



For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. 1 Corinthians 3:11 (NJV)

Sept 26, 2010

Volume 2, Issue 5

Lynside Lines

Lynside Mennonite church, 648 Mr. Torrey Road, P.O. Box 124 Lyndhurst, VA 22952
Telephone 540-949-7474

LEAD ARTICLE: ABIDE and Love INC: Where are We? BY PASTOR DENNIS

Since the last newsletter back in May, there have been some interesting developments with regard to outreach. First, I wrote about "Love INC" in the May issue, further explaining the "Love INC" ministry and what it could mean for us if our area churches came together to help needy people in our community. The disappointing news is that the area churches are showing little enthusiasm for doing this. Whether they don't like the program, or simply like doing their own thing, I don't

know. I do know we could do a lot more together than alone. It seems that churches like playing in their own little sandbox and compete with each other to see who can build the bigger sand castle. We should not forget what Jesus said about building on sand, let alone building with sand (See Matthew 7: 24-27)!

I thank God for the challenges David Kanagy has laid before us. First is the

(Continued on page 3)

SPECIAL EVENTS

Virginia Mennonite Relief Sale is coming up October 1 and 2 in Harrisonburg at the Fair Grounds. It is a wonderful place to meet friends, buy items of all kinds, find good food for eating there or bringing home. Come spend the evening on Friday and/or the day on Saturday. Volunteers are needed especially for set-up or tearing down. Call Dave Minninger if available: 337-0702. See you there?

-Edith Kuhns

WOMEN—do you need some time away from a busy schedule when you can interact with other Mennonite women and be challenged to find God in the ordinary parts of your life? Plan to join the Women's Retreat being held at the Best Western Inn here in Waynesboro. Staying at the Inn helps defray costs and gets you away from the demands of home and family for a bit. See the gold colored brochure for more info. There are extras near the mailboxes in case you lost yours. October 29-31—plan for it!

-Edith Kuhns

Prayer Requests:

Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

Galatians 6:2

Judy Via as she continues with treatments and consultations with doctors.

Farabee Howard at Augusta Nursing facility.

Glenda and Jose Castro Remember them in their ministry

Betty Lou and family as they grieve the loss of her sister

Bobby Henderson serving in Afghanistan

We're on The Web:

www.lynsidemennonitechurch.org

Coming Events:

Va. Relief Sale. October 2nd. Rockingham Fair grounds.

Plan now to attend the MWV Fall Retreat at the Best Western in Waynesboro Va, October 29-31. See Edith Kuhns if you have questions.

Mark your calendar for a special service in celebration of the ministry of Roy Kiser on April 9, 2011, at Mr. View Mennonite Church.

Remember these regular events:

Women of Prayer, first Sunday at 4pm

Bible Study (Stuarts Draft Retirement Center),
2nd Tuesday, 10am

Sewing Circle, 4th Tuesday

Monthly meal, 3rd Wednesday, 6pm

Junior Youth, 1st & 3rd Wednesdays

Men's Meeting, 1st & 3rd Thursdays, 7pm

Friday Bible Study, 2nd & 4th Fridays

Women of Joy Conference**by Sharon Brydge**

On Friday, April 9th after a blessing and prayer for safe travel by Pastor Dennis; Judy Via, Judy Lowery, Sandy Burkholder, Michele Fletcher, Brenda Brydge, Helen Campbell, Sharon Brydge, Kristi and David Kanagy headed to Sevierville TN for a Women of Joy Conference. After a few mini stops and a time to stretch our legs, we arrived in time for dinner the The Mill Restaurant and then off to check in at the Park Grove Inn. Our speakers, Lori Salierno, Anita Renfroe, Kay Arthur, and Karen Kingsbury, and worship leaders, Stephen Curtis Chapman and Michael W. Smith gave us many thoughts like praising God first thing in the morning and then when problems arise, we can have the confidence to focus on God instead of pressures of the day. We need to walk straight through our pain—don't deny it, don't ignore it, don't medicate it. As Psalm 23 says, walk through the valley of the shadow of

death. God is preparing a Banqueting table in the presence of our enemies. When pressures have walked all over us, God can plant seeds in furroughed ground plowed up by the enemy. Look for the blessing. As we live by faith, we are pleasing God and we cannot forge who we are—being a Christian means being a follower of Christ. We have to pursue Godliness and holiness and strive to be more Christlike. We need to measure ourselves by the Word of God and if we don't measure up, we need to be making changes in our lives. We were able to stretch our legs again at the Tangier Outlet sores for a couple of hours before dinner at Logan's Steak House. After our meeting on Sunday, David brought us safely home.

challenge to reach out to our community to help those in need. Rather than bemoan what has not happened with "Love INC", we can do some things. We can follow the Lord's lead and give the cup of water, fix a roof or whatever there is to do in the name of Christ. This we can do. Don't forget the dates of Oct. 22-23 to do the roof at Heather and Jason Pace. Watch the October calendar for other dates. We can help Lyndhurst United Methodist and their food pantry. Don't forget to get extra items for the pantry. We can provide coats for the Navajo. We can help WRE as Scotty Lowery lets us know what is needed. We can help those around us.

The challenge to prayer is right on target. Nothing of substance for the Kingdom of God gets done without being bathed in prayer. This is not only the necessary first step; it is necessary to undergird the ministry journey God calls us to. So I add both my commitment and my challenge for us to come together in CORPORATE prayer, by that I mean coming together to pray. The late Dr. J. Edwin Orr from Moody Bible Institute spoke about the role of Corporate prayer in spiritual awakening. He traced every revival that has swept across the churches and communities in various countries. In each and every case, the awakening/revival was preceded by people with a burden for spiritual renewal in their church and community coming together to pray. The Biblical and historical evidence is clear, if we want rebirth and renewal at Lynside, we need to come together to pray!

You may have heard about something called ABIDE. This is a program that provides special resourcing for smaller congregations like ours. ABIDE is based on John 15:9, "**As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love.**" Ron Crandell, a teacher from Asbury Seminary (United Methodist) in Kentucky, founded the program. He had a vision for evangelism as a new Christian. He shared this vision with an older pastor who commended him for his zeal, but told him his vision was in the wrong place. He told him to go back and read John 15:1-17, and realize that we can do nothing, even evangelism, if we are not abiding in Christ. Further the fruit we do bear as we abide in Christ is for the purpose of bringing glory to God (see John 15:8)!! So over the years as Ron has studied and worked with congregation he noticed how they can have season of vitality, growth and ministry, but then fell off. Out of his study and prayer, he had a vision to help churches renewal through prayer, Bible study and following their Lord's leading in the ministry He will call them to. Crandell with others set up the Spiritual Leadership Initiative to provide resources in people and materials that can be available to help smaller churches.

This is what ABIDE is about. Lynside is not alone in our struggle. There are other congregations in the same situation. Since 2003, twelve new congregations have been planted in Virginia Mennonite Conference. But Virginia Mennonite Missions and our Conference are concerned to help established congregations that are struggling. This is why some of us in leadership have been praying to see where God is leading. Howard Miller and Ed Bontrager learned about ABIDE and attended a regional meeting. They shared this with me and I have been meeting with them to bring this possibility to our congregations.

The Elders and Council have copies of the promotional brochure. It will cost us financially. Howard Miller worked at the figures and each participating congregation would need to come up with \$3,000. Some help will be available from Virginia Missions and Conference. Your initial response might be like mine: "We can't do that now." Then I thought can we afford not to. The money is used to bring in resource people for an initial retreat and to act as coaches. It will cost us in terms of time. If we decide to do this, I would like to have five people to come forward and say yes I want to be part of helping our church grow spiritually and reach new people with the gospel. These could be in current leadership and some currently involved in a leadership role. Again, can we afford to say we are already too busy? I invite you to pray with me too see if this is God's will for us. The challenges before us are already on the track ABIDE would have indicated. The things ABIDE would bring to us are accountability as we meet periodically with the coaches and similar groups in neighboring congregations, resources and help.

But let me close with something I said before: nothing of significance will happen without fervent, corporate prayer. Let us PRAY, PRAY, PRAY. God bless you, Pastor Dennis

New Mexico News

Everyone has a highlight of their summer. It might be going to the beach or just laying out and getting a tan. But, that isn't the case for me. Some say I am crazy but I call it my second home. New Mexico has been apart of my life since I was 10 years old. My first year I was told, "This will be your last time out there, so be thankful," Well, here I am from my 5th time to New Mexico. I feel so blessed! Christ For All Nations has been an eye opener to me and has brought me closer to God the more I go out there. It is a feeling that is so indescribable when we hear they have been looking forward to our arrival since we left the summer before. The Spitler's and Jason and his family have just been an incredible example to me. They put all their faith in God no matter what and for me to see that just plain amazes me. They are like family to me. I enjoy every second at

CFAN in all I do.

The people I have traveled with helped make it a different experience each time...which is a good thing of course. I was so fortunate to have my best friend come along with me, Katlyn. She has always heard me talk about my summers in New Mexico. So, God went to work; he let her go with me! Finally, someone got to know the feelings I felt there! She was just recently baptized and a newly born Christian in God's kingdom. I know God was working in her life as well as he was in mine when we were in New Mexico. It brought us closer together in our friendship and better yet; closer to God. I know we both had an unforgettable time. I had an amazing time and look forward to boarding the plane next summer for my 6th trip.

-Sarah Fletcher

BRAIN POWER

BOOKS OF THE BIBLE?

Read the following paragraph and see if you can find the name of sixteen books of the Bible that are hidden in the text:

I once made a remark about the hidden books of the Bible. It was a lulu, kept people looking so hard for facts and for other it was a revelation. Some were in a jam, especially since the names of the books were not capitalized, but the truth finally struck home to numbers of readers. To others, it was a real job. We want it to be a most fascinating few moments for you. YES, THERE WILL BE SOME REALLY EASY ONES TO SPOT. Others may require judges to help them. I will quickly admit it usually takes a minister to find one of them, and there will be loud lamentations when it is found. One little lady says she brews a cup of tea, so she can

concentrate better. See how well you can compete. Relax now for there are really sixteen names of books of the Bible in this story.

ANSWER

I once made a remark about the hidden books of the Bible. It was a lulu, kept people looking so hard for facts and for other it was a revelation. Some were in a jam, especially since the names of the books were not capitalized, but the truth finally struck home to numbers of readers. To others, it was a real job. We want it to be a most fascinating few moments for you. YES, THERE WILL BE SOME REALLY EASY ONES TO SPOT. Others may require judges to help them. I will quickly admit it usually takes a minister to find one of them, and there will be loud lamentations when it is found. One little lady says she brews a cup of tea, so she can concentrate better. See how well you can compete. Relax now for there are really sixteen names of books of the Bible in this story.