

Joy Mennonite Church

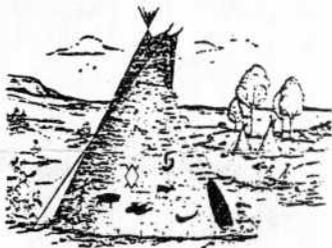
1992

OCTOBER

PASTOR'S
CORNER

Columbus Day

500th anniversary of Columbus coming to America. It seems to be more or less expected that everyone will join in this celebration. How do we celebrate an event that for some was a bright day of opening up undreamed of opportunities and for others it was a dark day that marked the beginning of untold suffering for their people. Some who were persecuted for religious reasons found new freedom in America. Some who were suffering poverty and were close to starvation found an opportunity for new life in America. On the other hand, more native Americans perished in the conquest of America than the number of Jews killed by the Nazis. For Native Americans it was a holocaust.



family type of people? The economic opportunities of new land and the trade advantages were so great it blinded people to our collective sin of almost destroying one race and enslaving another. Now in retrospect it is freely acknowledged that we committed a terrible crime against these people, but as a society we have never repented from these deeds. We regret what happened but we do not repent. To repent is to turn from our evil ways, and this we have not done. We still pursue economic opportunities and trade advantages, and are oblivious to the death and suffering



We are approaching the

How could this happen among people who were not monsters but the good neighbor, loving

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we cause. There is no more cheap land but there are dictatorial world leaders clamoring to buy the latest weapons. We applaud the good paying jobs it brings us with hardly a thought at the death and suffering that will result. We applaud the trade advantage we can force on small countries.

How can we as disciples of the Prince of Peace celebrate this event? We can hardly say there is nothing to celebrate. Maybe we can participate in some way. But it seems to me that the cry to repent from our death dealing economic pursuits must overshadow any call to celebrate. We cannot celebrate more of the same, but we can vision beyond repentance and see raised up out of the ashes of destruction a reconciled people of European settlers, Native Americans, African Americans, and Latin Americans. This we can celebrate, and the process in which this happens we can celebrate.

Moses Mast

Special
ANNOUNCEMENT

Things are definitely starting to happen at Joy Mennonite Church:

1) On Sunday afternoon, 2:00 to 5:00 PM on 11 October, 1992 we are having an open house - to meet our new neighbors and for them to meet us. Refreshments will be served and all are invited.

2) 23 through 25 October 1992 marks the end of the Western District Conference centennial celebration at their annual convention at Bethel College, N. Newton, KS. Moses and Sadie Mast will be our delegates to this "Remembrance and Restoration" conference.

3) In the spirit of the Thanksgiving weekend, on Sunday, 29 November 1992, we will celebrate Holy Communion in our worship service of receiving new members into our fellowship.





Dear Friends,
 By the time you read this we will be into the final quarter of 1992 with peasures and vigors of summer yard work and vacations only memories that linger.

My apologies to the Oklahoma Convention for lack of any advance publicity in this newsletter. Not having received any information on detials, it would only have been a one-liner anyway - just the date, location, and host. Through the various portions of the convention Joy Mennonite was well represented with no fewer than 13 having been made welcome in Hydro on 19 and 20 Sept. About 50 adults attended the business and music sessions on Saturday. All were warmly received and the food was excellent.



Mary Oyer
 "made" Sat.
 PM and the

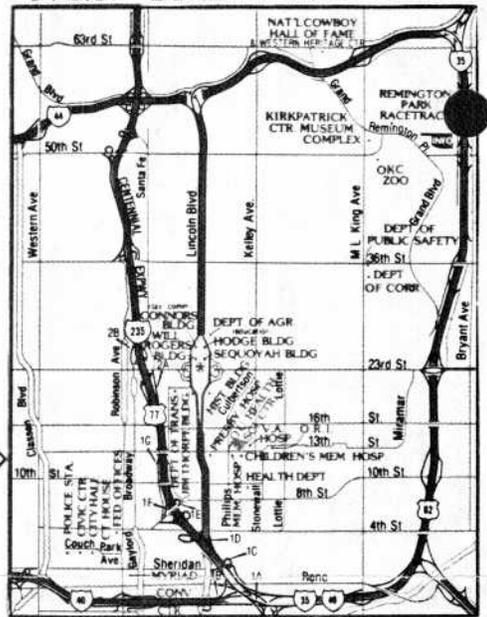
Sunday AM services with inspiring musical history and interpretations and singing. It was a real treat and memorable experience. Many thanks to Abe, Ruby and the Bethel Mennonite Church for hosting this gathering.

We are excited about our new location - the permanency has given us all a "shot in the arm." Please don't wait for the special occasions to visit us.

Bice Klassen



REGULAR WORSHIP SERVICES EVERY SUNDAY AT 10:00 AM



COMING EVENTS

- 12 Oct. (Mon) Columbus Day
- 3 Nov. (Tue) Election Day
- 11 Nov. (Wed) Veterans Day
- 26 Nov. (Thu) Thanksgiving Day
- 25 Dec. (Fri) Christmas Day



That time of year again!!!
 Best wishes to all students, regardless of age, now returning to

school. Be thankful for opportunities of education, strive for perfection, and be proud of your achievements.

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Moses & Sadie Mast
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