



August 2018

HIVELY AVENUE MENNONITE CHURCH

Happenings

SEMILLA: Welcoming, connecting

Jake Hess, pastor

If you cross borders within the Spanish-speaking world, you'll encounter a spectrum of responses to phrases as common as "thank you." In certain regions, "gracias" is almost always echoed by "de nada" (literally "of nothing," or "it was nothing"). Other places, however, you may hear "con gusto" ("with pleasure"). This summer in Guatemala, we were surprised to hear so many respond with "para servirle" (literally "to serve you" or "at your service"). In some ways, it sounds a bit formal, even servile. Rather than reflecting submissiveness, though, we came to hear those words as generosity, care and hospitality. Everywhere we turned on the SEMILLA campus, we were met with welcome and kindness. Everything hummed with hospitality.

Being such a welcoming enclave, SEMILLA functions as a hub for international travelers, aspiring Spanish-speakers, local and global missionaries, bi-vocational pastors and myriad ministry leaders. During our four-week sojourn, we brushed shoulders with missionaries doing agricultural development, others hosting VBS programs in local neighborhoods; with young leaders developing vocational programs for ex-gang members; with graduate students studying psychology, high school students doing theological and cultural studies and Mennonite pastors using sabbatical time to sharpen their Spanish and cultural understanding. All these encounters, I should add, happened within SEMILLA's verdant walls: a kind of water hole where kingdom workers gather to drink and, once refreshed, return to their work anew.

As a seminary in the 21st century, SEMILLA has had to chase its vision for pastoral training by creatively pursuing other means of income. Their guest house and Spanish-language programs are two such creative pursuits. Other seminaries around the world have taken notice of their ingenuity and are seeking to learn from their successes and struggles. North American seminaries cannot serve as templates for most seminaries in the developing world, they say; their contexts are too dissimilar. However, SEMILLA can.

We are so delighted that a group from Hively and Columbus Mennonite, having received a Central District Conference Reign of God Grant, will experience the welcome and vision of SEMILLA this October. We are also encouraging our Hively youth to apply for Goshen College's Study Service Theology Term (SSTT) next summer. Ultimately, we hope and pray that our congregation and the broader Mennonite church can develop deeper connections with SEMILLA, such that we can reciprocate her welcome, kindness and hospitality. Perhaps, one day, we will be able to say back to her—"para servirle."



Vol. 35 No. 8

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Congregational retreat to be held September 9

Hively Avenue Mennonite Church will gather for its annual congregational retreat Sunday, September 9, at Camp Friedenswald. It will feature worship and recreational activities, including pontoon and wagon rides, plus brunch and dinner. An afternoon session will be devoted to discussion of congregational goals. Two cabins have been reserved for youth and chaperones wishing to spend Saturday night at the camp.

If you're planning to attend, please sign the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the church hallway by Sunday, August 19. 🍃



Participants in the 2017 Hively retreat at Camp Friedenswald explored wildflowers on one of the hiking paths with Amy Huser, Sustainability and Outdoor Education Director.

Michiana Mennonite Relief Sale update

The MCC Relief sale is coming up in six weeks. Here are some opportunities for you to become involved.

Potatoes, Potatoes, Potatoes! Yes, our congregation is in charge of the Baked Potato venue at the Relief Sale. We will need people to volunteer in our building doing various jobs. Plans are still in the process and we will contact people as we become organized.

Opportunities for volunteering at other sites is another way to be become involved. Ten Thousand Villages will need help in selling their artifacts. Setting up for the sale on Wednesday and Thursday is a big task and help is always appreciated.



September 21-22, 2018

Bringing money each Sunday for **"My Coins Count"** will help us meet our goal. Would you consider matching the amount collected?

As always **donations of foods** such as pies, breads and other baked goods are another way to support the sale.* Donations of craft items also support the sale. Two quilts have already been donated and labeled with Hively Church's name. Be creative and find ways that you can be of service to the relief efforts of MCC around the world.

*Baked goods must be made with butter and no margarine or oleo, 🍃

Former pastor to speak at 60th anniversary celebration

Hively Avenue Mennonite Church will celebrate its 60th anniversary on Sunday, September 30, with Marcia Yoder-Schrock as guest speaker. She pastored the congregation from 1982 to 1991 and has also served congregations in Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska.



In addition to worship, the day also will include morning and afternoon programs. Lunch will be provided. More details will be announced later. 



Hively library feature Picture books for everyone

Several months ago, Lane Miller shared a story during children's time about when God wanted a "do-over."

The story, taken from the book, **40: The biblical story**, says, "People were being nawty. That made God sad." So God asked Noah to be the "world's first zoo-keeper crooze boat captin Ark-iteckt."

Each story in the book is accompanied by a painting that combines child-like drawings with both imaginative and realistic images and sometimes small bits of text.

Lane and SaeJin Lee donated money for us to purchase the book for the church library. Now everyone can spend time studying the intricate paintings and delighting in the retelling of familiar Bible stories.

More "picture books" for adults

In God's Image: A global Anabaptist Family

Ray Dirks, 2003

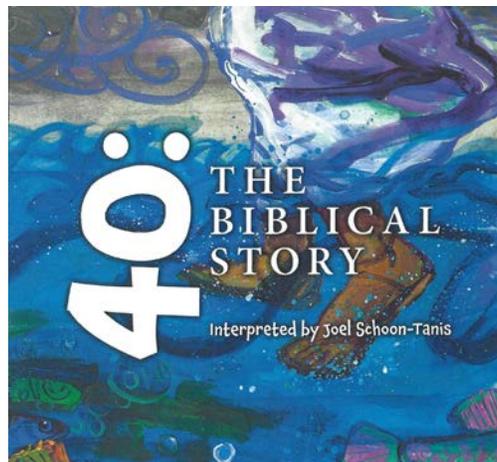
Photos of ordinary people and lives in 17 countries, accompanied by stories of families in these countries.

Material World: A global family portrait

Peter Menzel, 1994

Photographs of 16 families around the

world, selected because they represented an average lifestyle in that country. The photographers did portraits of the families surrounded by all of their possessions. These portraits with notes from the photographers show both the similarities and great disparities among the people on this planet.



The hammer rings hope: Photos and stories from

fifty years of Mennonite Disaster Service

Lowell Detweiler; foreword by Peter Dyck, 2000

Stories and photos of how people responded to needs for clean-up, for rebuilding and for emotional support after disasters make this a book for browsing over and over.

Stitching stars: The story quilts of Harriet Powers

Mary E. Lyons, 1993 

Pratik Bagh publishes song

Pratik Bagh has published on YouTube a recording of a song he wrote. To listen, follow this link: <https://bit.ly/2vGy2PG>

Pratik writes this in his post: "I am very grateful and thrilled to share my joy with you all in the release of my first song. I thank God for blessing me with Shabnam, my wife. She recognized the gift of singing and writing songs in me and encouraged me to write a song.... We are very thankful to God for this great opportunity where we can use our gifts for the glory of God. Praise be to God!"

There is the English translation:

The name of Jesus is sweet, loving,
and the only name that gives salvation.

I will lift his name higher in my life.

Every morning, every time, I will call on his name.

His name is life, his name is truth.

The one who won by dying is the Alpha and Omega.

Jesus' name is a blessed one.

He took my sins upon himself,
shed his blood and gave me a new life,

Deeper than the oceans, higher than the skies is his name!



Start collecting sewing kit items

Hively's Mennonite Women executive committee has selected a giving project for October, with encouragement to start already. This year we are collecting items for Mennonite Central Committee sewing kits. Items can be brought to the church anytime in the month of October. Donations of money will also be appreciated to purchase good quality shears; these donations should be given to Lucille Gering.

Items needed for sewing kits:

3 spools white thread (all-purpose; cotton/poly or 100% polyester; minimum 250 yds.)

3 spools black thread (all-purpose; cotton/poly or 100% polyester; minimum 250 yds.)

1 sewing tape measure (plastic or fiberglass; 150 cm; inch markings optional)

1 thimble (metal; medium size)

1 package needles (minimum 25; assorted sizes)

1 package straight pins (minimum 80; round plastic heads preferred)

Shirt-style buttons (12; black or white; size ½-1 inch; place loose buttons in a resealable plastic bag)

Sew-on snaps (minimum 20; assorted sizes)

Safety pins (minimum 10; assorted sizes) 

Visit the Migrant Quilt Project display

The Migrant Quilt Project is on display in Grand Haven, Mich., until September 4. If anyone is interested in going to see this exhibit in a Hively group, please let Elaine Frey know.

The Migrant Quilt Project is an effort of artists, quiltmakers and activists to express compassion for migrants from Mexico and Central America who died in the Southern Arizona deserts. Materials in the quilts were collected at migrant layup sites on established trails in the Sonoran Desert. Each of the 17 quilts lists the deaths for a federal fiscal

year. The name of each individual who died that year is inscribed on the quilt, with the word "unknown" or "desconocido" used to designate an unidentified person.

The coordinators say, "We hope that viewing the Migrant Quilts will inspire you to consider the conditions under which our fellow human beings take the ultimate risk to find more secure lives for themselves and their families and that you will be inspired to support humane changes in border policies."

For more, visit migrantquiltproject.org 

Hively Avenue Mennonite Church: 1958-2018 Children's Sunday School classes



Tyler Klassen found himself in this photo of the Kindergarten Sunday School class in November 1963. Trish Bohn is in the center and there are several others pictured here who are children of current Hively members.



Hively's current teens are gathered with Amanda Fast in 2011.



Left: Sometime in 2001, Hively's Sunday School students and some adults went to the care facility where Jake Enz lived to sing for him and Joan, his wife.

New carpet downstairs

Carpet in three Sunday School/Preschool classrooms was replaced in July. Jake and William helped with tearing out the old carpet and handled installation in one of the rooms. Others working included Walter Sawatsky, Charles Geiser, Leroy Saner and Marlyn Fast. Virgil Claassen steam cleaned the carpet in the nursery rooms.





Buzzing at the Hive

Preschool enrollment stands at 45 out of 54 spots filled. All of our morning classes are FULL, and we are working to fill our afternoon classes.

We will hold our Open House on Thursday, Aug. 30, at 7 pm.

The first day of preschool for our 5-day class will be Tuesday, Sept.

4. The first day of preschool for our 3-day and Extended Day classes will be Wednesday, Sept. 5.

This will be a year of transition for the preschool! Ms. Amy Redar will be transitioning into the director position as Mrs. Hay transitions out of that position. Leanne Farmwald will be

transitioning into her new position as chairperson on the preschool board as Melody Claassen transitions out of that position.

We would appreciate your prayers as we make the transitions this year. Continued prayers are also requested for Ms. Amy's mom and Mrs. Hay's daughter-in-law who are both going through cancer treatments.

Thank you!

— Julee Hay, preschool director 

Hively calendar

August 12

Church Without Walls joins Hively for worship and lunch
Worship at 11 am

August 19

Viewing of "Screenagers: Growing up in the digital age"
2 pm
College Mennonite Church

August 26

Picnic at OxBow County Park following worship

September 9

Congregational retreat at Camp Friedenswald

September 30

60th anniversary celebration

Area activities

September 21-22

Michiana Mennonite Relief Sale

Seminary announcements

Rooted and Grounded

Calling practitioners of creation care, scholars, food justice activists, urban gardeners, environmental justice practitioners, farmers and church members! You're invited to the fourth Rooted and Grounded: A Conference on Land and Christian Discipleship, Sept. 27-29 at AMBS. The event will weave together worship, theology, biblical study and praxis. ams.edu/rootedandgrounded

AMBS Village

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary is making plans to offer community-based living on the campus. The AMBS Village will give Elkhart residents a Mennonite retirement community option in Elkhart so that they can age in place and still be part of their home congregation.

Information can be found at www.AMBS.edu/Village. Everyone who might be interested is encouraged to complete the survey that is at the bottom of that page.

Our sympathies

We extend our sympathies to Kate and Harold Hartman on the death of their daughter Annette on July 25. She was a resident at The Maples in Goshen, having been in a serious automobile accident in 1991. The family is having a private gathering.

Two of Ellene Miller's sisters have died recently: Gladys Bertsche in Goshen and Alverda in Arizona.

Please keep these families in your prayers.

Hively Happenings
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