



## Bill's Buzz

### Bill and Allison's Great Adventure

I got my passport a couple of months ago. Allison's third. My very first passport. I wanted to drive straight to Canada to cross the border and come right back just to say I did it. Better. I waited until this past week and drive my bicycle close and cycled through Buffalo and Niagara Falls, New York and crossed the border by bicycle. I then cycled along the Niagara River to Lake Ontario and then back to Buffalo over the Peace Bridge. Just so I could use my passport. Being able to travel is a freeing thing.

We procured our passports because we have an opportunity this summer that we were not expecting. We will be married for 30 years in 2018, and I was hoping to be able to take Allison to Germany for our anniversary that summer. Turns out that Xan spent the last year in Italy and we got a surprise gift from Volkswagen (because of their bad behavior) and so, on June 1, we will leave our house to go over to Europe.

It really is quite a trip and we aren't quite sure what to make of this seemingly sudden blessing. The places will be nice, but we are really going for people. First of all, we haven't hugged our son in FAR too long, and we have collected many loved ones over the years. If you want the run-down, here it is. If you don't skip to the next paragraph.

June 2, we fly overnight from Toronto to Rome, where we will hop on a train to go and get Xan.

After a weekend with his host family, we will go to Venice on June 5, where Reed Yoder, a buddy of Xan's will join us. The four of us will then go to Albania to spend some time with Donaldo and his family.

On June 11, we will fly back to Rome where Gregory will meet us. The five of us will spend three nights in Rome. Then it gets interesting. On June 14, Xan and Reed will fly off to Paris and then to London. Gregory, Allison, and I will fly to Cairo, Egypt where we will spend time with Sawsan, Seif, and Yassmine. 'Round about the time Xan and Reed hop a high-speed train from Paris to London (June 17), we will fly to Berlin, Germany to visit with Ellie, an IVEPer friend of Allison's. Next, we will go to visit Helmut, who lived in my home in Connecticut as an exchange student in 1979. Then, on to Allison's relatives in Germany. June 21, Gregory will fly off to Dublin to spend time with Xan before they both go home on June 25 and 26. Allison and I will end the trip in Switzerland, in the Alps, with her high school pen pal, a Swede, who runs a Bed and Breakfast—at the top of a mountain, with a pool, and a view. We will fly back to Toronto on June 30 and will be in Orrville on July 1. Whew. (continued on next page)

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(continued from page 1) We are really grateful that the elders have supported our long time away and for the work they and others will do in my absence. We are thankful for this amazing privilege of resources to go, including the many people whose homes we will stay in for free along the way. We will miss our church family while we are gone and will bring back many pictures. And I am hoping we can bring back at least one missionary story. We will be spending much time with people who aren't claiming any particular faith, and I am curious to see what God is up to in our conversations. Please pray for this and ask us when we get back.

What will happen while we are gone? You will keep being a church and worshiping and serving the Lord. Doug Fisher will be in charge of music and worship planning (with Jan) — this is a mini-internship for him — his first time providing this sort of leadership for this amount of time — so thank you for being supportive of him in this time. The Elders will be on call for prayer and support needs and they will know who to contact if something really goes awry. I trust that God is in charge and will provide everything that is needed.

In this issue of In Touch, there is a calendar that outlines some details that will be helpful to know. Please note that in the first part of June, Jan is also gone, so the church office will be closed. Jan will be available by email, and will still do the bulletins. You will have terrific Sunday morning speakers as well.

God's peace to you and we begin a summer together — well, maybe not so together — but together, bound by the Spirit of God in community together with each other and in Christ.

With you in our journey with Christ,



#### **Central Christian School Announcements**

- **Central Christian School's 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Commencement is Sunday, May 28, at 2:30 pm. The Class of 1967 will join us for this celebration.** Visit [www.ccscomets.org](http://www.ccscomets.org) for details.
- **Central Christian School offers sports camps and music camp during June and July.** Information will be available on the CCS Website by May 1.

#### **Camp Luz Announcement**

**HELP NEEDED: Camp Luz is in critical need of summer staff.** Staff training is only a couple weeks away. Staff do not have to commit to the whole summer, are paid a weekly salary, and may qualify for our matching staff scholarship program. A variety of positions are still available. Apply at [www.campluz.com](http://www.campluz.com) If you know someone who may be interested, please encourage them to get in touch with Camp Luz!

**ORRVILLE MENNONITE**  
**JUNE, 2017**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Worship at 10.30 am Potluck at 11.45 am No Sunday school				1 Bill and Allison leave Orrville at 4.00 pm	2 Church office closed (Jan available by email)	3
4 Jeff Fisher is guest speaker Axis Fundraiser (Five Church—here)	5 Church office closed (Jan available by email)	6 WINGS Church office closed (Jan available by email)	7 Church office closed (Jan available by email)	8 Church office closed (Jan available by email)	9 Church office closed (Jan available by email)	10
11 Jeanne Jantzi is guest speaker Potluck (Judy K, Virg & Kathy)	12 Church office closed (Jan available by email)	13 WINGS Church office closed (Jan available by email)	14	15	16	17
18 Lidia Zehr is guest speaker Potluck (Nancy, LaVonne)	19	20 WINGS	21	22 BreakAway campout	23 Church office closed BreakAway campout	24 1-4 pm grad party rental WINGS retreat
25 Camp Luz Sunday 10.30 am—3.00 pm Austin or Haroldo or WINGS speaker speaks Austin, Doug, Danae, LaVonne, Nancy plan VBS Training 5-7 at OMC	26	27 WINGS	28	29	30	

**JULY, 2017**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Worship at 10.30 am Potluck at 11.45 am No Sunday school						1 Allison and Bill return late evening.
2 James 3.1-12 Bill speaks Potluck (Jan & Rollie, Norm & Sandy)	3 Bill in office (a.m.) Bill and Allison leave for Orlando in afternoon	4 MCUSA Convention Mel, Danae, Marilyn, Bill, Allison, and Judy	5 MCUSA Convention Mel, Danae, Marilyn, Bill, Allison, and Judy	6 MCUSA Convention Mel, Danae, Marilyn, Bill, Allison, and Judy	7 MCUSA Convention Mel, Danae, Marilyn, Bill, Allison, and Judy	8 MCUSA Convention Mel, Danae, Marilyn, Bill, Allison, and Judy
9 Bill speaks from Convention theme and verses 1 John 3.16-18 Convention reporting from delegates during Potluck Doug Fisher's last day as music intern Potluck (Mark & Jen, Willie & Sandy)	10 Axis Youth at SWAP Community Discipleship Mtg?	11 WINGS Axis Youth at SWAP	12 Axis Youth at SWAP	13 Axis Youth at SWAP	14 Axis Youth at SWAP	15 Axis Youth return from SWAP
16 Five Church Combined Worship at 10.30 am? at Martins Mennonite to hear youth reflections VBS 6.00 –8.30 at OMC	17 VBS 6.00 –8.30 at OMC	18 VBS 6.00 –8.30 at OMC	19 VBS 6.00 –8.30 at OMC	20 VBS 6.00 –8.30 at OMC	21	22
23 Worship at 10.30 am Potluck at 11.45 am (Marion & Jane, Nancy) Akron Rubber Ducks game , 2:05 p.m. This is an All-Church/Axis, BreakAway outing (Sandy, Judy)	24 Community Discipleship Mtg?	25 WINGS	26	27	28	29
30 Worship at 10.30 am Potluck at 11.45 am (Allison & Xan, LaVonne)	31					

# AUGUST, 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Worship back to 9.45 am with Sunday school at 11.00 am		1 WINGS	2	3	4  Relief Sale	5  Relief Sale
6 James 3.13-18	7	8 WINGS family picnic	9	10	11	12
13 Neal and Janie Blough guest speakers Fellowship Meal (Nancy, LaVonne) Axis Youth leading worship at Crown Hill MC	14	15 Maybe no WINGS, tentative leaders' meeting date	16 BreakAway cookout at Bill & Allison's	17	18	19
20 School Blessing Sunday (during worship) Tentative date for School Year Kick-Off Bonfire and Corn Roast at Fishers (Sandy, Judy, Fishers) Bonfire/Corn Roast & Biking may switch dates.	21	22 WINGS  School starts for many districts	23 BreakAway Mudbowl	24	25	26
27 Tentative date for Biking on the Cuyahoga Trail, 2 pm (Sandy, Judy)	27	28 WINGS	29	30	31	

**Please contact an Elder if a need arises while Pastor Bill is on vacation:**

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