

Community and Conference Announcements

COMMUNITY

The Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church will be dedicating and celebrating its recently completed construction projects during the 10:30 am worship service on Sunday, November 13, 2011. We will continue with a potluck meal at 12:00 pm, followed by an open house from 1:00 – 3:00 pm. The public is invited to attend. Come see what's new at Alexanderwohl.

The Newton Chorale presents their annual fall concert on Friday, Nov. 18 at 7 p.m. at the Bethel College Mennonite Church in North Newton. The chorale is directed by Ron Garber. Musical selections will include "Clap Your Hands" by Rutter; the Bach Cantata 140, the Brahms Opus 29 motet, followed by a final section of songs from operas/opereettas. The concert is free with an offering taken at the event.

The Prairie Window Concert Series at the Dyck Arboretum's new Prairie Pavilion in Hesston will feature The Greencards, appearing on November 20, at 4:30 p.m. Past Grammy nominees, their music includes 'newgrass", rock, folk, and Latin American sounds. Reserved seating: Adults: \$20 , Children \$12 by calling (620) 327-8127. Proceeds benefit the arboretum's mission that promotes environmental landscaping with native plants. Soup, homemade bread, and dessert catered by Claire Williams and Paula Sims served as options during intermission.

Celebration of Hope Dinner & Theater: The Harvey County Homeless Shelter & Newton Community Theater Present an Evening of INSPIRATION and JOY Thursday & Friday, December 1 & 2, 2011 Hesston Mennonite Church, 6:30 pm Reserved Seats-\$20 per person. Call 316-283-3729 for Reservations. Call 316-283-7711 for Sponsorship Opportunities.

MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

You're Invited: James Wheeler, MCC's Global Family Education Sponsorship Donor Relations Coordinator will be at the MCC Center in North Newton on November 15 at 7pm. We invite Sunday School leaders, pastors, youth pastors, small group leaders and other church representatives to participate.

For almost 70 million children, going to school remains out of reach. Their days are filled with working for survival or with domestic chores. Students who achieve education gain confidence and skills which enable them to improve their lives and their communities.

Come to learn about how you, your Sunday School class and/or your church can partner with the 103 Global Family education programs in over 40 countries around the world. We'll even have refreshments for you!

MCC Christmas Giving: This Christmas, begin a new tradition. Share the joy with others around the world by selecting a gift from MCC. Simple gifts make a big difference. The gift of **education** provides a brighter future for children and communities. The gift of **friendship** helps MCC reach out to newcomers, showing God's love for all. The gift of **peace** helps people build understanding and harmony where they live. Explore all the MCC gift options and discover more ways to share the joy at mcc.org/christmas or make checks payable to MCC and send them to MCC Central States PO Box 235 North Newton, KS 67117.

WESTERN DISTRICT CONFERENCE

125th anniversary: First Mennonite Church, Ransom, KS - November 27

Serving up warm Coffee Cake to all who attend our first ever Reading Day at the Conference Resource Library. Thursday, November 5. An RSVP would be just grand. crlib@mennowdc.org, [316-283-6300](tel:316-283-6300).

BIG BIBLE NEWS! WDC is the very happy recipient of a \$9500 grant from the Schowalter Foundation to create a Year of the Bible. Marlene Bogard is keeping her ears and eyes open for how this might unfold in the coming year or two. We are blessed and oh so grateful for the opportunities to create learning options, seminars, resource lists and idea sharing all about the Bible, God's Word! Thanks be to God!

MENNONITE CHURCH USA

Calling everyone ages 14-22: Are you looking for a fun and meaningful way to serve for a few weeks this summer? Youth Venture locations for 2012 include Bolivia, Botswana, France, Honduras, Alaska, California, Florida and Texas! Learn more at Service.mennonitemission.net or contact Jill Schmidt at JillS@mennonitemission.net.

The Gather 'Round curriculum, produced by MennoMedia and Brethren Press, is accepting applications to write for Preschool, Primary, Middler, Multiage, Junior Youth, or Youth age groups for 2013-14. Writers produce well-written, age-appropriate, and engaging material for teacher's guides, student books, and resource packs. All writers will attend an orientation March 19-23, 2012, in Chicago, Illinois. See Job Opportunities at www.gatherround.org. Application deadline: January 9, 2012.

COLLEGES

The Bethel College Chamber Orchestra will present its second concert of the semester Thursday, Nov. 17, at 7:30 p.m. in Krehbiel Auditorium in the Fine Arts Center. The Bethel College Wind Ensemble's second concert of the fall will be Sunday, Nov. 20, also at 7:30 p.m. in Krehbiel Auditorium. Both concerts are free and open to the public, with freewill offerings taken to support music study and performance at Bethel.

Hesston College Theatre presents "The Boys Next Door" November 18 and 19 at 7 p.m. and November 20 at 3 p.m. in the Northlawn Studio Theatre. "The Boys Next Door," by Tom Griffin, tells the story of four developmentally disabled men who live together in a group home in a New England city and their "burned out" social worker, Jack. For tickets, contact the Hesston College Bookstore at [620-327-8105](tel:620-327-8105).

Think, Celebrate, Sing – A Worship and the Arts Symposium will take place on the Bethel College campus Saturday, Nov. 19. It will be centered on the Psalms and will have as resource people Thomas G. Long, professor of preaching at Emory University, and John Ferguson, professor of organ and church music at St. Olaf College. Activities begin at 8:30 a.m. in the Fine Arts Center, with most sessions taking place there. The Saturday symposium concludes with a hymn festival at 7:30 p.m. in Memorial Hall, featuring singers and instrumentalists from Bethel College, Bethel College Mennonite Church, First Mennonite Church of Christian (Moundridge), First Mennonite Church of Newton, First Presbyterian Church of Newton, Grace Hill Mennonite Church and Trinity Heights United Methodist Church. There is also a presentation by Martha Yoder, pastor of West Union Mennonite Church, Parnell, Iowa, on her artwork based on the book of Revelation (on display in the Fine Arts Center Gallery at the time of the symposium), Sunday afternoon at 4 p.m. in Krehbiel Auditorium, with an artist reception to follow in the FAC Gallery area. Registration fee is \$40. To register online, and to see a complete Saturday schedule, go to www.bethelks.edu/worshiparts. The Saturday evening hymn festival and Sunday afternoon art lecture are free and open to the public.

Hesston College Music Department presents Part I of Handel's "Messiah" in a Thanksgiving Masterworks Concert on Thursday, November 24, 8:00 p.m., at Hesston Mennonite Church. No admission charged. An offering will be taken for the Student Emergency Fund.