

This Weekends Events:

Saturday, March 28 at 2 pm and 7:30 pm: The Pine Barons barbershop chorus will present their spring show entitled "Yesterday: A Tribute to the Beatles". The show will be at Camden County College's Dennis Flyer Memorial Theatre in Blackwood NJ. Get tickets online at www.pinebarons.org or see Jeff Knightly for tickets and information.

SUNDAY:

Upside Down & Inside Out: Our Lenten theme this year is a call to transformation. To take a second look as God turns our expectations and understanding upside down and inside out. During these 6 weeks, you are invited to give up something in order to make space for transformation; whether through individual or group spiritual practices or through dialogue groups about race (see below).

The Lenten guide with weekly Scriptures and individual practices can be found on top of the church mailboxes.

Check **our website calendar** here:

<http://www.wpmf.org/calendar> a listing of group opportunities.

Conversations on Race:

When did you first become aware of race? How has race or racism impacted your life? How can we work toward racial justice as people of faith?

All are welcome to explore these questions and more by participating in honest, engaging dialogue with others from the congregation on race and racism and the impact of both on our lives. We all have our story, whether "right" or "wrong," it's our story and these gatherings are places where we can share our stories together. These facilitator-led conversations will provide a safe space to deepen our dialogue and raise our collective consciousness around race and racism in our city and ourselves. See sign up sheet to RSVP for one of these dates:

Sunday, March 29th 6-8 pm at Mel and Linda's home.

Please join us-- you have a story inside you waiting to be told. -- powerlinks

Sunday Worship Roles:

Nursery: Alex, Sylvia, Chloe

Greeter: Mel

Usher: Linda

Snack: Drick and Cynthia

Next week:

Nursery: Dorianna, Mark, Erin
Greeter: Sylvia
Usher: Bryan
Snack: Mel & Linda Esh

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL SERIES ON RESPONDING TO EVIL

3/29 Jesus' definition of evil (facilitated by Anne Y.)
4/05 Easter -- no S.S.
4/12 Individual evil/wickedness (facilitated by Amy W.)
4/19 Corporate evil/wickedness (facilitated by Sherri M.)
4/26 Church Retreat -- no S.S.
5/03 Biblical women and nonviolent resistance (facilitated by Anne Y.)
5/10 Training/leading our children (facilitated by Amy W.)
5/17 Biblical men and nonviolent resistance (facilitated by Sherri M.)
5/24 Anabaptists and nonviolent resistance (facilitated by Anne Y. & Sherri M.)

WPMF Events and Announcements:

For Holy week Observances check the website or copy this link:

<http://www.wpmf.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/2015-Holy-Week-Observances.pdf>

Pastor Lorie will be taking a few days off and will be out of town Sunday afternoon – Wed morning. Contact one of the Elders with any pastoral care needs during that time.

We have a new logo and website design! Be sure to check out our new website at www.wpmf.org. We are still in the process of updating info, if you are having trouble navigating the site please feel free to reach out to Dorianna at wpmf@wpmf.org. A special thank you to Reuben Wetherbee, Michael Turk, and Lorie Hershey for working with designer, Luan Jenkins to complete this project.

The WPMF youth group is partnering with Goshen College for a fundraiser for MCUSA Convention in Kansas City this summer. Goshen is working with a coffee roaster/distributor in Peru, Chanchamayo Highland Coffee, to purchase direct-trade coffee. The beans are purchased green from Peru and shipped to Indiana for roasting and packaging. Each bag costs \$12

and you can get ground or whole bean. Of that \$12/bag, \$5 will come back to our youth group to go toward convention, \$1 will go to either Mennonite Mission Network or Mennonite Central Committee and the remaining \$6 will go toward the cost of the coffee, packaging and distribution. Connect with any of the junior or senior high youth group members to place your order. Money is needed at the time of the order and checks can be made payable to WPMF. We'll be making regular bulk orders and you'll be able to pick up your coffee in the office after church. This fundraiser will be ongoing up to June. If you have any questions, please contact Brooke Blough.

There will not be a fellowship meal in April. Our next monthly meal will be Sunday, May 3, after Sunday School. Please bring **food** to share, along with your own **plates/cups** to continue making progress towards producing less trash. A dishwashing station will be available to all who wish to use it. Silverware will be provided. Come spend time with others and share in a meal together.

Save the date for this year's Church Retreat: April 24-26, 2015 at Tel Hai Camp. There's always lots of laughter, time for games, sports or quiet walks, and reconnecting to God and one another. Jane Hooper Peifer will be our speaker on Saturday morning sharing on the theme of faith formation through the seasons of life.

Events from our Community and Networks:

MCC Action for Pastor Max and the 2,000 + individuals caught in a in a series of ICE raids dubbed "Operation Cross Check" the week of March 2. Join people across the country to call the Department of Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson's office at (202) 282-8203 to confront them about deporting Pastor Max and others. Though ICE has said they are deporting the "worst of the worst" criminals, in fact, nearly half of those picked up had only misdemeanor convictions. <http://mcc.org/get-involved/advocacy/alert/continue-support-pastor-max-others>

POWER is organizing a Fast for Family Values, calling our State Legislature to provide fair and full funding for public education in the state budget. Pennsylvania must not keep funding corporations off the backs of our children. Sign up to fast for one or more days:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1-WPxfitnaJ86Xa458yIzCJcrE9mF72n08EIuGAy9yp4/viewform>

And watch for details later in April for a congregational day of fasting. We will be seeking to influence Rep. James Roebuck to become a champion of a bill for

a Full and Fair Funding Formula. So as we fast, let us also be praying and working for Rep Roebuck to take the lead on this initiative in the State Legislature

Early PA Settlers and their Relationships with Native Americans will be the theme for the **2015 Librarians & Friends' Workshop** on **Saturday, April 11** at the **Mennonite Heritage Center**. Featured speakers will be Ervin Stutzman and John Ruth. Cost is \$15 for a luncheon and the workshops, and registration begins at 8:00 am. For more information or to register, contact buxmontchurchlibrarians@gmail.com or Mary Grieser at 215-872-2585.

The Bible through Anabaptist Eyes: Christ at the Center" - a seminar on biblical interpretation - will be held Saturday, **April 18**, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm at Penn View Christian School. Laura Brenneman, Terry Brensinger and Dennis Edwards will interact with participants through presentations and discussion. Pre-registration is required at franconiaconference.org/rsvp. The event is free but donations for lunch will be accepted. Sponsored by the Ministerial Committee of Franconia Conference.

A conversation on interreligious dialogue: "New Steps in the Cosmic Dance of Dialogue" Friday, April 24, 2015; 6-9 pm @ Temple University. Conversation with [Sr. Joan Chittister](#), [Paul Knitter](#), [Leonard Swidler](#) and others. Bring your questions and join other interfaith activists. The program will also include a light fare reception and book signing. Hosted by the Dialogue Institute.

The MCC Festival and Auction is entering its 5th year. There has been some significant turnover in leadership in the past two years on the core planning committee. **The 2015 planning committee is looking for someone to help with auction planning for this coming year.** If you would consider volunteering on the planning committee or have questions about the commitment involved please contact Ken Beidler, chair of Festival planning committee @ kenbeidler@yahoo.com or call 215-203-6800. Thanks.

STAR Level I at EMU-Lancaster, Pa.

This Strategies for Trauma Awareness and Resilience level I training is a five-day educational and experiential training, that brings together restorative justice, human security, spirituality and conflict transformation and will be held **June 8-12, 2015** at Eastern Mennonite University in Lancaster, Pa.

STAR Level I training is a course for those whose work brings them in contact with populations dealing with historic or current trauma. Pastors, social

workers and counselors are some of the people who have benefited from STAR training. For more info follow this link:

<http://www.emu.edu/events/detail.php?id=21061>

Eastern University Urban Studies Educational Forum

Thursday, April 9th from 6:30-9:00 PM

Eastern University Falls Center, 3300 Henry Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19129

The Urban Studies Department of Eastern University presents its Spring Educational Forum entitled *The Triple Bottom Line of Sustainable Neighborhood Development*. This workshop will be facilitated by Eastern University 2013 alumnus, Troy Hannigan, who has previous experience with Habitat Humanity of Philadelphia and currently works for Community Ventures, a non-profit affordable housing developer. Troy will discuss case studies of affordable housing developments utilizing sustainable practice as well as lead attendees in a planning exercise.

This event costs \$5 and is open to the general public, but space is limited. To RSVP, please contact Whitney Monn at [215-769-3121](tel:215-769-3121) or wmonn@eastern.edu **by Thursday, April 2, 2015.**

Dinner will be provided.

Italian Buffet to benefit Heeding God's Call: Saturday, April 18, 6:00-8:00pm at Tabernacle United Church, 3700 Chestnut St. Tickets are \$25 or \$30 at the door, to RSVP contact Gail Golden at gailheeing@gmail.com

1st Annual Family fun run & walk, Sunday, May 31, 10:00am, Sewell, NJ Come out and join for our 1st annual "YOU MATTER" family fun run and walk. The course runs

through Washington Lake Park, a beautiful 410+ acre park complex in Washington Township, New Jersey.

This is a family event that includes a 3K family walk and a 5K run. For more details visit: <https://runsignup.com/Race/NJ/Sewell/YoumatterJoeDeRose>

Registration for Mennonite World Conference's Assembly, "Pennsylvania 2015," is now open. Go to www.mwc-cmm.org/pa2015registration to learn more, and to register for this global gathering of worship and fellowship, to be held **July 21-26, 2015, in Harrisburg, PA.** This is a once-in-a-generation event!

Penn's School of Social Policy & Practice to address racial tensions, host two-part discussion on post-Ferguson society

In the wake of heightened racial tension, civil unrest and the events that unfolded in Ferguson, MI, Penn's School of Social Policy & Practice (SP2) Dean John L. Jackson, Jr. was faced with the question, "How does SP2 respond?" The short answer is "**Discussions on Prejudice, Privilege, and Policing in a Post-Ferguson America,**" a two-part series of panel discussions concerning the shooting of Michael Brown, the role of law enforcement and the aftermath in communities across the nation.

The first of two events in the series will take place on Monday, March 30 from 6 to 8 p.m. and will include a look at race and the criminal justice system. Other items to be examined are racial profiling, police brutality, incarceration rates and more.

The second series installment will take place on Friday, April 17 from 6 to 8 p.m. and will focus on race and violence as presented and perpetuated by mainstream media.

Both events will take place on Penn's campus in Stiteler Hall, located at 208 S. 37th Street, Phila., PA and are free and open to the public.

For more information, please send an email to Jessica Bautista at bajess@sp2.upenn.edu or call 215-573-8408.

Announcements and Classified Ads:

Two of us (and a dog) are looking for 2 more folks to share the house with us, rooms available April or May.

I (Nancy Wygant) also organize a big collectively-run garden, about 15 minutes bike

ride from our house - so we're looking for housemates who are also interested in being an active part of the garden group, which is currently 7 households. We're not growing for market, but we do produce enough that none of us buy vegetables much.

The house is no smoking, no drugs. Looking for folks who enjoy hanging out, working together, share cooking sometimes (including big batches of tomato sauce, pickles, etc, in season). There's a shared space for arts & crafts. We're on a small & sociable block of South St Bernard, close to the 34 trolley and the Calvary Center. Respond to nwygant@gmail.com (Nancy Wygant)

We're Moving! Responsible, employed couple Thomas and Emily Leischner are looking to move into a 1-2 bedroom apartment in West Philly this summer. If you know of any places opening up in the next few months, please let us know.

The agency Turning points for children (that Ariel and Brenda work for) is recruiting foster parents (now referred to as Resource Parents), specifically in the SW part of the city.

For further information, contact Andrea Sosnitskiy, Resource Home Coordinator for Turning Points for Children, 267-858-0523.

Recycle to support CityLights (the org. Carey Davis runs). CityLights receives money for any of the donated items listed below, including damaged items. So clear out your used up toner, old cell phones and broken Mp3 players to help us raise money for our work in Southwest Philadelphia! Accepted items include: Any used Laser/InkJet printer cartridge, used cell phones, GPS receivers, Digital cameras, Mp3 players and laptops. Drop these off at our office over the next few weeks.