

# Festival &

# Newsletter #13: Fall 2009

# Sale For World Relief

www.[tcmccreliefsale.org](http://tcmccreliefsale.org)

Sponsored by the Twin Cities MCC Relief Sale and Area Mennonite Churches



### Triple Thanks

A special thanks to Marilyn Miller, Elaine Unruh and Lily Schroeder for their contributions these past nine years. They have been involved with each of the sales giving time almost daily to the effort. Marilyn serves on the Board, sews quilts, transports furniture from Ohio and coordinates quilting projects. Elaine also serves on the Board, sews quilts and coordinates quilting projects. Lily is the force behind "Tents to Houses," "Bread for All," prepares the sequence of auction items and stores almost all of the live auction items in her basement. And there is much more they do from providing meeting space, baking goodies, providing material, and many other things. This has been a labor of love for these three, and after the sale this year they will be resigning from their official duties. While it is doubtful that three pairs of hands will replace them, please consider what contributions your hands could make beyond this year's sale, and certainly let your hands applaud the efforts of Marilyn, Lily and Elaine.



### MCC Relief Sale - Local Connection

The Festival and Sale for World Relief, the 9th annual Twin Cities MCC Relief Sale, is coming up November 14th, 8am-5pm at Hennepin Technical College in Brooklyn Park. There is a local charitable connection again this year, the Thanksgiving Day Free Store, that serves over 400 homeless people with clothing and other goods. The Relief Sale is collecting items that will be delivered to the St. Stephen's Shelter All Day Drop-in Center for this Thanksgiving event. Please bring new/used men's belts, new white athletic socks, toiletries, children's books and coloring books or new/used tote bags and backpacks to help support the Thanksgiving Day Free Store.

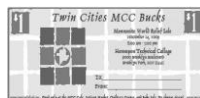
### Penny Power Focus on Job Creation

This year's special Penny Power focus is on job creation skills, and more specifically those with disabled adults. Funds that are contributed to Penny Power will go to support Rehab Craft Cambodia. This organization trains artisans to create, design and market handicrafts from materials such as silver, silk or wood.

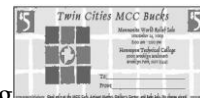
All of the employees, from the guard at the gate to team leaders, have physical disabilities. Some were injured by land mines or ordnance left behind by decades of war. Some were disabled by polio or amputations due to untreated diabetes. Others were born with disabilities.

While some of the trained artisans continue to be employed by Rehab Craft Cambodia, others set up independent production. Rehab Craft Cambodia purchases and markets many of their products. Management positions are generally filled from within the organization, providing additional opportunities for people with disabilities.

Crafts produced by Rehab Craft Cambodia and Rejana Association of Cambodia will be available for purchase at the Ten Thousand Villages market. A portion of funds collected on November 14 will support our ongoing relationship with Ukrainian orphanages.



### MCC Bucks



The best way to bring new people to the MCC Relief Sale is through word of mouth. So to spread the word, we would like you to consider giving friends, coworkers and acquaintances a coupon for use at the sale, along with a short written note of invitation. Here is how it works: Buy MCC bucks for either \$1 or \$5 that your friends can redeem at the sale, November 14th. See Thaine Dirks (612-850-8419), Tony Schrock or Darla Jackson to buy the MCC bucks. The MCC Bucks can be used to make purchases in the MCC Cafe, Artisan Market, Quilter's Corner and the Bake Sale. Give others a real incentive to come!

## St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Festival Fundraiser



This fundraiser event was held on September 11, 12 and 13. Projections were that 8,000 to 10,000 people would attend the Festival. The crowds we saw would verify that there was indeed a very large attendance. In addition to Greek food, music and dancing they have a large room that provides the setting for about 14 vendors to have a table to sell their products. A group of quilters for our Twin Cities MCC Sale was privileged to have one of these spots to display and sell smaller quilted pieces and also promote the MCC Sale date on November 14. It was an exciting three days to meet people, a few of whom have already been to our sale, some who know about Mennonites and MCC, and of course many others for whom the MCC Sale is a new concept and event. We received a warm and open response to the concept of raising funds for world relief. We were, in fact, the only vendor that was selling product for this type of relief project and not for self profit. It seemed refreshing to people that we would take our time to do all of this for world relief. By the end of the Festival we had sold thirty-one pieces and given out "Save the Date" cards to many more people who stopped by our table to chat.

### House of Heinrich Concert



It was a warm summer evening, September 19th, and Emmanuel Mennonite Church was filled with the warm music from Menno' Faith and House of Heinrich. It was an evening of beautiful, lively music, the happy sounds of conversation and brilliant quilt displays.

The Menno' Faith men's ensemble from Faith Mennonite Church opened the concert with three songs. House of Heinrich, the women's quintet from Mt. Lake sang twelve songs, a cappella and with piano and

bluegrass band accompaniment. Both groups ended with songs made famous by the movie, "O Brother."

Contributions and sales of quilts on display in the fellowship hall raised \$1900.

After the concert many old friends gathered together. One story of old friends reunited was the woman from the neighborhood that saw an announcement in Southside Pride, the neighborhood paper. She had grown up in the Messiah Lutheran Church, the building where Emmanuel now meets. For her one especially touching song was Sweet Hour of Prayer, which she had sung at her mother's funeral.

Thanks to everyone who made the evening possible and for the generosity of all those in attendance.

### "Bread for All" Intergenerational Sunday School Experience



A Planning Committee composed of members from Emmanuel and Faith Mennonite Churches in the Twin Cities planned an Intergenerational Sunday School hour to highlight the "Bread for All" auction segment at the November TCMCC Sale.

The cooperative planning and implementation were designed to provide the intergenerational Sunday school experience for both congregations. The purpose of the Sunday school hour was to learn about the struggle for food and injustices and to focus on how to best use our wealth of finances, resources and knowledge to alleviate suffering throughout the world. The bread and basket theme for the TCMCC sale is based on John 6 and the feeding of the 5,000. This theme will be woven through the auction activities but will be especially prevalent during the 1:00-1:30 "Bread for All" segment. The money raised during that time will go to the Kenya food project.

On the scheduled Sunday, the morning worship incorporated the "Bread for All" theme. After the worship hour, all ages gathered in the fellowship area to participate in various, center activities. These included basket weaving, a science experiment, involving yeast, a MCC information video, a representative from a local, homeless shelter and an Ethiopian Injera demonstration. Browsing centers provided resource books and a preview of the "Bread for All" sales item.

A simple, meal of soup and bread provided a time of fellowship and sharing. A gift of a dinner bun and card with a Columbian table grace was sent home with each participant as an ongoing reminder of the link between peace and justice.

### **MCC Relief Sale - Ways to contribute**

Almost all of the water and pop sold at the MCC Cafe at the MCC Relief Sale is donated. Please bring any donated bottled water and pop to Faith Mennonite or Emmanuel Mennonite churches. Or certainly you could bring the donated water or pop directly to the sale. Thanks for your contribution.

### **MCC Relief Sale Debriefing Meeting**

There will be a debriefing meeting on Saturday, November 21, starting at 9:45 AM for the Twin Cities MCC Relief Sale. It will be at the Gramercy Park Co-op Meeting Room, 1669 Yankee Doodle Road in Eagan. A continental breakfast will be provided. The meeting is open to everyone interested and involved with the sale. The events of the sale will be reviewed, with a look forward to making the day better in the future. Bring your ideas and opinions. RSVP to Thaine Dirks at 612-850-8419 or lapha002@umn.edu.

### **VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME**

Looking for a way to be involved in this sale? Contact Volunteer Coordinator, Glenn Geissinger, at 952-470-1847, to find out where you can best use your talents.

#### **General questions about any of this?**

Contact Thaine Dirks (sale board chair)  
612-724-6450 or lapha002@umn.edu



## **Twin Cities MCC Relief Sale Calendar**

**October 25: Free Neighborhood Open House and Expo:** *Who are the Mennonites? 500 Years of Peace, Community, and Service*, 2-5PM, Music, food, information and activities about Mennonite history and ideas. Faith Mennonite Church, 2720 E. 22nd St., Minneapolis. FFI: 612-375-9483, faithmennonite.org.

**November 1: Pre-ordered sausage** Deadline for ordering. Many people come to the Festival and Sale for World Relief with the hopes of tasting and taking home some extra Russian Mennonite food. This year we will be offering a way to pre-order sausage so you won't be disappointed if supplies run out. The price is \$6/pound for frozen sausage. Contact Thaine Dirks at lapha002@umn.edu or 612-724-6450 before November 1st to order sausage. The pre-ordered food will only be available for pickup at the sale on November 14th. Orders may be limited.

**November 5: MCC Relief Sale Benefit Night** The Ten Thousand Villages store at 867 Grand Avenue, St. Paul, will have a Benefit Night for the Twin Cities MCC Relief Sale. On **Thursday, November 5th, between 5 pm and 8 pm**, 20% of the sales will be donated to the TC Relief Sale. This will be a great time to do some of your holiday shopping. Your purchases will have the added bonus of helping support the MCC Sale. Come and bring your friends!

**November 14: Festival and Sale for World Relief.** This is the 9th annual sale. This year the theme will be "Bread for All" with a not-to-miss half-hour of special events at the live auction. Enjoy the Festival, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm at Hennepin Technical College, 9000 Brooklyn Blvd, Brooklyn Park, MN.

**November 21: Debriefing Meeting** with everyone interested in reviewing the past sale and planning for the 2010 sale.

**March 24: Tabor College Choir Concert** Save the date for an evening of splendid music.

**mid May: Plant Sale** Put your green thumb to work for the Relief Sale. Watch the calendar section on our website ([www.tcmccreliefsale.org/calendar](http://www.tcmccreliefsale.org/calendar)) for information about ordering your spring plants through Linders. A portion of your order will go

to the Relief Sale.

## Twin Cities Festival & Sale for World Relief

- Saturday, November 14, 2009, 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
- Hennepin Technical College, 9000 Brooklyn Blvd., Brooklyn Park, MN
- For more information: [www.tcmccreliefsale.org](http://www.tcmccreliefsale.org)



Twin Cities MCC Auction and Sale  
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