

The Burning

OF THE FRANKLIN MENNONITE MISSION BOARD

Bush

September 9, 2018

Volume LIV Number 12



Giving Thanks

We thank God that He goes before us even when our plans are changed. Philippians 4:6 says not to be anxious about anything but to pray with thanksgiving. Having our flight canceled six days before returning to the US caused anxiety, but we thanked God. He was going before us. Instead of a half hour trip to the airport we had an 11-hour trip.

God made a way for Jeremiah's pick-up to be the first on the next ferry instead of spending the night waiting to get a vehicle on the ferry. That simplified the multiple changes from vehicle to vehicle normally needed for the trip and simplified keeping track of luggage. We thank you for all your prayers. Our trip to the airport went smoothly.

From The Gambia ...

Shirks Return Home



Editor's note: Financial support from Franklin Mennonite District has assisted in enabling Dave and Delores Shirk to minister in Gambia in West Africa over the past three years. They and the Gambian people thank you!

Dear Friends and Family,

With mixed feelings we have said 'good bye' to Gambia. We will miss friends we have made there. We have enjoyed our time in West Africa but feel it is time to be with the family. Our two girls each have three children. We will be moving to East Earl in Lancaster County, PA.



Dave and Delores Shirk

Can You Help Me With Health Lessons?

Six months before we were to come home, Joseph Manneh (former YES team member to Guinea Bissau) asked for help with health lessons that he could use with evangelism and future work. In December, he finished his practical for his certificate in social work. He was coun-

Delores Shirk teaching the women at the Pirang Mennonite Church in Gambia, West Africa.

seling people in HIV and TB, and the staff at the hospital liked him.

Before leaving, Delores was able to organize the health lessons she had been teaching to pass them on to Joseph and others who were interested. With help, many of the picture books were translated into Kiriol and Mandinka. Joseph started working together with Pastor Marcia-



Cont. from p. 1

no Quiminde on teaching health lessons. There are many health issues people are not aware of and appreciate learning.

Who Is Coming Next?

The women from Pirang Mennonite Church asked who will help them continue to learn to read and speak English. These women have grown spiritually from three years ago when we first arrived in Gambia. They have confidence to lead worship and to evangelize. They can barely read, but they do know the names

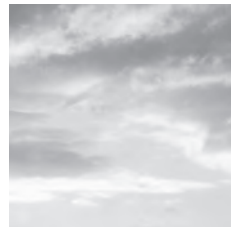
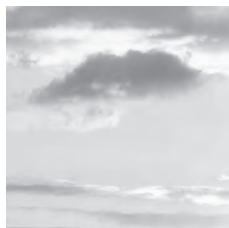
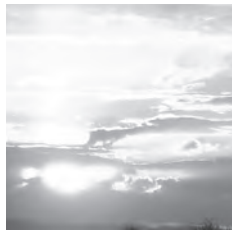
of most of the letters and recognize numbers. They can write their names and telephone numbers. Others also are asking if there is anyone else coming.

Pray For

- The Mennonite churches in Gambia to continue to grow in the knowledge and practice of God's grace and love.
- For us to get settled into US life and to find jobs.

Dave and Delores Shirk

Stories in Shine focus on how God gave guidance or made provision or interceded in our lives. We hope, that in the future, you will be willing to share your story with Burning Bush readers.



It Takes Courage to Care - Part I

A few years after Helen and I completed our Voluntary Service (VS) time in Washington DC. and had gotten married, I went to our little church for the mid-week service without Helen. I can not remember why, but that evening there were some "Jesus People" who our church had befriended and they had brought a teenage girl to the meeting.

I found that she was a juvenile runaway from a school for girls outside of Baltimore. She had run away from home and now was on the run again. She had a boyfriend who was in a motorcycle gang called "Satan's Few". At that time I did

not know about her "old man" which was the name they used to refer to their boyfriend. Anyway, I went home and asked Helen if we could take her in for a couple nights until we could sort through what to do. We decided to try it so I brought the girl home.

This was uncharacteristic for me because I was not usually the one who suggested things like this. You see, I considered myself as a young man to be an introvert, and I was not one to easily reach out to people.

We ended-up becoming foster parents through the state and were able to keep Debbie for the next six months. We soon met Debbie's "old man", also called "Lucky", and he was a true biker, with

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Deadline for the October issue of the Burning Bush is September 21.

long black hair, beard, black leather jacket, boots and pants. He drove a Harley Davidson chopper. He became a regular in our household and some time later accepted Christ at our kitchen table.

It sounds rosey up to this point, but in reality we did not know how to disciple someone like this. Our pastor and his wife also began to take in runaways. When issues would arise that we did not know how to handle, the four of us would kneel around a hassock in one of our homes and pray. This story was repeated thirteen times for us over the next several years. We faced drugs, thefts, anger and run-aways as we worked with these girls.

Cont. on p. 3

Cont. from p. 2

I wish I could say that our influence proved successful with all of them and their friends. But we soon lost track of them and can only hope and pray that they remember those days, as we do, and know that God was with all of us and teaching us what it means to follow Him.

Helen and I became involved in the “Jesus movement”, and we shared in many Bible study groups where we saw God at work in the lives of people from many different denominations. We had a group of kids from our community who met in our home. I remember telling Helen that I wished I could play a guitar so I could lead out in singing with these kids. Helen decided to take some lessons, because I would not. But playing guitar did not come easy for her. After nine lessons she decided this was not her gift and she said,

“Why don’t you go to the last lesson”. I did and discovered that I could feel the rhythm and hear the chords. This turned out to be very useful over many years of ministering in small groups and in the prison ministry that God led us into.

I hate to think what my life would have been like had I not met Helen in VS and married her. She has been the driving force behind most of the things we have done. She meets, loves and reaches out to people wherever she goes. She wanted to help out in the Franklin County Prison, so she convinced me to go along with her to meet Chaplain Ray Kauffman. He found out that I could play the guitar and soon we were involved with conducting services with him at the prison. He soon

asked if we would take a Sunday a month and lead the whole service, including preaching.

The next fifteen plus years were great times of spiritual challenge and growth in our lives, and we were encouraged by the response of the men and women who came to the services. Helen also started a craft program with the ladies in prison and enjoyed sharing and praying with them. Soon Margaret Martin and Sarah Martin joined her. What a great experience for all of them.

It takes courage to walk to the other side of the room, to the one no one seems to notice; the one who hurts inside, but no one knows. We need to let God guide us and listen to His voice. (End of Part I)

Phares and Helen Bitikofer
Mercersburg Mennonite

Pray

- Cambodia:** Pray for John and Debbie Coats who have just returned to Cambodia. Pray for wisdom and direction as they pick-up their projects; John working with children and Debbie with a radio ministry.
- Franklin District:** There is an all-day leadership assembly for all LMC pastors and leaders on September 29. The topic will be Peacemaking and Conflict Transformation. Pray that the Lord will use this opportunity to better prepare leaders working with conflict situations.
- Guatemala:** Pray that the Kekchi Church and the congregations will be effective in leading and teaching their children to be disciples of Christ. Many forces tend to pull the children and young people away from the church.
- India:** Pray for the church at Midnapur as they start the construction of an educational center. Ask the Lord to lead them and protect them from any interference.
- Southeast Asia:** Our team has asked us to pray that their friendships continue to grow and that people will open their hearts. Also, that they will be given the words to speak and that conversations will be quick to venture into topics of the heart. Pray that any adversaries or powers be pushed back to make way for peace and reconciliation.



Bethel

Judy Ericson

As we thank God for answered prayers, we also pray His blessings upon those who have responded to the Spirit's call to reach out to us at Bethel. He must have great plans for us to have touched so many. We are so thankful for each of you.

We enjoyed our time at Cove Valley on July 29. After studying the book *Returning To Holiness* in Sunday School, we spent two weeks preparing for a Solemn Assembly. Led by Pastors Joe Martin and Stephen Jaynes, it was a personal time of cleansing to rid ourselves of old and current sin. We read scriptures for cleansing thoughts, attitudes, relationships and sins of commission and omission. There were prayers of confession, repentance, commitment and celebration. We closed with scripture of promised mercy. What a truly awesome and refreshing experience.

Cedar Grove

Sharon Eby

We ask the age old question, where did the summer go? School kits are being prepared for those children needing supplies as they return to school. Our goal this year is 290 bags. Last year's goal was 275 and the year prior, 225.

On Wednesday, August 15, we had a Family Mission Night complete with

pizza served. The emphasis was on filling school kits for local student needs and for overseas MCC school kits.

As fall approaches, we restart our Saturday morning pancake breakfasts. Any donations received go towards community or global needs. Monday, September 10, Ladies Bible Study starts at church and will be held at 1 pm and

again at 6:30 pm. This will continue each Monday, same times, for ten weeks. All are invited, and please bring a friend.

Stephen and Aileen Jaynes are back worshipping with us. Stephen will soon begin his third year in a leadership mentoring program.

Cedar Street

Linda Mower

Sunday mornings have been filled with our pastors preaching sermons from *The Mennonite Statement of Faith*. It is very helpful for us to think about what we really believe.

Also, we have been having visitors from the community on both Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings. God is blessing our efforts and the interest of those visitors. We are thanking God for these blessings.

We are truly missing the fellowship that the passing of Paul F. Detweiler, husband of Dorothy, on July 9, 2018, brought to our small congregation. But we know that Paul is with Jesus Christ, his (and our) Lord, celebrating in ways we can only imagine.

Community

Ronda Clemmer

A productive community garden at our church supplied lettuce, cabbage,

sweet corn, tomatoes and more for our members and several nearby neighbors.

Our friends and former attendees, the Soenneckens from Portland, OR, made a surprise visit one recent Sunday. Brendan's employment may bring his family back to the Washington, DC area on a permanent basis. Pastor Paul Clemmer has been sharing a series of messages from the Book of Romans.

Chambersburg

Peter Zucconi

The congregation is blessed with a dedicated group of teachers and teacher-aids in the church's Junior Department. Ministering this past year to an average of 25-30 students were Mandy Kuhns, Pam Landis, Althea Martin (Nursery, 2-3 years old); Doreen Geisinger, Anna Roth, Valerie Roth, April Wenger (Pre-K, 4 years old); Sharon Ocker, Kenda Wenger (K, 1st, 2nd grades); Alleene Dean, Rebecca Henry (3rd - 5th grades). Helping where needed were Lydia Hostetler, Ruth Kuhns and Brittany Martin. One highlight of many was the Junior Department's visit to Menno Haven where they sang to a very appreciative audience for 45 minutes.

The annual church business meeting was recently held resulting in a beneficial time of answering questions, filling positions in the congregation and addressing ideas and vision for the future. The meeting is a good reminder of practicing Paul's counsel to "let everything be done decently and in order".

Mercersburg

Rhonda Hunsecker

We enjoyed a fun week of Vacation Bible School July 23-27. The theme was "Shipwrecked: Rescued By Jesus." The children enjoyed songs, Bible lessons and verses, games and skits. All reminded

Cont. on p. 5

Cont. from p. 4

them that when we are lonely, worried, struggling and powerless or do wrong – JESUS RESCUES!! A big thank you to our VBS Committee, Mona Buchanan, Mary Horst and Denise Priest for doing a great job of organizing the week.

On Sunday morning, Pastor David Possinger followed-up VBS by asking two challenging questions: What do you need rescued from and what is holding you back from allowing Jesus to rescue you?

Our Youth Group enjoyed a weekend camping trip to Conneaut, Ohio, which included a day at Waldameer Amusement Park and making mountain pies over a beachside campfire. Thank you to youth leaders, Neil and Jen Kuhns and Mitch and Alyssa Horst for all the time and energy they put into leading our youth.



Mt. Zion

Jeane Kadle

With school starting, our thoughts and our prayers should be with the children just starting school and the scholars who are returning. Listening and learning should be their priority.

Listening was the theme of one of Pastor Craig Oury's sermons recently. He said

listening is speaking without words. Saying to the hearer "You are important, I hear you".

We are thankful that Zach's bone marrow transplant was successful. Adin Blair returned home after his surgery and a time of rehab. His wife, Jane, was given a pacemaker recently and is doing well also. Mary Shafer is currently at Meritus Hospital, recuperating from the removal of a brain tumor in June. We ask for continuing prayer for her and her family. God is good, no matter what.



North Side

Jeannie Wise St.Clair

Summer's highlight has been our Wednesday evening Bible School. We finished strong on August 16 with the children and their honored guests (mostly parents and grandparents). The lesson was on the fruits of the spirit. The puppet ministry kept the children enthralled. The message of salvation shined brightly. One young boy received Jesus into his heart on the next to last night. What joy!

Clair Miller has been in our prayers as he had been admitted to the hospital. We rejoice in his return to services. Dorcas Black's son, Carl, had surgery and is

doing well. We have other members that are scheduled for surgery.

We are grateful for a Father that hears our prayers and answers them. Sometimes it is not the way we had hoped. Our congregation has several cancer survivors. Some are doing better than others. I am thankful for prayer and a Father that understands our heart and our needs.



Salem Ridge

Karen Frey

Good food, good conversation, good environment and good teaching add up to a very good time. Such was the case with our annual church retreat at Cove Valley Camp on August 3-5. We had the privilege of sharing our potluck meals with the Ugandan Children's Choir who were spending several days at the camp. Conversation took place everywhere – from teasing each other during the corn hole tournament, to the one-on-one times of sharing, caring and praying with each other.

Our teaching came from Jerry Meadows, of Global Disciples, on the theme of discipleship. II Timothy 2:2 basically says, "What you have learned, teach". Jerry asked the question, "What did you need to know about God to get where you

Cont. on p. 8



Upcoming Events

Ham, Oyster & Shrimp Supper - October 27

Fall Work Day – November 3

Hobby Retreat – November 30 – December 2

Primary Day Retreat (Grades K-2) – December 1

This year Cove Valley Camp had 375 camper registrations, which is our second highest total ever! Ten campers made first time commitments and seventy-six re-dedicated their lives and/or were reassured in their faith in Jesus Christ. Out of the total campers, thirty-nine attended because of the camp's Scholarship Fund. To help replenish the fund, please contact Allen Eshleman at (717)328-3055. Thank you for your prayers and support throughout the summer!

VBS in FMD (Franklin Mennonite District) in 2018!

Much of the credit for the first summertime, church-operated Bible schools goes to Eliza Hawes at New York City's Baptist Church of the Epiphany in 1898. Ms. Hawes used a rented beer hall, calling it the "Everyday Bible School".

The effects of immigration and urbanization were very evident in New York City in the early 1900s. Writing on the efforts of vacation church schools, a New York Times reporter described the schools' ethnic diversity. "Among the pupils have been almond-eyed youngsters from the Chinese quarter, dusky skinned girls and boys from the Abyssinian church ... and little Italians from the lower part of the city."

Mercersburg



Shady Pine



Cedar Grove



Mercersburg

North Side



"And other seeds fell into good soil, and produced grain, growing up and increasing and yielding thirtyfold and sixtyfold and a hundredfold."



Marion



Shady Pine

North Side



Salem Ridge



Pleasant View

Cedar Grove



Marion



Pleasant View



It is not too early to be praying and planning for VBS 2019! What will your congregation be doing to share the Good News?

According to recent LifeWay Research:

60% of Americans today went to VBS; 67% planned to send their children this year; 17% remember making a spiritual commitment at VBS; 88% said VBS helped them to better understand the Bible; Of those who did not go to VBS, 52% believed it would have helped them spiritually; 48% believe it would not have.

Salem Ridge



are today?”. The answer? What you can teach others. A three-day-old Christian can teach a one-day-old Christian what the second day is like. Now, we are enjoying the good memories!



Shady Pine

Evelyn Runk

A year ago in June, Jayson Appleby was taken from us suddenly. He left behind a wife and three young boys. We remembered this young man with fond memories. A poem written in his honor by his Aunt Dot appears in this issue.

The heat did not deter a good turnout for a fish-fry enjoyed under our “Come and

Dine Pavilion”. Tony Neil, Jason Blair and Steve Minder were the cooks. The fish were caught by Tony and several children from the congregation. It was good fellowship with special music by Tom Cohenour.

We met during storms and heavy downpours to affirm those who would hold offices for the upcoming year. There was no electricity but we prevailed and finished the meeting.

Many from the community met at Hammonds Grove for an outdoor service on August 5. There was a good turnout and everyone enjoyed the humor from the Larry Delaware family.

News from LMC ... (Lancaster Mennonite Conference)

Move in mission locally — join Friends of EMM

Would you like to contribute your unique voice and talents to God’s mission around the world? Come to a Friends of EMM gathering to learn how! Friends of EMM gatherings will help you explore ways that you can move in mission locally through Eastern Mennonite Missions (EMM), like volunteering at EMM’s offices and events or communicating vision between EMM and the broader community. These twice-yearly gatherings will feature mission inspiration and resources over a delicious brunch. Upcoming gathering: Saturday, October 20, 9–11 a.m., at EMM’s meeting-house in Salunga, Pa. Learn more and register atemm.org/friends.

Voices of Conscience: Peace Witness in the Great War

Voices of Conscience is a traveling exhibit developed by Kauffman Museum, North Newton, Kansas, which remembers the stories of people who opposed World War I. The exhibit will be on display from August 19 to September 26, 2 to 7 p.m. daily, with other hours by appointment. For more information visit lmhs.org.

IN MEMORY OF JAYSON APPLEBY....

JAYSON, you were part of our family since you were born. Now we’re so sad, our hearts are so torn.

The Lord saw fit to call you home,
And on this earth you will no longer roam.

We’ll never forget you.
Your memories will stay close to our heart.

As we wait for that day
When we don’t have to part.

You were so proud of your boys and your wife.
You worked so hard to give them a full life.
Our prayers will stay with them as they mourn for you.
The Lord’s hand will guide them as this life they go through.

Now you have gone home to heaven’s shore.
You have met your loved ones who have gone on before.
Jayson, you now can rest in the Lord above,
Who can give us peace, joy and love.

*Written by Aunt
Dot Wise—July, 2017*

Jayson passed away in July, 2017.
“Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of one of his saints.”

EDITORIAL

What Place Doctrine?

As a child, when our family went travelling, the road map usually ended up in my lap. Knowing where I was in relation to the four directions never seemed a problem. Even today, GPSs have yet to be found in our vehicles.

But I guess my pride needed pricked. Needing to return from York, Pennsylvania to our home in the Shippensburg area, I wanted to try a different route than usual. Knowing there was a parallel road somewhere to my right I turned to the north, found the desired road and was soon cruising homeward.

Or, so I thought. Somewhere I made a wrong turn. But unlike many previous wrong turns, I could not seem to get my bearings. The sun was of no help as the sky was overcast. I needed a road map: particularly so as this was in pre-cell phone and GPS days.

What keeps us from getting lost as we travel life's spiritual highway? We need basic principles. Principles based on solid

foundations. Principles that are as sure as north, east, south and west. In our Christian lives, we often refer to these principles as doctrine.

Doctrine is defined as a set of beliefs or guiding principles. Doctrine is our roadmap, our GPS System, guiding us spiritually aright. But in recent decades has doctrine been pushed aside? Does just mentioning the word "doctrine" bring up negative emotions?

Doctrine holds an important place in the history of the church and in our lives today. Doctrine instructs us as to: Who God is; What His attributes are; What He requires of us; Our condition as sin-marred creatures; Man's need and God's provision for man's need. Biblical doctrines are important and need to be taught. Doctrine includes teaching on the infallibility of the Scriptures, the Incarnation, the Trinity and the final judgment. Can we afford to lose understanding of these biblical teachings?

The Apostle Paul knew the importance of doctrine. "Keep a close watch on yourself and on your teaching (KJV=doctrine). Persist in this, for by so doing you will save both yourself and your hearers" (I Tim. 4:16). Having and knowing correct doctrine is the roadmap that leads us, and others, to salvation.

"All scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work" (II Tim. 3:16-17). Without proper Biblical doctrine, we, as men and women of God, will be like the untrained runner waiting at the starting line. We will be ill-prepared to run life's road ahead.

Today, perhaps more than ever, there are many voices, many doctrines in the marketplace of ideas. The importance of Bible doctrine being correctly taught is more needed than ever.

prz

CVRC Annual Fundraising Banquet

Saturday, October 13, 2018 @ 6:30 pm
at Chambersburg Mennonite Church
1800 Philadelphia Ave.
Chambersburg, PA 17201



Eastern Gate will be our musical guests for the evening.

Eastern Gate Ensemble began singing together in the early 1980s. The group consists of Nevin Crumb, Gary Eckman and Tim Barrick. Six years ago, George Farling, Jr. joined the group.

Prior to forming this ensemble, Nevin Crumb and Gary Eckman sang with the Gabriel's. Tim Barrick sang with Christ's Messengers.

Nevin Crumb and Gary Eckman are both inductees of the PA Southern Gospel Music Association Hall of Fame.

Contact CVRC @ 717-375-2088 for admission tickets. Cost is free. An offering to benefit the work of CVRC will be collected.

Please bring a new twin blanket to assist with relief efforts!

District Minister's Corner

Editor's note: Writing this month's "District Minister's Corner", in place of our District Minister, Allen Lehman, is Larry Lehman. Larry is Secretary of the Franklin District Mission Board and pastor at Cedar Street Mennonite Church.

Evangelism Beyond the Box - Part I

Introduction:

Most Christians will agree that the Church in the West, including America is in trouble. Many churches are closing and many others are declining. Only a few megachurches are growing and their growth is often at the expense of smaller churches that close as a result of their members leaving to join a megachurch. There are many people who consider themselves Christians but do not attend church. The culture of the United States becomes increasingly secular and opposed to Christianity.

Alan Hirsch in his book, *The Forgotten Ways*, notes that 95% of churches are practicing "Church Growth Principles" in order to grow and reach the unchurched. He notes also that 65% of the unchurched are repelled by church growth principles and cannot be reached that way. So, 95% of churches are in competition for 35% of the population. There is no initiative to reach 65% of the unchurched people. His thesis is, that church as we have been practicing it, is ineffective in reaching the unsaved in the West.

The early church was an "underground" church until the time of Constantine. In

AD 100 there were about 2,500 Christians. In the year AD 310 (when Constantine endorsed Christianity as the official state religion) there were 20 million Christians. Prior to AD 310, the church was an underground church, persecuted church, yet it grew tremendously!

We older people saw a similar church movement in our day. After the communist takeover of China by Mao in the late 1940s, many people thought the church in China would be extinguished. But at the end of Mao's reign, when the so-called bamboo curtain was lifted, it was discovered that there were sixty million Christians in China. All this happened without buildings, pastors, public meetings and while under the cruelest persecution. They had very few Bibles. Often house churches had only one page of Scripture, which they traded for a page from another house church.

How did they do it? How did the Methodists of the United States grow from 2% to 34% of the United States population in 75 years? How did Pentecostalism grow from its humble beginnings to about 400 million in less than 100 years? Hirsch says that such growth potential is in the "DNA" of all Christians. It is part of the faith. Is there something unique

"church as we have been practicing it, is ineffective in reaching the unsaved in the West."

about our time or culture that makes this kind of a phenomenon impossible? Does our secularism and wealth make us as a people immune to the gospel message? Perhaps, but perhaps not.

I recently heard of a man who was flying to the West Coast and got in a conversation with the passenger beside him. He asked the passenger where she was from, and she named a well-known place renowned for its affluence. He asked if the

people were happy there. She said, "No, there are a lot of unhappy people." He asked her if she was happy, and she said no. Why, he asked. She said, "I can answer that with one word, mortality." She pointed to her glasses and said, "My body is beginning to fail. I have to wear these now. This is the beginning and it will continue until I die." I could offer similar examples.

The population of the West is not happy or satisfied with secularism and affluence. As much as any other people they need and want something that brings them eternal hope and purpose and meaning for life here and now. (End of Part I)

Larry Lehman
Cedar Street Mennonite

Spotlight on Conference Finances

Income past month	\$10,912.00
Expenses past month	5,861.09
Current balance in checking account (August 17)	21,586.84
Average amount needed per month	\$ 8,765.00



September 2018 Announcements and Coming Events

Birth:

August 9 – Layeden Jose Lopez Mariano born to Florencio (Chubba) and Cierra Mariano (Mercersburg)

Death:

Paul F. Detweiler - July 9, 2018, (Cedar Street)

Anniversaries:

August 4 - Jim and Linda Diem (45 yrs. - Shady Pine)

September 5 - Mike and Autumn McNew (20 yrs. - Pleasant View)

September 17 - Gary and Teresa Zook (30 yrs. - North Side)

September 26 – Keith and Rosanne (Frey) Horst (20 yrs. - Mercersburg)

September 30 – Levi and Sheila (Eshleman) Forrester (1 yr. - Mercersburg)

October 12 – Seth and Samantha Fouty (5 yrs. - Mercersburg)

October 12 - Adam and Anita Chupp (5 yrs. - Marion)

October 14 – Jeff and Katie (Ommert) Hege – 1 yr. - Mercersburg)

October 21 - Mel and Beth Chupp (40 yrs. - Marion)

Coming Events:

September 9 - Quarterly acapella hymn sing at Community Mennonite Church, 7 pm. Join us for an inspirational evening of singing from *Life Songs No.2*. Bring a copy if you have one.

September 18 - Blood Drive at Mercersburg Mennonite Church, 12:30 – 6 pm.

September 18 - Kristalaya Mercy Mission fundraising banquet at Chambersburg Mennonite Church, 6:00 pm. RSVP to Fran Martin 301-667-7819, Rosanna Burkholder 717-369-4185 or Diane Martin 717-404-8663 by September 13.

September 29 - LMC Fall Leadership Assembly: Peacemaking and Conflict Transformation. Strasburg Mennonite Church, 8:30 am - 3:30

pm. Cost is \$30 at the door, cash or check.

October 13 - Cumberland Valley Relief Center, Annual Fundraising Banquet at Chambersburg Mennonite Church, 6:30 pm.

October 19 - Shady Pine bus trip to see *Jesus at Sight and Sound*. Contact Tina Neil for tickets.

November 9 - Baked Potato and Salad Bar at Mercersburg Mennonite Church, 4-8 PM. Proceeds benefit Youth Group Mission Trips.

December 7, 2018 - Bezaleel Banquet Thursday evening at the Chambersburg Mennonite Church. D'oeuvres will be served at 5:30 and the meal at 6:15

CORRECTION:

The Kristalaya Mercy Mission banquet will be Tuesday, September 18, 2018 at 6 pm, not Sunday, September 16 at 6:30 pm as previously reported in the August *Burning Bush*.

Cont. from p. 6 - 7

VBS in FMD (Franklin Mennonite District) in 2018!

IT'S NOT TOO EARLY TO
BE PLANING AND PRAY-
ING FOR VBS - 2019!



Excerpts should be attributed to Chris Gehrz, "A Brief History of VBS," The Anxious Bench, June 20, 2017

Excerpts should be attributed to Bob Smietana, "Even If They Don't Go to Church, Americans Still Love VBS," Lifeway Research, May 24, 2018

Thank you to the following congregations for their VBS photos!
Cedar Grove, Cedar Street, Marion, Mercersburg, North Side, Pleasant View, Salem Ridge, and Shady Pine.

The deadline for the October issue of the Burning Bush is *September 21, 2018.* If possible, please email your information to the conference center. Address is on page 2.

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE AT
WWW.Franklinconference.org