

March 6, 2016

Vol. 61 No. 10

## Living Ink: Turning Over a New Leaf

**Focus Statement:** As we turn over the page of each chapter in the grand covenant narrative, we find ourselves invited to "return" to the open arms of Christ and his ways, and to experience his good news of reconciliation.

### **Gathering**

Pre-service Music Ruth Carrasco
Call to Worship (back of bulletin) Bryan Hower
(based on Psalm 32)

**Opening Prayer** 

I am thine, O Lord (WB 505)

Bob Weaver

We are people of God's peace (WB 407)

Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts

Offertory: "My Coins Count" video

### **Confessing and Reconciling**

Prayer of Confession and Reconciliation Assurance (based on Psalm 32) Amazing grace! (WB 143)

### **Hearing God's Story**

Scripture Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

L.E.N.T News Lois Zimmerman & Bob Weaver

I love to tell the story (WB 398)

Scripture Reading: Luke 13:1-9

Sermon: "The Prodigal Father Through Sherill Hostetter\* the Lens of the Elder Son"

### Responding

Ritual

Listen, God is calling (SJ 42)

Sharing Time & Announcements

Congregational Prayer

Bob A. Martin

### **Sending**

I bind my heart this tide (WB 411) Benediction (Psalm 63)

\* Sherill Hostetter is a trained spiritual director who is passionate about persons experiencing the generous God of love and mercy that we worship. She also longs for the Christian church to respect the strengths of different spiritual streams as embodied by Jesus. Sherill has served with Eastern Mennonite Missions for the last 27 years, 15 of them in the office at Salunga as a co-Human Resource and Member Care Director, along with her husband, Darrel. They have cared for workers in crisis situations and have led spiritual formation retreats around the globe. Sherill has also given spiritual direction via skype to many workers. They have ended their role at EMM and are currently discerning what God is calling them to in this next season of life.

Greeters: Laurence King & Karina Morales
Nursery: Jen Morales & Peg Jackson; Sound: Judy Nguyen
Usher: Kylah Morales; Closing: John Campbell

# SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES 9:00 a.m.

### **Happy Birthday!**

Mar. 11 - Sarah Martin Mar. 12 - Barbara Longenecker

### **Happy Anniversary!**

Mar. 10 - Bryan & Dawn R. Hower

### **NEXT SUNDAY - March 13**

Coffee House: Peg & Darryl Jackson Greeters: Jim & Evelyn Bailey Nursery: Judy Nguyen & Karina Morales

Worship Leader: Bob A. Martin, Sound: Wade Esbenshade

Message: Dawn Ranck Hower

Usher: Anna Mae Weaver, Closing: John Campbell

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- Mar. 6 Combined Sunday School: Safe Church Policy Training Fellowship Meal
- **Mar. 9** Early Morning Prayer 6:30 a.m. Sewing Circle 8:00 a.m.
- Mar. 12 Men's Prayer Breakfast at Squireside 7:00 a.m.
- Mar. 16 Junior/Senior Youth at Groffdale Mennonite 7:00 p.m.
- Mar. 17 ELC Board Meeting
- Mar. 20 Palm Sunday
- Mar. 24 Maundy Thursday Meal & Service 6:00 p.m.
- Mar. 25 Good Friday Service 6:30 p.m.
- Mar. 27 Easter Sunday

### **Church News and Information**

The peace lamp is lit as a reminder to pray for the Early Learning Center's children, staff, and board members.

**Meeting:** Pastor Dawn is attending the Constituency Leaders Council meeting in Goshen from **March 6-9**. Contact Bob A. Martin with pastoral care concerns.

**Vote Update:** 41 persons returned ballots agreeing to change the March, 2005 Organizational Guideline Quorum requirement for voting at a congregational meeting from 40 members to 51% of resident active members. The 2016 budget passed with 100% affirmation.

**Refugees:** Be in prayer for the group from church that will be helping to resettle a refugee family; for the family who will be assigned to us; and for other refugees around the world.

Cross Connection Meal: Our church is scheduled to provide a meal for the youth on Wednesday, March 16. There are two ways to be involved: 1) Contact Ruth Carrasco if you are interested in serving the food,; 2) sign up to bring food items. Sign up sheet is on table in lobby. Bring food to church by NOON on March 16.

My Coins Count!!! Fill the bucket to the rim! Each year, spare change collected by churches, children, and families add up to more than \$600,000 for Mennonite Central Committee's work around the world. Change will be collected by the children during the offering each Sunday in March.

He Named Me Malala: Lancaster MEDA will host a showing of this critically-acclaimed documentary on Thursday, March 17 at 7:00 p.m. with discussion following. Location: Highland Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall, 500 E Roseville Rd, Lancaster. Admission is free, but registration is required. RSVP by March 11: Allison Nafziger at (717)560-6546 or chapters@meda.org. For more information visit www.meda.org/lancaster.

**Thai Dance and Drama:** A lively and entertaining program by performers from the Christian Communications Institute, a ministry in Chiang Mai, Thailand. Sunday, **April 3**, 7 p.m. at Garden Spot Village Chapel. Free will offering.

Harmonies 11th Annual Hymn Sing: Sing favorites around the theme, Resurrection and Evening, Sunday, April 3, at 6:30 p.m. at the Blossom Hill Mennonite Church. The Reunion Vocal Band will participate. A free-will offering will benefit the music ministry of Harmonies Workshop.

Pastor: Dawn Ranck Hower; dawn.ranck@verizon.net; cell: 215/237-1485

Leadership Team Chair: Robert A. Martin

Leadership Team: Ruth Carrasco, Jenn Esbenshade, Wade Esbenshade, Robert A. Martin

Church Secretary: Judy Nguyen; <a href="mailto:nhmc@frontiernet.net">nhmc@frontiernet.net</a> Secretary office Hours: Tuesday-Friday: 7-9:30 a.m.; Tuesday & Friday 3:30-5:30 p.m.

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