

SING!

College Mennonite Church

June 2016



What Is This Place?

Changing Space to Change Our Perspective

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What is this place where we are meeting?

*Only a house, the earth its floor, walls and a roof sheltering people,
windows for light, an open door.*

Yet it becomes a body that lives

when we are gathered here and know our God is near.

—"What is this place," *Hymnal, A Worship Book, #1*

June 5 marks our first Sunday worshiping in the Fellowship Hall. As alterations and updates take place in the sanctuary over the course of six weeks in June and July, the College Mennonite Church community will gather for worship in a different kind of space: the Fellowship Hall. This will likely cause some confusion, some disorientation, and some frustration as we adjust to

unusual worship space. But this is also a wonderful opportunity to engage in worship at College Mennonite Church from a new perspective.

Worshipping in the Fellowship Hall will undoubtedly look and feel ... different. The location of the seats that we routinely sit in will not be so obvious. The people sitting next to us may not be

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Sing!

We worship together

EVERY SUNDAY

9:15 a.m. – Songs for Gathering

9:25 a.m. – Off-site Worship

Radio: WGCS 91.1 FM: the Globe

Online: www.collegemennonite.org

Greencroft Communities: Ch. 13.

9:30 a.m. – Worship service

interpretation in Spanish and, on request, American Sign Language.

11 a.m. – Fellowship and Christian education classes for all ages.

Pastoral Team

Phil Waite, pastoral team leader

Gwen Gustafson-Zook, outreach & worship

Marty Lehman, administration

Daniel Yoder, Christian formation – youth

Pamela Yoder, pastoral care

Talashia Keim Yoder, family ministry

Ministry Coordinators

Claudia Granados, Hispanic ministries

Sheila S. Yoder, Deaf ministries

College Mennonite Church is a member of Mennonite Church USA, an Anabaptist community of believers.

To learn more go to:

www.collegemennonite.org

www.mennoniteusa.org



Songs for Gathering in the Fellowship Hall, July 2007

as familiar as they are in the sanctuary. The patterns for offering or communion will likely challenge us to listen carefully to directions and to pay attention to what is going on around us with more intentionality than we are accustomed. The sights, the sounds, the setup will all be different. My hope is that we take this opportunity not only to introduce ourselves to the “new” people around us, but also to welcome this temporary change as a learning opportunity, paying attention to:

- What makes us comfortable/uncomfortable when entering a worship space?
- What draws us into a spirit of worship?
- How do we feel when we don’t understand the language that is spoken?
- What makes us feel welcome in unfamiliar space?
- What are the benefits of participating in worship from varying locations in the worship space?

Thoughtfully embracing this temporary change in worship space can help us thoughtfully engage with the community—and with the people whose stories we will hear throughout the summer. The beauty of this change of space is that we are all in this together. Together we can live into our “Grafted In” theme with authenticity and integrity.

—Gwen Gustafson-Zook



This Month in Worship

“Grafted In” is the theme for the month of June at College Mennonite Church. We welcome the unique opportunity to hear from Madeline Maldonado, pastor of Arca de Salvación, three times (June 5, 19 and 26) and from Marco Güete, conference minister of Southeast Mennonite Conference, on June 12. Each of these worship services will provide the opportunity to enrich our understanding of the breadth of the Mennonite Church, as we hear stories that grow out of cultural contexts that are other than Germanic and Swiss.

We are fortunate to have these church leaders among us and look forward to worshipping together as we explore being “grafted in.”

Introducing: CMC Pastors-in-Residence

Madeline Maldonado



During the month of June, our pastor-in-residence will be Madeline Maldonado. She is a pastor, along with her husband David, at Iglesia Evangelica Menonita Arca de Salvación, in Fort Myers, Fla.—a sister congregation to CMC.

Madeline also serves on the Goshen College board and chairs the Mennonite Mission Network board. She is active in the Hispanic Mennonite Women's group, often coordinating their events and activities. She is an advocate for undocumented immigrants—often attending court appointments with members of her congregation. Madeline is also a mother and grandmother.

Madeline is gifted in working with both the Spanish-speaking and English-speaking communities. She understands both communities and she knows how to bridge this gap. Mennonite Church USA has often called on her to help facilitate communication between the two communities. Her story was shared in the August 2012 issue of *The Mennonite*.

A gifted speaker, Madeline has preached at the Mennonite Church USA convention. She has also preached at CMC several times as we've developed our sister church relationship. June is a great opportunity for us to welcome Madeline and to learn from her.

—Marty Lehman

Alix Lozano



Theologian and Mennonite pastor Alix Lozano will serve as CMC pastor-in-residence during July. Alix lives in Bogotá, Colombia, and has served in leadership roles there and in the global Mennonite fellowship for many years, including as director of the Mennonite Biblical Seminary of Colombia (1993-2009) and president of the Mennonite Church in Colombia (2007-2010). She just completed a six-year term on the Commission on Faith and Life of Mennonite World Conference. She currently works as an itinerant pastor, Sister Care facilitator in Colombia/Ecuador/Peru/Venezuela, and as a reserve team member for the Colombian chapter of Christian Peacemaker Teams.

Those who know Alix comment that her warm personality undergirds a clear and energetic commitment to deep Christian faith. Alix lives out her passion for issues of peacebuilding, nonviolence, and gender in the context of community, church, and ecumenical work. She seeks to integrate theological, pastoral, social, and human rights perspectives in teaching, preaching, and training. Among groups she has helped found are the Movement of Anabaptist Women Theologians in Latin America, GemPaz (an ecumenical group of women peacemakers), and the Global Network of Women Anabaptists and the Network of Women Mediators dealing with armed conflict in Colombia.

Alix has visited Indiana several times in the past and is looking forward to this extended opportunity to learn to know College Mennonite Church. She speaks very little English, so her sermons for us will be in Spanish (July 3-24, English interpretation provided). She is the proud mother of two sons—Juan Sebastian, a sociologist interning with the MCC office at the UN in New York, and Andres Felipe, a psychologist pursuing a doctorate in theology in Amsterdam. Alix will arrive in Goshen on June 24, staying until July 29. She will stay with Phyllis Stutzman. Whether or not you know Spanish, please take the opportunity to welcome her in our midst.

—Joe Springer

Re-building Hope

Friesens Volunteer with Mennonite Disaster Service

Can you think of a good way to escape the winter blahs, enjoy springtime twice a year, make new friends by working closely together, have your travel and living expenses partially covered, learn new work skills, and, at the same time, make a difference in the lives of persons whose homes have been damaged or destroyed by a natural catastrophe?

We found an answer seven years ago when we first volunteered with Mennonite Disaster Service, after



Weldon retired from his medical practice and LuEtta from working as a teaching assistant in the Middlebury school system. Each March since 2010 we have packed up the Carri-Lite RV that is our home away from home and headed

south to participate in MDS's RV Program for four weeks. Worksites have included Cheek, Texas; New Iberia, La.; Cordova, Miss.; twice in Braithwaite, La.; Pensacola, Fla.; and this year six weeks in Conway, S.C., in the area hit by disastrous flooding in October 2015.

The MDS RV program is especially designed for retirees who are able to commit a month or more during the winter months of October through March to work at repairing homes damaged by natural disasters in the southern states. We work in units of five or six couples so

that we can travel together to the worksite in a 12-passenger van. A typical workday starts with the radio coming on at 5:30 a.m. to wake us in time to shower, dress, prepare lunches, have devotions, eat breakfast, and walk Snooks, our miniature Schnauzer. The group assembles at 7:30 a.m. in an MDS RV that is



designed for group meetings, office space, and a washer and dryer. Morning devotions are rotated among volunteers. We discuss work assignments for the day and join hands to sing "This is the Day," including a second verse that petitions God, "help us to share your love and care in the deeds we do and the words we say." Finally, we join raised hands as everyone says, "**Charge!**" and we board the van for the worksite.

LuEtta was concerned initially that she wouldn't have the necessary skills, but she soon learned to use a screw gun and the fundamentals of drywalling. She enjoys painting, but has also installed insulation, assisted others with construction or laying a floor, and other odd jobs. Weldon has always enjoyed woodworking and finds a variety of ways to use his skills. There always seem to be the needed skills within the group to complete the projects. These are done as professionally as possible, though it is sometimes jokingly said that MDS stands for **Make Do Somehow** when one needs to improvise or make the best of an impossible situation.

Along with the comradeship that occurs with working together are those relationships that develop with our MDS clients. These often start out rather tentatively, but along with the change that occurs in rebuilding a home is a transformation in attitudes and outlook of the home owners. By the time we have worked on a site for several weeks, bonding and friendships have been established. This is ultimately what MDS is all about.

—Weldon and LuEtta Friesen

“A Game Changer”



The Ripple Effect of CMC Ministries

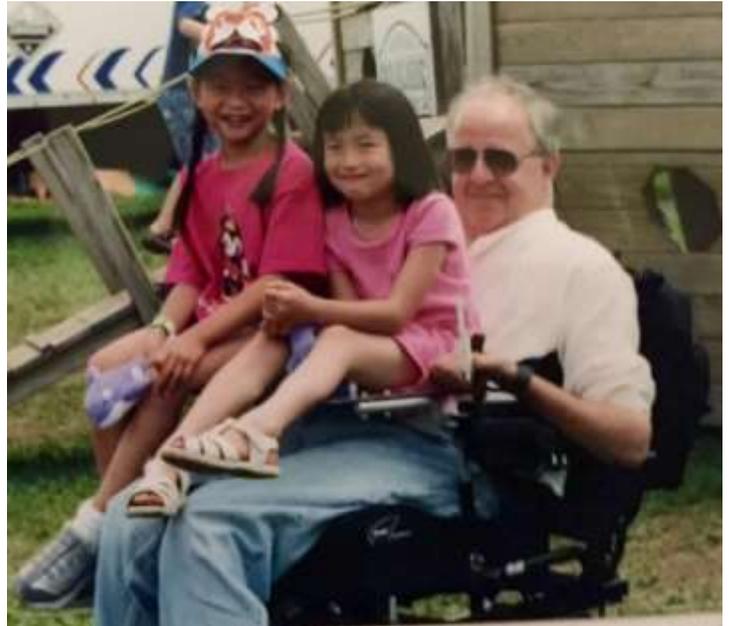
Several years ago, Lori Copsey brought her daughter Olivia to Campus Center for Young Children (CCYC), a ministry of College Mennonite Church and Goshen College. Rose Widmer, then pastor at CMC, spotted Olivia and invited her out for a treat. Rose found ways to engage Olivia, and soon Lori and Olivia began attending College Mennonite Church. Over time, Olivia’s friend Emily Tony began attending church with Olivia. Eventually, Emily’s parents, Steve and Kathy Tony, started attending CMC too.

After Steve died in 2015, his handicap-equipped van was donated to a person in Goshen who needed such a van. His wheelchair went to a woman in Bloomington, Ind. She writes:

This chair is really a game changer for me. For example, our driveway is gravel, and it was impossible for me to manage in my manual chair. I am now footloose and fancy-free in getting around our family farm! Just this weekend, I was out watching my sister plant in the garden. I was able to turn with the changing sun (rather than be at its mercy). I also elevated my feet to help with swelling and could not have been more comfortable. Above all, I could watch my 18-month-old nephew discovering nature and did not have to be stuck inside alone. I look forward to a new and open horizon with my chair, which I’m calling “Steve” in honor of your loved one. Best wishes!

Lori Copsey had no idea how many lives would be changed when she made the decision to bring her daughter to CCYC and to begin attending College Mennonite Church. God’s work through CMC ministries is far beyond what we hope or imagine.

—Marty Lehman



top: Olivia, Emily, and Steve
bottom: Olivia, Lori, Steve, and Emily

Serving Faithfully

Six Generations of the Gunden Family at CMC



As we look at the future for our congregation, we also want to remember those who came before us and helped shaped this community of faith. One significant family in CMC's past and present story is the Gunden family, which has been actively involved at CMC for six generations. Doris (Gunden) Metzler, a third-generation member, had this to say about her family:

What would motivate a family of eleven to move in the middle of winter from a prosperous farm in Illinois to Goshen, Ind.? In 1930, C. J. and Agnes Gunden had a sale and made that move. Grandma Lydia Smith (mother of Agnes), C. J., Agnes, children Elva (Huneryager), Lois (Clemens), Orville, Cleland, Elton, Ralph, Donald, and Doris (Metzler) moved into the drafty College Farm house located on what is now Greencroft property. Why? So that all the children could attend Goshen College—a privilege C.J. and Agnes had not had.

Yes, all nine children did attend Goshen College, beginning with Elva, the eldest, who graduated in 1934, and concluding with Ruth Gunden, born after the family moved to Goshen, who graduated in 1952. To support his family, C. J. established a trucking business that he ran with the help of his many sons. The family also raised various farm animals and did extensive gardening to feed themselves and help with family income.

The church of choice was one that met on the college campus—College Mennonite. In two years, the family moved to their newly built home where the IU Health Goshen Hospital is now located. It was, of course, within walking distance of the college, and all

had become active participants in College Mennonite Church.

C. J. and Agnes would be pleased to know that since then six generations of their family have been continuously involved with College Mennonite Church as active members or participants. They have had significant involvement in many ways, as teachers, ushers, a pastor, and church board and commission members, to name a few.

Though many members of the Gunden family have made moves to live elsewhere, those remaining with College Mennonite Church still represent four generations of the Gunden family. Including children and spouses, they number 16 persons. One family pictured below represents the four generations: Myra Gunden (widow of Cleland), her son Tom Gunden (married to Julie), their daughter Laura (married to Sam Green), and Laura and Sam's daughters Annelise and Amelia.

With thanks, let's remember the Gunden family and many others who have served College Mennonite Church so faithfully throughout the history of the congregation! —prepared by Myrna Burkholder



Welcoming a New Member

Bernice Kucinkas



On Sunday, May 1, Bernice shared her story as she became a CMC member.

Bernice was born and raised in Chicago. When she was 13, a friend asked her to play accordion at MYF. When Bernice asked, "What is MYF?" she was told that it is Mennonite Youth Fellowship. That began her relationship with Mennonites through one of the mission churches in Chicago. Bernice did join MYF and was baptized as a Mennonite.

Her father was not religious and didn't want his children involved in church. That didn't stop Bernice and her sister from being baptized and joining the church. It also didn't stop him from harassing them for going to church.

In her early 20s she married a man from Lithuania. They were married for ten years and had two children before getting divorced.

In the 1970s she attended Grace Mennonite Church in Chicago. Through that connection she was able to send her children to Bethany Christian School in Goshen. When she was experiencing health issues she moved in with the pastor for a time. After she recovered she was rebaptized and renewed her commitment to her faith.

While at Grace she felt led to attend college. A member of the congregation helped her identify her gift of working with children and suggested she get an education degree, which she did. She went on to get a master's degree in education.

After she completed her degrees, she moved to Indiana in 1978 to be closer to her children. She began working at ADEC (Association for the Disabled of Elkhart County) in an accounting position, since they didn't have any openings for teachers. She moved to a teaching position when one opened up.

Working at ADEC strengthened her faith. The positive attitude of the ADEC students was an inspiration to her. Bernice said she really enjoyed her years teaching special education. There is much she learned from her students.

While attending communion at Greencroft, Bernice felt the need to reconnect with a church. But she wasn't sure which church she should attend. She asked one of the staff if any of the local Mennonite churches has a bus ministry. The Greencroft staff person suggested College Mennonite. And, as they say, "the rest is history."

—Marty Lehman



Yes, it's okay to color in the magazine!

Introducing Deaf Ministries Summer Intern

Hello, College Mennonite Church! My name is Emily Evans, and I am interning here this summer through Goshen College's Ministry Inquiry Program (MIP). My home is in Lancaster, Pa., where I live with my mom and dad, Glenda and Jim Evans; an older brother, Aaron; an older sister, Katrina; and my beloved dog, Chester.

I recently completed my second year at GC as an American Sign Language interpreting major. My interest in ASL started at a young age, with children's sign language books, and was heightened in high school when my cousin graduated from Goshen College with an interpreting major. I am also working on a piano pedagogy minor. I teach two young piano students at the Community School for the Arts and have enjoyed discovering my passion for teaching. In my free time I enjoy being outside, singing along raucously to Broadway show tunes, and drinking any kind of coffee I can get my hands on. I am excited to form new relationships with members of CMC and the

Deaf Fellowship as I strengthen my relationship with God. I hope this summer will allow me to discover how my passion for both ASL and the Lord can work together and intersect to help me share the good news with others!

— Emily Evans



Sheila Yoder, coordinator for CMC Deaf Ministries, is very grateful for Emily's assistance with our Summer Activities Program for Deaf Children. In addition, Emily will serve as a counselor at Camp Mack for a week of their Deaf Camp, coordinate summer Deaf Ministries worship services, and assist with Genesis junior youth activities.

A Nudge to Practice "Grafting In"

We will have a Sunday school sabbatical for the month of July! Instead of attending or teaching Sunday school as



you usually do, you are invited to practice grafting in. We will kick this off in our worship service on July 3, with a service that focuses on being an open and inviting family of faith. After celebrating the Lord's Supper together during the service, we will look at our collected ideas for ways to practice grafting in and then go do it. For July 3 and the three Sundays that follow, you are challenged to share a part of your Sunday with others you don't know well, whether those others are from our congregation or our community. If you like to plan ahead, here are some ideas to get you started:

- A young family invites a grandparent-aged adult over for popcorn
- An established small group invites a few college students to join them for an evening
- A few people who often sit in the same area at

church but don't know each other well go for ice cream together

- A baby boomer couple invites a few people their children's ages over for an evening of games
- People of three generations go fishing together
- Soccer enthusiasts of all ages play a game on the church's front lawn Sunday evening
- Two adults ask two youth to volunteer at The Window with them.
- Two families go on a bike ride together

On July 31, we will remain together after the worship service. During the second hour, we will gather around tables to break bread together and share stories of where God has been at work as we practiced grafting in.

It is our hope that this July time gives all in our church family a chance to breathe, a way to open ourselves to the Holy Spirit, and a nudge to practice hospitality in a way that grafts us all into this new, constantly emerging thing that God is doing.

—Talashia Keim Yoder

Sing! is a monthly publication of College Mennonite Church. Send inquiries to communications@collegemennonite.org.

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