

## Benin Bible Institute Celebrates 30 Years

October 16-19 has been set aside for a 30th anniversary celebration at Benin Bible Institute. In 1984, Mennonite Board of Missions worker David Shank began a series of yearly leadership training “Bible seminars” in Benin in an effort to serve that country’s least served churches, the African Initiated Churches. Eventually this seminar format was adapted and became part of Benin Bible Institute’s largest training program, a three year part-time, 27 course program for persons already serving their church community in some capacity.

This weekend of celebrations will include the following:

- a presentation on “God’s Project for the Nations” by BBI Board President Pastor Frederic Djodjohouin;
- a “Bible Games” competition;
- a ceremony to honor retiring BBI building manager Theophane Boko;
- a worship service;
- and an evening of sharing memories.

By happy “coincidence,” Africa Inter-Mennonite Mission (AIMM) is holding a series of meetings in Benin over the same time period. This means that both Steve Wiebe-Johnson, Africa program Director for Mennonite Mission Network, and Rod Hollinger-Janzen as AIMM administrator, will be present for the celebrations.

—Rod Hollinger-Janzen



BBI students are shown at the 2012 graduation ceremony.

## Jan Oostland to Serve as Facilities Manager



We are pleased to announce Jan Oostland as our new congregational facilities manager, beginning Oct. 13. Jan brings extensive experience in working with and managing facilities, both from his work as facilities manager in prior employment and in his current roles with Nuway Construction and Maxima S.A., a company in Haiti that seeks to elevate people out of poverty through training and job creation.

In the role, Jan will seek to joyfully carry out Waterford’s ministry through maintaining the overall health of the church building, mechanical systems, the church house, and grounds. In the hiring process, we were especially grateful to hear of Jan’s desire to use a systems approach, helping to identify those in the congregation who are willing to use their own gifts in a particular area of facility maintenance. Examples of those are people who are currently involved in lawn care, oversight of the wetlands, plumbing, kitchen care, and other areas.

Because of the position is part time (about 8 hours per week), Jan will not have regular office hours. In the weeks to come, we will provide information about the best ways to be in touch with Jan about facilities issues, including naming how to pass along facility questions or concerns you might have.

—Search committee: Lyle Miller and Jim Fisher

**There will be no *Buzz* next  
Sunday, October 19.**



# Year of the Bible

READ IT STUDY IT PRAY IT LIVE IT

## Outdoor Party for YOTB Readers

A beautiful setting, outdoor games, s'mores around the bonfire, and even a hayride are the next opportunity for those participating in the Year of the Bible reading opportunity.

Those taking part in the challenge to read the Bible (or Shine On for families) are invited to an evening of recreation at Cynthia and Gordon Bontrager's home on Saturday, October 18, beginning at 6 p.m. Come after your supper to enjoy activities from among trail hikes, fishing, a hayride ride, a bonfire with s'mores, and more. Bring your corn hole, croquet, bocce, and other lawn games to add to the mix. Also, please bring lawn chairs and roasting sticks for hanging out at the fire.

The Bontrager home is at 70984 County Road 25, New Paris, which is a bit north of U.S. Highway 6. Come join others who have been exploring God's Word this fall.

## Catching up With the YOTB Reading Plan

Are you interested in joining with others who are reading through the Bible, but feeling like you can't because you've fallen behind or not gotten started? If so, there's a relatively straightforward way to join in the process.

In looking at the reading plan bookmarks (available on the table outside the sanctuary) or the Shine On reading plan for families, you'll see that it's set up in checklist fashion, with six readings per week. By switching to reading seven days per week, you will catch up in a span of about 36 weeks. Often it takes about 15 minutes to read a day's reading. At that pace, a block of 90 minutes will give you a boost by completing a week's worth of catch-up reading.

## YOTB "Characters Come to Life"

All are invited to our next special Sunday evening YOTB event which will be on October 26 from 5-6:30 pm at WMC. During our time together we will hear from Jane Ross Richer as we engage in a new type of Bible story telling that she and her family have used in cross cultural settings.

Together we will be dwelling with the biblical story of The Ark and the Tent and the Temple. Men are invited to come dressed as priests. We will conclude the evening together by enjoying a variety of homemade breads and rolls which will be provided (hint: bread is connected to the biblical story!). This event is geared towards all ages (children through our senior citizens!) so plan on coming for an engaging evening with your church family!

—Cindy Voth, pastor of community life

## Pants and Underpants

Prairie View Elementary is in need of pants and underwear for boys and girls ages 5-10 in various sizes. There will be a box near the office to receive your donations of clean, used, or new items for the next four Sundays, October 19-November 9.

## Trail Clean-Up Volunteers

Do you enjoy the outdoors? Do you marvel at nature's color and splendor, enjoy fellowship with others, want to make new friends? Then Saturday, October 25 is a day made for you!

Join others as we work on the church trails around the ponds. Volunteers are needed to help remove and carry brush away so we can continue to enjoy the use of our trails and wetlands. You will need a good pair of leather gloves, water proof footwear and long handled lopping shears if you have them (not necessary to participate).

We will start at 8:00 am Saturday morning and work until around noon or whenever everything is done. The more help we have the quicker will get done. For more information, contact one of the following people: Mark DeVito (574-238-7350), Conrad Brenneman, Bill Minter.

## Thank You

Thank you to the Waterford Church community for your love and support the last few weeks she was with us. The plant was beautiful and it was one of her favorites. Thanks to Neil and Velma for walking closely with us, and to the Pathfinder's Sunday school class for your ongoing love and support to Curt and I during this difficult journey and the wonderful meal you served for the viewing. We also want to thank the kitchen staff for the wonderful meal the day of the memorial service. It was much appreciated! We continue to covet your prayers as one part is over but another has just begun.

—Joanna Yoder for the family of Marilyn Yoder



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- Michelle Lehman  
Secretary
- Elvina Schmidt  
Bookkeeper
- JD Smucker  
Worship Coordinator

##### Custodial Ministry

- Judy Kniesly
- Courtney Shetler

##### Pastoral Ministry

- Neil Amstutz  
Pastoral Team Leader
- Lyle Miller  
Pastor of Family Life and  
Financial Stewardship
- Velma Swartz  
Pastor of Senior Ministries
- Cindy Voth  
Pastor of Community Life

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