

**Community and Conference Announcements**

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**COMMUNITY**

**Thanks** to all the people who came to the blood mobile!! This included high schoolers willing to try for the first time, college students home for Christmas, people recently moved to this area and happy to help out, and dedicated donors who have given between 7-9 gallons over their lifetime (56-72 times!!!). We also had people from nearby communities who had missed their closer drives, and knowing of the shortage of blood, came to the Goessel drive.

Other people helped by volunteering at the drive. One new thing is that you now check in by computer, so having your donor card makes that process much easier. The donated cookies were great and appreciated by both the donors and the Red Cross staff!! Thanks to everyone who shared in some way to help us meet our goal of 35 units. The next drive is Friday, Feb. 24, so reserve that day. With continued participation we can meet our goal again.

**AGAPE** Inc. Annual Meeting will be held January 9, 2012, at 1 p.m. Community members are invited to attend this important meeting. Items of business include the election of a Board of Directors. Volunteers are needed for board positions. At present there are six positions to be filled on the slate. This is the time to volunteer for vitally needed work. At present we are serving home delivered meals to 10 persons who need this service. Please volunteer to Norman Schmidt 367-8140.

**COLLEGES**

**HESSTON COLLEGE:**

Hesston College will honor the life and service of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. with a week of events Jan. 15 -20 (Go to [www.hesston.edu](http://www.hesston.edu) for complete information). A free concert by African-Americans Renewing Interest in Spirituals Ensemble (ARISE) of Wichita, Kan. will be held at 7 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 15 in the community center of Hesston Mennonite Church with a reception to follow.

**BETHEL COLLEGE:**

Monday, Jan. 16, 7 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium - Bethel College Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration, with featured speaker Caleb Lazaro, pastor of El Centro Church, Colorado Springs, Colo., along with music, art and poetry reading; free with freewill offering taken; call [316-284-5356](tel:316-284-5356) for more information.

Thursday, Jan. 19, 7:30 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium - a cabaret featuring Bethel students Julia Miller, Jordan Ortman, Renee Reimer, Aaron Tschetter, Austin Unruh, Michelle Unruh, Cameron Voth and Allison Yoder, playing and singing Pasek & Paul, Jason Robert Brown, Kooman & Dimond, Jonathan Reid Gealt; free with donations accepted.

**MENNONITE DISASTER SERVICE**

Kansas Mennonite Disaster Service will be having their annual meeting on January 15, 2012 at 2:30 pm at the First Mennonite Church at Halstead. Alvin Kroeder, Region III Director, will be the speaker.

## PEACE CONNECTIONS

### HOW WILL YOU BRING LIGHT TO OUR COMMUNITY THIS YEAR?

*If you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday. Isaiah 58:10* If you would like to understand more about the causes and possible solutions for poverty...if you are interested in making a difference in someone's life by becoming an Ally to a person in low resources...if you are ready to become more engaged in a community-scale dialogue about addressing poverty...or if you are a pastor, social worker or otherwise in a position to refer persons of low resources to Circles of Hope, contact us at [316-284-0000](tel:316-284-0000) or email us at [info@peaceconnections.org](mailto:info@peaceconnections.org) to sign up for the next Circles of Hope Ally training in January.

### **Third Way Media** radio program, *Shaping Families*

#### **Weekend of January 14, 2012 – Surviving Parenting**

Carol Lindquist, author of *The Happy Couple Handbook*, is also a psychotherapist and trainer of marriage counselors. She reveals some of her own difficulties maintaining a good and healthy marriage after children came along.

#### **Weekend of January 21, 2012 – Bipolar Research Helping Families**

Dr. Francis McMahon, with the National Institute of Health's mental health research division, talks about their ongoing research involving large families into genetic links related to bipolar illness.

#### **Weekend of January 28, 2012 – Sexual Misconduct**

David Brubaker speaks on this week's *Shaping Families* program about sexual misconduct, especially in churches, and how Christians can better understand this issue.

Listen on KBCU 88.1 FM North Newton, KS Fri 4:00 PM or visit [www.ShapingFamilies.com](http://www.ShapingFamilies.com) the weekend the program airs to download a podcast or the transcript.