

# The Lorraine Avenue Messenger

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July 2016



## Worship during July

Worship services during July will feature a rich variety, not just in Special Music but in preachers. Beverly Baumgartner will bring the sermon on July 3 (Tom and Lois' first Sunday back from their trip out west). Tom and Lois will trade off in the middle part of the month. And Peter Goerzen, Campus Pastor at Bethel College, will preach on the month's final day. Come, let us feast on this richness together!

July 3: Stop! In the Name of Love  
Sermon by Beverly Baumgartner  
Matthew 15:21-28

July 10: Sermon by Tom  
Amos 7:7-17; Deuteronomy 30:9-14;  
Colossians 1:1-14; Luke 10:25-37

July 17: Sermon by Lois  
Amos 8:1-12; Genesis 18:1-10;  
Colossians 1:15-28; Luke 10:38-42

July 24: Sermon by Tom  
Hosea 1:2-10; Genesis 18:20-32;  
Colossians 2:6-19; Luke 11:1-13

July 31: Sermon by Peter Goerzen

## The Sin of Guns

I confess. I am a product of our gun-loving culture. I used to play with toy guns when I was a kid. (Yes, my seminary professor parents allowed it! ☺) It was fun to pretend I was a cowboy, or a cop, or a soldier in the army. (My parents were pretty lenient. ☺) I would pretend I was fighting bad guys, or criminals, or enemy combatants. (I don't think my parents knew about that. ☹) Joined by a handful of friends, it was even more fun to play "war." Sneaking around corners, hiding behind trees, shooting at my adversary with a "pow pow" sound. Part of the

game, of course, was deciding who "pow powered" first, and who, therefore, was dead (albeit only for a count of, say, twenty).

My all-time favorite Christmas present was a BB gun. (Yes, my thoroughly Mennonite parents bought it for me!) I loved loading a BB, pumping that sucker up, and shooting at "things" (usually an inert object, but occasionally a bird or chipmunk. One time I actually hit a chipmunk. I know because I saw it suddenly leap up and fall back down. I felt kinda bad.)

Okay, I confess again. I still have that gun. Partly because it is very hard for me to part with anything from my childhood (or youth, or adulthood), and partly because hey, it was my all-time favorite Christmas present! A couple of years ago I got out that gun, held it fondly in my hands, loaded a BB, pumped that sucker up, and shot at "something." Soon I tied a pop can to our clothesline and started practicing marksmanship. And before long, I was shooting at the martins who were trying to steal our woodpecker's hole house in the back yard tree. I actually hit and killed a martin once. I know because I saw it fall to the ground. I felt kinda bad.

I don't mean to make light of the gravity of guns, but rather to confess that there is something fun about holding and shooting a gun, something thrilling, empowering, intoxicating. I'm quite sure I could have enjoyed hunting as a hobby. I simply wasn't ever exposed to it. But—I think I'm ready to say it—I believe that guns are a sin. All guns (but I'll concede hunting rifles). Their purpose is to kill. And killing (except of carefully managed wildlife, for food only) is antithetical to my Christian faith.

It's astonishing how many people own guns. Perhaps it used to be a carryover from childhood, and that thrill of "plinking" a pop can. But it appears more and more that the reason people own guns today is fear. And fear is antithetical to the Christian faith. God wants us to place our trust in him. Jesus wants us to love our enemies, not shoot them. The Holy Spirit wants to empower us to practice non-violent, pro-life tactics of self-protection and resolving conflict.

## Stop! In the Name of Love

The sin of guns is out of control in our country and culture (and the majority of cultures and countries in our world). Fear (whether of intruders, terrorists, or anything that goes “boo” in the night) is so ramped up that for many of us it is unthinkable not to own (and now carry) a gun. Fear, of course, is triggered by the least developed part of the human brain—the “fight or flight” prone brain stem (or “reptilian brain”). So more creative, non-violent, pro-life means of self-protection and conflict resolution are never even considered (let alone practiced). The gap between owning a gun, carrying a gun, and using a gun is narrowing, to the point that actually shooting at another human being is almost as instinctive as it is carefully considered (and when you think about it, is shooting a gun at another person ever carefully considered?).

Having taken a couple of ethics courses in seminary, I know that there are no simple solutions to life’s complex problems. But allow me to suggest some things we can do to at least work toward a solution to this one.

- 1) As people of faith, review regularly the sacred value of human life, and the sin of taking human life.
- 2) As people of faith, review regularly the mandate and meaning of placing our trust completely in God.
- 3) As people of faith (or merely common sense!), learn and teach non-violent, pro-life tactics of self-protection and conflict resolution
- 4) Lobby for the banning of rapid-fire, large capacity assault rifles.
- 5) Lobby for the illegalization of buying or selling guns, in any venue, without requiring both a background check and a training course in proper use (including when and how not to use it). (I heard recently on NPR that guns can be legally bought and sold through Facebook, without even knowing the buyer’s or seller’s real name.)
- 6) Lobby for the limitation of gun ownership to one gun per person (or better yet, one gun per household).
- 7) Lobby for the illegalization of carrying a gun into any public place (except for a shooting range or designated hunting area).

I might be naïve about the chances of success. But if we do nothing, nothing will change. And I hope we can all agree that something needs to change! How many more “Orlandos” will it take?

Tom Harder

Anticipating the 1965 Supremes song by two millennia, the Canaanite woman from Matthew 15:21-28 told Jesus to stop in the name of love and “[t]hink...over” what he and his disciples were doing to her. Because of her challenging words (and great faith), Jesus learned something new about how a person from a background different from his own wished to be treated. Following Jesus’ example, we can learn more about treating others as they wish to be treated. Of particular concern is the matter of children’s safety. How do we educate ourselves and our children in consent and safe boundaries at church, at home, and in the institutions that shape our children as they grow to adulthood? What I am learning along with other survivors of family systems where children were sexually abused is that churches and church institutions have, for too long, been places of cover for abusers rather than places of safety for survivors. As the activist group Pink Menno, Our Stories Untold (a blog about sexual violence in the Mennonite church and other spiritual communities), and the Anabaptist chapter of the Survivors’ Network of those Abused by Priests (Anabaptist SNAP) continue informing Mennonites about the importance of truth-telling and advocating for folks who have been marginalized, now is a great time to revisit the encounter between Jesus and the Canaanite woman. Like Jesus, we can stop and confront the stereotypes that would have us see ourselves as better than or “over” others. We can learn from the past, believe in the authority of people who are different from us, and create in our homes, churches and institutions a culture that celebrates respect, consent, and mutuality.

Lael Ewy will moderate the Faith & Issues discussion of my sermon. Come join us!

### **We Need Your Contributions to Pay Off the 633 Loan in 2016!**

When LAMC purchased the 633 S. Lorraine property in January, we borrowed \$75,000 to take advantage of a great opportunity for our long term future. But it came at a high cost - an interest rate of 9 percent over 10 years. During our Annual Meeting in February we committed ourselves to pay off this loan in full in 2016. Here’s why.

The loan requires monthly principal and interest payments over 10 years, but allows advance payments of principal. Here are several examples of how early payments reduce our total interest expense cost -

Total interest if paid off over the full 10 years = \$39,008

If paid monthly in 2016 with a final payment in December = \$6,024

If paid with monthly early payments of \$6,825 = \$3,674

So far this year we've made the three required monthly payments, plus extra advance payments of \$9,500 in March and \$6,400 in April. If we finish the year with eight more advance payments of \$6,520 per month, we will pay off the loan in December and the total interest expense will be only \$3,579.

Please write special contribution checks with "633 Lorraine" in the memo line. Each contribution will be used as an advance principal payment for the next monthly scheduled loan payment.

Murray Reimer Penner, treasurer

## Beyond Tolerance Continues

**Beyond Tolerance** – a program that pairs black and white churches for the purpose of learning to know and appreciate one another! We are fortunate to be paired with the Greater Faith Christian Church, pastor Cynthia Wolford. Pastor Cynthia was just married this past weekend; we wish her and Ricky God's blessings on their new lives together! Our **first Beyond Tolerance event** will be held **at Lorraine Avenue on Saturday, August 27 in the Fellowship Hall from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Everyone is invited** to a potluck breakfast/brunch, along with some singing and other fellowship activities. On **Sunday, August 28** some LAMC folks will attend the worship service at GFCC. Soon after, we'll have another weekend planned in a similar way with GFCC hosting a Saturday event and some of their folks joining us for worship the following day. Stay tuned for more info, but for now put August 27 and 28 on your calendar!

## Seasons of Loss

Two women shared their experiences about living in a long term care facility. Both were sitting in a wheelchair as they talked. Martha had been living

in the facility for a year while Gladys had just recently moved in. Gladys remarked she loved her new home and offered to show visitors her room. She was so happy she no longer needed to cook and complimented the food. Martha talked about wishing she could return home and longed for the independence she once enjoyed. She was no longer able to use the bathroom without assistance and missed the privacy of her own home yet it was clear she was not going to be able to return home in her current physical condition.

Frank and Pete had both experienced the death of a spouse about a year ago. Frank had never cooked while his wife was alive but was enjoying learning to bake and sharing his cakes and pies with his children when they came to visit. When Pete's children came to visit, he would spend hours talking about his deceased wife. Although they loved hearing about their mom, they wondered if he was depressed as he seemed to just sit in his favorite chair watching television all day.

What enabled Gladys and Frank to focus on the positive changes in their lives while Martha and Pete focused more on the past?

Resilience to loss will be explored in an upcoming four-part series at Lorraine Avenue Mennonite Church. The series will be led by Nadine Reimer Penner, clinical social worker. Anyone who has experienced significant loss is welcome to attend. **Mark your calendar for Thursday's, September 8, 15, 22 and 29 from 7-8:30pm. Please plan to attend all four sessions.**

## Summer Sunday School

Sunday School through July 17 will continue our summer tradition of having Sermon Discussions. Beginning in mid-August, we are tentatively planning another book discussion class as a follow-up to "Trouble I've Seen". The book we'll be reading is "The New Jim Crow" by Michelle Alexander.

Of course there will be special activities! Mark your calendars! There won't be our usual Sunday school classes at LAMC on July 24, 31, and August 7. Instead, the LAMC board of education invites everyone to participate in the following activities that will take place during our usual Sunday school time:

July 24 – **brunch potluck** in fellowship hall

July 31 – **invite friends** over or out for lunch

August 7 – **church potluck** at Kiwanis Park

Cindy Thompson for BOCE

## **Invitation to Honor Native Mennonite Leaders, Lawrence and Betty Hart**

*From Native Mennonite Ministries:*

In the fall of 2016, there will be a special celebration to recognize Lawrence and Betty Hart. Lawrence Hart has been a leader and elder in both Mennonite India Leaders Council and Native Mennonite Ministries for over 40 years. (Some of you may remember Lawrence and Betty serving at Lorraine Avenue.)

Travel to participate in church-wide events is very challenging for many of our Native Mennonite leaders. In order for Native Americans in the United States and First Nations People in Canada to attend future council meetings and the fall 2016 celebration of the Lives of Lawrence and Betty, you are invited to contribute to the cause. Send contributions to Native Mennonite Ministries, 1300 Beverly Dr., Clinton, MS 39056.

## **Work of the Church**

### **Board of Deacons Minutes June 7, 2016**

#### **Attendees:**

Myra Swartz, Adella Ozor, Tom Harder, Lois Harder, Linda Buller, Mike Fetters, Cheryl Schmidt, Miles Thompson, Sylvia Schmidt

#### **We Gather in God's Name**

Devotions were given by Mike who read to us some words to encourage us as Deacon's in how we can find joy in serving by being humble to serve God.

#### **Sharing our Present Work**

*The Western District Conference Assembly* will be held on the Bethel College Campus July 29-30. As previously noted, we are allowed 12 votes but that does not mean we need 12 people to vote. Delegates are still needed but a couple of deacons have agreed to attend in addition to Tom and Lois who will also be providing music. More people will be asked about being delegates. Registration deadline is July 15.

*Meals for 8 signup sheets* were very encouraging with many folks signing up to be hosts. Myra and Lois worked on organizing the lists and will get them distributed soon. The hosts will plan the menu and contact the guests to schedule the date. We hope

to accomplish these meals by late summer or early fall.

*Church family concerns were discussed.*

#### **Looking to the Future**

Mike is *Deacon on call* for June. Cheryl is on call for July

*Church council meeting* June 14. Deacon Reps will be Mike and Sylvia

*Next Deacon's meeting* will be July 12 with Susan offering devotions and Myra as hostess.

Submitted by Sylvia Schmidt

### **Lorraine Avenue Mission Board Minutes June 7, 2016**

*LAMB Mission Statement: To provide leadership and direction for the service programs initiated by the congregation as Christ would have us do.*

**We Gather in God's Name:** (Attending: Jeremy, Pete, Lois, CB, Janice, Meribeth, Connie)

#### **Sharing Our Present Work:**

1. CB opened the meeting with prayer.
2. Welcome Meribeth. We are grateful to have you join the board.
3. May 6, 2016 minutes approved
4. Church Council Report -- Family Promise was a major focus of discussion
5. 633 House Update--Lois/CB
  - a. Loan repayment letter was signed by board. May be distributed to boxes on Sunday.
  - b. New tenants--Bereket Tekle is in residence. Yagoub Tede is still in the hospital.
  - c. Appliances

*New refrigerator* from anonymous donor to be delivered Friday. Home Depot has the number for the church and for CB to call before delivery. Lois and Pete will be available to receive delivery.  
*Used washer and dryer* are being donated

- d. Flooring estimates from Linda Doll--on hold for the time being
- e. Future possibilities could include use of the house as an emergency

housing option for IRC on a rotating/continuing basis or more long term immigrant housing for rent.

- f. At congregational meeting, CB and Lois and will briefly explain the current situation and field questions and encourage early debt repayment.
6. Family Promise Update--Jeremy/Lois
- a. Remodel estimates--huge update of the house planned. Waiting on congregational approval June 12.
  - b. We discussed the possibility of being a host congregation in conjunction with Mennonite Church of the Servant. Survey of congregational interest may be prepared.
  - c. Our plans for the Day Center will be presented at the congregational meeting preceded by the 8 minute video by Family Promise. CB will introduce this.
7. Other program updates as needed (IFM, Menno Housing, Aposento Alto, LAMP)
- a. Aposento Alto -- Pete gave update on status. Search for pastor continues. Future remains uncertain. Pete will present this at the congregational meeting.
  - b. LAMP received 33 items and \$520 in contributions for the LAMP birthday collection.

#### **New Business:**

1. Thank you cards were signed for volunteers who helped clean the 633 house for the new residents and for the donors of the appliances.
2. Next Sunday, June 12, in the Faith and Issues SS class, board members will discuss LAMC mission projects (Family Promise, Interfaith Ministries programs, LAMP, Aposento Alto).
3. 'Building a Better Community; Resources for Helping Those in Need' event will be held on Tuesday, June 21 from 9-11 a.m. at the Cathedral, downtown. CB will try to attend.
4. Board meeting time revisited--we will continue to meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month.
5. We will suggest to the Board of Education a more in-depth education initiative for the

congregation on the issues of refugees/immigration and homelessness to reinforce our partnerships with IRC and Family Promise.

#### **Upcoming Events:**

SS Class June 12  
Congregational Meeting June 12  
Council Meeting – June 14 at 7:00 p.m.  
Pete, CB and Meribeth will plan to attend.  
Next LAMB board meeting—Tuesday, July 5 at 5:00 p.m.

#### **Addendum:**

Due to a miscommunication, the expected washer and dryer for the 633 house will not be available. We will continue to look for these appliances.

Submitted by Connie White

### **Board of Trustees Minutes June 12, 2016**

**Attendees:** Al Beck, Nathan Ebersole, Roger Kaufman, Wes Miller, Bryce Schmidt, Joel Tieszen  
**Meeting chaired by: Roger**

**Spring Work Day recap ---** Our Trustees Spring Work Day on May 28 was a good one. We got some good tasks done, including fixing two wooden fence posts in the 633 House fence, and replacing many burned-out light bulbs in the Exit and Elevator signs throughout the church. Because of many folks being out-of-town on Memorial Day weekend, several scheduled tasks did not get done, including cleanout of the rain gutters on all of our buildings, and moving the documents from the basement of The TLC House. We will add these tasks to our list for the Trustees Fall Work Day.

**East yard light ---** we still need to replace the burned-out bulb in the east white globe yard light.

**Fluorescent light / LED repair ---** Roger talked to the lighting guru at Kansas Lighting on East Central about our need for LED replacement tubes for our failing fluorescent lights. The lighting luminary found a tube that might work, and even brought it to the church to try it in one of our fixtures, but it did not light up. He wants to try again this week.

**Window air conditioner ---** We found a taker among our church members for the window air conditioner that has been sitting in the basement hallway. Glad to see it go to a good home.

**Rainwater issues** --- After each of the recent rains, we are watching the known problem spots in the church. So far, no serious moisture coming in.

**Westar tree trimming** – The trees that line the alley behind the church are growing up into the power lines. Roger called Westar to schedule their crew to come out and trim the trees. They said it would be at least a 3-week wait, and they would call first. Still waiting for the call.

**Boiler shutdown** --- Now it is definitely time to shut down the gas pilot lights and burners under the boiler. We will do it after today's meeting.

**Meeting interrupted** --- This is the point in the meeting where the Trustees received several reports from around the church that the air conditioning was not cooling. And in the kitchen the dishwasher stopped working. We determined that the air blowers in all a/c zones were not pushing out any air at all, but the compressor in the boiler room was continuing to run. We called Fahnestock and Westar Electric. By the time we discovered a tripped master circuit breaker on a large 220-volt panel, the compressor was starting to ice up and freeze over, and we could see something on the top of the compressor starting to leak. We shut off all A/C power, and the Fahnestock tech arrived and shut off some valves coming into the compressor so we would not lose any more coolant. Fahnestock will send out our usual repair tech Monday morning to evaluate the situation.

**Church Council meeting this Tuesday** --- This month's Church Council meeting has been moved up a week, to this Tuesday, June 14.

**Next meeting** - Our next Trustees monthly meeting will be July 10, 2016.

Written and submitted by Roger Kaufman

## **Board of Christian Education Minutes June 11, 2016**

**Attending:** Beth Lichty, Cindy Thompson, Jill Robinson, Cathy Everingham, Tom Harder, Bev Baumgartner  
Cathy opened with prayer.

### **Children/Youth**

*VBS orientation meeting* is Wednesday, June 15, 6:30 pm at Hope Mennonite for all volunteers.

*Camp Mennoscah scholarships* have been increased to \$100 per camper for LAMC campers.

We will explore having kids write *camp reports for the Messenger*.

We will *reconfigure middle & high school groups for fall*. Proposed groupings are 3-4 year-olds, K -1, 2-4, 5-7, 8-12. We plan to offer a Shine-based class as well as a games-based class for middle schoolers.

*Teachers for fall are coming together*. We will need a preschool room teacher for fall since Linda Doll is retiring. Thank you, Linda!

*Let's give the high school class a place to meet*. Could the yoga room become a youth room that does double-duty? Cindy will check with The Seekers about creating a suitable meeting space for the class.

We will have a *mentor-mentee gathering* at the Lichtys in late July.

### **Adult**

Cindy is organizing *fall Faith & Issues discussion leaders*.

*All summer Faith & Issues leaders are lined up*.

### **Other**

Beth is still working on *tables for classrooms*. *New start date for fall quarter* is August 14 even though Wichita schools resume August 24.

### **Coming up**

*Church council* is Tuesday, June 14, 7:00 pm. *BOCE* will be Saturday, July 9, 11:00 am. *Church council for July* is Tuesday, July 19, 7:00 pm. *Sunday school brunch, July 24. Out-to-lunch with friends Sunday is July 31*.

Submitted by Bev Baumgartner

## **Congregational Meeting Minutes June 12, 2016**

**Karl Swartz**, LAMC Council Chair, opened with meeting with welcome and prayer. He also thanked the many folks who set up the lunch.

**Affirmation of Congregational Chair and Board Members:**

Ruth Tieszen was affirmed as congregational chair for the next 2 years. Additional Board members were affirmed: Peter Emery and Adella Ozor (Deacons), Bryce Schmidt and Joel Tieszen (Trustees), Grayce Kaufmann and Jill Robinson (Board of Christian Education - BOCE), and Meribeth Buhr and Jeremy Mitchell-Koch (Lorraine Avenue Mission Board - LAMB). With that, Karl turned the meeting over to Ruth Tieszen.

**Approval of January 2016 Congregational Meeting minutes:**

Minutes were approved as printed.

**Family Promise Proposal Presented by LAMB:**

CB Balbierz, chair of LAMB, introduced Cari Corliss and Krissy \_\_\_\_\_, who had both presented information at the Faith and Issues Sunday School class. Family Promise may be defined as a "Hospitality" network program, serving "situationally" homeless in Wichita: those whose work hours have been cut or who have lost their jobs entirely, for example. There is a need in Wichita said Cari, citing that in 2015, there were more than 2400 homeless children in USD259.

Family Promise is a coalition of churches providing week-long stays to homeless families and LAMC with The Lorraine Center, which would be a Day Center – a gathering place for the families during the day (7AM to 6PM approximately), with a couple of case managers on site every day of the week. The Day Center will be used for parents working on jobs exploration, children doing the homework, laundry and shower facilities, computers. Most importantly, the Day Center provides an address for the families and school bus pick up for the children.

The Family Promise Affiliate in Wichita is the 3<sup>rd</sup> in Kansas. Nationally, the average stay for a family in the program is 64 days; the success rate is 76%.

Renovations to The Lorraine Center would be fully funded and completed by Family Promise. They would also pay the utilities on the facility.

**Treasurer Report:**

Murray Reimer Penner, treasurer, reports that there are many issues facing LAMC this year, not least of which is the fundamentally different fact that we plan to spend more than we take in this year, with the acquisition of the 633 house. **The Treasurer**

said **"We need additional designated giving of \$51,000 for the 633 loan, and \$7,000 for unscheduled air conditioning maintenance."**

Some of the loan on the 633 house has been paid. If the entire loan can be repaid this year, savings in interest is significant, though the danger of reaching a \$0 balance looms. There needs to be \$6000 each month coming in to remain on track. Currently, the receipts each month have been \$4000.

Total cash balance will reach \$0 by December 31, 2016, if

Expenses run as budgeted

Air condition repair are not offset by earmarked giving

If we pay \$10,000-\$20,000 to the Western District Conference for church-plant

The unbudgeted A/C repair costs earlier this year were \$7000. There is also \$51,000 in advance payments. (Roger Kaufman, Trustees chair, says that the good news about the A/C repairs is that 2 difference A/C experts examined the system and pronounced it basically sound.)

It was suggested there be a "visual" reminder (like a thermometer) of what needs to be received. Monthly giving needs to increase by \$2000 and special giving needs to be encouraged. There is a concern about "renegeing on the financial commitment made to Aposento Alto (WDC church plant).

**Report from Missional Priorities Task Force:**

Reid Kaufmann presented on behalf of the Task Force: Beverly Baumgartner, Linda Doll, Mike Feters, Tom Harder, Andrea Unzicker, and Alison Wenzel. The Task Forces recommends Family Promise/The Lorraine Center project (which also includes collaboration with other Wichita congregations, International Rescue Committee/633 house/LAMB collaboration, and renovation of the main building to be more "welcoming", physically – trying to see the facilities through visitors' eyes. Reid reminded us that the conversion of 2 Sunday school classes to the Gathering Room was an important project.

## Treasurer's Report

June 11, 2016

	June 11 2016	Dec 31 2015
Cash		
General fund	44,245	81,775
Loan reserve	53,813	-
Restricted	18,909	39,646
<b>Total ▶</b>	<b>116,967</b>	<b>121,422</b>

Budget summary	2016 full year	
Education (BOCE)		5,100
Mission (LAMB)		64,700
Trustees		46,300
Deacons		6,500
Office		12,800
Wages and benefits		179,100
Loan payoff		70,600
Loan monthly principal and interest		10,500
<b>Total budgeted expenses ▶</b>		<b>395,600</b>
<b>Total giving estimates ▶</b>		<b>316,000</b>
<b>Additional giving required to balance ▶</b>		<b>79,600</b>

23 weeks	Year to date	Budget ytd
Contributions (incl. \$21,500 Jan. 1)	159,251	151,760
Expenses	(119,598)	(131,200)
Restricted funds	(21,881)	(21,500)
Loan pymts scheduled	(1,967)	(1,967)
Loan pymts advanced	(19,220)	(32,079)
<b>Net cash change ▶</b>	<b>(3,415)</b>	<b>(34,986)</b>

Expenses		Year to date	Budget ytd
Supported organizations	Mission	(11,825)	(10,725)
Programs	Mission	(1,350)	(3,981)
Programs	Education	(2,534)	(2,256)
Programs	Deacons	(1,633)	(2,875)
Maintenance	Trustees	(13,983)	(7,519)
Utilities	Trustees	(9,764)	(10,261)
Property insurance	Trustees	(1,421)	(6,100)
Office	Office	(1,958)	(5,482)
Interest expense	Office	(2,463)	(2,783)
Wages and benefits	Admin	(72,666)	(79,217)
<b>Total ▶</b>		<b>(119,597)</b>	<b>(131,199)</b>

Building 633 Loan	Year to date	At year end
Interest expense	(2,463)	(4,823)
Scheduled principal payments	(1,967)	(4,427)
Advanced principal payments	(19,220)	(70,573)
Interest expense saved v. 10 years	20,037	34,185
Loan balance	53,813	0

### 633 S. Lorraine-Emergency Housing for International Rescue Committee:

The house is currently being used and thank you for the refrigeration donation. A washer and dryer are still needed. The current arrangement with IRC will be reevaluated in 2 months, including the rent and

general set-up. Bereket, the sole resident currently, is working. The other fellow who is very ill has not moved in yet.

### Aposento Alto:

Pete Krause introduced Amber Schroeder who read Isaiah 64:4. The LAMC members of the support committee are Eric Friesen and Pete Krause; Amber represents LAMC on the "search" committee, and Chuck and Rose Moyer are going off the committee, after many years. Interviews of pastoral candidates for the position left vacant by Byron Pellecer moving to WDC position in Texas. There are, on average 5-10 people involved in worship 2 Sundays per month (folks not connected with the supporting churches). Three people have been baptized, 1 special blessing, and 2 child dedication. The desire for financial support to continue was voiced by the support committee. Pete expressed appreciation of the work of Chuck and Rose and Amber on the committee.

**Ruth closed the meeting, thanking everyone for their attendance and input.**

Barbara Gingrich  
for Linda Gebert, church clerk



### Contributions to LAMC by electronic payments are now

possible through PayPal! Just follow these steps –

- Go to the PayPal website, [www.paypal.com](http://www.paypal.com), and select **Send**

- Enter the pay-to email address of [treasurer@lorraineavenue.org](mailto:treasurer@lorraineavenue.org) and the amount to be paid, and then click **Continue**

- Select the **Friends or family** option
- Add a note to explain the purpose of the contribution (such as "General fund")
- Follow the online instructions to complete the payment

If you instruct PayPal to send the money from your bank account, rather than from a credit card, no fees will be charged to LAMC. Contact our treasurer, Murray Reimer Penner, for more details.

# JULY



## Birthdays and **ANNIVERSARIES**

(Please let the office know if any birthdays or anniversaries are not included)

- 1 Dorothy Buller
- 1 Heather Burrow (13)
- 1 Sylvia Schmidt
- 1 **MIKE & JILL ROBINSON (16<sup>th</sup>)**
- 1 **SYLVIA & BOB SCHMIDT (50<sup>th</sup>)**
- 6 Miriam Nofsinger
- 9 Joel Tieszen
- 10 Earl Schlabach
- 12 Ronan Pankratz Hallacy (13)
- 12 Lois Hiebert
- 12 Maxine Schellenberg
- 12 **MIKE & ANN FETTERS (19<sup>th</sup>)**
- 13 **CONNIE & JEFF WHITE (42<sup>nd</sup>)**
- 14 Cari Holliday
- 16 **DWAYNE & SANDY SCHRAG (49<sup>th</sup>)**
- 17 Charlotte Wolfe
- 19 Luke Ebersole
- 21 **GREG STUCKY & GRACIA TOUBIA (26<sup>th</sup>)**
- 22 Kristina Everingham
- 24 Christiana Harms
- 25 Amanda Waltner
- 26 Andrew Ozor
- 27 Jonathan Beachy
- 28 Susan Wiebe
- 29 Guy Wenzel

**JULY 2016**

**Lorraine Avenue Mennonite Church**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 12:00 Yoga 8:30 <i>Iftar</i> meal	2
3	4	5.  5:00 LAMB	6 4:45 Yoga	7 12:00 Lifestyle Strategies-GR 1:00 Serendipity 5:00 Lifestyle Strategies-GR	8 12:00 Yoga	9  11:00 BOCE
10  10:45 Trustees	11 5:30 Yoga 6:45 Wellness Group 6:30 OZ Bike Group	12  7:00 Deacons	13 4:45 Yoga	14 12:00 Lifestyle Strategies-GR 5:00 Lifestyle Strategies-GR	15 12:00 Yoga	16
17	18 5:30 Yoga 6:45 Wellness Group 6:00 Lifestyle Strategies	19  7:00 Council	20 4:45 Yoga	21 12:00 Lifestyle Strategies-GR 1:00 Serendipity 5:00 Lifestyle Strategies-GR 7:00 knitting4peace	22 12:00 Yoga	23 8:00 Men's Breakfast
24	25 <i>Messenger</i> articles Due  5:30 Yoga 6:45 Wellness Group	26	27 4:45 Yoga	28 12:00 Lifestyle Strategies-GR 5:00 Lifestyle Strategies-GR	29 12:00 Yoga	30
31						



655 S. Lorraine Wichita, KS 67211  
Office: 316-682-4555  
Website: [www.lorraineavenue.org](http://www.lorraineavenue.org)

## **Mission Statement of Lorraine Avenue Mennonite Church**

*We are called to be followers of Christ  
seeking God's will through the Holy Spirit  
sharing the good news of love, peace, healing, and hope  
through worship, fellowship, and service  
in our community, our city, and beyond.*

Scripture passages foundational to this statement include: Micah 6:8; Matthew 5-7; Mark 12:29-31; John 3:16; John 13:34-35; John 20:31; Romans 12:1-2; 1 Corinthians 3:11; 1 Peter 4:7-11; and 1 John 4:16

We welcome all persons without regard to their race, ethnicity, gender, age, sexual orientation, social status, education, ability, or any other factor subject to discrimination and exclusion in our world. *"There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus" (Galatians 3:28).*