



Coming Event:

Women's Retreat: Camp Luz
September 15-17, 2017

Imagine a weekend to get away from the hustle and bustle of daily grind, filled with time to relax with other Christian women and grow your faith. This is what the Camp Luz Women's Retreat is designed to be. "Created" Speaker: Larissa Moore. Ephesians 2:10 "for we are God's handiwork, Created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God has prepared in advance for us to do." Come and enjoy Pastor Larissa Moore's study of this passage and what it means to be "Created".

Scholarships Available: go to Camp Luz Website.

Ohio Mennonite Women Executive Board decides to dissolve organization:

On July 29, 2017, the Executive Board of the Ohio Mennonite Women (OMW) made the difficult decision to dissolve the organization of the Ohio Mennonite Women.

Dear Women of Ohio,

Over the years, Ohio Mennonite Women (OMW) has significantly enriched the lives of many women through fellowship and service, but after much prayer and discernment, it is with sadness that the OMW Executive Board announces the decision to dissolve the organization of the Ohio Mennonite Women. Ongoing contributions can be made directly to missionaries and agencies. For more information, see the Ohio Conference website (<http://bit.ly/OhioMennoniteWomen>) and the OMW Facebook page. If you have questions, please contact Co-Chair Willie Stoltzfus at stoltzfus.willie@gmail.com and/or Roxanne Kauffman at roxykauff@gmail.com. (See attached letter.)

Thank you for your support. Please join us for a *Time of Celebration* at the upcoming Women's Retreat at Camp Luz, Sept. 15-17, 2017.

— The Executive Board of OMW – July 29, 2017

See: A Time of Celebration - Ohio Mennonite Women! See page 6





Message from the Co-Chairs

Dear friends,
We want to take time to thank you for the opportunity to serve on the Board of the Ohio Mennonite Women these past few years. As Co-Chairs we did our best to listen to God's prompting as we represented and led the women of Ohio.

As your leaders we had the opportunity to get to know each other better, to learn to use our individual gifts while working together, to explore the use of technology as well as plan other creative ways to connect women. In providing leadership to the organization, we collaborated with other women, traveled many miles, made new friends and strengthened many relationships through the OMW activities. We were blessed to work with many wonderful women who worked diligently as they served this organization!

We were also blessed and value the times we had to minister to others, experience our own spiritual growth, and grow in our leadership skills as we worked with the board, connected with our missionaries, agencies and key people in the Ohio Conference and Mennonite Women USA. It wasn't always easy to get all the "work" done and divide responsibilities, especially when positions on the Board were vacant for several years, but we thank you for trusting us to continue to move forward.

Little did we know we would be at this place, the formal end of OMW as an organization. But despite the decision, we want to stay positive, to encourage you to take time to pray and be sensitive to God's leading as you consider "how", "where" and "when" YOU are being called to connect with women in the future! Are you being called to lead a coffee-Bible study group? Plan a day of scrapbooking with other women? Provide babysitting for younger women so they can connect? Mentor, a younger woman, or visit an older woman and let God move and guide the relationship? Make a comforter or quilt together?

Share a meal together? Organize a "play group" for children and let some of the mom's have free time? Be creative!!!

We encourage, empower and challenge you to listen to God's calling! Our prayer is that you will be sensitive to explore God's leading, that you will find a new way to connect with women, a new way for God to move among you. May God bless you on this journey!

Finally, a big thanks to all who have served and supported the Ohio Mennonite Women!!! You have served well!

Humbly in Christ,
Co-Chairs:
Willie Stoltzfus
Roxanne Kauffman



MISSIONARY UPDATES

Bridge of Hope – Liberia August 2017

Thanks for your continued interest in Bridge of Hope-Liberia. School opens Sept. 11th, with most students and teachers returning for the 2017-2018 year. (They never "know" until the first day, at least with regards to the number of students!) This could mean there will be 190+ in the school. The administration will be holding a teacher's workshop focusing on sustainability and classroom discipline the last week of August. They are also making plans to paint some classrooms and repair/buy new desks/chairs. One decision the administration made, after much discussion, was to do away with the Kindergarten class.....the enrollment was too small. There don't seem to be any major "bumps" or "roadblocks" in the functioning of the school.

If you or others have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me.

Thanks!
Hank Rossiter





Shova (left-rear) – Sushma (right-rear)
Bethsaba & Dale

From the Nafzigers - Nepal June 2017

Nepal is the home to Mt. Everest...the highest mountain on Planet Earth. Through your faithful prayers & giving we are blessed to serve here at the "Top of the World."

Sushma is a student beginning Class 13. (Yes, the school she attends has 13 grades). One of Sushma's jobs is that of running the "sound room" at church.

Shova is completing her 2nd year of college, majoring in Business Studies. One of Shova's jobs is that of working in Top of the World Coffee.

Bethsaba & Dale, jointly, wear "many hats." Nurse, Engineer, Deaconess, Coffee Aficionado. Among those "many hats": Our central focus in Nepal is that of "connecting" faith & works in something called "Business as Mission". "BAM" means - Jobs! Touching lives - Seeing lives transformed. Business as Mission. "Being" the Gospel. Thank you for the privilege of journeying together. We are grateful to Mennonite Mission Network for allowing us to be involved in "BAM."

August 2017

Good morning from here at the "top of the world." You may have heard that we have had some very devastating flooding here recently. Much damage and over 100 deaths.

Our work-week began yesterday. Before time moves along too far therefore we are writing to acknowledge and thank you for your update below. We are grateful for your transparency and candidness. The decision to terminate a legacy is

never easy, but sometimes it is the wisest. Know that we have greatly appreciated the privilege of journeying with Ohio Mennonite Women over the years. Please also know that even if there is no longer the "official" connection, we would welcome the continued opportunity to provide occasional updates to any who may be interested. We will continue to remember you all at this time, with thanksgiving and gratefulness.

Sincerely,

Sushma, Shova, Bethsaba & Dale

"The greatest legacy one can pass on to one's children and grandchildren is not money or other material things accumulated in one's life, but rather a legacy of character and faith."

- Billy Graham

From the Sutter's - Thailand The Well – March 2017



First of all, thanks for all of your prayers and encouragement. We are thankful for the faithful support for this ministry. Now we have three women and two children staying with us at the Naree center. One of these women, Prae, is doing a sort of internship to gain ministry experience. She is a recent high school graduate and also plans to volunteer at some area churches.



Another woman is the mother of Mena, who turned 8 a few days ago. You may remember that Mena came to live with us about 10 months ago while her mother tried to get her life back on track. Her mom is now back and has joined the program, so Mena has been able to move back in with her mom. She's very excited to have her mom back. Even though Mena's still just down the hall from us, it is hard to see her go after so long together. It's a big adjustment not having her with us all of the time, but at least we can still be involved in her life. It's also hard for us because her mother isn't as firm about Mena's behavior or keeping her on a schedule. My biggest prayer for her is that she would keep growing in her education, discipline, and knowledge about Jesus. She's also started speaking English, so I hope to see her keep developing that skill.

The other woman joined the program a few months ago and has been doing nice work with creating jewelry. She came to us after her husband went to jail and she needed a way to support her three-year old daughter. She knew Khio from before, because she was at the Naree center for awhile when she was 15. She believed that she had a chance for her and her daughter's future here. Here, she is able to send her daughter to preschool and work to support herself.

One former worker who left last summer to return to her province to work, still comes back about once a month to continue her education towards her GED.

If you have any questions for us, or anything you'd like to hear about in future newsletters, please let us know.

Khio and Jeremy

Update from August 22, 2017
We want to thank you and the Ohio Mennonite Women for the faithful support over the past

years. We have enjoyed sharing with you about the work here and are thankful for the encouragement you gave us.



God Bless
Khio and Jeremy

Supported by Ohio Mennonite Women:

Over the years, Ohio Mennonite Women have financially supported numerous missionaries and agencies. With the dissolution of Ohio Mennonite Women, the OMW Executive Board encourages women to financially contribute to the missionaries and agencies directly. See addresses and websites below:

Terri McGarry
Adriel Foundation
414 N. Detroit Street
P.O. Box 188
West Liberty OH 43357
www.adriel.org

Andrew Micheals
Camp Luz
152 Kidron Road
Orrville OH 44667
www.camppluz.com

Douglas L. Siebenaler
Sunshine Foundation, Inc.
7223 Maumee Western Road
Maumee OH 43537-9656
www.sunshine.org

Dale & Bethsaba Nafziger
Mennonite Mission Network
PO Box 370
Elkhart IN 46615-0370
www.topoftheworldcoffee.com

Stan Helmuth
Ohio Conference of
Mennonite Church USA
Box 210
Kidron, OH 44636
www.ohiomennoniteconference.org

Marlene Bogard
Mennonite Women USA
718 North Main Street
Newton KS 67114-1819
www.mennonitenitewomenUSA.org

Jeremy & Khio Sutter
Servant Works (The Well)
PO Box 4918
Wheaton IL 60189-4918
www.servantworks.com
Click on The Well or Sutter Team

Steve Steiner
Bridge of Hope Foundation
12002 Arnold Road
Orrville OH 44667
www.abbasarmsministry.org
and click on BOH



OMW BREAKFAST - ANNUAL CONFERENCE ASSEMBLY



Dottie Hathaway

The OMW Breakfast was held during the Annual Conference Assembly in Kidron, OH, at the Dutch Kitchen Restaurant in Dalton, Ohio, on Saturday, March 25, 2017. Dottie Hathaway was the speaker and the title of her presentation was "There's a Hole in My Bucket". Dottie talked about the many "buckets we have in our lives, some that we hold near and dear to us, some we hide things in and some with holes. Dottie talked about: self-concept; faith; pride and relationships, using scripture to share stories illustrating these, adding a personal touch, by sharing objects representing some of the "buckets" in her life. Dottie closed by challenging the women in attendance to remember that we are a work in progress; that as we journey this life we have opportunity to minister and support each other; and that God has made us who we are. She closed with these encouraging words: "We are not perfect vessels. But the God who created us, and our buckets, waits to mend them and to fill them."

OMW Board Members hosted this event and 34 women were in attendance.



DAY OF INSPIRATION

Day of Inspiration was held on Saturday, April 8th, 2017, at Crown Hill Mennonite Church. Janice Hershberger was the speaker and the theme "Invitation to Rest". Janice spoke in several sessions, about the invitation to be given rest and to find rest for our souls. She used scriptures and many resources to share the importance of "rest", to encourage and challenge those present, and to find ways to find rest in Jesus. She used exercises to invite women to "rest", closing with this resource:

R - Remember the invitation and the inviter – bring that often to mind. Meditate on the love and goodness of God.

E - Examine your heart,

S – Settle the mind and Surrender the process,

T - Take it to the Lord and Trust that he is there.

Times for meditation and relaxation were also part of the presentation.

Several workshops were available in the afternoon. OMW Board Members hosted this event and 63 women were in attendance. An offering was taken to support the Crown Hill Mennonite Church Food pantry and OMW. Special thanks: to Crown Hill Mennonite Church women who helped make this event a success.



Janice Hershberger





Fall Recipes:



Stuffed Pumpkin – Main Dish

1 medium pumpkin
Ham – chopped
Potatoes – chopped in cubes
Grated cheese
Onions – chopped
Chicken broth – 1 small can

Make a “lid” in the pumpkin and clean out the seeds/insides well. Layer the ingredients in above order (vary amounts as desired, dependent on size of pumpkin and crowd). Wrap the entire pumpkin in foil, place on cookie sheet and bake at 350 for 1-2 hrs. Serve with French bread and salad. When serving, scoop out cooked pumpkin with other ingredients. Enjoy

Stuffed Pumpkin – Dessert

1 medium pumpkin
Caramels – unwrap
Apples - chopped
Raisins
Cinnamon
Marshmallows (consider mini-marshmallows)
Make a “lid” in the pumpkin and clean out the seeds/insides well. Layer the ingredients in above order (vary amounts as desired, dependent on size of pumpkin and crowd). Wrap the entire pumpkin in foil, place on cookie sheet and bake at 350 for 1-2 hrs. Serve as is, over ice cream, pound cake or angel food cake. When serving, scoop out pumpkin with other ingredients. Enjoy!



A Time of Celebration Ohio Mennonite Women!



Please come and celebrate!

Who: All Ohio Mennonite Women are invited!

What: A time to remember, tell stories and celebrate the accomplishments of OMW.

Where: Camp Luz ~ Chapel

When: Saturday, September 16th at 3:30 - 5:15 pm

What can you do?

Come! Bring your memories, pictures and memorabilia. Come and share your stories: how OMW impacted your life, a special story about OMW, friendships you have made, missionaries and service projects you have participating because of OMW, a blessing you received through OMW.

RSVP to Camp Luz at phone #330-683-1246 or email Andrew@campluz.com or Matt@campluz.com if you plan to attend.

Let's celebrate the many years of God's presence among the
Ohio Mennonite Women!

