

Kitchener Mennonite Brethren Church

19 Ottawa St. N.
Kitchener, ON N2H 3K2

Office Hours

M-F, 9am-5pm
(p) 519-745-5144
(f) 519-745-8683
(e) office@kitchenermb.com
(w) www.kitchenermb.com

Pastors

Vidya Narimalla, Senior Pastor
Alex Suderman, Associate Pastor
Mark Beach, Youth Pastor

Other Staff

Phil Patton, Seniors Ministry
Louise Harback, Music Co-ordinator
David Dirks, Choir Director
Ann McInnis, Office Assistant
Antonio Avalos, Custodian

Church Leadership Board

Harvey Goossen, Moderator
Irma Doerksen
Joyce Gingrich
John Funk
David Martin
Vidya Narimalla
Ed Penner
Don Snider



Vacation Bible School

August 8–12, 2011



**Exciting Programs for
JK–Grade 8**

**Pre-register by downloading a form at
www.kitchenermb.com**

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son.”

John 3:16-18

Kitchener Mennonite Brethren Church
Spring Issue 2011 Volume 4 Number 3

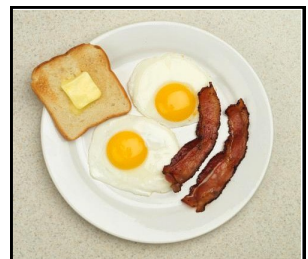
the loop



Vacation Bible School
August 8–12



Inbetweens Potluck
Sunday, May 15, Noon



Men's Breakfast
Saturday, April 30, 7am
Saturday, May 28, 7am

www.kitchenermb.com

Vidya's View

NOW WHAT?

³⁰When He was at the table with them, He took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them.

³¹Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. ³²They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while He talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"

Luke 24:30–32

Luke's gospel leaves the group of disciples and other companions in Jerusalem, waiting to be clothed with power from on high. And this has all happened during the early morning, daytime, evening, and nighttime of that first Easter Sunday.

Things have happened incredibly quickly for those disciples. But one crucial change has occurred: the despair and confusion have lifted and are replaced with incredible hope. There is suddenly something to work for and to live for; the community of Jesus' followers now has a mission and will soon receive the power from above to achieve that mission. And the foundation of that mission is faith in the power of God through the living, resurrected Jesus.

The essence of the story of Cleopas and his friend on the Emmaus Road is still a living experience for the community of Jesus' disciples today. It highlights two deeply significant ways in which the power of Jesus can be recognized and applied in our lives. Those early disciples allowed their faith in Jesus to open their minds to the message of Jesus supported by scriptures which spoke of Him; and they opened their hearts to the revelation of His continuing presence with them at the breaking of the bread.

These two great fundamentals of Christian faith—the good news of Jesus interpreted through the scriptures, and the presence of Jesus represented through the breaking of the bread—have been at the heart of the Christian tradition since the earliest days.

When these two—the message of the gospel, and the breaking of bread—came together on the journey to Emmaus, the effect was certainly dramatic for Cleopas and his friend.

Perhaps it's no longer as dramatic for us. We don't easily experience the emotions of that first Easter Sunday when we come here 2000 years later. Much time has passed; it's not easy to cross the cultural divide between Jesus' day and our day. And yet, as a Christian community trying to follow our Lord's teachings, we've found no better way to allow Jesus to come to us, speak to us, and take a leading influence in our lives than by absorbing the message of Jesus, and by receiving the gift of Jesus.

We can probably each recall those rare and special transcendent moments when we seem to have come close to God, or have experienced a particularly deepened truth within our faith journey. Those are surely the times when our hearts burn deep within us as we hear His voice. Those are the revelations to our deepest selves that the living Jesus has been alongside us and is present with us.

The experience of the first disciples on the Emmaus Road, being lifted out of despair and confusion into a place of joy, confidence, wholeness, and understanding through their encounter with the living Jesus, shows that these, indeed, are channels by which God's grace, and the love and companionship of the risen Jesus, come into our lives.

May each of us experience that "burning" in our hearts as we celebrate Christ's resurrection once again this Easter. A blessed Easter to each of you!

Vidya and Gwen Narimalla

Travelling On My Knees

Last night I took a journey to a land across the seas.
I didn't go there by ship or plane—I travelled on my knees.

I saw so many people there in bondage to their sin,
And Jesus told me I should go, as there were souls to win.

But I said, "Jesus, I can't go to the lands across the seas."
He answered quickly, "Yes, you can—by travelling on your knees."

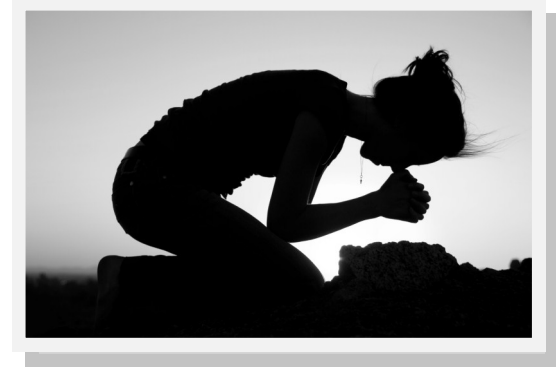
He said, "You pray, I'll meet the need. You call, and I will hear.
It's up to you to be concerned for lost souls far and near."

And so I did; I knelt in prayer, gave up some hours of ease,
And with the Saviour by my side—I travelled on my knees.

As I prayed on, I saw souls saved and twisted persons healed.
I saw the strength of men renewed, while they laboured in His field.

I said, "Yes, Lord, I'll take the job. Your heart I want to please.
I'll heed Your call and swiftly go—by travelling on my knees."

Sandra Goodwin



A Musical Paradox

Musicians are funny fellows:

When they work they play.

They are temperamental, yet they live in harmony.

They compose a whole song, yet it's only a piece.

They are stopped by a closed door, although they have almost thirty keys.

Their price is high, yet they write music for a song.

They are honest, yet they are constantly in the company of sharps.

They are not watchmakers, yet they regulate time.

They are not policemen, yet they have their beats.

They are not ruled by fashion, yet they have tone.

They are not rich, yet they are well supplied with quarters.

They are not fish, yet they have scales.

They are not drunkards, yet they devote themselves to bars.

They have notes they cannot cash; bars and staves they cannot lean on, flats they can't live in; scales that weigh nothing; no matter how busy they are, they always have time for rests.

Taken from the Choir Album published in 1956 in commemoration of the 25th anniversary of our Conductor, N. J. Fehderau, by the choir of Kitchener Mennonite Brethren Church.

Submitted by Jake Loewen

Kids Alive

We have had our last Kids Alive meeting for this school year and concluded with a Family Supper of 70 people in our gym Monday, April 18. The parents had been invited to join us for supper after the regular program.

We have encouraged the children to take part in Tel-A-Story (dial 1-877-456-0456), where they can hear a Christian story that changes every day, Monday to Friday. The children in Grades 1 to 6 received Book 1 of the Wonder Devotional Series with 60 daily readings that encourage a special time with God each day.

In the last few weeks, several children expressed their response to the Good News of salvation and their decision to follow Christ. We thank God for each child and pray that God will work in each life to bring the seeds of truth that have been planted to fruition. We thank you for your continued prayer.

Thanks to the leaders, Ami Joy Anderson, Carl Dahmer, Johanna Dyck, Wanda Gretzinger, Lyn Roy, Alex Suderman, Betty Thiessen, Heidi Thiessen, Bonnie Warkentin, and Sarah Weber, who committed their “Mondays-after-school” to this ministry for children JK to Grade 6 leading creative crafts, greeting parents and kids, organizing free-play games, talking with the kids, preparing meaningful Bible lessons, leading floor hockey, developing meaningful friendships with the kids. Thanks also to the KMB ladies who baked wonderful cookies for our snacks, as well as to those who helped prepare our Family Supper.

Louise Harback



Out with the old . . .



. . . and in with the new!

Water heater installation April 8, 2011

More Than Easter Bunnies



For many, Easter means a four-day weekend, a time to sleep off all the chocolates and sweets they have consumed that week. For others, Easter means long hours listening to their “once a year” sermon. For me, and for all followers of Christ, Easter is unquestionably the most important of our celebrations. Easter is the sequence of events surrounding Jesus’ death, burial, and resurrection. However, these events alone mean nothing without looking at the underlying theme: sacrifice.

Many examples of small sacrifices exist in our world today and provide us with an in-depth understanding. Oftentimes, students do not have enough bus tickets to get home from school. Friends, or even strangers, give them a ticket, which is usually not returned. This is an example of a small sacrifice of money. Time and effort can also be given sacrificially.

Recently, the other trumpet player for this year’s school musical spent her lunch hour helping me learn some songs I was having real trouble with. As a result, I feel much more confident in my ability to play them. She willingly gave up her time to help me improve with no reward or benefit to herself. These are instances where one individual gave up something for another. They are sacrifices, but not *the* Sacrifice.

Consider this: a convicted serial killer is serving out his final day on death row. In just a few minutes the guards will escort him from his cell for the last time, and he will die for the crimes he committed. Just as he is about to sit on the electric chair, another man walks into the room. This other man speaks softly to the guards. Then the guards open the door and take the convicted killer outside. They release his handcuffs and set him free. At the gate, he turns back, puzzled. “How can I really be free?” A guard looks at him and laughs, “The other man died in your place.”

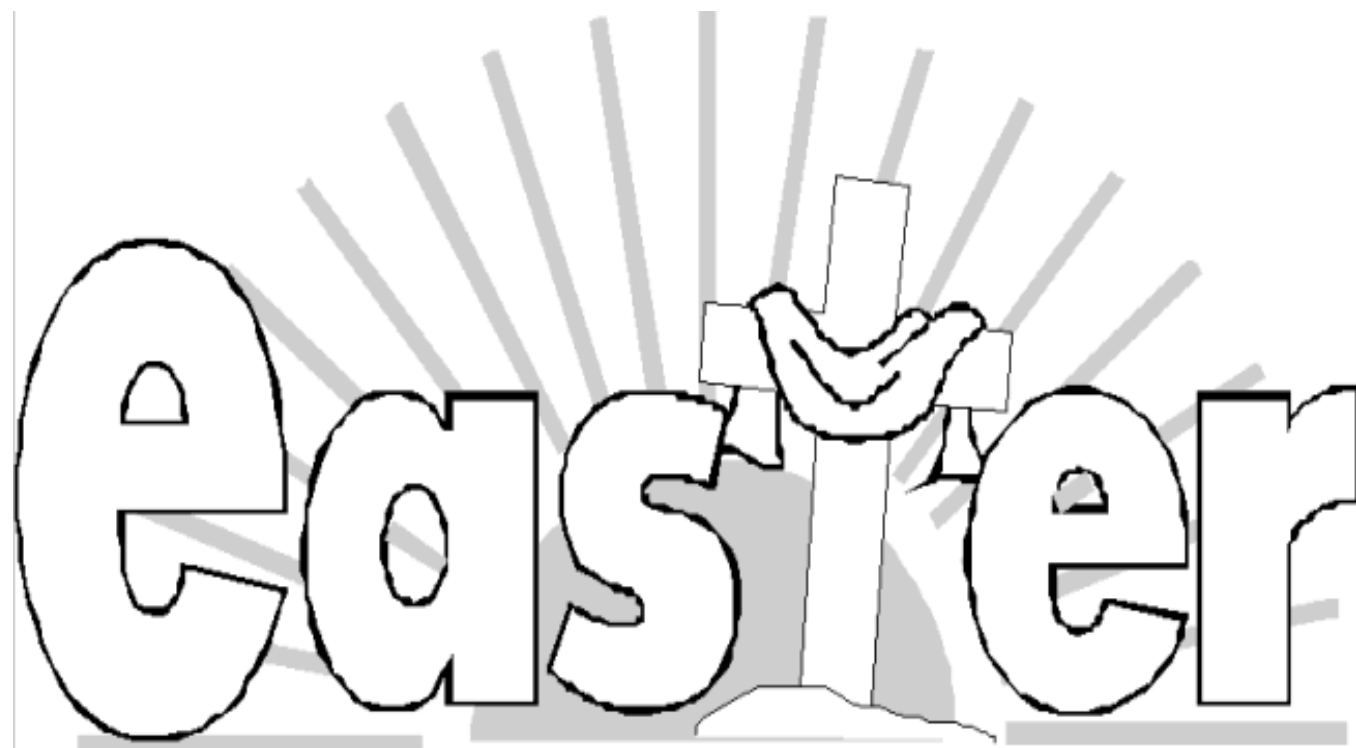
I came across this illustration of Jesus’ ultimate sacrifice for us when reading *Thicker than Blood* by C. J. Darlington, and I was struck by how accurately she portrayed the situation. The man killed in place of the criminal is Jesus, who died on the cross so we would not. The natural penalty of sin, something common amongst all humans, is death . . . “For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 6:23). By voluntarily taking those sins upon Himself, Jesus paid that debt for us. Just as the serial killer didn’t deserve to have someone die in his place, we do not deserve to spend Eternity in Heaven with God either. However, through His grace and mercy, He chose to walk up that painful path to Calvary.

Jesus voluntarily suffered immense anguish and complete separation from God, who cannot be part of any evil. We know this because on the cross Jesus cried out, “My God, my God! Why have you forsaken me?” (Matthew 27:46). He did this in order to save us: the Ultimate Sacrifice. By confessing we are sinful and need forgiveness and through the saving power of Jesus, we are guaranteed to spend forever in God’s presence, having a close and meaningful relationship with our Father.

For Christians, this is what Easter means: not just a happy time spent snacking and laughing with family, but a time of reflection and heartfelt appreciation for our wonderful, loving, and Sacrificial Saviour. 1 Peter 4:1 says, “So then, since Christ suffered physical pain, you must arm yourselves with the same attitude he had, and be ready to suffer too.” Although this passage refers specifically to physical pain, as willing followers striving to become closer to God, we should also imitate all of His work. This includes helping the poor and sick, old and young, and spending time with society’s undesirables. For some, this help may be practical; for others, more financial. A sacrifice is something we personally find hard to do or give up. As a result, each person’s sacrifice will be different. However, all Christians have one thing in common: like the popular children’s bracelet says, we must all try to do “what Jesus would do.”

Therefore, as we get ready for Easter—baking Paska, hiding chocolate eggs, and spending time with family—we remember Christ’s sacrifice for our sins, and try to give something back, by giving something of ourselves to others.

*All scripture verses were taken from the New Living Translation, copyright 2007.



Word Search

How Many
Can You Find?

- Cross
- Risen
- Tomb
- Calvary
- Forgiven
- Sunday
- Good Friday
- Jesus
- Nails
- Empty

E	C	I	A	E	G	U	T	H	A	T	G	S
R	A	S	D	F	O	R	S	H	I	O	O	P
B	L	S	S	D	L	N	I	U	O	E	O	R
H	V	C	T	T	G	D	M	S	C	W	D	H
C	A	A	S	E	M	P	T	Y	E	Y	F	G
J	R	L	S	O	R	N	I	M	A	N	R	O
E	Y	V	T	P	I	C	R	O	S	S	I	L
S	T	S	O	O	D	H	S	R	O	W	D	G
U	E	S	M	L	S	F	N	M	J	K	A	O
S	S	U	B	J	S	U	N	D	A	Y	Y	T
I	G	F	O	R	G	I	V	E	N	E	M	H
I	V	S	N	A	I	L	S	A	Y	R	O	A
M	O	A	O	R	G	I	V	T	O	B	S	S

A Reflection on Lent



For a number of years now, the season of Lent has brought on a familiar question: So, what are you giving up for Lent? The motives behind giving something up for Lent are good, reflecting a desire to make space to focus on God and the meaning of Easter. All too often, however, the conversation and activities revolve more around what we have given up than why we gave them up in the first place. I have heard and been a part of many conversations discussing how difficult it is to go without coffee or chocolate, but I can't remember the last time I heard a conversation on the activities of prayer and reflection that have replaced them.

So, this year I decided to give up giving things up for Lent. Instead, this year I am refocusing on the purpose and taking up something for Lent. The spiritual discipline of daily devotions has always been one that I have had difficulty maintaining. So I am taking up daily devotions for Lent, and hopefully I will be able to build a habit that will continue long after the last Easter egg has been found and the last of the paska has been eaten.

Some days it has been relatively easy to sit down with my devotional book and my Bible and spend some time with God's word. Those are the mornings when I wake up earlier than everyone else and I am having breakfast by myself before heading to work. Other mornings are more difficult, with kids who need to be fed and changed and the hustle and bustle of a family breakfast. The trick, it seems, is to wake up early enough that I get some time to myself to do devotions before everyone else wakes up and my children's needs take precedence. This is easier said than done, however, since I don't always get to decide when they wake up.

I had thought of moving my devotional time to the evening, but evenings are busy too and there are some very significant benefits to doing it in the morning. I have found that my morning devotions have a profound effect on the rest of my day. Comparing my days since starting this Lenten activity to those before, I have to admit that I am more relaxed and feel more centred throughout my day when I have started the day with devotions and prayer. I would like to say that it has made me a better husband and a better father as well, but you would have to ask my wife and children about that since my opinion wouldn't exactly be objective on the matter. It's a little bit like adding a bit of Sunday to every day of the week. Sunday has long been a day to set aside our work to worship and spend time with family and friends. It is kind of like that moment when you get to sit down on the couch and put your feet up after a long day. It feels great and it's greatly needed. Every day needs a few minutes like that. A few minutes to take a deep, cleansing breath and say, "I don't know what this day holds, Lord, but I'm giving it up to you."

One thing is for certain: if the purpose of Lent is to refocus us on Christ and His sacrifice, then this Lenten season has been a great success and I didn't even have to stop drinking coffee. The ensuing headaches would have been a huge distraction anyway.

Dan Wohlgenut

Cherry Cake with Streusel Topping

In the early days of the New Hamburg MCC Relief Sale, the ladies of the Women's Missionary Society were asked to donate baking. We were given a special recipe, and on Friday, May 25, 1973 many cakes were baked and sent to the Sale.

Since that time I have baked this recipe hundreds of times with cherries, peaches, plums, rhubarb, or apples. It is very simple.

Ingredients: 1½ cups flour
1 cup sugar
2 teaspoons baking powder
1 teaspoon salt
2 eggs
milk
⅓ cup melted butter (now I use oil)
1 teaspoon vanilla

Method: Sift together flour, sugar, baking powder, and salt. Put eggs into a measuring cup, and fill to 1-cup mark with milk. Beat and stir into flour mixture. Add butter and vanilla, and beat well. Pour into 9" × 13" pan. Spread fruit neatly over cake.

Streusel Topping:

Crumble together: 1 cup flour
¾ cup sugar
½ cup butter (or margarine)
½ teaspoon cinnamon

Cover cake with streusel topping. Bake 40 minutes in preheated 350°F oven.



Submitted by Johanna Dyck

The 2011 Mennonite Relief Sale in New Hamburg will be held May 27 & 28.

Easter Blessings in Poland

I love Easter and often remember Eastertime at my home in Poland on our farm where I grew up. Many countries have their many customs. One special custom in German villages in Poland took place very early at dawn on Easter Sunday morning.

The Lutheran brass band travelled from house to house playing Easter hymns outside the windows of people's homes. It was very special and festive. They carried on this tradition for many years but stopped during World War II out of fear of Hitler's stern opposition to churches.

A group of us girls felt sad and fearlessly decided that we would continue this musical custom. So out we marched, rain or shine, with our guitars and young voices. We had fun and were really blessed. It is this blessing that I still feel to this day at Easter.

Elsie Hein

From the Desk of Alex Suderman

I want to begin by thanking all those who gave their time and talent to our Christian education ministry this past year. We have the privilege, but also the great task, of teaching through our words and example the significance of Jesus Christ. There is nothing wrong with week in and week out providing this "Sunday School answer." We have just completed the season of Lent and now it is Easter, the highest point on the Christian calendar. It is my heart and desire that everyone in our community come to realize the profound work that Jesus accomplished through his life and death. For the past 200 years or so, the significance of Jesus' crucifixion has been severely questioned. How can the phenomenon of this Jewish man named Jesus—who lived 2000 years ago and died on a Roman cross—be relevant for me today in our modern, scientific age? The connection between now and then is the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The significance of the cross is revealed in the resurrection. Jesus Christ, the crucified One, is alive and well and has all the relevance in the world through His living presence alone.

This reality of the real bodily resurrection of Jesus has also been seriously questioned since the Enlightenment. Well-meaning Christians and scholars prefer to see the language of the resurrection—the language that was used by the early church to describe their faith in Jesus—as "metaphorical." To them, the mode is not as important as the meaning. In other words, what is important is what the resurrection means, not that it actually happened. But the medium *is* the message. That Jesus has really been resurrected means that death and sin are actually conquered. We now live in the new age where Jesus has brought in the kingdom of God. He is the first fruits. Now we are people of the resurrection, waiting for the hope of the new creation. This is where our faith and life must be completely grounded. The cross is relevant to us because Jesus lives and reveals himself to us by His Holy Spirit. By faith we can apprehend the truth of Easter and be inspired to live as though Jesus really is the Lord of this world. Let us keep bearing witness to this wonderful reality with the strength God gives us this Easter season.

Alex Suderman

After School Program

The sounds of birds chirping as the sun desperately attempts to peek out from behind the clouds. Early morning rain showers and melting snow. All of these things scream of springtime. With the coming of spring, however, comes the end of one of our programs for the season. The After School program has been incredibly successful. We watched students grow in their relationships with one another, their leaders, and most importantly God. It has been an amazing year. Students learned many foundational truths concerning God and the plans that He has for their lives, but it didn't stop there.

As the students came out each week, they were encouraged to interact with one another through free time, small groups, game time, and snack time. Students have even gained life experience in how to step up and take responsibility when given a particular task. Much of this responsibility was displayed in both snack prep and cleanup. It was a joy to have students go from complaining about having to clean up to fighting over who got to rinse or put away the dishes.

As this season of After School comes to a close, I would like to thank each and every person who has supported this group. Your prayers have not been in vain. The students are growing and maturing and, with God's help, they are beginning to make Christ-like choices in their decisions.

Katelyn Mast

Resource Centre

New Books March 2011

Adult Fiction

- Alexander, Tamera. *Within My Heart*. Timber Ridge Reflections #3.
 Afshar, Tessa. *Pearl in the Sand*.
 Baer, Judy. *An Unlikely Blessing*.
 Brunstetter, Wanda E. Brides of Lehigh Canal Series: Books 1–3
 Bunn, Davis and Janette Oke. *The Damascus Way*. Acts of Faith #3.
 Bunn, Davis. *Gold of Kings*. Storm Syrrell Adventure #1
 Chaikin, Linda. *Tuesday's Child*. A Day to Remember #2.
 Chaikin, Linda. *Wednesday's Child*. A Day to Remember #3.
 Clark, Mindy Starns and Leslie Gould. *The Amish Midwife*. The Women of Lancaster County #1.
 Hannon, Irene. *Against All Odds*. Heroes of Quantico #1.
 Peterson, Tracie. *Embers of Love*. Striking a Match #1.
 Sawyer, Kim Vogel. *Courting Miss Amsel*.
 Singer, Randy. *Fatal Convictions*.
 Snelling, Lauraine. *A Heart for Home*.
 Strobel, Alison. *Reinventing Rachel*.
 Whitlow, Robert. *Greater Love*. Tides of Truth #3.
 Wick, Lori. The Californians Series: Books 1–4.
 Wiseman, Beth. *Seek Me With All Your Heart*. Land of Canaan #1.
 Wiseman, Beth. *Plain Proposal*. Daughters of the Promise #5.

Adult Non-Fiction

- Briscoe, Jill. *Spiritual Arts: Mastering the Disciplines for a Rich Spiritual Life*.
 Kent, Carol. *Between a Rock and a Grace Place: Divine Surprises in the Tight Spots of Life*.
 Kraybill, Donald B., Steven M. Nolt and David L. Weaver-Zercher. *Amish Grace: How Forgiveness Transcended Tragedy*.
 Longacre, Doris Janzen. *Living More with Less: 30th Anniversary Edition*.
 Redekop, Calvin, ed. *Creation & Environment: An Anabaptist Perspective on a Sustainable World*.
 Stanford, Shane. *A Positive Life: Living with HIV as a Pastor, Husband, and Father*.
 Zacharias, Ravi. *Has Christianity Failed You?*
 Zehr, Paul M. *1 & 2 Timothy, Titus*.

Children

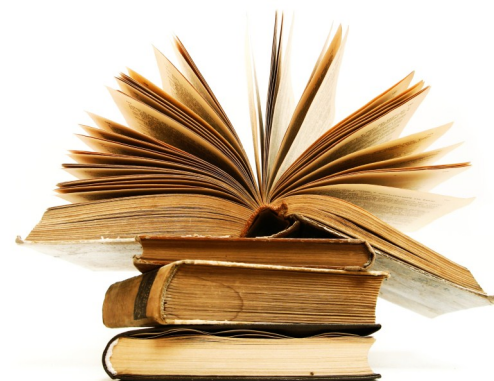
- Berenstain, Jan and Mike. *The Berenstain Bears and the Joy of Giving*.
 Berenstain, Jan and Mike. *The Berenstain Bears: Kindness Counts*.
 Berenstain, Jan and Mike. *The Berenstain Bears: The Forgiving Tree*.
 Wilson, Karma. *Mortimer's First Garden*.

Junior Fiction

- Camp Club Girls Series: Books 1–3.
 Black, Chuck. The Kingdom Series: Books 1–6.
 Cote, Jenny L. *The Ark, the Reed & the Fire Cloud*.
 Cote, Jenny L. *The Dreamer, the Schemer & the Robe*.
 Suggs, Rob. *The Comic Book Bible*.

Youth Fiction

- Byrd, Sandra. London Confidential Series: Books 1–4.
 Davis, Bryan. *The Candlestone*. Dragons in our Midst #2.



Seniors Moment

In May we have a trip booked to visit the "Ontario Christian Gleaners." Many of you may know about this group that processes food to ship overseas to countries in need. We will be given a tour to see what the numerous volunteers and staff do to meet their goals each month. Their website is www.ontariogleaners.org should you wish to acquaint yourself with this organization ahead of time. Please plan to arrive at KMB by 9:45am on Thursday, May 19th and we will car pool to our destination of 1550 Morrison Rd., Cambridge.

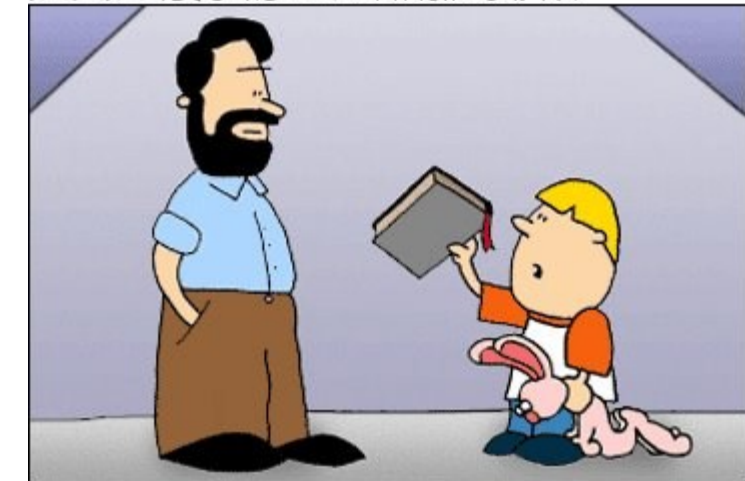
One further note: I am looking ahead to the fall for our seniors' bus trip this year. The spring and summer will be especially busy for our family from May to July. I will likely plan something for around mid September, for a great day's outing. Blessings to all of you and I remain "At your service!"—just a phone call away.

Philip Patton

"Easter says you can put truth in a grave, but it won't stay there."

Clarence W. Hall

REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT GCI, INC.



DAD, I NEED YOUR HELP TO FIND OUT WHERE IT TALKS ABOUT THE EASTER BUNNY IN THE BIBLE.

04-13-2006

Senior & Junior Youth

LASER QUEST

Saturday, May 7, 2011

5:50–8:45pm

Cost: \$18 / person
(includes three games, pizza, pop, and cake).

Permission form and money are due Sunday, May 1, 2011

Questions? Email youth@kitchenermb.com

