

THE BEACON NEWSLETTER

May 17, 2009

Volume 51, No. 20

LOOKING AHEAD

May	24	SUMMER SCHEDULE BEGINS
	9 a.m.	Sunday School
	10 a.m.	Worship—Membership Sunday
	25	Memorial Day, church office closed
	26	6:30 a.m. Early Breakfast Group
	30	HS Youth Event
	31	10 a.m. HS Youth Sunday
		MESSENGER SUBSCRIPTIONS DUE
		IHN Week at new facility
	2:30 p.m.	Annual Conference Briefing, Bethany CoB

SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE Adult and Children's Sunday School at 9:00 a.m.

Next Week

Summer Worship Schedule Begins Next Week 10:00 a.m. Worship

"Living out Jesus' prayer"

There is much that takes place during the Last Supper that we focus upon in the church: the basin and the towel, the bread and cup, Jesus using the imagery of the vine with us as the branches, and the definitions of love and friendship that Jesus places upon the body of followers that we are part of today. Even though these are the last words of instruction the pre-resurrection Jesus speaks to the disciples, this text from the Gospel of John is fairly obscure, often relegated to second fiddle status among the words in the Last Supper and among his prayers.

On this day that we welcome new members into the congregation and consecrate Stephen Leaders at the beginning stage of Stephen Ministry, these words from Jesus seem particularly vital and meaningful to both of these moments.

You are invited to read John 17:6-8,11,17-19 in preparation for this worship service.


Pastor Brian

The Worship Evaluation Group will present observations and recommendations to the church Board at the next meeting: this Monday, May 18 at 7:00 pm. Anyone interested is welcome to attend.

Let it rain! The flower bed on the north side of the church will undergo significant beautification under the capable hands of Leland Harding. In order for this to be a success, some assistance is needed with watering. A volunteer, or combination of volunteers, is needed to water the plants daily (unless God sends rain!) for the first two weeks after re-planting (about May 17-20). After the first two weeks, watering can be done less frequently. If you are interested in all or part of this project, contact Leland or the church office.



Please see the announcement bulletin board for several opportunities to be a witness for LGBT justice at this year's Annual Conference, including participating in a luncheon, a picture project, and "mobile witness booths", being organized by Carrie Fry-Miller, Kaleidoscope Coordinator, Brethren Mennonite Council. You can reach Carrie at 612-343-2060 or bmc@bmclgbt.org



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

TODAY

Scrip orders due

Tuesday

6:00 p.m. Adult Education Comm.

7:00 p.m. Board (Full)

Wednesday

Last day of BH Preschool

5:30 p.m. HS Youth Advisors

Thursday

Preschool Carnival

Next Sunday

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship -

Membership Sunday

Food Bank

Mary Whitehead

Connie McGowin

Marcia Wright

STATISTICS

Sunday May 10, 2009

9:00 Worship	78
10:00 Sunday School	74
11:15 Worship	108
Adult Offerings	\$6,163.50
Children's Offering	\$2 .00
Matching Grant	\$575 .00
Weekly Budget	\$7,277.00

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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Mon. & Wed. 9:00-3:00

BAKE SALE TODAY !!

The 3-5th graders will be having a bake sale today during the Sunday School hour to raise funds to support a mosquito net initiative sponsored through

New Community Project. The kids have learned that Malaria is one the the world's deadliest diseases and that Africa is the home of a very potent strain

that kills 3000 children each day. The **New Community Project** is working with partners in the Sudan to support women's groups in making mosquito nets. NCP purchases material and sewing machines and provide training for seamstresses. Our Beacon Heights kids plan to give donations from the Bake Sale and Children's offering to this special project. Please help support our kids in this effort by visiting our Bake Sale in the Fellowship Hall Today!

Marcia Wright



11:15 Music Coordinator

Search Committee update:

Since the beginning of January 2009, a search committee has been working to find a successor for Joyce Fry to serve as music coordinator of the 11:15 worship service. We have spoken to numerous persons, but have not yet found the musician who we feel has the ability to serve in this position. Please continue to keep the search committee process in your prayers. If you have questions or a potential candidate to recommend, we invite you to contact one of the members of the committee: Pastor Brian Flory, Tom Bever, Lynn Creath, or Tim Roth. Thank you for your support!

**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.

Christian Peacemaker Teams Need Our 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



SO WHAT...REALLY... DOES THE CONGREGATION NEED TO KNOW ?

In a word...**everything!** Statistics from over 30 years experience show that a congregation who understands the workings of their Stephen Ministry well, and feels an intimate ownership in it, is the congregation where Stephen Ministry will thrive and flourish.

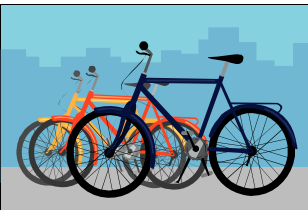
In Matthew 7, Jesus talks about the importance of building a house on a strong foundation. A high level of awareness and ownership by our congregation is the strong foundation our Stephen Ministry needs to thrive.

Stephen Ministers will rise from within our congregation. Some will be drawn to this new care-giving ministry naturally. Others will discover hidden talents they can share through Stephen Ministry. The more a congregation knows about Stephen Ministry, the better it will be able to find its own Stephen Ministers.

Our Stephen Ministry will need Care Receivers...folks who can benefit from the spiritual care a well-trained Stephen Minister can provide. Our pastoral staff will refer folks in crisis to our Stephen Ministry. But important referrals will also come from you and other congregation members! Every person in our congregation at some time will know someone...a friend, a neighbor, a co-worker, a family member...who is in crisis and could benefit from the care of a Stephen Minister. Anyone who has ever grown vegetables or flowers knows the importance of the right temperature, humidity, precipitation, sunlight, and soil. So it is with Beacon Heights' Stephen Ministry. Our congregation contains all the right elements for our Stephen Ministry to grow and flourish.

STAY TUNED!

Next week: Confidentiality and our Stephen Ministry



Come join **B**eacon's **I**ntergenerational **C**ycling (**Y**es **C**ycling!) **L**eague of **E**nthusiasts for the first bike ride of the summer on 5/24. We will start at Johnny Appleseed Park after 10 a.m. worship and ride the River Greenway toward Foster Park. We will plan to stop for lunch at a restaurant on the way. This is the first of

hopefully numerous rides this summer.

Watch the Beacon for details of other rides. Also, other acronyms for the group that would more easily fit on a T-shirt are welcome!

Brian Zehr

Rainbow Scarves

All rainbow scarves being created for Annual Conference as requested by the Womaen's Caucus project need to be turned in by **Sunday, May 24**. Womaen's Caucus is asking for folks to knit and crochet as many rainbow scarves for Conference as possible. These scarves will be given free to conference-goers wanting to show their support for GLBT persons in the church and for a change to the language of the Human Sexuality paper. Supporters are asked to wear their scarves throughout Conference as a show of support. FYI, Womaen's Caucus says to feel free to make scarves, stoles, ties, bracelets, hats, or anything else for people to wear. Use any pattern, needle/hook size, etc., you wish as long as you use Red Heart's Super Saver Mexicana yarn. Remember that it will be summer in San Diego, so more open stitches will likely be more comfortable. Suggested knitting and crochet patterns are on the church office counter, as well as a box to put finished items in.



Center for Congregations Matching Grant Fundraising Update:

\$4342 has been given to date. Goal: \$6000.

Brethren Volunteer Service 2009:

Opportunity Abounds

Brethren Volunteer Service (BVS) is a program that offers individuals a chance to advocate for justice, work for peace, serve human needs, and care for creation in a variety of settings in the United States and other countries.



The new listing of BVS projects for 2009 are out. You can check out BVS online at www.brethren.org by clicking on "Serve" then "Brethren Volunteer Service," or by talking with our BVS representative, Carla Kilgore.

Next IHN Week

Our 2nd 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.



You're Invited to a Service Project

At this summer's Annual Conference, the Committee on Interchurch Relations would like to highlight Beacon Heights' relationship with Afghan exchange students and Afghan families in Fort Wayne by creating a short video. AT THE SAME TIME, the Aseel family is moving into a new home at 2929 Kentucky and could use some help turning a front yard parking lot into a lawn.

We will combine **filming and working** on **Tuesday evening, May 26 at 5:30 p.m.** at the Aseel's house and welcome any workers from Beacon Heights to help. We could use a small garden tractor with a blade, shovels and steel rakes...anything that would assist in adding seed to sod over a large area. *If you'd like to help with this project over Memorial Day weekend, please contact Terry Dougherty.* Filming for the video will happen on Tuesday evening.

You are invited...

...to a reception as we mark Sam's graduation from high school. Come celebrate achievement and transition with us on Sunday, May 31 from 2-5 p.m. here at Beacon Heights.

John and Anne Ott



Three Rivers Labyrinth Gathering

June 19-20 at Trinity Episcopal Church 611 W. Berry

This Gathering will serve as an excellent introduction to the labyrinth for anyone desiring to learn more about its use as a spiritual and meditative tool. The Gathering will offer experienced labyrinth users and facilitators fresh ideas and strategies for continued work with the labyrinth.

Cost is \$35 per registrant and includes all sessions and lunch. If interested, please contact Anne Ott at the Beacon Heights church office; a group of five or more attending can save \$11 per registrant.

Pick up a brochure on the table in the north entry.

YOUTH High School

PRAY PEACE,
SPEAK PEACE,
LIVE PEACE



High School Youth Sunday
May 31st

Rehearsal/Planning/Set-up Times

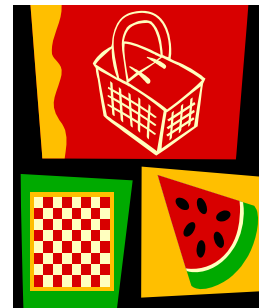
- Sunday May 17: During Sunday School and
and after worship
- Sunday May 24: During Sunday School
- Wed., May 27: 6:30 p.m.
- Sunday May 31: 8:00 a.m.

After worship, May 31, plan to share together in a
celebration lunch (at a yet-to-be-determined location)!

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!

Meet in the parking area directly to the left
of the entrance.