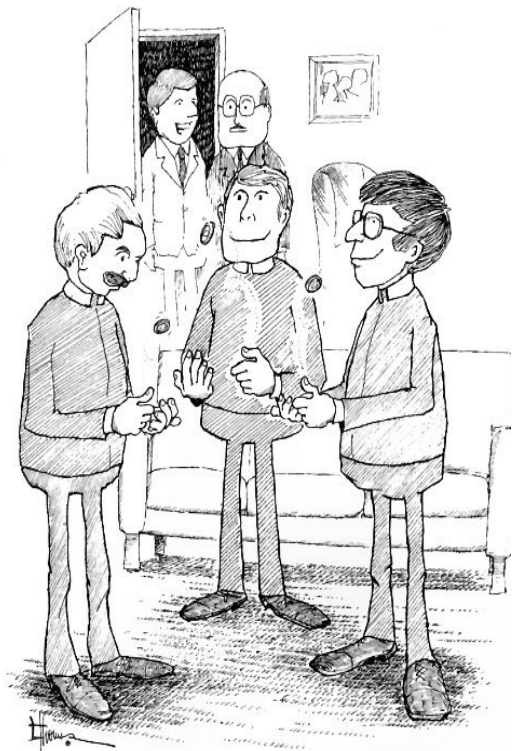




BIRTHDAY PARTY AT THE CHRISTNERS WILL BE ON FRIDAY, JULY 22, 7 PM

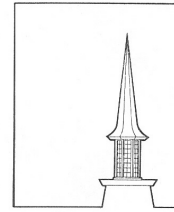
(Listed are birthdays of those who live in the area and regularly attend services at Pinto. If your birthday has been missed or listed incorrectly, please notify Evie.)

6	Wayne Yoder	20	Cathy Chapman
7	Caitlin Flowers	25	Caleb Livengood
8	Rosalie Reeves	25	Mark Light
14	Rebecca Dolly	26	Ryan Brown
17	Dawn McFarland	27	Eric Helmick



"They're 'casting lots' to see who goes with the junior high kids to camp."

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CONNECTION

JULY 2011
Vol. 1 No. 7

Pinto Mennonite Church

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

TREE PRAYER

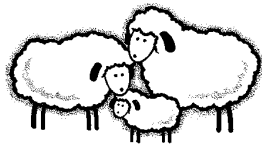
Help us to learn from the trees to be your people.
Like the strong oak with its deep roots,
 establish us in your word, in community, in prayer.
Like the graceful willow bending in the wind,
 strengthen us to withstand tumults and trials
Like the tall jack pine, true and straight,
 make us be pure and single-minded,
 always looking to you.
Like the rustling poplar, with shiny
 shimmering leaves, give us joy in the
 winds of life.
Like the stately sycamore lining smoggy
 city streets, empower us to grow where we are
 planted, regardless of conditions.
Like the delicate pear tree,
 make us fruitful and sweet in the lives of those
 around us.
Like the aromatic cedar, evergreen in hard seasons,
 allow us to produce the fragrance of mercy even when
 we are broken.
Remembering the tree of Calvary,
 teach us the value of taking up our cross daily in
 service for others.



Carol Penner

*Reprinted with permission from Seasoned with Peace, Winter,
www.seasonedwithpeace.com*

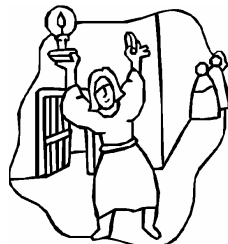
WORSHIP IN JULY----
THE PARABLES OF JESUS



July 3 - Searching for the lost

Luke 15:1-10

Pastor Merle will preach. Penny Power offering will be collected



July 10 - Welcoming the lost

Luke 15:11-32

Pastor Phil will preach.

July 17 - Forgiving Others

Matthew 18:21-35

Pastor Merle will preach.



July 24 - Chris Riddle will preach. We will have a fellowship meal followed by an afternoon program. (See article on page 3)



July 31 - The Good Samaritan

Luke 10:25-37 We will meet at a pavilion in Rocky Gap State Park for worship, a noon meal and fellowship. Pastor Merle will preach. Watch for details in upcoming bulletins.

BRIDGES TO CROSS

PITTSBURGH 2011 IS HERE!

Two or more years of planning for this Mennonite Church USA National Convention is about to bear fruit. Twelve persons from Pinto are planning to enjoy the week of July 4-9 and absorb as much as possible in a short period of time.

First timers this year will be Kraig, Sarecia, & Teagan Powers and Brianna Flowers who will be attending the Youth Convention (the largest and most exciting and energetic group).

Wade Dorsey and Merle Christner will be delegates and Cathy Chapman, Lawrence and Judi Brennenman, Wayne and Roveen Yoder, and Evie Christner will be joining in worship sessions, seminars, special events, and reconnecting with friends from across the US.

It is a very full, invigorating, and sometimes exhausting week so please remember all those attending in prayer. There will be a time in the weeks following convention to report back to you about some of these experiences.

RECIPE BLOOPER DISCOVERED

Oklahoma is pretty flat, but not as flat as the Oklahoma Cake recipe on page 98 of the new cookbook if you follow what is printed. Somehow a very necessary ingredient of 2 tsp. baking soda was left out. So if you want a nice cake instead of a pancake, you might want to pencil that in your book. Our apologies!

WHAT IS THE CHRISTIAN ED COMMITTEE?

The Christian Ed Committee meets on July 26 at 7 pm, so if you are really curious, you can come and find out. It is open to any interested member of the church. Their responsibility is to coordinate the teaching ministry of the church and help assure a well-rounded program of activities and nurture. The meetings provide a forum for discussion and sharing of plans and goals. You are welcome!

ANOTHER WAY TO CONTRIBUTE

Chessie Federal Credit Union and Calvary Christian Academy are proud to announce CCA has been added to their high school debit card program. Chessie has donated \$500 to CCA's Annual Fund and will give a yearly contribution to CCA. The contribution will be calculated at \$.05 per credit transaction every time you use your new CCA logo card. This is a debit card and will be available to current and all new members who request the CCA card. First Peoples Credit Union and First United Bank and Trust are in the process of adding CCA to their debit card program as well.



DON'T MISS THE TRI-STATE RELIEF SALE!

We've been talking about it and working toward it for quite a while so don't let it slip by without your participation! Flyers are available or go to tristatesale.org, click on "auction" or "silent auction" and see some of the incredible variety of items for sale. Put it on your calendar now for Friday evening July 15 and Saturday July 16.



ALLEGHENY MENNONITE CONFERENCE MEETS IN AUGUST AT LAURELVILLE

The theme for the 136th annual meeting is "Investing in Hope" with Ervin R. Stutzman serving as the resource person for the weekend. He has been the Executive Director of Mennonite Church USA since January 2010. Prior to that, he served for nearly 12 years as Dean and Professor of Church Ministries at Eastern Mennonite Seminary in Harrisonburg, VA. He is an excellent speaker and writer. There are many opportunities at conference for all members of the family to enjoy times of worship, recreation, fellowship, and relaxation. See the latest Allegheny Conference News for a registration form.

INVESTING (MISSIONALLY) FOR LONG-TERM DIVIDENDS

Our first term here in Bari was spent learning; culture, language, people and places. When we came back for our second term, we had no idea what God had in store for us, but we felt it would be good. We can now confirm that it has been a wonderful experience!

Upon our return in 2009, people here looked at us and said, "You came back!" It gave them a new sense of trust in us that had not been there before, because part of the culture here is to say you will do something and not always follow through with what you say.

Our three boys attend the local public schools and people have wondered why we send them there. For one, it is a good education and our boys are learning Italian very well in this way. Another reason is that it puts us in contact with families in the local area and we understand how they live because we experience many of the same things that they do. We have been and are building relationships.

It is all about the relationships. It is a long-term investment that pays dividends only after time. This is what we are beginning to see in our work here. People that we have known for three years or more are beginning to ask, "What makes you all different? Why are you here?" Relationship is the open door to the Gospel of Christ.

We read in scripture many of the things that Jesus taught his disciples but how much more did they learn by just having a relationship with him and seeing him each day? (Acts 4:13) By living our faith in Christ, we teach a different way to live and open doors to speak openly of what Christ has done for us.

Chris Riddle

Chris and Melody Riddle and their sons Micah, Adam, and Isaiah have served in Bari, Italy, with Virginia Mennonite Missions since 2007. Pinto Mennonite Church provides some of their support. They will be visiting here on Sunday, July 24 when Chris will preach and we will have a fellowship meal followed by an afternoon program.



**Virginia
Mennonite
Missions**

Called. Sent. Transformed.

**MENNONITE
CHURCH USA
CONVENTION IN
PITTSBURGH**

**TRI-STATE MCC
RELIEF SALE
MCHENRY, MD
JULY 15-16**

**RIDDLE
FAMILY AT
PINTO
JULY 24**

**OUTDOOR WORSHIP
FAMILY DAY &
PICNIC AT ROCKY GAP
JULY 31**

**ALLEGHENY MENNONITE
CONFERENCE AT
LAURELVILLE
AUGUST 5-7**

Pastors: Merle Christner
Phillip Dayton



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July 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 7 am Men's Bible Studies
3 Sermon: Pastor Merle		5	6 7 pm Bible Study	7	8	9 7 am Men's Bible Studies
10 Sermon: Pastor Phil	11 6 pm: Game Night	12 7 pm Council	13 7 pm Bible Study	14	15 TRI-STATE MCC	16 7 am Men's Bible Studies RELIEF SALE
17 Sermon: Pastor Merle	18 6 pm: Game Night	19	20 7 pm Bible Study	21 7 pm Elders	22 7 pm Birthday Celebration at Christners	23 7 am Men's Bible Studies
24 Sermon: Chris Riddle Fellowship Meal Angel Food Orders Due	25 World's Attic Day 6 pm: Game Night	26 7 pm Christian Ed meeting	27 7 pm Bible Study	28	29	30 10:30-11:30 am Angel Food Distribution
31 Outdoor Worship At Rocky Gap 						

Pinto Mennonite Church