

# Koinonia's Extra News

March 2010

## Church Activities

---

This past Sunday, we were privileged to have as our guests members of the [Service Adventure Team](#) currently working in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The five members of the team, led by Bethany and Gabe Bauman Baker, told us a little bit about their work during a Moment in Mission. After joining us for Coffee Time, they went on to speak with the older teens and young adults of the church and had a chance to tell them about the opportunities available. We hope this has generated some excitement in our young people and given them some ideas about how they might like to do service at a time when they are looking at their own future. The theme expressed by the team members quite clearly was that their own service helped them to find a direction they wanted to pursue in their lives and careers.

Please remember to sign up for the [Easter Breakfast](#), indicating what type of food you would like to bring to share that morning. The signup sheet is in the kitchen. If this will be your first time, you should know that brunch-style items such as coffee cakes, sweets rolls and donuts, as well as fruit and other similar items are welcome for this event.

The dates for our [New Orleans, LA \(NOLA\) mission trip](#) are now set: June 10<sup>th</sup> -22<sup>nd</sup>. We are working on the costs. We will be getting more information to you as we learn more. We are working with Pastor Parker, of our partner congregation there (New Orleans Bible Fellowship Baptist Church), as well as Mennonite Disaster Service, to begin scheduling our work down there. We hope to work with both, and possibly other groups doing work down there. For those who sign up to go, we're hoping there will be scholarship assistance, and we are trying to find ways to keep the costs down. We will have a skills assessment ready soon to try to match our volunteers with the types of work that are available down there. If you've been waiting to sign up because you didn't know the dates or the costs, ask me (Barb T.) to fill you in.

## News from members and mission partners

---

The latest newsletter and message from [Robert and Patty Nosker](#) was sent from [Venezuela](#) on March 16<sup>th</sup>. They indicated they had only 13 days left there before returning to the States, where Robert will undergo some medical procedures. They told us about the heat and drought situation in Venezuela, as well as political turmoil. But they were joyful

about the completion of five New Testament books translated into the Pemon Indian language used in Southeastern Venezuela. We rejoice with them on the completion of this important work, and join in prayers for their safe return at the end of the month and for good outcomes to the medical procedures Robert anticipates.

Christine W. has forwarded a letter to us from Canadian Mennonite University, describing the [CMU-AMBS Ministry Quest Weekend](#), in which our own Elizabeth and Jonathan D. participated. We have posted the press release about the event, as well as a photo of the participants, on the bulletin board in the kitchen.

We have also received a letter of thanks from [Mennonite Disaster Service](#) for recent contributions.

Another letter of thanks has come from [Mennonite Mission Network](#). It says in part, “Your gifts, prayers, and participation in mission help to create ministries of healing and hope across the street and around the world.”

## Events in Neighboring Churches

---

### Other Events and Information

---

[A Charitable Gift Annuity](#) provides guaranteed payments to support your retirement goals. Plus, afterward, the remainder interest is donated to the charity of your choice, enabling you to leave a legacy. For more information, visit [MMA-online.org](http://MMA-online.org) and select Charitable Giving. Don C., who is our MMA Advocate, can give you more information.

This Sunday is [Palm Sunday](#), the day we commemorate Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem to celebrate the Feast of the Passover. As you will recall, he entered on a donkey and the people placed palm fronds on the ground in front of him. It was a triumphal entry that set in motion a series of events leading to his crucifixion and his resurrection, which we will celebrate on Resurrection Sunday (or Easter) a week later. Please plan to join us for all of the special events planned for this sacred season.

Our Jewish friends will suffer [Passover, or Pesach](#), also known as the Festival of Liberation, beginning on the evening of March 30<sup>th</sup> this year. Passover begins at sundown and is an eight-day feast commemorating the exodus of the people of Israel from slavery in Egypt. The first two and the last two days of the festival are observed as holidays from work.

The term "Passover" derives from the fact that the angel of death passed over the houses where the Jews had marked the doorposts with blood and did not kill their firstborn sons. Passover does not always coincide with our modern Easter celebration, as the Jewish calendar is different from the calendar that we use. This year, for instance, Easter falls in the middle of Passover, but some years there is a difference of over a month.

**"Extra News"** -- Information that doesn't fit our Sunday bulletin or needs wider publicity than our Sunday morning gathering. Sent every Friday to members and friends of Koinonia . For a paper copy contact Barb T. via [office@koinoniamennonitechurch.com](mailto:office@koinoniamennonitechurch.com). To learn more about Koinonia, visit our web site, [www.KoinoniaMennoniteChurch.com](http://www.KoinoniaMennoniteChurch.com).

Koinonia Mennonite Church - 2505 N. Dobson Rd - Chandler AZ 85224 -  
Tel. (480) 963 2416

SEEKING the will of God, FOLLOWING the teachings of Jesus,  
BUILDING his Kingdom