

Sherri Farmer Sings At Menno Retreat

On May 8 – 10, several families of Menno travelled to Camp Camrec for Menno's annual time at Camp Camrec. The theme for this year's camp was "Cool Water". A few arrived Friday afternoon to explore the tennis courts and the woods around the Camp. In the evening some got to listen to Sherri & Dewy Farmer of Evergreen, CO, (see last



Paula Hostick, Zach Claassen, & Andrew Claassen

Menno Beacon for bio of Sherri or go to her website: www.sherrifarmer.com), set up the equipment and practice for the concert Saturday night and Sunday morning.

Saturday included times of excitement as some of the kids found frogs, played with bubbles, got wet in the meadow, and tried their hand at playing games on the tennis

court. Some adults tried a new style of barbecuing with the briquettes on the outside of the meat, in a wooden box! In the evening Sherri Farmer sang for us, with some of the songs to a slide show.



Michael Claassen spreading bubbles for the kids

After Sunday morning brunch, prepared by Linda and Howard Reimer, (they prepared Saturday evening as well), Sherri once again sang for us. The group joined her in several songs as well. After clean up of the cabins and buildings, we all headed home feeling tired, but refreshed.



Sherri Farmer



Ellie Gering with a frog in her hand



Kids playing with bubbles

A Note from the Pastor



Our dog died recently. I didn't think it would bother me. After all, she was just a pet. It's not like losing a brother or a sister or a parent. But this particular pet had been with us for almost eleven years. We got her as a little pup from the Spokane Humane Society. Right away she got very sick and almost died. But she survived. Then there were the times she got porcupine quills in her mouth, the times she chased cars and once got run over by a truck. We nursed her back to health.

Sometime I questioned the money we spent on dog food and vet bills for her when many people in the world went hungry. After all she was just a dog.

But now I realize she was more than that. She was always there to welcome us home with a wagging tail and an excited face. She was always waiting on the back steps for me each morning for our regular morning walks. She always knew when Sunday came because she would be in her kennel when I went to tie her up Sunday mornings. I didn't think I would miss her. She was only a pet. But I do miss her. Our home has seemed a bit lone-

lier without Topsy around.

I never thought I would miss a pet. The loss of a pet before has never bothered me. But I have to admit this time I feel some sadness, some loss. I now understand some of the feelings others have when they lose a pet. I know some of you have lost pets and felt that loss keenly. Sometimes we can get attached to a pet and not realize it until later. That happened to me. I believe that when one has a loss in life, whether great or small, it's good to talk about it. So I write about this loss not for sympathy, but simply to acknowledge this little loss in my life. So bear with me for the next bit if time if I get a little sober when talking about the loss of Topsy, a pet, and a friend.

Pastor Terry



PACIFIC
NORTHWEST
MENNONITE
CONFERENCE

The fifteenth annual assembly of the Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference (PNMC) will be held June 18-20, at Northwest Nazarene University, Nampa, ID. The event is being hosted by Emmaus Christian Fellowship, Meridian, ID, Evergreen Heights Mennonite Church, Caldwell, ID, and Hyde Park Mennonite Fellowship, Boise, ID. The theme for this year is "*Sent Out and Drawn In By Jesus*". Guest speaker will be April Yamasaki, pastor of Emmanuel Mennonite Church, Abbotsford, British Columbia, and author of "*Making Disciples*" a book of offering ideas and tools for calling and integrating believers into the life of the church. For more information contact the church or see PNMC's web site: www.pnmc.org.



The conference for the Mennonite Church USA (MCUSA) will be held June 30 to July 5 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center, Columbus, Ohio. This year's theme will be "*Breathe and be Filled*". It's a theme meant to remind us that before we can recognize where God is at work in the world and join that work, we must first breathe in and be filled with the power of the Holy Spirit.

There will be children, youth, young adult, and adult gatherings with special activities for each group. The youth are invited to experience God in life-changing ways through worship, seminars, dramas, concerts, recreation, small groups, and servant projects. The adults will have opportunities to worship, attend Learning Tracks and seminars, participate in delegate sessions, special dinners and receptions, socialize and enjoy recreation. Early registration is over, but you can still register to attend by calling the church or going to the MCUSA website at: www.mennoniteusa.org/convention.

Menno's Mission statement
Menno Mennonite Church, a Christian Anabaptist Community, equips believers through Worship and Study, and expresses God's love to others through Stewardship and Service.

The *Menno Beacon* is published at the whim of the editor (tries for at least four times per year or more). Any address corrections, additions, or deletions can be sent to: **Menno Mennonite Church – 1378 N. Damon Rd. – Ritzville, WA 99169**, phone 509-659-0926. Web site: menno.wa.us.mennonite.net. If you wish to help with mailing costs of the *Beacon*, donations can be sent to the above address. Terry Rediger, pastor, email: menno@centurytel.net, Sharon Meyer, publisher, and Bill Dyck, editor. You can contact Bill at: 509-677-3616 or email at: blsdyck@ritzcom.net or postal mail at: 379 W. Harder Rd. – Ritzville, WA 99169. If you have something for the *Beacon*, the next *Beacon* news is due **September 1, 2009**. Thanks to Joan Smith, Forrest Hardt, and Donna Hostick for pictures for this issue.

Warden Mennonite Church

720 S. Pine, Warden, WA 98857 (509)349-2444



At Warden, we've been trying different ways of experiencing worship. In April, Wendy Shelly led us in a multi-stage, art and story-telling worship centered on the life of Jesus. In May, Wanda Dorsing invited us to participate in a walking service that led the congregation out of the sanctuary in a loop of our neighborhood. We worshiped outside the Food Pantry and in a local park, watching for glimpses of God as we prayed, sang, and walked.

During the Spring and early Summer, Pastor Brad has been leading a study of the Book of Revelation in the adult Sunday School. The class has been a chance to hold up to the light some of our presuppositions about what Revelation teaches and to explore in greater detail the book's profound call to faithfulness, witness, and endurance. Pastor Brad will also be leading an evening Bible study on Revelation later in June on the Royal Slope. Audio files of the class are available online at: www.wardenmennonite.org

A number of our members participated in this year's Relay for Life event raising money for the American Cancer Society, held on May 29. In fact, Team Maurices/Royal, was number 1 in the nation of any Maurices team for donations collected. Jacquie Dorsing served as team leader.

This Spring, there are three graduates from Warden:

Jacob Jeske — from Hesston College, with an A.S. Degree in Engineering, going on to Washington State University

Julisa Jeske — from Royal City, going on to Hesston College

Dallas White — from Royal City, going on to Spokane Falls Community College

We celebrate this important step with our graduates and bless them in their continued studies!

Pastor Brad

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES!

Michelle Slate—Ritzville High School, May 31, 2009, daughter of Randy & Barb Franz

Shelby Youngren—Lind High School, June 6, 2009, daughter of Darrel & Bev Kulm

Jessica Hudson—Cortiva Institute Seattle School of Massage, April 2009, daughter of Gail (Franz) Hudson

Amber Slate—Whitworth University, Bachelor of Arts in Theology, May 17, 2009, daughter of Randy & Barb Franz

Rebecca (Claassen) Froese—Bethel College, Bachelor of Arts in Biology, May 24, 2009, daughter of Cleon & Elizabeth Claassen

Jamie (Hudson) Brault—WSU Tri Cities, Master of Education in Community Counseling, May 15, 2009, daughter of Gail (Franz) Hud-

Youth Sunday

May 3, 2009, was Youth Sunday at Menno Church. Michelle Slate gave a video and slide show presentation of "Compassion Child", and how we can sponsor a needy child in the world. If you want more information contact Michelle or go to www.compassion.com, to learn more.

Shelby Youngren told the children a story during children's time and also sang a solo during the offertory. Jeff Long gave the message with the music team providing the music.

Menno Women In Mission Honor One Of Their Own

Women in Mission, these friends met for lunch
 To honor our Phyllis – there were twelve in the bunch
 We all signed a card which said things we thought
 Sharon wrote them so well, those words which we sought

To say thank you – we love you and appreciate you so
 As our leader in the work that we did as we sewed
 How many years was she president? No one could say
 But she led us so well, was so faithful through the days

Phyllis has been our historian, and publicity chair
 From her diary she can remember – who, when and where
 We enjoyed the candy, a memory Clara brought along
 We visited and shared, but no one sang a song....

The men sat apart, they enjoyed their own talk
 They were close by as usual – not a very long walk
 Then a gift wrapped by Erna was opened to show
 A lap quilt, not fancy, but with love sewed in each row

This comforter was not special, but represents who we are
 Different patterns and colors, and some become a great star
 We are different in our looks, our interests and taste
 Like the fabrics put together which first we must baste

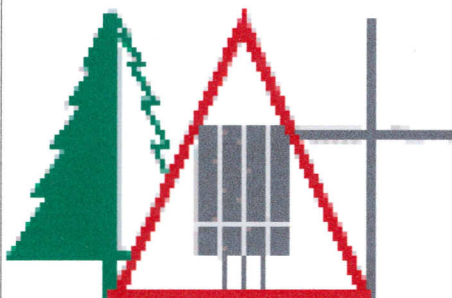
As we blend the fabrics, like our talents, we can see
 When teamed up together, we create a new beauty
 Clara pointed out a large star – this was Phyllis she said
 Our focus - who directed and by example she led

Another block for Dorothy, and school kits she sews
 So many, each different - from the fabrics she chose
 Some block were uneven, so to Malinda it fell
 To lay out the grid, the knots she ties so well

And the back, full of circles, like the cookies we bake
 For special times of caring, and Christmas plates to take
 The Lenten soup suppers, and clothing to pack
 Community service, comforters and quilts on the rack

We each do a little and like a block can stand alone
 But become something special when together we're sewn
 The quilt was not special – except for the reason
To share warmth and love with Phyllis in this season





Our Theme This Summer

“Catch the Spirit! Join God’s Work in the World!” - Stories from Acts will bring kids face-to-face with the power of the Holy Spirit as they learn how to get involved, speak up, and join God’s work in the world.



Pre-Junior Camp (Entering Grades 1-3) **July 10-12**

Arrive 4:00 pm on Friday, Depart 1:00 pm on Sunday

Junior Camp (Entering Grades 4-6) **July 14-18**

Arrive 3:00 pm on Tuesday, Depart 10:00 am Saturday

Junior/Senior High Camp (Entering Grades 7-12) **July 20-25**

Arrive 3:00 pm on Monday, Depart 10:00 am on Saturday

Pre-Junior camp needs a girls’ counselor and a first aid person

Junior Camp needs a boys’ counselor, recreation leader, 2 cooks, and first aid person

Jr/Sr High Camp needs a director, girls’ counselor, recreation, music, & craft leaders, 2 cooks, and a first aid person

For the latest information and needs, you can contact Camp Camrec, 509-548-7245 or contact Anita Stokes, 206-721-1902, ajshowme@gmail.com. Remember to reset your computer bookmark for Camrec’s new website:

<http://camrec.org>

40th Anniversary of Senior Adult Retreat At Camp Camrec June 26—28, 2009

Friday and Saturday there will be singing, dramas, history, memories, Briggs sharing of their Journey, and on Sunday at 9:30 the singing group Common Bond 5 will be singing in concert. After the concert will be a brunch.

Common Bond 5 is a southern gospel quintet based in Wenatchee. They love good southern gospel music, and love the Lord which is their “common bond”. The group has been singing together since the spring of 2001 and has seen the Lord’s blessings on its ministry since day one. They have sung all over the Pacific Northwest and into British Columbia and typically average several concerts per month.



L to R: Andy Handley, High baritone; Stece Knudtson, Lead; Chuck Wiley, Bass; Mike Moore, Tenor; Alan Williams, Low Baritone.

You may log on to their web site: www.commonbond5.com, to read their biographies and hear snippets of their hymns. Camrec’s Chapel is a beautiful setting for this fine group to perform and as a finale for the Sr. Adult Retreat 40th anniversary. A free will offering will be taken.

Registration for Sunday only is \$10.00 which includes \$5 for day camp fee and \$5 for the brunch which will follow the concert. We ask that you notify your intention to come by June 24 so that we can plan seating at the concert and the meal. Contact Marge Dyck-509-659-0394: madyck@ritzcom.net. Anniversary committee consists of Rose Bauer, Marlene Unruh, Agnes Goertzen, Joan Smith and Marge Dyck.

Women's Retreat at Camrec

By Donna Hostick & Marge Dyck
Photos by Joan Smith

This year, Women's Retreat was hosted by Evergreen Mennonite Church. Attendees from Menno were Rose Bauer, Marge Dyck, Donna Hostick, and Clara Reimer. Lori and Hazel Franz (granddaughter and great-granddaughter of Dorothy Franz) also attended. The theme was *"Come together in the way of Jesus Christ."* Merry Roy of Wenatchee was the guest speaker. Merry brought a labyrinth which was set up in the chapel during "down" times, and was walked by many. During Sunday's service, Merry invited us to write down a prayer request, or something that was weigh-



ing on our hearts. She had created a beautiful floral cross on the floor, and during prayer time, we brought our requests to God and placed them along the cross.

Other activities included a discussion about the book, "Three Cups of Tea," and a tutorial on how to create plant gifts. Pam Waltner brought plants and gave instructions how to create a centerpiece, which were used on the tables for the dinner. The plant baskets that were created were used for centerpieces for the Saturday evening meal, and then were taken back to each congregation to share with others. Selections from Mennonite Publishing and Herald Press were also available to browse and purchase (or order if not on hand).

Saturday afternoon, Evergreen hosted a tea party with bite-sized treats and a wide selection of teas served in beautiful tea pots and cups. Delicious little sandwiches and sweets were served with many choices of tea. Each person was invited to take home three cups & saucers.

Saturday evening, each church presented something for entertainment.



Marge Dyck represented Menno, and read a poem about aprons which caused others to share their apron memories. Spring Valley will host Women's Retreat next year on April 9-11. For those who haven't attended in a while (or never), we encourage you to come! A wonderful group of caring, supportive women await!

Barb Franz Gets Award

North Elementary School kindergarten teacher Barbara Franz received an award in recognition of her science instruction.

Franz was one of four Washington teachers selected to receive the 2009 Amgen Award for Science Teaching Excellence.

A trophy and big check for \$10,000 was awarded to Franz at a surprise student assembly.

Amgen Representative Carol Pawlak said \$5,000 is awarded to Franz to spend however she wants, and \$5,000 is awarded to the school to spend on science education.

"(The school) can use it to buy equipment, they can use it to buy ... curriculum, they can use it for teacher development," Pawlak said.

Franz said being selected for the Amgen award is a "real honor."

She spent significant time writing about her kindergarten class and their study of ants.

In her application, Franz provided a wish list for the school's science program. Equipment desires included observation equipment like a video microscope and projector.

Franz said the grant benefits equipment and training.

"Those were the two things that I thought would best meet the learning needs of our student population," Franz said.

When students can observe with more depth, the questions of "What do you see?" and "How do you know that?" can be asked of them, she said.

(Taken from the Columbia Basin Herald, April 15, 2009)

Maundy Thursday Service

Pastor Terry tried something new for Menno for Maundy Thursday Service April 19. We experienced a Seder supper. The Seder meal is a later form of the Passover observance that was developed after the destruction of the Jerusalem temple in 70 A.D. There were about thirty-four people for the meal, with Diane Gering serving the main meal and the elements of the Seder meal. The whole Seder supper lasted about two hours. It was an interesting observance of Maundy Thursday by all!

News & Notes:

Cleon and Elizabeth flew to Dallas, Texas on May 22 and drove to North Newton, Kansas. They attended the graduation of their daughter, Rebecca from Bethel College. She received a BA degree in Biology and graduated Suma Cum Laude. After spending Monday visiting Dawn Froese and family and Faith Penner and family, they followed the Froese Custom Harvesting crew (of which Rebecca is now a part) to Vernon, Texas, where they stayed with Beau and Rebecca until their flight from Dallas to home on May 31.

Five members of the Alvie & Blanche Schrag family, Beth and Dick Stucky, Kay Schrag and Tim & Roberta Schrag, along with nine others went on a 19 day tour of Peru and Ecuador through Overseas Adventure Travel.

The major attraction in Peru was a 2 day trip to Machu Picchu along with numerous other sites.

In addition to visiting the equator near Quito, the major attraction in Ecuador was the 7 day trip to the Galapagos Islands. Four nights were aboard the ship Tip Top III and two nights were spent on Santa Cruz Island. Five different islands were visited.



Cross at Camp Camrec

On the 7th of May, the new Project Director arrived at the Dulzura MDS site. We spent three busy days orienting Franzie Leopp to the area and the houses we had been building. By the time we left on the tenth, the new long-termers were in place and awaiting the eleven students from Hesston and Canadian Mennonite University who would be there for the next two months.

By the time we left Duzura, we had completed three houses (though one didn't get a final inspection until after we had left); gotten the roof on and the walls up on the fourth; dug the foundations for the fifth; and laid out the site for the permit for the sixth. But best of all, we had made some wonderful friends (who all seem to think we will be coming back in the fall).

We headed north on the morning of the tenth, spending overnights at RV Parks in Mojave and Merced River, California. We arrived at Canyonville, Oregon on the 12th and spent three days there enjoying the pool and hot tub. We had planned to stay with Daughter Dawn's family in Hubbard spoiling our grandchildren until we discovered the whole area-including most of Todd's church- were passing around a nasty stomach virus

We arrived back at Tree Heart Ranch on May 16th, just in time for church the next morning!

Thank you all for your prayers, notes, phone calls and Diane's week of cooking- we really appreciated your support!

Happy & Forrey

Wife to Husband: "I'm convinced my mind is almost gone"!

Husband to Wife: "I'm not surprised. You've been giving me a piece of it for the last twenty years"!

For sixteen days in April, Earl Franz was blessed to look back in history in Italy, Greece and an Ephesus stop in Turkey. I went with a group of forty-seven with "Tulip Tours" from Lynden, WA, tracing the "Footsteps of Paul". The special fringe benefits of seeing the ancient ruins in the places of Paul's journeys, and other places, such as Pompeii, Capri, Rhodes, the Vatican and Patmos, almost eclipsed the intent of our trip. Three days were spent on a mid-size cruise ship between the Islands and Turkey stops. (We had calm seas---nothing thrown overboard)! It was fun imagining we were Paul as we actually stood on Mars Hill or in other places where he debated with the learned philosophers. Seeing the ruins of Pompeii was probably the highlight of the trip.

All four daughters of Dan and Edna Dalke converged on their parents' home in Inman, Kansas for the Memorial Day holiday. The eldest daughter, Marilyn, and her husband, Laverne Busenitz, recently retired after serving in Germany for 38 years as missionary, church planter and pastor. They built their new home near Elbing, KS. Cheryl Epp, their second oldest, lives in Colo. Springs and works at Focus on the Family. Arline Clark and her husband, Larry, drove in from Dayton, Ohio for the family fellowship on the weekend.

Vonda McEachern also lives in Colorado Springs and brought along her 16 year old daughter, Megan. Of course Megan enjoyed the privilege of driving a good deal of the 460 miles. The two Dalke sons, Dale of Ridgefield, WA and Verle in Dallas, OR could not be present this time.

Clint Redelfs, son of Yvonne (Franz) Redelfs, was injured in a fire fighting accident April 27, when the ceiling above him fell down on him. He recuperated at home for several days.

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Ritzville, WA 99169

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Mennonite Country Auction will be here soon!

Calender of Events

June 8-11	9 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	Ritzville Vacation Bible School
9	1:00 p.m.	Ritzville Ministerial Association meets
11	2:30 p.m.	Life Care worship
13		Menno & Friends Motorcycle Trip to Grand Coulee Dam
14	2:30 p.m.	Ritzville Jail Bible Study
16	7:00 p.m.	Church Board meets
18-20		Treasure Valley 2009 PNMC Annual Meeting
21		Pastor Terry attends PLT & Polity Class—Nampa, ID
26-28		Guest Speaker: Jeff Long; Worship Leader: Amber Slate; Childrens: Michelle Slate
28		Senior Adult Retreat at Camp Camrec—40th Anniversary, Common Bond Five sings
30—July 5		Guest Speaker: David Morrow; Worship Leader: Butch Gering
July 5		MCUSA Convention 2009—Columbus, OH
10—12		Guest Speaker: Amber Slate
12		Pre-Junior Camp at Camp Camrec
14		Guest Speaker: Jeff Long; Worship Leader: Cleon Claassen; Childrens: Sharla Dyck
20-25		Junior Camp at Camp Camrec
23	2:30 p.m.	JrHi/Sr Hi Camp at Camp Camrec
28		Life Care worship
		District Pastors meet at Coeur d'Alene