

Koinonia's Extra News

February 2009

Promoted to Glory. We recently received news that our dear friend and mission partner, Ileana Pincu, died in Phoenix after a short period of illness. She was promoted to glory on January 14th. Koinonia began supporting Ileana and Peter Pincu years ago, after hearing about their vision to plant churches, aid widows and train young people in Romania. On Sunday their son Daniel and his wife Ramona will bring greetings from the Pincu family and speak about the completion of the mission in Romania. We are grateful to God for the witness of Peter and Ileana to the people of Romania and to us.

Heads up, chili lovers! Your favorite chili supper will soon be served. Saturday, March 14 is the day. This year the MYF is planning a Chili Competition. Who will win the trophy? You and your friends will decide.

Sweet Solitude - Have you had an experience with quiet or solitude that has been meaningful? Whether it was a quiet walk or a day of silence, we are looking for testimonies of solitude for an upcoming service. Would you be willing to share your experience? Please talk with Rachel S.

Pretty packages for a little girl. When Eliana S. arrived at church last Sunday she saw lots of colorful packages with her name on them and a pretty table with interesting things to eat. Too bad she's too little to taste the cake ... but everyone else helped out with that. After the welcome, Eliana's main comment was, "Waaaah!," which means, "I had too much fun and now I have to sleep."

Greetings from Lebanon! (Excerpts of a letter from Barb T.)
How can I describe to you what we saw yesterday? We spent part of the day visiting in refugee camps. We had hoped to visit in Ain al-Helweh, the largest camp in Lebanon, but there was an incident in the morning (a couple of grenades exploded in the camp) and it became impossible to get a group of 15 people in through the tightened security. We also intended to go into Shatilla Camp, which we were able to do, with the accompaniment of an UNRWA. We crossed through Syria this morning and had yet another delay at the Jordanian border while the guards inspected our Lebanese bus three times. But we arrived barely in time to visit the ruins at Jerash before they closed. Then we got to our hotel in time for a delightful dinner. Tomorrow, we will visit Baqaa refugee camp, where we expect to be hosted by the mufti (head man) of the camp. He said he would bring in a few of the old men who were refugees in 1948 and have not been allowed to go home since. I'll tell

you more in the next report. Please continue to think of us, pray for us, and send us your encouragement. We will cross into the West Bank and Israel on Saturday morning.

For peace, Barb T. (To read the whole letter send a forwarding request to pastor@koinoniamennonitechurch.com.)

Let's Clean Up! The next couple of Saturday's there will be a trash dumpster here at the church. We need everyone's help in filling it up with the piles that have been accumulated in our lot. Any questions? See Tony L.

PSMC SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK

I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. John 16:12-13

Greetings from Glendora. Pastor Mike Martin and Annette send greetings to Koinonia. Mike has completed one year of ministry with Glendora Church of the Brethren. Mike is installing new audio video equipment in the church so they can offer worship services and Bible studies that include video presentations. (Mike Martin served as Coordinator of Volunteers Services at Koinonia several years ago.)

Save the date ... get rid of stuff. Believe it or not it is time for the **annual Yard Sale** at Koinonia. The sale will be held March 7th here at the church. Monies raised will help the younger kids go to church camp and the MYF kids go to conference this summer. Please bring items to the church the weekend of February 28- March 1. We will be storing on the stage area in the garage room. Also please don't bring large items till the Friday before the sale, due to other churches use of the building. If you would like to help in any way, set-up, sale or take down, please contact Kristen F. 480-899-7242 thank you.

Coffee, Tea or Chocolate! A new order of **Equal Exchange Coffee** is here, along with Chocolate bars; milk chocolate; dark chocolate with almonds and Panama Extra dark chocolate bars. Valentines Day will soon be here! See Hazel K. for the chocolate bars. Checks can be made to *KMC Fair Trade* for the coffee and chocolate bars, please give your checks to Nadine A.

Mr Brown and Mr. Black. Pastor Rich travels to Pasadena, CA today for the Winter Assembly of Pacific Southwest Mennonite Conference. The theme of the Assembly is "Equipping Pastors - Our #1 Priority." Pastor Rich, aka Mr Brown, will stay overnight with Mike Martin, aka Mr. Black, in Glendora. (Pastor Mike Martin served as Coordinator of

Volunteers Services several years ago. Anglela L. nicknamed them "Mr. Brown and Mr. Black.")

Catch up with Dan and Barb. S. (Koinonia members in the late 90's and early 00's)

Dan and Barb are now in Germany. This is their new blog address.
www.barbits2.blogspot.com

Catch up with Emad and Lonna B. A card and pictures of their family are posted on the bulletin board in the snack service area.

Why the abbreviated names? We realize that electronic communication travels far and may reach viewers we would not want to reach. Our policy will be that in most cases we will only use first names in our public media, such as the church website and the Extra News.

No so Frequently asked Questions at *Third Way.com* (an info center for the Mennonite Church)

How would you answer?

Is the Muslim hijab similar to the Mennonite head gear for women?

What fasteners are allowed on women's clothing?

Are Mennonites usually punctual or late?

Would it be appropriate to offer pro football tickets to a Mennonite contractor as a thank you?

Do you think a 401(k) is the same as gambling?

Are Mennonite allowed to get married?

Events with Neighboring Churches

AIM RIGHT Auction

AIM RIGHT Ministries Benefit Auction will be held Sat., Feb. 28, at 1013 N. 13th St. in Phoenix, beginning at 9:00 a.m. Bid on quilts, comforters, antiques, furniture, and many other quality items. Lunch choices include grilled hamburgers or barbecued chicken. If you would like to donate items for the bake sale or auction, please call the auction at (602) 462-1987.

5th Sunday Sing

March 29, 2009, 6 pm at Grace Mennonite Church

Details will follow soon.

Koinonia will sponsor a community wide fund raiser for Churches Supporting Churches in April. Our missions commission has arranged a showing of "Hurricane on the Bayou" at the IMAX theater in Tempe on

April 28. (Please not the date change.) All profits from this showing will go to Churches Supporting Churches.

Other Events and Information

Women's Spring Retreat

March 13 - 15
at Prescott Pines

Centennial Cookbook

All Hesston College alumni and friends are invited to submit recipes for the Centennial Cookbook as a part of the college's "Living The Vision" Centennial Celebration during 2009-10. Recipes can be submitted until March 31 on-line at <http://cookbook.hesston.edu> or mailed to: Centennial Cookbook, Hesston College, Box 3000, Hesston, KS 67062. More information is available at www.hesston.edu/centennial.

Mennonite Church USA requests that every congregation and individual keep their current search for a new Executive Director in prayer. Please pray for God's wisdom and the guidance and power of the Holy Spirit throughout. Remember the committee, potential candidates and current staff who continue their work while anticipating transition.

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To learn more about Koinonia, visit our web site,
www.KoinoniaMennoniteChurch.com

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