

WE SEE YOU! As we enter a new church year, we invite you to contribute to a visual view of the names and faces in our FMC community. We are asking each of you to bring a printed photo of you or your family to be posted on the bulletin board across from the pastor's office. Please do not send us electronic photos! We ask that your print be no bigger than a 4x6. We will label them. Baker Brothers Printing will print your electronic photos for a small fee. If you have a thumb drive or memory card with your pictures on it, Baker's also has a photo printing machine in their office for your use. A 4x6 print is \$0.29.

WEDNESDAY SESSIONS FOR THE FALL are completed. We will begin again on January 6, with a 6:15 p.m. meal and planned game activities. Age-specific classes will begin January 13. The adults will begin with a participatory discussion on possible shapes of Mission Committee at First Mennonite. January 20, 27 and February 3 adults will be led in learning by Aleen Ratzlaff on the topic of how Culture, Communication and Faith come together for us here at First Mennonite. During the season of Lent, Pastor Susan will lead the adult Wednesday evenings in a study of communion.

We thank God for these leaders of our Wednesday evening children/youth classes:

- Jeff and Deb Jensen – preschool and younger elementary
- Jason Klanderud and helpers – older elementary
- Jim and Laura Paulus – middle school
- Youth Pastor Hank and helpers – high school

Our Youth Sponsors for fall have been Tim Frye (September), Holly Swartzendruber (October), and Marci Heidebrecht (November). And big thanks for our trusty cooks and for the relief cooks as well!

ANNUAL REPORTS: We are starting to gather all the data for the 2015 annual report. If you lead a committee or have a report to share with us, please do so as soon as possible. Annual reports are due December 15.

PARKVIEW MENNONITE BRETHERN CHURCH is planning to host another hymn sing on December 31, New Year's Eve, at 7 p.m. An invitation has been extended to FMC to join them.

AMONG OUR FRIENDS

Merle Funk, son of Marvin and Elfrieda Funk, has been hospitalized in Wichita and is now home awaiting test results. Prayers for the Funk family.

BETHEL COLLEGE ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Wednesday, Dec. 2 – Annual sing-along to Christmas portions of Handel’s *Messiah*, with Bethel College orchestra and vocal soloists, 11 a.m., *Bethel College Mennonite Church*; scores provided.

Friday, Dec. 4 – Christmas Gala Jazz, featuring Bethel College Jazz Ensembles I and II, 8 p.m., *Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center*

Saturday, Dec. 5 – Five Places of Christmas are all open 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. The Bethel College Women’s Association will have a display of Nativity sets from around the world, set up “around the circle” in *Luyken Fine Arts Center* on the Bethel campus. At *Kauffman Museum*, director Annette LeZotte, an art historian, will speak on “Day or Night? Two Paintings of Christ’s Nativity” at 11 a.m. Other places are *Warkentin House*, *Carriage Factory Gallery* and the *Harvey County Historical Museum*. Admission is free.

TABOR COLLEGE ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Thursday, Dec. 3 – Tabor College Symphonic Band & Chamber Strings will be presenting “A Christmas Festival” Instrumental Christmas Concert at 7 p.m., *Hillsboro Mennonite Brethren Church*.

Sunday, Dec. 6 – Tabor College Oratorio Chorus will present its annual performance of Handel’s *Messiah* at 7 p.m. in the *Hillsboro Mennonite Brethren Church*.

MENNONITE WOMEN USA ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mennonite Women USA has been providing Sister Care weekends the last few years. We are excited to announce that the program is now going onto College campuses, one being held on Bethel College Campus on Feb. 6, 2016. We feel this is an important venture to help young adult women manage their own concerns, while also developing skills and ideas that they can use in supporting each other. This is also an investment to the future leadership of Mennonite Women locally and beyond. Marlene Bogard, Exec. Director of MWUSA, will be the main presenter, along with some local women. Obviously college students do not have extra funds available for an opportunity like this, so we are asking whether your Womens Group can give \$100-\$300 towards this or if an individual would donate \$30 towards a student’s registration. Please make your check payable to Mennonite Women USA and send to Berni Kaufman, 718 N. Main Street, Newton, KS 67114. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Denise Nickel, Board Member at oreo@mtelco.net.