



Bethel Mennonite Church

Celebrating 125 Years

Vol. 38
Issue 6
July 2015

Newsletter

In This Issue:

| | |
|--|---|
| Summer Fun at Bethel | 1 |
| Announcements | 2 |
| Swartz' To Celebrate Golden Wedding Anniversary | 2 |
| Vacation Bible School | 3 |
| Shanks Celebrate 30th Anniversary with Trip | 3 |
| Noteworthy Dates | 4 |
| Quasiquicentennial Historical Highlights | 4 |



Summer Fun at Bethel

Top left: Michael Lehman and Alex Steiner with their graduation tea cake. A packed fellowship hall was treated to cake and icecream, a few roasts and some very endearing tributes. We wish them the very best as they head to college this fall! **Top right:** Summer Fun means a fun night at the Dayton Dragons Ballfield. Silas Maurer is our youngest, and most inventive recycler. The Dragons succumbed to the Lakeside Lakers 3-4 in a close game. **Middle:** Dennis Showalter had his Laker's shirt on and did the "Muscle Dance" with the scoreboard prompter. Perhaps that's what cinched the Laker's win?

Bottom: Taken at their send-off, the Youth Group is in Kansas City as the newsletter is being finalized. We look forward to hearing all about convention when they get back!

Announcements:

♦ **Bethel Pizza Night and Community Movie Night** is scheduled for Sunday, July 12th at 7:30 pm. The movie is Prince Caspian, the second in the Chronicles of Narnia series. Weather permitting, we will show the film outdoors at dusk. The third movie, Voyage of the Dawn Treader will be shown July 31st.

♦ **Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) is seeking a Donor Relations Coordinator for the Great Lakes office.** The Great Lakes Donor Relations Coordinator provides leadership for donor relations activities and strategies which raise awareness of MCC programs, build relationships with donors and focus on the generation of financial resources. This individual must be acquainted with MCC's financial needs and successfully link donors and constituent groups to those existing needs and other appropriate requests. The person in this position will develop and guide implementation of the Great Lakes framework established jointly with the MCC U.S. donor relations network. For a full job description, visit mcc.org/get-involved/serve/openings/donor-relations-coordinator-great-lakes. Individuals interested in this position should send a letter of intent and current resume to AmberFalcon@mcc.org.

♦ **We want to thank those of you who prayed for us and sent cards and notes of encouragement** during Jake's recovery from traumatic brain injury. Jake continues to heal from his two brain surgeries; and I, Grace, have recovered from the illness which was precipitated by his injury. We are deeply appreciative of the love and support of our friends and relatives in the community, and we thank you so very much. Jake and Grace Leichty

♦ **APEST Survey Signups are still available.** Tuesday, July 14th from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m., you may sign up on the bulletin board by the mailboxes for a time to come in and take the APEST Survey. The survey takes about 10 minutes to complete. If you would like to schedule another time and day, please give Tesa a call.



A test run of the pizza oven last month produced some very tasty pizza pies! Mark Sunday July 12th on your calendar to sample your own. Be sure to sign up on the bulletin board so we have enough for everyone!

Golden Wedding Anniversary

Congratulations to
Chuck & Jeanie Swartz!

They are celebrating
their Golden Wedding Anniversary with a reception on July 25th in the Fellowship Hall from 2 - 5 p.m.

They request no gifts please.

Contact Information:

Bethel Mennonite Church
416 Washington Street
P.O. Box 549
West Liberty, OH 43357

(937) 465-4587

www.bethelchurchwl.org/
www.wbtl.tv

Pastor: Dave Maurer

Youth Pastor: Cheryl Shank

Administrative Assistant: Tesa Jordan

Next Newsletter Deadline: July 20, 2015

“Bethel VBS 2015 Hearing God’s Call”

by Chuck Swartz

“It takes a team to run a Bible School”

“It’s amazing what can be accomplished when no one cares who gets the credit.”

These two quotes were evident during Bethel’s vacation Bible School, June 8 – 12, 2015. The team consisted of 34 individuals who used their time and talents wherever they were needed.

Leslie Beam and Tesa Jordan registered the students who then went to their classrooms to meet with their group leaders (teachers).

The Group leaders and their helpers were

Preschool-Beth Davie

Kate Steiner, Faith Kindig

Kindergarten-Dena Hostetler

Cindy Kauffman, Stephen Hostetler

Grades 1 & 2- Michelle Link

Rachel Larson

Grades 3 & 4-Dennis Showalter

Trace Robinaugh

Grades 5 & 6- Sam Plank

Students reported to the sanctuary for the opening each day. Music leaders were Savannah Hostetler, Becky

Wilkins, James Lochridge, Ellen Steiner and Tesa Jordan. Annie Steiner and Dave Maurer gave technical support.

Each day a drama was based on the Bible story of the day. Featured characters were Samuel, Esther, Mary, Peter & Andrew, and Lydia. Annie Steiner was in charge of the Drama Team, consisting of Elam Maurer, Church Swartz, Dave Maurer, Maggie Maurer, Beth Maurer, Stephen Hostetler, Dena Hostetler, Trace Robinaugh and Chuck Buck.

Becky Wilkins and Savannah Hostetler led the students in learning memory verses with motions. Becky then presented the project for the week, which was earthquake relief for Nepal. Children brought in a total of \$503.

Students then went to three thirty minute rotating sessions on Creative Response, Active Response and Bible Response. Group leaders conducted the Bible Responses, with Miriam Lapp, Donna Lehman, Lori Lehman, Janet Wilkins and Joel Lehman doing the Creative Responses.

Jerry Landes, Christian Steiner, Ellen Steiner, Daniel Lehman and Xavier Ronneberg led the Active Responses. The weather was good, the children were enthusiastic and the teachers were great!

Beth Maurer and Kristyn Horn did a good job of providing much-appreciated snacks each day.

The week ended with a picnic at Lion’s Park and we closed out another year of witnessing through Vacation Bible School. Thank you to all who helped! –Chuck Swartz



Chuck Swartz, Stephen Hostetler and Dave Maurer in one of the daily dramas in the morning opening service.



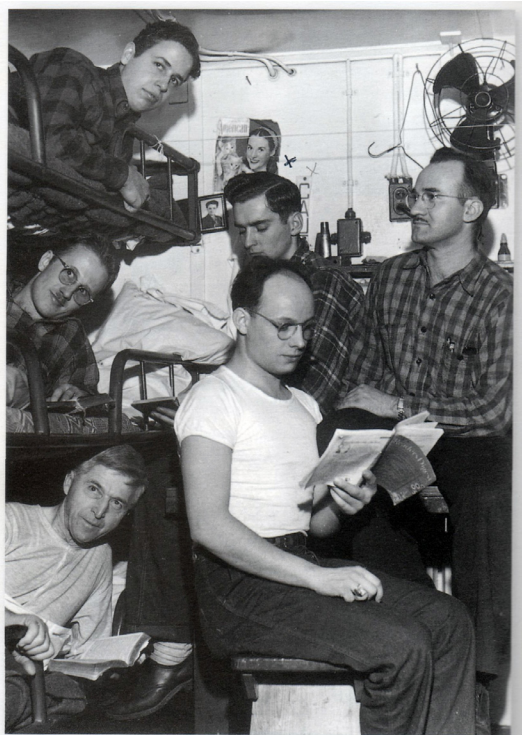
Shanks Celebrate 30 years with a Trip to the Big Easy

Ken & Cheryl Shank recently celebrated 30 years of marriage with a trip to New Orleans. They visited the bayou, and our brave little Youth Pastor held a baby alligator!

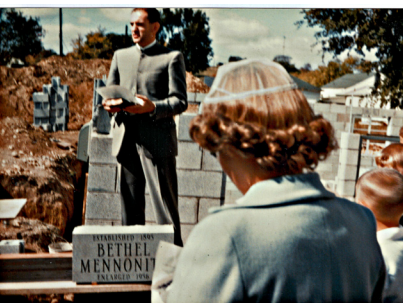
Congratulations and many more, Ken and Cheryl!



Quasquicentennial Historical Highlights



A group of "seagoing cowboys" in their bunk on board the ship. Clockwise from lower left: Howard Miller, Smithville; Jack Yoder, West Liberty; Vernon D. Miller, Aurora; Bob Stoltzfus, Aurora; John E. Miller, Plain City; Paul Kauffman, Plain City.



As we celebrate 125 years at Bethel, members have been sharing historical facts each Sunday during the sharing time. Our church historian, Donna Lehman has been researching and putting them together. In case you missed a Sunday in June here are just a few of the highlights. Eventually, all of the facts shared will be on our church website: www.bethelchurchwl.org along with any graphics we have shown to accompany them.

Pictured left are Jack Yoder & Bob Stoltzfus, two "Seagoing Cowboys" from Bethel. These men volunteered after the war to help on a cattle boat delivering dairy cattle to Europe. Top right are guest pastors Nelson Knaggy, Stanley Shank & Ed Stoltzfus, all who filled in for a brief period when the pulpit wasn't filled.

Bottom right is Ed Stoltzfus at the cornerstone installation of the new addition to the church in the mid 1950's.

How Adriel Has Shaped Bethel's History

by Donna Lehman

On Sunday, July 5th during the Quasquicentennial Facts, we shared about many families who came to Bethel through the years because of their work at the Children's Home/Adriel because of the madatory drafts in the 1950's, 60's and 70's. Then later, some came to work on their own through voluntary service.

Those who came and are still with us include: Bob Rabenstein, Art Newcomer, Carl Newcomer, Jerry Landes, Dennis Showalter, Jim Burkett and Dick Lindemer.

However there are many others who served but are no longer living in the West Liberty area. Those remembered are: John Detwiler, Solomon Hostetler, Jim Eckurt, Dave Smucker, Paul Diller, Lester Weber, Muil Janzen, Ted Esh, Don Sharp, Larry Trost, Lyle Miller, Toby Leaman, Ray Hunsberger, Virgil Gerber, Don Miller and Don Hertzler. (If you remember more that aren't listed, please let our historian, Donna Lehman know.)

Noteworthy Dates

July Birthdays

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 3- Julia Yoder | 20- Hayden Sanford |
| 7—Cindy Kauffman | 20- Sharon Showalter |
| 10- Ella Mae Kauffman | 23- Darin Robinaugh |
| 12- Jeff Steiner | 25- Elaine Newcomer |
| 13- Alex Steiner | 25- Madelyn Sanford |
| 13- Brody Robinaugh | 27- Beth Maurer |
| 17- Ruby Byler | 30- Dena Hostetler |
| 18-Mary Yoder | 30- Doug Steiner |
| 19- Miriam Lapp | |

July Anniversaries

- July 4, 2005 --Lee & Tesa Jordan
- July 6, 1980 --Neil & Peggy Wirick
- July 18, 1964 --Carl & Elaine Newcomer
- July 21, 1979 --Greg & Jane Core Thomas
- July 23, 1965 --Chuck & Jeanie Swartz
- July 27, 1968 --Mike & Rita Roberts