

MCOB Newsletter

Week of Sunday, July 7, 2024

Pastoral Care: Pastor Amy 765.967.0657

Deacon on Call: Donna Ritchey Martin 301.473.3574

Prayer Concerns - We welcome all to join in prayer...

- ♥ As a community, we celebrate with joy for the **Eichenauer, Zimmerman, and Roop families** for the marriage of **Karly and Matthew** that took place July 6. We pray together that the newly married couple will continue to grow in love.
- ♥ We pray with thanks for the **folks in our community** who serve on committees and commissions, for the ideas, collaboration, hours, and service they offer.
- ♥ We pray with gratitude for **those who work hard to add beauty** to our midst, whether in the form of decor in our worship space or beautifying our surroundings with flowers, prairie, and trees.
- ♥ We pray for **those in our community** who are struggling with health issues: We are particularly mindful of **Wanda Miller** who fell and broke her pelvis earlier this week and is currently in Healthcare at Timbercrest.
- ♥ We also pray for **Grace Voorheis** who is on Hospice care, and has moved to Healthcare at Timbercrest.
- ♥ We also hold the family and friends of **Ruth Egolf** in a tender, loving space as Ruth died on Wednesday, July 3. We pray that God's presence would be felt by those close to Ruth and by all who surrounded her during her final days. Her memorial service will be held at 1 pm this Wednesday, July 10 at the McKee Mortuary. Visitation precedes the service starting at 12 pm.
- ♥ In our broader church community, we pray for our sister church in **El Salvador, Iglesia Bautista Emmanuel** and with others in our district for the denomination of the **Church of the Brethren**.

♥ And we continue to pray for **all who gathered** in Grand Rapids for Annual Conference last week. May their time experiencing community together inspire greater love, greater compassion, and collective hopes for a more peaceful and just world.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

(Office Hours: Monday - Friday 1 to 3 pm)

MONDAY, JULY 8

1:00 p.m. Pickleball | FLC

TUESDAY, JULY 9

1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting

3:30 p.m. Women's Book Group | Video Conference

WEDNESDAY, JULY 10

Midweek Update | YouTube

Second Harvest Tailgate

10:00 a.m. Witness Commission | Video Conference

1:00 p.m. Ruth Egolf Memorial Service | McKee Mortuary (prior visitation at noon)

1:00 p.m. Tennis | FLC

4:00 p.m. FLC Reserved

7:30 p.m. PMPC | Conference Room

THURSDAY, JULY 11

5:00 p.m. Gun Violence Prevention Meeting | Chapel

7:00 p.m. Stewardship Commission | Video Conference

FRIDAY, JULY 12

1:00 p.m. Pickleball | FLC

SUNDAY, JULY 14

9:30 a.m. [Worship: "The work of God's hands"](#)

Scripture: Isaiah 64:8

Creativity in Community Activity: Prayer Flags with Kim Ebersole

7:00 p.m. Pastoral Search Committee | Conference Room

NURTURE NUDGE How have the beliefs of the Church of the Brethren brought meaning to your faith journey? Where are the areas of growth that you see for the denomination?

Deacons

Sustaining Care Deacons

Diana Bucher, Jan Fairchild, Tina Rieman, Diane Sincroft

Immediate Care Deacons

Ruth Barrett, Chuck Bell, Debbie Chinworth, Jim Chinworth, Christine Fisher, Paul Fry-Miller, Bob Gross, Donna Ritchey Martin, Anita Sautter

The Deacons will be contacting all households listed in our directory. This is a friendly contact for care and checking in. This is a special contact to continue to nurture a healthy and vibrant faith community. These calls will take place in July, August, and September. Everyone in the church from preschool to our greatest elders can be in contact with any of the deacons or pastors at any time.



EXECUTIVE
BOARD

PROPERTY COMMISSION UPDATE

This has been a busy time for the Property Commission as the building ages and requires attention. We just completed the removal of our Pickleball court in the FLC and had it re-lined for 2 courts of play. Then we had new wax applied and it was buffed to a nice finish. The surface is ready to be used.

Plans are being made to repaint the Porte Cochere at the main entrance to the building. At the same time the old ceiling lights will be replaced over the walkway.

The Property commission is currently coming up with some realistic replacement costs for the aging materials and equipment for our building. This process will help in determining future funding needs.

Another project that is being researched is the replacement of the light bulbs in our sanctuary chandeliers. That involves removing the halogen bulbs and replacing them with new LED bulbs. When this project is complete, we will save electricity and reduce the labor associated with changing old tech bulbs.

We have several other projects to keep us busy for a while!

Mel Sautter, Property Chair



Ruth Egolf Memorial Service

Wednesday, July 10 at 1pm
Mckee Mortuary
(prior visitation starts at noon)

Please remember to lock up!

If you use a key to gain access to an entry door of the church, please ensure you not only lock back up before you leave, also check to make sure the door is closed and secure. Thank you!



SAVE THE DATE!

SUN-Day, JULY 21 Outdoor Morning Worship & Celebration (9:30)

Children and Families Pool Party Sunday July 21, 12:00 - 2:00

Location:
Brenda & Randy Self's home, carpool if you can.

Food Provided:
pizza, watermelon, ice cream, drinks

RSVP to Pastor Amy

Fiesta en la piscina para niños y familias

Domingo 21 de julio, 12:00 - 2:00

Donde: La casa de Brenda y Randy Self,
comparte el viaje si puedes.

Comida proporcionada: pizza, sandía, helado,
bebidas

Confirme con pastora Amy



Join us after worship on **July 28** to celebrate Pastor Gwen's ministry among us, and send her on with blessings for the journey. Gwen will lead us in **Dances of Universal Peace** in the narthex and

then we will share fresh fruit salad and tea. Please bring cut up fruit to add to the "stone soup" salad. Cards for you to write notes of **thanks** and **best wishes** to Pastor Gwen will be available on the credenza outside the sanctuary for the next several weeks. ♥

Denis Garcia's parents and some of his siblings remain in Nicaragua. Denis' mother was a vocal and physical advocate for him and other political



prisoners during his imprisonment. That included television interviews, demonstrations, and court appeals. From that advocacy, his mother and her family have been targeted with reduced services and vague threats. Due to that treatment the process is currently underway to obtain approval from the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) for admission of Denis's mother and father and their two youngest children. Initial forms have been filed and received by USCIS with Joel and Bev Eikenberry as sponsors. Should they be approved, it is likely they will arrive a few months later. The immigration Support Group is hopeful they will be able to come and are actively working to prepare for them, including seeking housing possibilities.

The process of helping refugees adapt and thrive is a large, difficult, and long one. Beyond helping the parents and younger siblings of Denis Garcia, the Immigrant Support Group does not anticipate taking on any additional refugees, though we remain open to direction by the Spirit. The Group has been grateful for the many who have given their ideas, their time, their translation abilities, and their resources to help with the process. We appreciate the interest expressed, the friendship offered, and the assistance in so many ways. Our goal is to make it possible for our refugee friends to make their own way in this new country and culture as easily and quickly as possible.

-Joel Eikenberry, Immigrant Support Group



Look at what's coming up!

Keep an eye out for our **Camp Mack Sunday lunch sign-up** as we get closer to **August 25** on **Wedding Hill at 10:30!**

See any familiar items here? Please stop by the kitchen to reclaim what's yours, or let Kitchen Coordinator Rachel Gross know if your intention was to donate the item(s) (e.g., the vases). Whatever is not claimed by mid-July will be put on a "help yourself" table in the narthex. Items remaining at the end of the month will go to the thrift store. Thanks for your help in decluttering the kitchen!
-Rachel Gross, Kitchen Coordinator



SING ME HOME 2024

FRIDAY SEPT 13
 HISPANIC HERITAGE FESTIVAL
 FEATURING SON CHIQUITOS

SATURDAY SEPT 14
 UZIMA!
 SADIE GUSTAFSON-ZOOK
 MAY ERLEWINE

SAT-SUN, OCT 19-20
 JOE REILLY
 ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

SATURDAY NOV 23
 ARTISAN MARKETPLACE
 MANCHESTER UNIVERSITY JAZZ COMBO
 KELSICOTE
 SETH BERNARD + JORDAN HAMILTON

ALL EVENTS FREE + ALL AGES
 MORE INFO AT www.singmehome.org
 PRESENTED BY FRIENDS WITH THE WEATHER + MANCHESTER CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

SING ME HOME 2024 Line-up Announcement!!
 We are excited to welcome new and familiar faces this fall. More information and RSVPs: www.singmehome.org

THE UPPER ROOM


You may have been wondering what happened to our quarterly subscription of the **UPPER ROOM**

Devotionals... Well, we still don't know. However, we will be re-subscribing this week, and adding a couple large-print copies, as well as digital copy access!

We appreciate your patience while we get this matter fixed.



Our Communal "Creativity in Community" Art Project is taking shape. We invite those near and at a distance to join in the project. Design as many quarter circle sheets as the spirit leads. We will see it come to life on the wall in the narthex throughout the summer. Contact the church office if you have questions.

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Continuing the work of Jesus. Peacefully. Simply. Together.