

Community and Conference Announcements

COMMUNITY

AGAPE IS IN DANGER OF CLOSING ITS DOORS: This notice is from the board of the Agape Senior Center. Our letters, notices and pleas have not yielded the volunteers needed to keep the center going. It is the decision of the Board that if we do not receive volunteers for the following needs we will proceed with the process of closing Agape Senior Center. The immediate need is for the following: 1. Board members willing to take responsibility for a function of the board such as fund raiser, secretary, treasurer, chairman, grounds maintenance, building maintenance, publicity. 2. Volunteers to take charge of serving meals, setting up home delivered meals, cleaning up after meals, driving to Hillsboro to get meals. 3. Site council members (help the site manager to plan activities and programs). 4. More people eating lunch at Agape. The Agape board needs to hear from persons wanting to volunteer by December 9, 2011. Persons volunteering for board membership should contact Norman Schmidt at 367-8140. For other volunteer positions contact Jenny Girard at 367-2275.

WANTED: Individual to perform maintenance duties as needed at Mennonite Heritage & Agricultural Museum. The goal of the position is to maintain the museum grounds and buildings so that both are safe and attractive for museum visitors and patrons. Responsibilities include but are not limited to minor electrical and plumbing needs, minor painting and construction projects, and other routine maintenance of the 8 museum buildings. This is a paid position. A job description is available at the museum office. You may also call the museum at 367-8200 or museum board president Donavon Schmidt at 367-2391. The museum's present maintenance man, Dennis Duerksen, is retiring at the end of this year; he is willing to help the new maintenance person "learn the ropes."

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

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

Camp Mennoscah:

2012 Camp Mennoscah Reservations—Reservation forms for groups scheduled for retreats in February – September 2012 have been sent or emailed. If you are the contact person for your church or family group and have not received the reservation information, please contact Camp Mennoscah at camp-mno@mennowdc.org or [620-297-3290](tel:620-297-3290). Another great year is ahead!

Bluestem Wish List—Just in case you've forgotten, Bluestem is the house on the new camp property (to the east). We've been working hard here at Camp Mennoscah to get it ready for small groups or families, but now that we're nearing the end of this project, we find we need a few items. Most of these items are for the kitchen. Our Bluestem Wish List can be found on the Camp webpage at www.mennowdc.org or give us a call at [620-297-3290](tel:620-297-3290) and we can help you out. Thanks for helping us out!

Camp Mennoscah Gathering--All late-night donut junkies who are fans of Camp Mennoscah are invited to a gathering of Camp Mennoscah folks on December 2nd beginning at 11pm at Druber's Donut Shop in Newton, KS. The first 40 people to arrive wearing a Camp Mennoscah tee shirt get a coupon for a free donut! (Be prepared to pay sales tax and any amount over the coupon amount.) Outgrown your last Camp Mennoscah tee shirt or worn it to shreds? No problem--make your own tee shirt! Use duct tape and a marker or whatever you choose. Best homemade Camp Mennoscah tee shirt/tee shirt design wins a prize!

MENNONITE CHURCH USA

Youth groups: God is working in incredible and creative ways in the city. Come and See! You can serve this summer in cities like Atlanta, Chicago, Denver, L.A., Miami, or San Antonio. Make a difference and have time for reflecting together about what you're experiencing. Check things out at www.DOORNetwork.org.

COLLEGES

Thank You: Bethel College Women's Association extends a huge thanks to all who contributed to the Fall Fest Market on the Green, bought New Year's Cookies, or ate at the Swiss-German meal. Our sales exceeded all expectations and, because of your generosity, we will be able fund special projects benefiting the College community.

Six Places of Christmas: The **Bethel College** Women's Association is hosting one of the Six Places of Christmas on December 3 at Goerz House, 2512 College Avenue, North Newton from 10 to 4. Please come tour the beautiful home decorated for Christmas, browse through our gift shop, and select some baked goods to enjoy at home! We will also be selling homemade candy by the pound. Hope to see you there!

Upcoming at Bethel:

Friday, Dec. 2 – Annual "Messiah" sing (Christmas portions) with Bethel College Chamber Orchestra and student soloists, 11 a.m., Bethel College Mennonite Church; scores provided

Friday, Dec. 2 – Christmas Gala Jazz, 8 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium; free with a freewill offering taken

Saturday, Dec. 3 – Special events at Goerz House and Kauffman Museum as part of "Six Places of Christmas," 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; children's activity at Kauffman Museum, 10 a.m.-noon; free admission to exhibits including "...the eyes of a stranger: India images and experiences by Cookie Wiebe"

Sunday, Dec. 4 – 26th annual Lighting of the Green, with candles provided; 8 p.m., with refreshments following in cafeteria

Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary

Discount for online classes: Tuition will be cut in half for first-time online students at AMBS, beginning with spring semester. To be eligible for the discount, students must be taking their first online course from AMBS and must not be enrolled in any theological education program. In addition to the discount, registration and online course application fees will be waived.

Two online courses are set for spring:

- **Biblical Foundations of Peace and Justice**, taught by Mary Schertz, professor of New Testament;
- **Turnaround Strategies for Churches**, taught by Gerald Shenk, sessional instructor