

THE BEACON NEWSLETTER

June 7, 2009

Volume 51, No.23

<u>LOOKING AHEAD</u>		
June	14-19	MS Youth Heritage Tour
	15	7:00 p.m. Executive Committee
	21	SCRIP ORDERS DUE
	23	6:30 a.m. Early Breakfast Group
	26-30	Annual Conference in San Diego, CA
	29	7:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry

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

Equal Exchange Coffee Anyone? Wouldn't you like to be confident that farmers growing your coffee beans are paid a fair price for their work? Or that they have access to affordable credit which facilitates business planning and family stability? Or that the coffee was being grown in a way that minimized chemical dependency and maximized biodiversity. The really great news is that soon you will be able to order coffee beans (whole or ground) here at Beacon Heights as part of the Equal Exchange Interfaith Program. Paul Spoelhof will set up a table in the fellowship hall on June 7th to provide more information and start taking orders

Equal Exchange ensures that coffee farmers receive a fair piece of the coffee profit pie. (mmm... coffee pie) The fair trade model deployed by Equal Exchange is based on buying from farmer cooperatives which encourages confident relationships and delivers the best price to the farmer. Since November, 2008, we have served Equal Exchange coffee during the fellowship hour on Sundays and soon we will sell Equal Exchange coffee so that you can brew it at home all week long. Good coffee, sound sleep, sounds good.

 * **Notice of Called Council Meeting on June 21** *
 * There will be a called council meeting June 21st in the church *
 * sanctuary immediately following 10 a.m. worship to consider *
 * the licensing of Rebecca Harding. *

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

Next Week

10:00 a.m. Worship

"Mutually encouraged"

The church is unique in many ways. One of those ways is its refusal to be part of a "zero sum game," a dynamic where there is always a winner and a loser, where resources gained by one party comes at the expense of another party. The church is often an entity that seeks another way, a way grounded in humility and love, grace and care for one another above all else – found in the way of Jesus of Nazareth. The Apostle Paul speaks of "mutual encouragement" in his letter to the Romans, a practice and way of living that defines those who follow Jesus.

Yvonne Riege from the District New Church Development Team will be in worship with us to share and to listen to the blessings that our ministry has mutually encouraged, as well as the passions and dreams we have as a church body for future ministry together. There will also be a consecration for the Rainbow Scarves going to Annual Conference as a symbol of support for our query.

You are invited to read Romans 1:8-12 in preparation for this worship experience.

Pastor Brian

THIS WEEK AT BEACON HEIGHTS

TODAY

11:00 a.m. Annual Conference Listening Session with BH delegates
2:00 p.m. Dick/Devries Shower

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

Next Sunday

Middle School Heritage Tour Begins

Food Bank

Mary Bosserman
Phyllis Hall
Kyla Zehr

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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Beacon Heights Church of the Brethren
2810 Beacon Street
Fort Wayne, IN 46805
phone 260-482-8595
E-mail: office@beaconheights.net
Web site: www.beaconheights.net

EDITOR

Anne Ott
E-mail: office@beaconheights.net

CHURCH STAFF

Melissa Bennett,
Pastor for Youth
E-mail: spiritpeace@hotmail.com
Office Hours: Tue and Wed 9:30-12:30,

Brian Flory
Pastor for Worship
E-mail: pastorbrian@beaconheights.net
Office Hours: Tu—Fri. 9:00 –1:00

John and Janice Kulp Long,
Pastors for Congregational Life
E-mail: longsgone@hotmail.com
Office Hours: M,T,W,Th 9-12:30

Anne Ott, Office Manager
T-9:00-3:00, Th-9:00-3:00, Fri. 9-12:00

Linda Myers, Asst. Secretary
Mon. & Wed. 9:00-3:00

STATISTICS

Sunday May 31, 2009

9:00 Sunday School	82
10:00 Worship	138
Adult Offerings	\$11,755.00
Children's Offering	\$2.00
Matching Grant	\$400.00
Weekly Budget	\$7,277.00

HOLLENBERGS' GRADUATION OPEN HOUSE

All are invited to join us as we celebrate Aaron's graduation from Northrop High School. His open house will feature a sundae bar on Sunday, June 28 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at our home . Please join us as we celebrate this milestone and prepare for the next phase of his life.

Amy and Bill Hollenberg

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>.

Help Needed with Office Move

Because of the damage caused by leaks over the past year, repairs will be performed in Brian's office this summer. To create space in which to do the work, Brian will be temporarily moving his office to the Pre-school office downstairs. Plans are (at this point) to make this move sometime during the week of June 15, depending on when help is available. This is where you come in! We are looking for two, three or even four people who can spend a couple of hours helping Brian get moved. If you can help, contact Phil Wright, or the church office. Thanks!



Fort Campbell Army Base Shut Down for 3 Day Anti-Suicide Event

FORT CAMPBELL, Kentucky (CNN) -- A major United States military base shut down for three days in May following a rash of suicides. Fort Campbell...[held] a three-day "suicide stand-down training event" May 27-29. At least 11 deaths of Fort Campbell soldiers this year are confirmed or suspected suicides, spokeswoman Kelly Tyler said. That's out of 64 confirmed or suspected suicides in the entire Army, according to official statistics. The base commander, Brig. Gen. Stephen Townsend, addressed all 19,000 soldiers ... on Wednesday, Tyler said: "His intent was to be able to look them in the eye and make them aware that everyone cares about the issue, and make sure they know -- corporal to general -- what help is available," she said. "To make sure that people know we want them to keep living." This is the second event...held this year.... [The] commanders are trying to impress upon the troops that this is more than a mandatory exercise.

"A record number of soldiers committed suicide last year -- at least 133."The statistics cover active-duty soldiers and activated National Guard and reserves....More soldiers killed themselves in January of this year than died in battle, Army statistics suggest. Gen. Peter W. Chiarelli, vice chief of staff of the Army, expressed concern about the suicide rate in March testimony before the Senate Armed Services Military Personnel Subcommittee. He cited long deployments, lengthy separations from family and the perceived stigma associated with seeking help as factors contributing to the suicides.

<http://www.cnn.com/2009/US/05/27/kentucky.army.suicide/index.html>

Open House and Surprise Wedding Anniversary Party

for Andy Pinkham as he graduates from Home-
stead High School, and George and Juanita
Mendenhall (a surprise party in honor of their
50th wedding anniversary). **Sunday, June
14th from 3-6 p.m.** at Lincolnshire Church of
the Brethren, 6404 S. Calhoun St., Fort Wayne.
See invitation on Special Events bulletin board
for more info and how to RSVP.



Stephen Ministry

So, what do Stephen Leaders do?



*"...to equip the saints for the work of
ministry, for building up the body of
Christ."*

Ephesians 4:12

Beacon Heights Stephen Leaders are lay leaders who direct our Stephen Ministry...that is their only job...they are not Stephen Ministers. Pastors Jan and John Long, Steve Eikenberry, Connie McGowin, and Deb Romary attended a week long, fifty hour, training session where they learned how to:

PLAN how to organize and begin a Stephen Ministry at Beacon Heights.

TEACH Stephen Minister recruits after overseeing a detailed selection process.

SUPERVISE the Stephen Minister program and support the Stephen Ministers with ongoing education and case review sessions.

CONNECT people in need of care with trained Stephen Ministers.

BUILD strong support for Stephen Ministry within the Beacon Heights congregation.

WORK AS A TEAM much in the same ways our pastoral team works together for the good of the church.

STAY TUNED! Next week: How do the Pastors fit in?

Wedding Shower-TODAY



All men and women are invited to a wedding shower to celebrate with Sami Dick and Matthew DeVries as they anticipate their marriage on June 20 at an out of town wedding ceremony. The shower will be held Sunday, June 7, at 2 p.m. in the church parlor. Please come join in honoring them. The happy couple is registered at Target, Sears, and Bed, Bath, and Beyond.

Camping Anyone?

The Nurture Commission is exploring an informal church camping opportunity for fun & fellowship! We are looking at July 17 & 18 or July 24 & 25. We are checking out campgrounds about 45 minutes from

Fort Wayne with canoe and biking options as well as normal campground facilities.



If you have an interest in this activity –
Let us know by June 21!

***Preference for dates** – July 17 or July 24
(circle **one** or **both!**)

***Name** _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Please clip or tear out and return to Lynn's box

The Better World Shopping Guide (Every Dollar Makes a Difference)

This is a handy book you may want to look into. Published by New Society Publishers, it lists rankings for the social and environmental responsibility of businesses and corporations.

For instance, if you're shopping for butter and want to be sure you're purchasing a brand from a company that manufactures and deals with labor and suppliers in a socially responsible manner, you can look up the item (i.e., butter). Brands are given a letter 'grade' (A, B, C, D, or F).

The book is available in a small, easy-to-carry pocket guide and organized by topic (from airlines through dairy through medical, etc.). They're listed in alphabetical order so it's easy to use quickly while you're at the store. You can also look at the research behind the rankings at www.betterworldshopper.org.

It's available new for \$9.95 on-line and through local retailers.

As our high school youth reminded us last Sunday, our money talks! How we spend and where we buy has an impact on the world and is one way to create change.

Check it out!

Ladies' Birthday Luncheon

Wednesday, June 10, at 12:30 pm

Hall's Factory

5811 Coldwater Rd.

RSVP to Mary Whitehead



Name Tags and Biblical Hospitality

Understanding biblical hospitality helps us understand our use of name tags. Old Testament shows God expected the stranger to be honored, cared for, and given the best of one's resources. The worthiness of the stranger did not matter, only the faithfulness of the one from whom hospitality was needed. Jesus broadened the meaning of receiving the stranger. He said, "I was a stranger and you invited Me in," and conveyed that selfless acts on our part, such as attending to the stranger, play a part in what it means to welcome others as if we were welcoming Jesus himself (Matthew 25: 34-35).



We are called to recognize the presence of Christ in those we don't know and to offer a place to grow in relationship with Christ and with one another. To learn names and to share ours is an essential step. Our name tag transforms us from a sea of unknown faces into real people open to a relationship with all who come through our doors seeking Christ. As we wear our name tags each Sunday morning, may we understand the deeper meaning of our action.

Adapted from "The Visitor Newsletter," Oak Grove CoB, Roanoke, VA, May 2009.

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.

YOUTH

High School

NEWS

Middle School

MARK YOUR CALENDARS



Sunday, June 28
4:00 - 7:30 p.m.
Picture Party

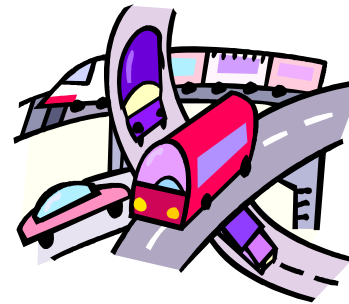
Friday, July 10
Day at the Dunes



August 7-9
Canoë Trip

Watch the Beacon for details!

SUMMER EVENTS

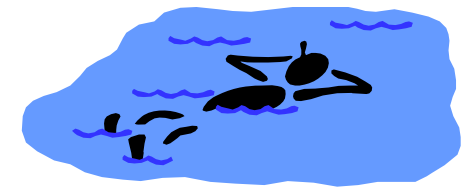


JUNE 14-21
HERITAGE TOUR

July 12
Heritage Tour Report
for Adult Sunday School

Friday July 17 Tin Caps Game

SATURDAY
AUGUST 15
FAMILY DAY AT
CHAIN O' LAKES



Shakespeare

Friday, August 28
Shakespeare in the Park