

# CONNECTION

SEPTEMBER 2015

Vol. 5 No. 9

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## PINTO MENNONITE CHURCH

“In Christ's body we're all connected to each other...”

Eph 4:25 , *The Message*

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**T O T H E H**  
**HARVEST**  
**IS**  
**PLENTIFUL**  
**BUT THE**  
**WORKERS**  
**ARE FEW**  
**S A I D B L S C I P L E S**  
**T H E N T H E S**  
**M A T T H E W 9 : 2 7**



### **Sunday, September 6**

Gathering Music: Denny Brown  
Children's Lesson: Jo-Nel Geyer  
Offertory: Jan Livengood  
Scripture: Psalm 65  
Message: Pastor Merle

### **Sunday, September 13**

Prelude & Offertory: Carla Brown  
Children's Lesson: Jan Livengood  
Jr. Worship: Women's Bible Class  
Scripture: Psalm 51  
Message: Pastor Merle

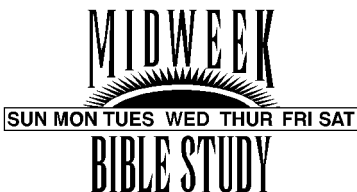
### **Sunday, September 30**

Music: *Celebration*  
Offertory: Dawn Dayton, Aaron & Beth Livengood  
Special Guests: Chris and Melody Riddle and family

Noon: Fellowship Meal

### **Sunday, September 27**

Prelude & Offertory: Jan Livengood  
Music leader: Doris Ours  
Jr. Worship: Women's Bible Class  
Message: Guest speaker



Join in Bible Study  
every Wednesday evening  
at 6:30 after the Family  
Night Meal for discussion  
and encouragement!

**IT'S BACK  
TO SCHOOL  
TIME!**



The Pinto Church Back 2 School picnic was held on Sunday evening, August 23 in the pavilion. Those school children present sang "This Little Light of Mine" as a reminder for all to be the light of Jesus to those we meet.

Remember to pray for students, teachers, bus drivers, and other staff as the new school year begins.



## **SHARING AROUND THE TABLE IN ITALY**

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*Chris and Melody Riddle with sons Micah, Adam, and Isaiah served in Bari, Italy from 2007 through 2014. They will be at Pinto on Sunday, September 20, to share in the worship service and fellowship with us. Following is an excerpt from an article written by Chris in March, 2015.*

### **Come to the Table**

The idea of meeting around the table for a meal and talking, listening and telling stories is all a part of the Mediterranean culture and has been for centuries. It is a tradition that continues even today. During our time in Italy, we were able to experience fellowship and community at the table many, many times. These were opportunities for us to share in the lives of people and to share with them the hope of Christ.

There were two families in particular that we ate with regularly. The first family had come out of the Jehovah's Witnesses and for many years, this group forbid them to interact with their families. This group restricted them from going to Christmas or Easter meals with their families. They could not attend an event held in a Roman Catholic Church building, such as a funeral or wedding of a family member. These regulations tore at their hearts and divided the family.

As our relationship grew with this family, we realized how close knit they were, as many Italian families are. Every Sunday the extended family would gather at the parents' home for lunch; it was tradition. After some time, a couple of family members came to one of our "Family Nights" at church. Soon after that event, their family invited us to one of their family events for a meal. At each of these meals, we talked about food, sports and politics, but there were always questions about what we believed and we were able to share our faith within the family. It was a true blessing to be able to be at the table with them.

The second family invited us to lunch once and it grew into a weekly event for over two years. When we started, the husband said to us more than once, "I cannot put faith in a god who permits so much evil to happen! I am an atheist." We remained at the table with him. (Continued)

Time passed, meals were shared and the message of the Gospel of Christ was told over and over. The love that flows out of the Gospel over flowed into the life of this family. The wife accepted Christ and received baptism. The husband began to read the Bible and in less than one year read it completely. The relationship between husband and wife improved as did the relationship between the father and his two children. All of this took place as we interacted at the table.

We are no longer in Italy and do not have the opportunity to be with these families regularly. They, however, continue to grow and share the Gospel with those around them. Both families are a part of the current Bible study, "Experiencing God", which meets twice a month at the Bari church. They are also reaching out to their extended family with the message of the Gospel and they are doing it at the table of fellowship.

This is our goal within the church; to bring people to relationship with Christ (make disciples) so that they can do the same in the future. It is a joy and an honor when we see this lived out. It is a pleasure to do this work when we come to the table.



Micah, Adam & Isaiah enjoy a New Year's meal with friends at the home of Elena's sister. *Photo: Chris Riddle*

# All Aboard for the Pinto Community Block Party! August 15, 2015



Serious Corn Hole Competition!



Lots of Good Food!



Great music in the pavilion!



Fun for the young and young at heart!!



They let just anybody ride this train!

## **WORLD'S ATTIC IN NEW LOCATION**

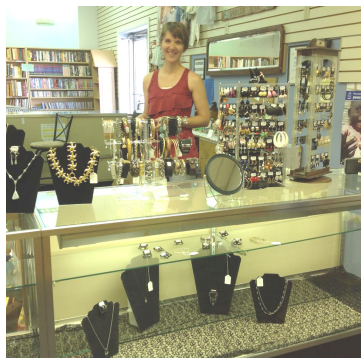
World's Attic is now open in a new location in Somerset, just three blocks down the street at 304 W. Main St. (the former site of the Christian book store).

The store held its Grand Re-Opening on July 31 and Aug 1 to celebrate this new step in the ministry that seeks to serve the community and support the mission of MCC in the name of Christ.

Linda Geissinger, the East Coast coordinator for Mennonite Central Committee U.S. was present for the ribbon-cutting ceremony along with members of the Board of Directors, and Larry Culp, the building's new owner. The store is one of 58 Mennonite Central Committee thrift shops across the country that make money to provide resources during crises across the world.

The new location features a larger, well-lit, and attractive retail area which is accessible to all. There are now 20 convenient parking spots. Donations can be dropped off at street level (the door on the right) between 9:30 - 4:00 daily, except Sunday.

For more than 30 years, volunteers have donated items to sell, money, remodeling and maintenance skills, and most of all, time, to this mission. Volunteers are the foundation of this effort and there is always need for more people who are willing to make this one of their personal means of service.





# History *looking back*

(Taken from Pinto Mennonite Church Bulletins)

## **25 Years Ago (1990)**

- A “Back to School” program planned by Gail Rotruck and Rhoda Schaller was presented on a Sunday evening.
- Seventeen young people were sent to Laurelville Church Center this summer for camp at a cost of \$1350.00.
- Krista Brenneman presented a Sunday evening program about her recent trip to Russia.
- Towels were being collected for a MCC material aid project.
- Sunday School was dismissed early on August 26 for special exercises to be held for promotions, attendance awards, and installation of Sunday School officers and teachers and assistants.

## **50 Years Ago (1965)**

- A thank you note was received from the Lester Reall family to those who helped in the building of their garage.
- The MYF held a car wash in Maple Lane. The price was \$1.50 which included an inside and outside job.
- August 22 was the 39th anniversary of the dedication of the church house.
- A Sunday School Picnic was held on the Short Gap Fire Co. grounds with an attendance of 96.
- The Council appointed the following to compose a Constitutional Revision Committee: Virginia Moreland, M.J. Livengood, Mahlon Miller (Pastor), and Will Blake.
- The Sunday Evening Program Committee prepared a schedule for every home. Each family was to check to see when they were on the program.

# BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

10 David Liller  
17 David Y. Dayton  
17 Marylan Liller  
22 Jan Livengood  
27 Jim Wolford

18 Don & Sharon Smith  
22 Nathan & Jennifer Light

