

# Koinonia's Extra News

June 2009

## Church Activities

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**Testing, 1 - 2 - 3** We tested parts of the new sound and video system last Sunday. Everything worked well. This Sunday we'll test the whole system and train several volunteers to operate it.

Thanks to many donated hours of labor and many donated furnishings we have a nice control room in which the volunteers will work.

### **Keys to Peace in the Middle East -- Dinner and Narrated Slide Show**

Malfoof, dolmeh, baba ghannouj, felafel, hummous, tabbouleh, and ma'amoul! No, those aren't misprints. Some of those names may be familiar to you as foods of the Middle East, while others draw a blank. You'll get a chance to discover what these all are, and more, on Sunday, June 7, at 5:30 p.m., when we enjoy a meal including many of the foods the group I led tasted on our recent trip to the Middle East, which was sponsored by the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America. And, if some of you (men or women) would like to help cook (and learn how to prepare some of these delicious dishes), please let me know. I would like to gather people at my home for a cooking session on Saturday, June 6, at which time we can get several of the dishes prepared.

Following the dinner (a mezze, or meal of appetizers -- but actually very filling -- I will be showing my slides from the trip. My presentation is called "Keys to Peace in the Middle East," and it will provide you with an update on the current situation in Lebanon, Jordan, the West Bank and Israel, all places my group visited in February-March. You will get to meet a few of the Living Stones of the region and hear what they told us. You'll get to see some of the sights of the Holy Land as well (both religious and historical). I hope you will come to enjoy the food and hear the presentation. We are suggesting a donation of \$7 per person to cover the costs of the food. (A comparable meal in a restaurant would cost over \$12.)  
--Barb T.

### **Catch the Spirit!** -- Summer Sunday School

Catch the Spirit is the theme for children's Sunday School lessons and activities this summer. Youth and adults are invited to catch the Spirit too through drama and song in the worship services. June 28 is the last session of Sunday School before the July break. Classes will resume on

August 2. If you have questions or ideas about Sunday School, contact LuAnne H.

**Youth Convention** time is here! We started planning two years ago. Now, many meetings, fundraisers and prayers later, it's time to head for Columbus, OH to join thousands of other Mennonite youth for the bi-annual convention. LuAnne and Lisa are leading the way, with Emma, Jackie, Julian and Greg right behind ... right beside ... right ahead ... somewhere nearby. We look forward to hearing all about convention from these six on Sunday, July 12.

**Let's celebrate!** The past 12 months make up a year of adventure at Koiononia. Team of volunteers developed new styles of music leadership, re-designed our website, created a new video projection and sound amplification system, built a control room, upgraded our landscaping, and continued leading our regular programs. That's a lot for a small church. We are grateful for the leadership our program director, Rachel Sartori, through most of this year. We want to celebrate all the good things that have happened, and begin to say our good-byes to Rachel, Eric and Eliana. Please join us on Sunday, July 19 at 11:00 am for stories, thank yous, blessings and finger foods.

## **News from members and mission partners**

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**Rachel Sartori** is heading for Columbus too. She is a worship coordinator for the adult convention, MCUSA Assembly. As youth and adults gather in Columbus, let's pray that God will fulfill every purpose that is formed in faith and love.

**Baby Dedication.** On Sunday Michael and Rebecca will dedicate their son, Alexander, to the Lord. We are happy that Alexander's grandmother and other relatives are in town and will be present for the ceremony. Grandma Susan will present a prayer shawl, a gift that is customarily given during baby dedications in her home church, Souderton Mennonite.

### **Holy Humor**

The minister was preoccupied with thoughts of how he was going to ask the congregation to come up with more money than they were expecting for repairs to the church building. Therefore, he was annoyed to find that the regular organist was sick and a substitute had been brought in at the last minute. The substitute wanted to know what to play.

'Here's a copy of the service,' he said impatiently. 'But, you'll have to think of something to play after I make the announcement about the finances.'

During the service, the minister paused and said, 'Brothers and Sisters, we are in great difficulty; the roof repairs cost twice as much as we expected and we need \$4,000 more. Any of you who can pledge \$100 or more, please stand up.' At that moment, the substitute organist played 'The Star Spangled Banner.' And that is how the substitute became the regular organist!

## Events with Neighboring Churches

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**Arizona Christian Kids' Camp** is in session until June 7. We pray for Rachel, Brian, Maggie, Matthew and all campers and staff to have a safe, challenging and uplifting four days of camp. Thanks to all for giving your support to summer camp!

### **ChristLife Chapel Open House**

It is my pleasure to inform you that CHRISTLIFE CHAPEL is now moving from Hampton Inn and Suites to a new site, 1612 W Northern Avenue, Phoenix, the campus of First Mennonite Church.

You are invited to an open house celebration, Sunday, June 7, 2:00PM  
Call 602-435-7553 or 602-503-1406 for more information.

Pastors Harry and Angela Nze

## Other Events and Information

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**Divine Third.** On Friday, June 26<sup>th</sup>, at 7 PM the nationally renowned group, Divine Third, in collaboration with House of Refuge, will give a free concert (not even a free will offering) at the Sunnyslope Mennonite Church. The four acappella ladies of Divine Third are known for their sweet, soothing mix of Christian Hymns and their accompanying skits. Please come enjoy this wonderful evening! Light refreshments will be served following the concert.

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**"Extra News"** -- information that doesn't fit our Sunday bulletin or needs wider publicity than our Sunday morning gathering. We send Extra News to members and friends of Koinonia by email every Friday.

To learn more about Koinonia, visit our web site,

[www.KoinoniaMennoniteChurch.com](http://www.KoinoniaMennoniteChurch.com)

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BUILDING his Kingdom