

Worship Preview: : -- " When I was a little boy, I sometimes would think about the stories I heard about missionaries and early anabaptist believers who would have to endure torture and even death for their belief in God. I could not understand why people would be so hateful to others, just for their faith. But these stories were true and I know they were meant to be an encouragement to my faith, but they were very scary to a little boy. As I grew older I began to understand how valuable these stories of persecution were to my faith. I never really thought that Christians would have to face persecution in my church or in my community. I felt pretty safe. But I have also thought why should I be exempt from persecution? We as Christians should expect it if we truly are different from the world , shouldn't we? Jesus said Himself that the world would hate us because of Him. The fact is, the world is changing and very few of us if any of us have experienced real persecution because of our faith. That could change. It did for the first Christians after Jesus had went to heaven and the disciples began their ministry. Many came to know what persecution and death was, simply because of believing in Jesus. But their was one disciple who wrote to them to encourage them and to let them know that what they were going through wasn't the end and wasn't for nothing. Peter told them to rejoice! That this suffering builds your faith, strengthens and ultimately if you hold on to God through it, your salvation is waiting for you! That's Peter's first letter in a nutshell. It's a letter full of encouragement that in the world we live in as Christians is needed. I hope we can embrace his letter over the next several weeks as we will begin a journey through Peter's first letter and see what he has to say."

~Pastor Tim

May 5, 2024
 Pastor Tim's Message
 "In This You Greatly Rejoice"
 Scripture : 1 Peter 1:3-9
 Worship Leader: Sonya Miller
 Music: Ken Mininger

Sunday Worship - 9:00a
Sunday School - 10:15a

You can join in the live stream of Sunday sermons by clicking onto You Tube, then typing in FMC INDIANA in the search box. We begin at 9:00 am on Sunday mornings, but the livestream may not be fully available until 11 am.

Happy May Birthdays

Patty (Dave) Yoder	4
Leah Schwartz	7
Carol Johnson	9
Liz Mast	9
Judy Oesch	11
Shirley Riegsecker	16
Patti Miller	17
Ruby Yoder	17
Ron Rheinheimer	22
Tom Bontreger	24
Verna Weirich	24
Dave Graber	31
Janelle Walther	31

First Mennonite Church
 PO Box 508
 Middlebury IN 46540
 574-825-5135

Our mission is to extend grace, build peace, and share love within & beyond our faith community

Office Hours

Pastor Phil
 Tuesday 9:30a—1:30p
 Thursday 1:00p—6:00p Pastor Tim by appointment
 Church Office:
 Linda Young Mon, Tues,
 Wed, Fri: 8 am—1 pm

Our Congregational Care Coordinator
Jean Shriner can be contacted at
 (574) 596-3376 or
 email jsshine@frontier.com

This is what you are going through..... Not who you are

-author unknown





Please pray for:

- ♥ Vera Miller's son **Sam** who is continuing to have pain after back surgery and has now developed an infection.
- ♥ Pam Bingaman's **children**
- ♥ **Arlene Schrock** that she may find comfort and strength in her home at Greencroft Nursing home
- ♥ Gary & Ruth Denlinger our missionaries in Israel that are experiencing possible danger

Ongoing prayers for....

- ♥ **Friends with health issues:** Bill Johnson and Brad Miller (who are at the Laurel's) , Gordon Kauffman who is in Hospice care at Hubbard Hill, Ralph Burton (Martha Weirich' s son-in-law, cancer) Willie Yoder who was diagnosed with cancer (Merle Mullet's brother in law), Malinda Eash's Aunts; Marsha and Janine with health issues, Mei Sasaki at Seminary.
- ♥ Traveling Mercies for **Pastor Phil** as he attends the LMC Spring Leadership meeting in Lancaster and visits family.
- ♥ For our nation, the world and the leaders that have so many decisions to make. May they be guided by our dear Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Praise for.....

- ☺ The visitors that were at FMC on Sunday including the current live in volunteers at Menno Hof from Kansas, Larry and Betsy Bullard
- ☺ College Graduation candidates, Grace Rheinheimer and Katie Walther Who will both be graduating on Saturday, May 4.

PLEASANT OAKS PRESCHOOL FUND RAISER

Thanks to all who supported the fund raiser for the Preschool. Your Fry Pies will be delivered the week of May 6!



Thank You

Thank you for all the calls, cards and visits after my recent surgery. They were all very much appreciated!
~Betty Graber

"Joyfulness keeps the heart and face young. A good laugh makes us better friends with ourselves and everybody around us."

– Orison Swett Marden
via Joseph Basehart
Aurora, CO



From MCC

Come Knot! Help MCC knot comforters on June 17-21:

Thanks to the diligent work of many creative people, MCC has an abundance of comforter tops that are ready to be knotted and made into blankets. We are inviting volunteers to join us from 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. on June 17-21 at The Depot Material Resources Center in Goshen – 1013 Division Street (Door #2). Space is limited, so please register for a 3-hour time slot (or all day!) by visiting mcc.org/come-knot or calling 574-534-4071. Please bring a sack lunch if you are staying over lunch time. Thank you for sharing warmth and comfort with our neighbors around the world!

You can make a difference in the world! MCC is seeking applicants for two-year Canner Operators: Since 1946, MCC's mobile meat cannery has preserved hundreds of thousands of cans of meat for communities in need around the world. But this is only possible with the assistance of MCC canner operators and volunteers. You can help feed hungry people.

Requirements:

- Ready to serve in the name of Christ
 - Mechanical aptitude
- 21 years or older, single and male preferred

To learn more, visit mcc.org/canner-operator or call Joe Miller at 717-808-2417.

MYSTERY MENNO

Our Mystery Menno for this week grew up in Middlebury. As a first grader they found a good friend and discovered that both of their father's worked together at "Pioneer Boat Factory". Their families became friends. The friend moved away and they lost touch with each other. Did the two ever meet again? Not only do we need to find out who this Mystery Menno is, but did they ever get back together with their long lost friend? Tune in next week for the rest of the story.....

Our Mystery Menno for last week had a fun adventure 31 years ago. He was a brave soul as he jumped out of an airplane, with a parachute ,of course. Our Mystery Menno was Gerald Kauffman. Thank you Gerald for sharing your high flying fun with us!

FMC OUTREACH

April First Mennonite Women Project

Crushed but not Broken

(All items need to be turned in by May 10!
This is the final week)

The following are suggestions for items:

Diapers

Wet Wipes

Toiletry items and soap

Shampoo and conditioner

Detergent

Cleaning supplies

Towels (Bath and or Kitchen)

Anything else that is used in the Kitchen

Comforter packets from MCC

Thanks to the diligent work of many creative people, our comforter bash committee has been overwhelmed with comforter tops that need to be made into blankets to be shipped around the world. But don't worry, we'll help you help us! Our wonderful committee is putting together comforter "packets" which will include a top, a back, batting and thread to knot it. These are available to pick up at The Depot Material Resources Center in Goshen – 1013 Division Street (Door #2) – **on Tuesday mornings from 9:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. or by appointment (please call Nadine at 574-534-4071)**. The packets will be available while supplies last. Thank you for sharing warmth and comfort with our global neighbors!



The Letter Carriers' "Stamp Out Hunger" Food Drive will be **Saturday, May 11, 2024**

It is the nation's largest all volunteer 1-day food collection effort, held annually on the 2nd Saturday in May and is a community outreach effort of the national Association of Letter Carriers.

Your donations will go directly to **The Middlebury Food Pantry** to provide food to people in our community who need our help. Participating in this year's NALC Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive is simple. *Just leave a non-perishable food donation in a bag by your mailbox, on Saturday, May 11, and volunteers assisting your letter carriers will do the rest.*

Great Items to donate:

Peanut Butter	Canned Meats	Soups	Cooking Oil	Long Grain Rice	Noodles
Canned Vegetables	Kid's Pasta Meals	Canned Fruit	Snack Cups	Mac & Cheese	Cereal

Mark your calendars!

LMC Future Events

Great Lakes West District Celebration

June 29 11 a.m.—4 p.m.

All ages are invited to join a celebration of Praise, Prayer, Lunch and Recreation

@ Yellow Creek Mennonite Church

More info to come.....

The Confession of Faith in a Mennonite Perspective (pt. 1)

An Anabaptist Faith and Practice Class

In this class we will study basic theology as this is found in our confession of faith (1995). This will include an introduction to theology; a detailed look at the first twelve articles of the confession; and a more in-depth look at various theological topics related to these articles.

The same class will be offered at two times each week for seven weeks. Tuesday evenings 6:30-8:05, starting September 10th and Thursday mornings 10:30-12:05, starting September 12th. You can attend by Zoom or in person at Hub 450, 450 N. Prince Street, Lancaster PA.

This class will be taught by William Higgins (PhD), LMC staff. For more information or to sign up contact William at whiggins@lmcchurches.org or call 717 293-5246, ext. 121. The class is free, but for those who can, a \$20 donation is suggested toward the STEP scholarship fund.

A father was at the beach with his children when the four-year-old son ran up to him, grabbed his hand, and led him to the shore where a seagull lay dead in the sand. **'Daddy, what happened to him?'**

The son asked . **'He died and went to Heaven,**

The boy thought a moment



'He died and the Dad replied.

and then said,

'Did God throw him back down?'

Fun things to do!



Everyone is invited to an open house to celebrate the Graduation of Katie Walther and Grace Rheinheimer this Sunday from 5:30-7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Grace is graduating from Calvin University with a Masters Degree in Speech-Language Pathology and Katie is graduating from Trine University with a Business Degree.

Oasis Widow's Banquet

You are cordially invited to an evening of delicious food, refreshing company and musical concert by Crosswalk quartet.

May 21, 2024

5:30p.m.

Living Water Mennonite Church

2815 Dierdorff Road, Goshen

RSVP: Call Darlene Mishler @574-596-7967 by MAY 1 (**TODAY**) for your complimentary reservation. (this invitation is posted on the West Bulletin Board)

Senior Moments

Wednesday, May 8 @ noon

This month's program is presented by the Jefferson Elementary School's Kindergartner's

Who: Anyone who considers themselves a senior citizen.

Invite a friend or a neighbor to join you.

What: A time for food, fellowship, and entertainment

Where: Pleasant View Church - 58529 CR 23, Goshen

(1/2 mile west of Jefferson Elementary School)

RSVP: Reservation preferred, but not required. Call our church office at 533-2872.