman on it to paint the back side. Boards are available for ladies who didn't complete a snowman painting. This event costs \$8 and includes a light breakfast, coffee and tea. **Sign up at the information center and Invite your friends too!**



- 5/7 Coffee & Fellowship 9:30-10:30
- 5/2 KUO Buddy Bags 6:30 p.m.
- 5/3 Women's Sewing 9-3
- 5/3 Pastor/Elders 7 p.m.
- 5/7 Coffee & Fellowship 9:30-10:30
- 5/7 CMT 6:30 p.m.
- 5/8 Church Council 7 p.m.
- 5/12 Men's Breakfast 7 a.m.
- 5/14 Friendship Haven Board 6:30p.m.at HM
- 5/19 FREE Community meal 5-7 p.m.
- 5/20 Pastor/Elders 8 a.m.
- 5/22 Outreach 6 p.m.
- 5/28 Office Closed – Memorial Day

HOWARD-MIAMI HERITAGE SOCIETY MEETING

Tuesday, April 24, 2:00 pm at HMMC

The Moses and possibly Homer Sommers families will be presented by Stanley Miller and Ruthie Horner.

MCC International Meal Fundraiser

Sunday, April 29, 5 p.m.

The children of Howard-Miami are hosting an international meal as a fundraiser for Mennonite Central Committee. Everyone is invited to bring an "international" dish to share and to contribute to a free will offering for MCC.

Treasurers' Update



2018 Year-to-date: January to March

Offerings to date \$43,976.93

Total Expenses to date \$45,412.25

Proposed Budget to date \$43,221.96

Average Weekly giving: \$3,664.74

Designated Funds:

Maconaquah Buddy Bags \$1,807.15

2018 Worship Attendance

Mar.04 83

Mar.11 68

Mar.18 85

Mar.25 75

2018 Yearly Average: 69



SUMMER BIBLE SCHOOL

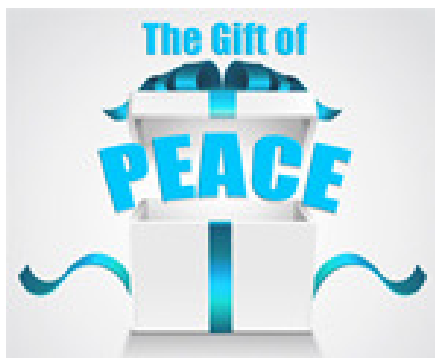
Summer Bible School at Howard-

Miami Mennonite Church

Sunday, June 10 – Thursday, June 14

6 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Children ages 4 through grade 8



Join us for a fun week of **discovering God's way of peace!** From learning how to resolve conflicts to figuring out ways to help others, this week will show us how to be peacemakers. Each evening will include worship, lessons, games, crafts, and snacks as we will learn what it means to follow Jesus's instructions to be peacemakers.

CLEAR THE CLUTTER DAY

Saturday, April 28. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Howard-Miami Mennonite Church wants to help you get some of the clutter out of your life. We will have a dumpster at the church from 9 A.M. to 2 P.M. on Saturday, April 28.

You can bring 2 items of furniture and/or appliances that you need to get rid of. Space is limited, first come-first served, so **RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED.** To make a reservation please call the church office and give us your name, phone number, and what you will be bringing. Reservations must be received by April 21.

We are also offering a limited number of pick-up service appointments for those who are unable or don't have transportation for your items. If you need assistance getting your items out of your house and to the church, let us know when you make your reservation.

We cannot take household waste materials or other things requiring special disposal. Please contact your local Solid Waste Management District for information about those items.

We will also have a **Shredder truck.** Bring your documents (maximum 3 bags or boxes) to the church between 10AM and NOON to have them shredded. Due to privacy issues, we cannot pick up documents for shredding. You must get them to the church yourself.

These services are being provided to the community free of charge.

Old Jeans to Insulation!!

Bring in your old jeans/denim to be recycled into insulation during the month of April.

Ruth Andrews will see that the jeans will get to the place of recycling. You may place your bag in the sewing room if Ruth is not here, and she will pick them up.



Amigo Centre is a retreat and recreation center for members of Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference congregations, their friends and the wider community. Amigo provides a unique environment where we gather to listen and share, pray and worship, enjoy creation, and experience God's presence.

Amigo's Mission is to facilitate the ministry of the church, encourage commitment to Jesus Christ and assist people of all ages to become the person God desires.

2018 Event Calendar

- **March 16-18, April 6-8** Scrapbooking, Crafting & Quilting Retreats...Whether you scrapbook, sew, quilt or craft, Amigo invites you to join us for a relaxing weekend filled with good food and fellowship. Come alone or bring friends/family. Lodging, food and space provided. Balance your productivity with time to rest, restore and refresh your body and soul. Call or register online! 269-651-2811 or mandy@amigocentre.org
- **Amigo Volunteer Weekend. April 13-15** Amigo Centre invites you to consider helping us prepare for the summer season. Projects are dependent on the weather, but will hopefully include wood splitting, painting, cleaning and gardening. There will be something for all ages. Come Friday night and stay all weekend or just come on Saturday to help out. Meals and lodging are free. Please RSVP by calling the office [269-651-2811](tel:269-651-2811) or on our website at amigocentre.org/volunteer-weekend.
- **April 15-20** Road Scholar (Amish/Mennonite and Basket Quilt)
- **May 13-18** Road Scholar (Amish/Mennonite and Women of the Bible #3)
- **June 2** Golf Scramble
- **June 17-22** Road Scholar (Genealogy & Basket Quilt)
- There are also Amigo Centre Summer Camp Job opportunities. A brochure is posted on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. You can also contact dave@amigocentre.org or apply online.



HEAVENLY MATHEMATICS:

The best mathematical equation I have ever seen:

$$\begin{array}{r}
 1 \text{ cross} \\
 + 3 \text{ nails} \\
 \text{-----} \\
 4 \text{ given}
 \end{array}$$

That's the whole gospel simply stated!!

Amigo Centre



This list has items that would be helpful to Amigo Centre. If you have these items and would like to donate them or would like to donate funds toward the purchase of these items please contact Matt Ropp. info@amigocentre.org

- *8' plastic folding table
 - *10" or 12" Sliding Compound Miter Saw
 - *Billiard Ball sets for carpet ball
 - * Window AC units for Cabins, cottages and health shack
 - *Craft supplies
 - * Black oil sunflower seeds
 - *Soccer Nets
 - *New bed pillows
 - *Sand toys
 - *Utility Cart
 - *Vacuum for the Nature Center
 - *8'-12' trailer, at least 72" wide
- Prayer and continued support for the ministry of Amigo



You're Invited!

On Sunday, May 6, at 2 p.m., Pastor Sarah will graduate from AMBS. The graduation ceremony will be held at College Mennonite Church in Goshen, IN. Anyone who would like to attend is welcome.

In order to give Sarah and Ben, and any others who would like to go, the opportunity to be there on time, the times for worship and Sunday school will be swapped that day: **Worship at 9:30, Sunday school at 10:30.**



Worship Services!

Sundays

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship

Pastors: Ben & Sarah Schlegel

The Howard-Miami Mennonite Church Newsletter is published monthly by Howard-Miami Mennonite Church at 3976 E 1400 S, Kokomo IN 46901. Phone: 765-395-7509 Office hours: 8-12, Tues-Fri. Pastors: Ben & Sarah Schlegel Email: office@howardmiami.org Website: www.howardmiami.org