

May 8, 2020

PRAYER & PRAISE NOTES

- On this Mothers' Day we give thanks for the women who have blessed our lives as our mother, aunt, grandmother, sister, friend, teacher. We praise God for the many ways women across the generations have served in, led, challenged, and helped the church to grow. We pray for mothers around the world who struggle to provide life's necessities for their children, and for those who grieve the death of a child due to hunger, accident, or senseless violence.
- Give thanks to God that Ken Hostetlrx has been moved (on May 7) to Green Hills for rehabilitation and to regain strength. Continue to pray that God's love and peace would surround Ken, and for Jeanette and their family. You may send a card to Ken.
- Pray for others you know who are living with health struggles.
- Pray for school teachers (including Ken and Cheryl) as they do their best to teach online and close out their physical classrooms. Pray for students as they face the challenges of trying to complete the school year.
- Pray for Bethel's college students. Celebrate with Becky Wilkxns who will graduate from Virginia Tech this Friday!! Give thanks with Daniel Lehmxn who completed his 2nd year exams last week; he will be working part-time and taking a summer class. Pray for Annie Steinrx as she works on her final online course during May-term.
- Remember Mary Psollx as she settles into her new home at the Green Hills community. Pray she would experience a smooth transition and many blessings in this new space.
- Pray for Esther and Stewart Nafzigxr who are expecting their first child in about 5 weeks.
- Pray for the Elders, Ministry Chair-people, Congregational Chair, and Pastor as we meet this week. May God's Spirit direct and enable us to provide wise, sensitive and creative leadership to the congregation.
- Pray for Governor DeWinx, Dr. Amy Actxn, lawmakers, Green Hills administrators, and other public officials and community leaders. May they be guided by wisdom and compassion. May a spirit of collaboration and creativity grow.
- Pray for the people of Columbix. There is renewed fighting between government forces and the National Liberation Armx - xxx, in addition to people dealing with the health and economic effects of Covid-19. Pray that God would strengthen the witness of the Mennonite and other churches as they find ways to support their members and neighbors. Pray also for Christian Peacemaker Teams personnel who are advocating for justice and peace.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sundays at 11:00 am - **Sharing and prayer time.** Plan to “gather” each Sunday at 11:00 to share joys, reflections, struggles, and prayer requests, then pray together. This will happen via GoToMeeting (can be online or call in). *Directions and the link were sent in a previous email.* Here are a few questions to spark your sharing as we seek to connect with and encourage each other:

- Where are you seeing God’s presence or action in the midst of these days?
- Is there a scripture verse/passage or a song that has been helpful to you during this time?
- What activities or projects are you doing in this time of social distancing? (Send us a picture or description to share in the weekly email!)

Congratulations to Becky Wilkxns on completing your college degree! We are sorry you can’t celebrate graduation “in the flesh” with your friends and family. We honor you and celebrate your accomplishments! Virginia Tech will host a “Virtual Graduation” for the Class of 2020, on Friday, May 15 at 7:30 pm.

Ministry Chairs and Elder Leadership Team **Joint meeting on Thursday** at 6:00 p.m. The ELT will meet as a group at 7:15 p.m. We will meet online using GoToMeeting.

Mark and DeeDee Landxs’ family returned from Columbia to Kansas to self-quarantine. Here is a link to an article about their return. [Bring home a gift too big for a suitcase](#)

MCC invites you to a free webinar series on immigration and border realities. Join Mennonite Central Committee staff and partners in the field who will provide insight into the current reality of the U.S. immigration and border crisis. For more information and to register, visit mcc.org/immigration-webinar-series. The next webinar session, “Asylum” is May 19 at 2:00 pm EST.

Due to the uncertainty COVID-19 has brought to our lives, the **Ohio Mennonite Relief Sale** Board has decided to hold an **online auction only** rather than a physical event and auction this year.

Plans are to still offer items from the quilt and wood auctions, as well as silent auction items, kids auction items and many other items. To give quilters, crafters and craftsmen additional time, the relief sale board has moved back the dates of the event from the traditional first weekend in August.

There will be “Buy It Now” items available to buy from Sept. 14 to 24, as well as the online auction from Sept. 26 to Oct. 3. Details are still being worked out and will be updated as information is available. For more information, see the [news release](#) from the Ohio Mennonite Relief Sale Board.

Change of address & phone number:

Mary Psollx



Birthdays this week: Wednesday, May 13 Joel Lehmxn
Thursday, May 14 Larry Evxns

Anniversaries:

May 10, 1992

Doug & Ellen Steinxr

Pastoral Care Person this week: Michelle Lxnk

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