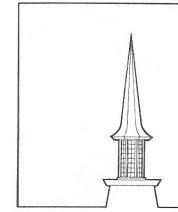


"And, Father, I ask thee now for a good text to accompany this fantastic joke."

Cartoon—Copyright 1988 Andy Robertson and Christianity Today International/BuildingChurchLeaders.com. Used with permission.



CONNECTION

2011
Vol. 1 No.11

Pinto Mennonite Church

"In Christ's body we're all connected to each other..."
 Eph 4:25 , The Message

THANKS-LIVING

Lord, help us...

*to accept our talents as
obligations to be invested for
the common good,*

*to remember that all we
have comes from You,*

*to model a spirit of
gratitude for our children and
grandchildren.*

*Let us translate our
thanksgiving into
thanks-living*



YOUTH LISTEN TO GOD'S CALL

Pinto Mennonite's 4th – 8th grade Sunday school class was so inspired by a recent lesson titled "Courage to Follow God's Call" that they decided to take action. Class members Aaron Monnett, Caleb Livengood and Mary Twigg organized a toy drive that will benefit local area children this Christmas.

The idea came to them during a study in the book of Exodus when Moses is called to speak to the Israelites. Moses tries to convince God he is not the right man for the job; *no one will listen to him, he can't speak in public, someone else would do a better job.* Moses was afraid. He saw too many obstacles in his path to believe he would be effective in what God was calling him to do.

A modern example was of a young man who felt moved to help feed children in Africa. He was only 9 years old so what could he do? He liked to play basketball, so he made a plan to have sponsors donate money for every basket that he could shoot. He raised enough money to not only feed some children but many families. The next year others joined in and a clinic was built in Africa that will save an entire generation.

On hearing this, Sunday School member Aaron immediately said, "I like to play basketball. Why can't we do something like that?" His enthusiasm quickly spread to other class members Caleb and Mary. Within minutes the three of them were organizing the event and voting on what to do with the money they were going to raise. It would have been so easy to let the moment pass as "a nice thought" or "something we should do sometime".

I have to admit, when I prepared the lesson for that day, it never occurred to me that God would actually call us (me) into action so soon. I was thinking, "*Why me? I don't even like sports. Someone else would be better suited for this type of activity, this really isn't a good time for me.*" Sound familiar?

For a while I just listened as the kids talked and planned for that and future events they were so confident would come. They were excited. Really excited. Then it hit me, they were listening. Not only did they hear the lesson God

(Continued)

WORSHIP & GIVE THANKS!



- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| November 6 | Pastor Merle will preach
Offering will include Penny Power |
| 7 pm | Rebecca Wagoner- "Women of the Bible" |
| November 13 | <i>Celebration</i> will sing
Pastor Merle will preach |
| 7 pm | Lester Reall will share his journey |
| November 20 | Pastor Merle will preach |
| 5 pm | Worship at Springs Mennonite Church
with Ser Darji (see article on previous page) |
| November 27 | Ordination Service for Pastor Merle
Guests: Donna Mast, Allegheny
Conference Minister, and David Greiser,
pastor of North Baltimore Mennonite
Church. |
| Noon | Fellowship meal |



SPECIAL FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Sunday, November 20, will bring a special opportunity for all those who are able to make the journey to Springs Mennonite Church at 5 pm for an evening of fellowship and worship.

Ser Darji, pastor of the Bhutanese-Nepali Christian Church of Pittsburgh will be sharing how God has led him to this place at this time of his life. Others from his church plan to be present for the light meal and to participate in the worship service. Donna Mast, Conference Minister, and Lawrence Brenneman, Conference Missional Leader will also have a part in the evening service.

Don't miss this chance to hear a remarkable story of God's grace and be inspired by the enthusiasm for sharing the gospel which is evident in this church. This service is being planned by our region of the conference to assist in generating funds for the needs of this group of people who desire to affiliate with the Mennonite church.

FALL MUSICALE

The 2011 Musicale is now memory. We experienced inspiring singing, beautiful art, creative decorations, good food, and Christian fellowship. Once again we have been blessed when everyone unites and works toward a common goal.

We were also blessed by those who joined us from other churches. We thank each of you who used your talents to create a musical day of worship with "Psalms and Praise."

As we look and meditate on the life-like painting of Jesus, our Shepherd and Savior. May you feel in your heart "His touch."
~ The Music Committee

(CDs of music by "Cantore" may be ordered from www.cantoremusic.com)



had for us that day, they wanted to act on it. I think we all heard God's voice that day.

And so it was decided, we would have a basketball toy drive and fellowship.

The day of the fellowship we had pizza and games and shot hoops later in the day. It was a lot of fun and we managed to raise over \$300 along with some toy donations that will benefit local children through the "Tri-State Toys for Happiness" organization. The class will have a "shopping spree" to purchase toys with the money they received.

The Tri-State Toys for Happiness was started in 1981 as a charity event at the Country Club Mall in LaVale, Maryland and currently provides toys for over 2000 local children each Christmas.

Janetta Hampton



Pinto Mennonite Church

Pastor Merle Christner

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November 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 7 pm Bible Study	3	4	5 7 am Men's Bible Study, Ft Ashby Allegheny Conference Fall Delegate Session
6 Sermon: Pastor Merle Penny Power Offering 7 pm Rebecca Wagoner "Women of the Bible"	7 6 pm Game Night	8	9 7 pm Members Meeting	10	11	12 7 am Men's Bible Studies
13 Sermon: Pastor Merle Celebration sings 7 pm Lester Reall	14 6 pm Game Night	15	16 7 pm Bible Study	17	18	19 7 am Men's Bible Studies
20 Sermon: Pastor Merle 5 pm Ser Darji at Springs Mennonite Church	21 6 pm Game Night	22	23 No Bible Study	24 THANKSGIVING DAY	25	26 7 am Men's Bible Studies
27 Ordination Service Noon Fellowship Meal No evening service	28 8 am World's Attic 6 pm Game Night 7 pm Celebration Practice	29	30 7 pm Bible Study			