



# SOJOURNS



Vol. XXXIV, Issue 21 The Newsletter of Sonnenberg Mennonite Church November 2, 2025

## SENIOR SAINTS November, 2025 Birthdays/Anniversaries



*Happy celebrating to our senior saints who have birthdays/anniversaries in November, 2025!*

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*Mike Lehman (69), Saturday, November 1*

*Trent Metcalf (73), Tuesday, November 4*

*Roy Steiner (81), Thursday, November 6*

*Iva Geiser (93), Friday, November 7*

*Ella Amstutz (89), Friday, November 14*

*Aldine Nussbaum (72), Friday, November 21*

*Ora Shetler (79), Tuesday, November 25*



*(The following comes from a special report rather than a regular newsletter the Oyangurens have shared with us to detail the*

*improvements made with funds sent earlier this year to purchase a bordering property and put a roof over the courtyard of the Sayaten Center)*



The first step was the purchase of the land in June. After several procedures, we were able to obtain the legal

document for the land. José, Héctor and Mauricio with the land document.

A group of Sayaten students helped to clean up the land. Everyone participated. We are about to



remove some small trees that will be a problem in the future. Other trees will be left to provide shade. We have also obtained broken bricks to possibly be used in construction. We are taking advantage of the opportunities.

We want to tell you that everyone who visits Sayaten is amazed and delighted to see how we have been able to move forward. Year after year the face of the Sayaten center is renewed. All of this is possible thanks to your support. Growth encourages, unites, and strengthens us. We will continue working toward a comprehensive transformation in the name of Jesus.

The construction of the roof took longer than expected. The

person responsible for the work had other commitments, but after a few weeks the work could begin. It is something incredible for



us. We are already planning new activities. The

young people also enjoy being in the courtyard more. Any time is a good time to play now. Volleyball never stops. the place is cooler, we have fewer hours of sunshine on our walls. Everything is a joy. Thank you for everything.



Sonnenberg is also Sayaten. Sayatenberg!

## NEWS & NOTES



**Meat Canning:**  
A big thank you from the Meat Canning committee to Sonnenberg for all the support over

the last month including a car from Kidron Kars for the Canner operators to use while here, money donations, youth group volunteers, Marilyn setting up comforters to knot in the side room, Gordie donating the model replica of the Canning Rig for silent auction and Home Appliance donating a washer and dryer for the smocks etc that pile up. 20,000 cans of meat, 30,480 pounds, were



canned accident free last week.

Kidron and Salem Mennonite Church's youth groups joined our MYF for a fun night of service

Wednesday October 29. We are already planning to do it again next year.



**Need a place to hike, have a picnic or campfire ?  
Welcome to my woodland. Just call**



**330 / 857-8893. - Virgene Steffen**



### Sonnenberg Mennonite Website:

Use this QR code as a quick link to the church website or share with anyone who wants to learn more about Sonnenberg.



## SAVE THE DATE !



### Ohio MCC Comforter Bash

March 12-14, 2026

*Times to be determined*

*Snacks and coffee/tea will be provided. Please pack your own food for meals.*

#### MCC Material Resources Center

4080 Kidron Road, Kidron, OH 44636



**This year we are gathering at the new MCC Material Resources Center!** With the new location, the format will be a bit different with the event spread over three days. We still need volunteers for knotting and trimming comforters, along with sewists to bind and finish them. **Specific times and more information will be coming soon.**

**Comforter tops (60" x 80") and backs (65" x 85")** are accepted throughout the year at the MCC Material Resources Center in Kidron.



[mcc.org/ohio-comforter-bash](http://mcc.org/ohio-comforter-bash)

Sarah Doerksen, MCC Great Lakes Material Resources Coordinator  
234-415-1036 or GLOhio@mcc.org

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### IVEP 75-year Celebrations:

Join us on Saturday, November 1, from 2:00-4:00 p.m. at Christian Central School. Together, we'll enjoy snacks, hear stories, share reflections and celebrate the impact of IVEP across generations. [RSVP Link](#)

**Men's Retreat** - Oct 31 - Nov 2. It will be a time of digging deeper in God's word individually and with others. There will be input times to study God's word, group discussion, games/activities,

and maybe even time to take a nap! Those 18 yrs old and up in the congregation are encouraged to attend. The retreat is an excellent outreach opportunity to invite a friend. More details can be found on their website or click on the QR code.



**Northern Indiana MCC Comforter Bash:** If you can't wait for the Ohio Comforter Bash join in on November 7-8 in Goshen, IN for their 11th annual Bash. People of all ages are invited to knot comforters at Pleasant View

Church (58529 County Road 23).

Volunteers are especially needed on Saturday! Door prizes will be awarded throughout the day on Saturday. Must be present to win. Lunch available for a donation on both days. All necessary tools will be provided. Donations will be accepted to help cover the costs of materials and supplies. Contacts - LaVera Schlabach (574.538.9629) and Donna Stoltzfus (dstoltz48@gmail.com).



### OrrVilla Retirement Community:

Is continuing its Speaker Series each month. OrrVilla's Speaker Series events are a 1-hour presentation (2:00 – 3:00 PM) on a variety of topics. These talks are free to the public, with an RSVP (330-462-1038), and are intended to be informative and educational.

**Tuesday, November 4th they'll offer "Fall Prevention for Older Adults".** The speaker will be Northeast Professional Home Care's physical therapist Mari Otterstetter and her team leading a hands-on workshop covering common causes of falls and effective prevention strategies for older adults. All are welcome to attend and gain valuable insights and practices to help prevent falls.



Love INC of Wayne County extends hope to the citizens of our community **In the Name of Christ.**

It begins with a call to the Connection Center. Trained volunteers encourage our callers through listening to their story. Information is exchanged and an invitation to prayer is offered. On many occasions, a prayer of hope becomes the foundation for transforming lives, families and communities.

One of our volunteers recently shared how each individual encounter has impacted her life story. She states: "I have been blessed by listening to people about their lives' journeys and being able to pray for their needs. Sometimes God stretches us when we would rather stay in our comfort zone."

**Connecting with hope is the beginning of transformation.** Transformation takes you out of your comfort zone! Love INC of Wayne County is here to walk alongside our neighbors in their individual journey of transformational hope. **We will use your donation to directly impact the lives of our neighbors in Wayne County!**

**Will you join us in making an impact?**  
Scan the QR code or mail a check to:  
Love INC of Wayne County  
PO Box 71, Kidron, OH 44636



**This Week in Anabaptist History ...** Formation of the Mosaic Mennonite Conference was approved on November 2, 2018 when the Franconia Mennonite and Eastern District conferences held reconciliation votes during joint assemblies at Souderton Mennonite Church. Eastern District and Franconia reconciled on 1 February 2020 and operated as Eastern District and Franconia Conference until taking the name Mosaic Mennonite Conference on Pentecost 2020 (31 May 2020).

The Eastern District resulted from a division in the Franconia Conference in 1847 and eventually became part of the General Conference Mennonite Church. When the Mennonite Church (MC) to which Franconia Conference belonged merged with the General Conference Mennonite Church to form Mennonite Church USA in 2002, cooperation between the two conferences increased. Joint assemblies were held after 2012, and in 2016 the conferences voted to start a reconciliation process. There was a service of reconciliation at the joint assemblies in 2018.

The Mosaic Mennonite Conference was comprised of 57 congregations and 7,587 members at the time of its formation. One congregation announced its departure; the West Philadelphia Mennonite Fellowship planned to join MC USA's Allegheny Mennonite Conference which had a more flexible polity in accepting performance of same-sex marriages by its pastors. Eight Southeast Mennonite Conference churches joined Mosaic Mennonite Conference on 7 November 2020 in order to stay connected to Mennonite Church USA after their conference voted to leave the denomination.

The Mosaic Mennonite Conference structure at its formation included a 12-member Conference Board, plus the Executive Minister, as well as an Executive Committee that worked on behalf of the Board between meetings. Committees represented on the Conference Board included Finance, Ministerial and Intercultural. Steve Kriss served as the first Executive Minister, and Ken Burkholder was the first moderator of the new conference.

[https://gameo.org/index.php?title=Mosaic\\_Mennonite\\_Conference\\_\(Mennonite\\_Church\\_USA\)&oldid=172057](https://gameo.org/index.php?title=Mosaic_Mennonite_Conference_(Mennonite_Church_USA)&oldid=172057)

The next issue of Sojourns will be printed for Sunday November 16, 2025. Submit items to the church office by Thursday November 13, 2025 @ 9:00 a.m.