

# THE BEACON NEWSLETTER

May 10, 2009

Volume 51, No. 19

## SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE Adult and Children's Sunday School at 10:00 a.m.

### Next Week

**9:00 and 11:15 a.m. Worship**

**"Does Jesus have an ego problem?"**

In one of those lovely email chain messages I received recently, there was a kernel of uncomfortable truth. We live in an age of the book of ego. The email described how we apply our spin to the instructions of Jesus that make us uncomfortable, how we are tempted to put our interests ahead of everything and everyone else, how we use the word 'love' so freely and loosely that its meaning and purpose suffer as a result.

Jesus calls us to act in loving ways even if we don't feel very loving or lovable. After all, it is much easier to love stranger and friend on the days that all is right with the world and we feel good about ourselves. It is a much different story on those days when we feel isolated, hopeless, worthless, and undeserving of anything good. Our feelings, good or bad, do not enable us excuses to inhibit or accentuate Christ's love from transforming the world. Our feelings towards others, like or dislike, do not allow us to be selective in sharing God's love according to our own whim or fantasy.

You are invited to read John 15:9-17 in preparation for this worship service.

Pastor Brian

### LOOKING AHEAD

May	17		Last day of Spring Sunday School classes SCRIP ORDERS DUE
	18	6:00 p.m.	Adult Education Committee
		7:00 p.m.	Board (Full)
	20	5:30 p.m.	HS Youth Advisors
	21		Preschool Carnival
	24		<b>SUMMER SCHEDULE BEGINS</b>
		9 a.m.	Sunday School
		10 a.m.	Worship—Membership Sunday
	26	6:30 a.m.	Early Breakfast Group
	30		HS Youth Event
	31	10 a.m.	HS Youth Sunday
			IHN Week at new facility
		2:30 p.m.	Annual Conference Briefing, Bethany CoB

### **Safe Schools Proposal Support**

Today in the fellowship hall, you are invited to sign a proposal to create a "safe schools" program within the FWCS district and to add sexual orientation to their non-discrimination policy. Please talk with one of the pastors if you have any questions.

### **Volunteers needed**

The Nurture commission is looking for volunteers in the following areas:

1. Older Adult Planning Team
2. Memorial Receptions and Funeral Dinners
3. Child Care Coordinator

If you are able to help out with any of these very important positions, please contact the office or Lynn Creath directly.

**If you have questions regarding Beacon information, please contact the church office between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.**

## THIS WEEK AT BEACON HEIGHTS

### Tuesday

6:30 a.m. Early Breakfast Group  
8:00 a.m. Retirees' Breakfast Group  
6:30 p.m. Witness Commission  
7:00 p.m. Education Commission

### Wednesday

12:30 p.m. Ladies Birthday Luncheon  
6:15 p.m. Bell Choir

### Friday

High School Youth Lock-in

### Next Sunday

SCRIP Orders Due  
Last Sunday for Spring Sunday School

### Food Bank

Mary Bosserman  
Susan Harroff  
Mim Robbins

Beacon Heights Church believes everyone is a child of God. We welcome all people, of any age, gender identity, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, family status, socio-economic status, physical ability, mental ability, or place along their faith journey.

## THE BEACON

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### STATISTICS

Sunday May 3, 2009

9:00 Worship	70
10:00 Sunday School	91
11:15 Worship	77
Adult Offerings	\$6,170.00
Children's Offering	\$4.00
Matching Grant	\$415.00
Weekly Budget	\$7,277.00

## Annual Conference Information

### Questions about this year's business?

The delegates to this summer's denominational Annual Conference, Dave Wysong and Carla Kilgore, would like to hear your thoughts, ideas, and concerns regarding the business coming to this year's Conference. They will be available after church on June 7, or feel free to contact them anytime. The new business for conference is listed at:

<http://www.cobannualconference.org/sandiego/business.html>.

### Online Conference Schedule

The Annual Conference schedule for San Diego is online at <http://www.cobannualconference.org/sandiego/schedule.html>.

To find out about meal events, insight sessions, worship and more, just type the link above into your browser. Please do not hesitate to call the Annual Conference office if you have other questions (800-688-5186).

## Ways to Serve

### Church Board, Church Clerk, Conference Delegates

The Nominating Committee has started the process of discerning the slate (to be presented at Fall Council Meeting) for Church Board members, Church Clerk, and Annual Conference delegates. Recognizing that we are a small committee and cannot know all of the members well, we invite input from the wider congregation regarding members who have skills and interest in serving the Church in one of these significant ways. If you know of a member of our congregation who has the skills for serving in one of these capacities, or if you feel called, please contact one of the nominating committee members as soon as possible. Any names submitted will be considered by the committee as it continues the discernment processes. Nominating committee members are: Mark Beck, Ethel Klopfenstein, Susan Harroff, and Pastor Jan Long.

**The Christians of Palestine  
Challenges and Prospects Amid Conflict and Peace-Yearning  
Plymouth Congregational Church  
501 W. Berry  
Monday, May 18 at 6:30 p.m.**

Join the Indiana Center for Middle East Peace in welcoming Dr. Bernard Sabella of Bethlehem University. Dr. Sabella is a sociologist, Roman Catholic and a prominent Christian in the West Bank. He is an author, scholar, and international commentator on political, economic, and demographic issues in the Middle East.

- Who are the Christians of Palestine?
- What are the prospects for peace given the new American Administration, the recent Israeli elections, and the internal Palestinian political scene?
- What are the hopes, obstacles, and expectations of Christians in the Holy Land?
- How can we promote a different kind of future among Jews, Christians and Muslims in the Middle East?

Dr. Sabella will also speak Sunday May 17 at 8:30 a.m. at Trinity Episcopal Church and at 9:45 a.m. at First Presbyterian Church in Room 303.

### **CPT Needs Your Help**

CPT may need to suspend and scale back compelling peace-making work because funds are low.

CPTers have drastically reduced expenses. Some have offered to work full time without pay or with deep cuts to very modest subsistence stipends. But transportation, rent, equipment, Internet to send out the news...these we cannot access without funds. Can you help fill the gap? You can donate online at <http://www.cpt.org/participate/donate> or send your checks to CPT/P.O. Box 6508/Chicago, IL 60680.

## Stephen Ministry



### **HOW DID STEPHEN MINISTRY GET IT'S NAME?**

Over thirty years ago, founder Kenneth Haugk named a new lay-care concept "Stephen Ministry", after Stephen of the New Testament. Today, we likely know Stephen more commonly as the person stoned to death for owning and speaking his faith openly. However, in Acts 6, Stephen is the first named of seven assistants, or deacons, chosen by the larger body of disciples to help ensure widows and those who required charity care would receive their daily food ration. Stephen was not a disciple per se, but a lay person full of the Spirit who was chosen to help those in need.

Stephen Ministry at Beacon Heights will continue the tradition of lay persons serving as confidential ministers of spiritual care and support to folks who are hurting. Stephen Ministers will assist in the ongoing care and support of those persons identified by our pastors as benefiting from a Stephen Minister's care, after that person agrees to connect with a lay Stephen Minister.

Stephen Ministry at Beacon Heights will be an important tool to assist our pastors in caring for those who are hurting.

**STAY TUNED! Next week:**

**How does the congregation fit into Stephen Ministry?**

## **Membership Sunday May 24**

Join us on Sunday, May 24 as we welcome new members through transfer of letter and baptism. If you are interested in or would like more information about membership at Beacon Heights, please talk to Pastors Jan or John Long.

## **SUMMER ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 2009**

THIS SUMMER'S THEME IS "EXPAND YOUR PERSPECTIVE." IT WILL PROVIDE A LOOK AT A VARIETY OF SITUATIONS, EXPERIENCES, AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR HEALING IN OUR WORLD. CHECK TODAY'S BULLETIN INSERT FOR A DETAILED SCHEDULE OF CLASSES.

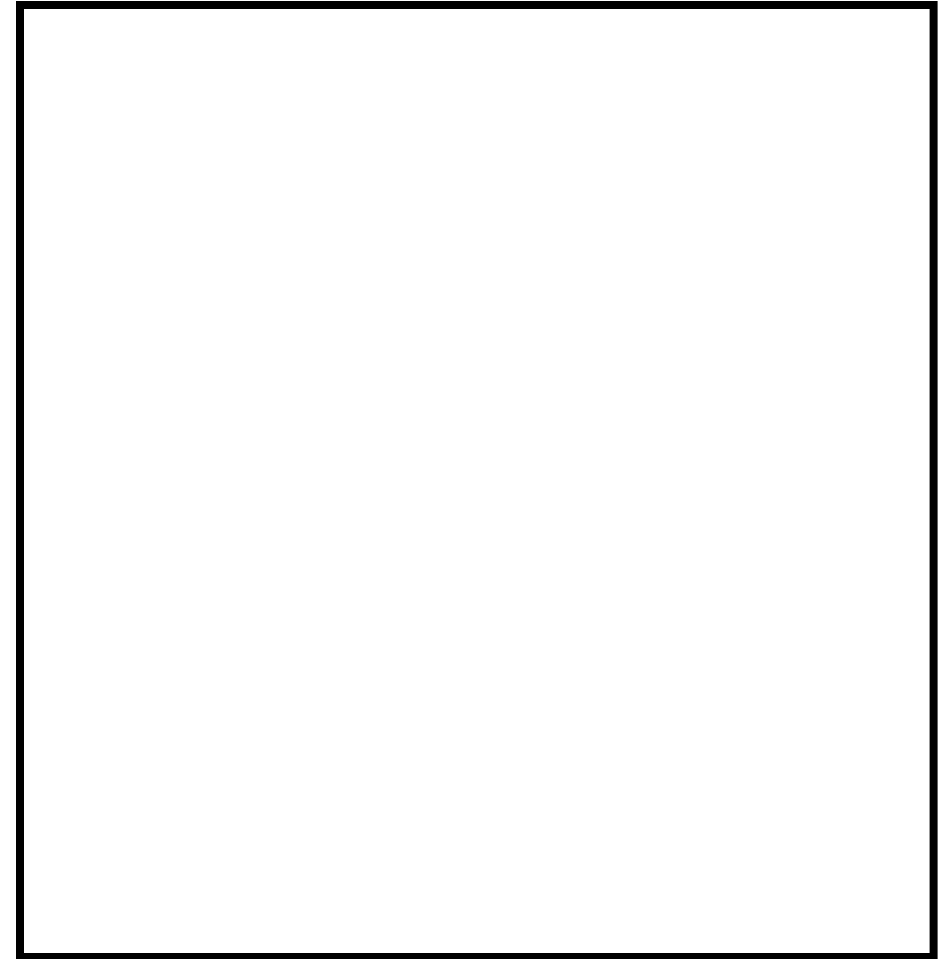


## **TODAY IS THE LAST DAY TO SIGN UP FOR THE COMMUNITY GARDENING PROJECT**

If you're interested in participating as a grower or a buyer (\$150.00 per share), see Scott Dercks or leave a note in the church office.

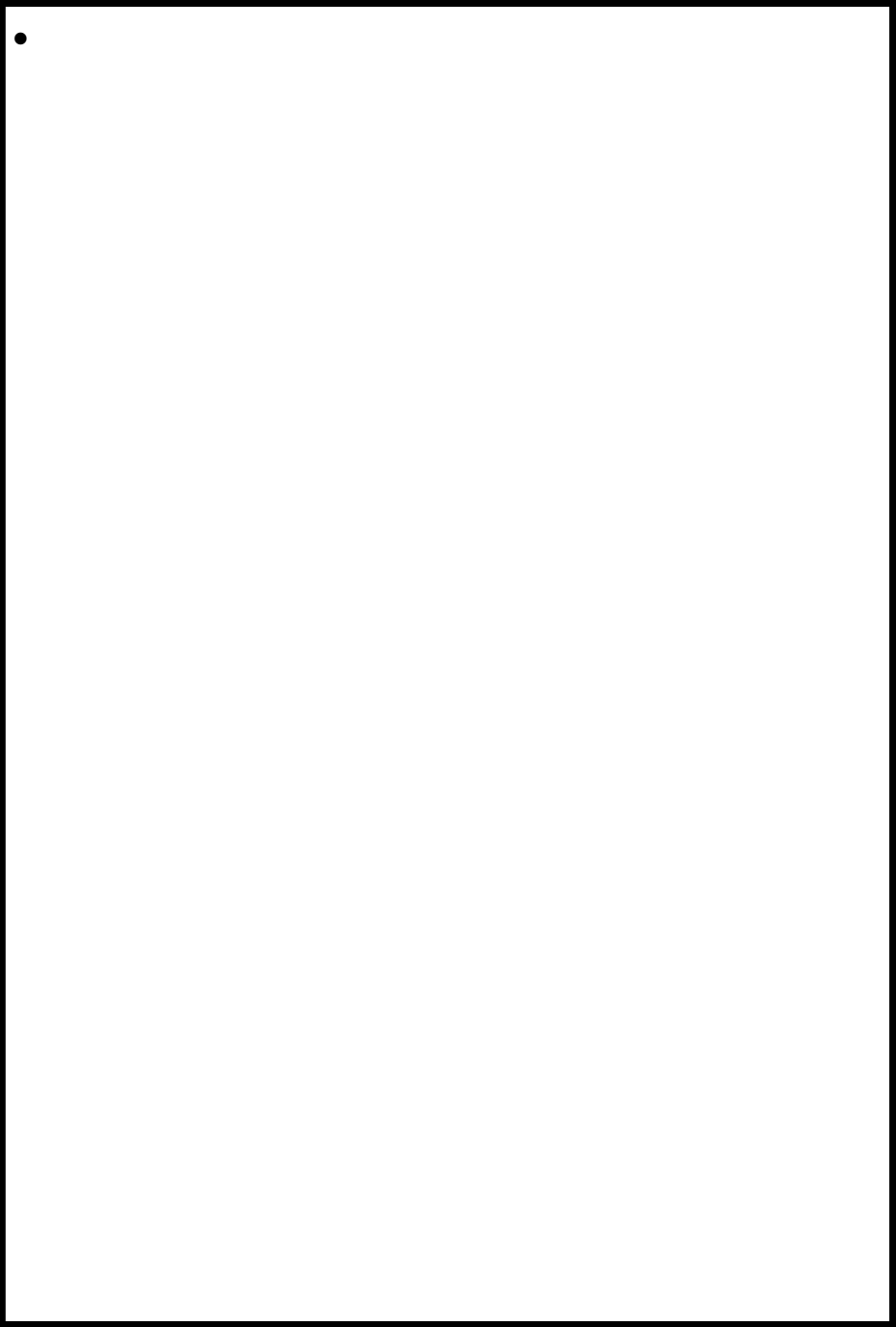
## **Men's Retreat at Camp Mack this Fall**

Mark your calendar for the Men's Retreat scheduled at Camp Mack Friday November 20th and Saturday November 21st. Plan to join this time for men to build relationships. There may even be time for euchre! More to come later!



## **Next IHN Week**

Our 2<sup>nd</sup> IHN week will begin May 31. This time St. Jude Catholic Church will take care of the first 3 evenings. Beacon Heights' volunteers are needed for suppers and activities on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings of that week. The sign-up poster will be at the table in the fellowship hall after all services on Sundays and will be posted near the drinking fountain in the north narthex. God bless you as you help. Questions? Call Ethel Klopfenstein or Kyla Zehr.



Would you believe it's that time again?

**Messenger Subscriptions Due May 31**

*Messenger* is the official publication of the Church of the Brethren published 11 times yearly by Brethren Press. (If you're not familiar with *Messenger*, look over a past copy on the oval table in the entry or in the church library.) New subscriptions are \$7.25, all others are \$14.50. You can also purchase a two-year subscription for 27.00 Forms are available on the counter in the church office. Please make checks payable to Beacon Heights Church.

**Turn in your form and check to the office or put it in Anne Ott's mailbox by May 31.**

Sympathy

We extend sympathy to Steve and Linda Myers and their sons, Brian and Matt, at the death of Steve's father Bill Myers, this week.

**The Landscape and Beautification Team can still use volunteers.**

This is a team to be made up of people who like to do various kinds of lawn and/or landscaping work, and those who would be happy to pull some weeds, plant some flowers, do some mulching, but can't always make it when there is a stated event. You could even declare a certain area of shrubs will be yours to attend to (maybe even one particular tree or bush!).



Contact Leland Harding or Phil Wright if interested.

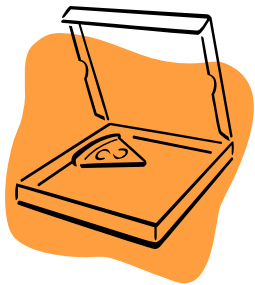
# YOUTH

## High School

Lock-in at the church!



7 p.m. May 15  
through  
8:30 a.m. May 16



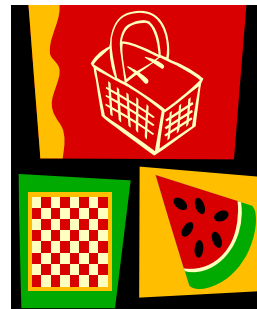
Bring: \$5 for bowling  
and pizza  
Games and Movies  
Sleeping stuff

# NEWS

## Middle School

Saturday, May 30

Lunch and Games at Shoaff Park



10a.m. - 2p.m.  
(drop off and pick up  
directly at park)

Invite mentors, friends, or family!

Bring: a yummy sack lunch  
your best kickball leg and  
frisbee throwing arm!



In case of rain, go to the church.