



Schweitzer Salt

Swiss Mennonite Cultural and Historical Association



www.swissmennonite.org

January 2024

Happy New Year

Thank you for your continued support for the Swiss Mennonite Cultural and Historical Association. Through your support during Match Week, donations of over \$7,000 were gathered. **Plan on attending our Annual Meeting March 10 at Pine Village Wellness Center at 2:30.**

Books Available For Purchase

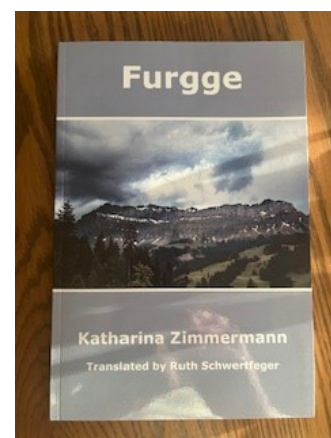
"Furgge by Katharina Zimmermann, translated by Ruth Schwertfeger, is a fascinating novel about the persecution of the Anabaptists in Switzerland in the early eighteenth century that is based on archival and historical research of the Emmental and the people who lived there. Furgge refers to the local mountain in Switzerland, today known as the Hohgant. Author, Historian John Landis Ruth calls this "the most effective evocation of the seminal days of persecution of Bernese Anabaptists in the era (1650-1717), leading up to the emigration of many of them to Alsace and southern Germany, the Netherlands and America...This fictional approach is a world better than the dispassionate analysis of most historians, and it represents the shock felt when today's Swiss people, proud of their moral traditions, encounter what they did to people they now want to honor.

Furgge will be available at all the 150th events for purchase. Another interesting historical read by Romaine Stauffer, Hidden Riches, also about early Anabaptist history, tells the story of a real person, Christian Burkholder, and his family migrating to America and their adventures coming across the ocean. Both will be available for \$15 or purchased at Faith and Life Bookstore in Newton, Kansas. A Short History of Swiss Volhynians who migrated to America in 1874 by P.P. Wedel and After Fifty Years (South Dakota history) books are also available for \$10 at our events or the website." by Kathy Goering

Inside this issue:

| | |
|---|---|
| <i>Invitation to Submit Stories</i> | 2 |
| <i>Turkey Hard Red Winter Wheat</i> | 2 |
| <i>A Goodly Heritage</i> | 2 |
| <i>Ulrich Zwingli film</i> | 3 |
| <i>Credit/Debit Card System on website and for events</i> | 4 |
| <i>Upcoming Events</i> | 4 |
| <i>Annual Meeting will be held March 10 at 2:30</i> | 4 |

Please share Schweitzer news and events with others to expand our readership and inform about our upcoming 150th celebration held on August 23-25, 2024.



Invitation to Submit Stories

We've all heard fascinating stories about the trials and tribulations, wonderous adventures, and the day-to-day happenings of our parents, grandparents, and even great grandparents. Before these historical moments are forgotten and lost forever, write them down so they can be enjoyed by our children, our grandchildren, and our great grandchildren. Even get them published! Stories don't have to be polished or professional, only interesting and a good read. Writers are already posting captivating articles on the Swiss Mennonite Cultural and Historical Association Facebook page every Wednesday.

Brian Adams, son of Thelma Krehbiel Adams, and grandson of Red Jake Krehbiel, along with his daughter Casey Adams, are the ones coordinating this writer's project. They are looking for contributions of writings of all kinds from all of you. From a couple paragraphs to numerous pages, all types of submissions are encouraged. For those of you that don't consider yourself writers, throw caution to the Kansas winds and write anyway! Please send your submissions by email to Casey Adams at cpadams992@gmail.com. This book of stories will be made available to those who attend the August celebration.

Turkey Hard Red Winter Wheat

Saturday morning, October 28, three teams of horses; one from Pretty Prairie, another from Yoder and a local team from Moundridge, gathered to take part in a horse drawn demonstration of planting Turkey Hard Red Winter Wheat. The planting event was an opportunity to see how wheat planting was done over one hundred years ago, with authentic antique, horse drawn drills.

Over 300 people attended the demonstration to watch the horses and equipment plant 10 acres of Turkey Red. This Schweitzer & Friends event was held west of Moundridge, in cooperation with the Moundridge Historical Association, Moundridge Farmer's Market, City of Moundridge, Shepherd's Field Family Church and Gospel Mennonite Church Youth providing concessions. Due to some timely rains, we have a unique opportunity to observe the growing Turkey hard Red Winter wheat that was planted with horses and look forward to the wheat binding and threshing this Spring and Summer. by Glen R Goering



A Goodly Heritage

A Goodly Heritage, a musical drama depicting a history of the Swiss Volhynian Mennonites, will be performed at Eden Mennonite Church on Saturday, March 23 and Sunday, March 24. Starting with the first Anabaptist baptisms in 1525, and ending with our 150th Anniversary celebration, the drama shares highlights of the history of our forebears as they journeyed on a variety of routes from Switzerland to the United States.

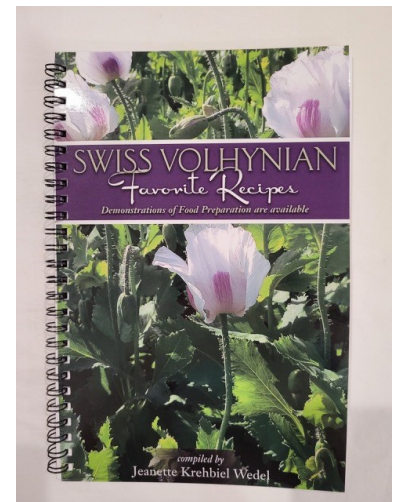
Join the cast and choir of nearly 50 adults and children as they trek through the highs and lows of being a people seeking to honor and follow God. Cast members are from a number of churches and communities in the central Kansas area.

The musical was written by Jenny Schrag, and will be co-directed by Schrag and Dawn Abrahams. Be sure to mark your calendar for this event. By Jenny Schrag

Ulrich Zwingli Film to be Shown February 18

We have a rare opportunity to see a film, *Ulrich Zwingli*, opened in Switzerland and topping the box office there in 2019. It has been released in cinemas around the world and SMCHA has permission to show it here. Now translated into English and brought to the U.S., we can learn about a priest in the Reformed Grossmunster peoples Church who opened scripture to the common man. The film seen through the eyes of his wife, Anna Reinhard, shows Zwingli demanding that what is in the Bible should be taken seriously. Zwingli was a cosmopolitan and urban reformer, who worked hard for the poor, the sick, the refugees. This 90 minute film doesn't flinch from the harsher circumstances including the split between Zwingli and the Anabaptists and the violent repercussions this sparked. We are also confronted with what some would consider the "dark side of the Reformation": the continuation of obligatory church membership and compulsory belief, as well as denominational quarrels that meet violence and bloodshed in "religious questions", and last but not least, how to deal with minorities such as the Anabaptists. When Zwingli calls for radical conversion in the name of the gospel, people like Felix Mantz and a Konrad Grebel are his most dedicated supporters. They are happy to take up Zwingli's statement: "To be a Christian does not mean chattering about Christ, but rather to lead a life as Christ lived." Anna followed as the primary character, married Zwingli breaking with doctrines of Catholic Church, and is caught between the stark doctrines of the Church and what she finds in reading Scripture. She pleads with her husband to prevent the Anabaptist Felix Mantz from being executed, but he does not listen. In her critical inquiries to her husband, Anna Reinhart's content is surprisingly close to the Anabaptists.

The *Ulrich Zwingli* film will be shown at the First Mennonite Church of Christian in Moundridge, KS, at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 18, 2024. There is no charge, and all are welcome. Come and think about a piece of early Anabaptist history as we look ahead to celebrating 150 years in August since our ancestors came to the U.S. in 1874. by Kathy Goering



Cookbook For Sale

A revised version of the *Swiss Volhynian Favorite Recipes* cookbook is now for sale. It can be purchased at any SMCHA activity or our website: (www.swissmennonite.org)

Accepting Credit/Debit Cards

The SMCHA website (www.swissmennonite.org) is now capable of accepting credit/debit card payments to purchase cook-books or to make donations. Look for instructions on the website as to how to make that happen. You will also be able to use credit/debit cards at all of the 150th Year Celebration events. Please plan to attend!



Send articles, ideas for articles, or requests to be added to the mailing or email list to Kathy Preheim at kathypreheim@gmail.com

**Swiss Mennonite Cultural and Historical Association
P.O. Box 93
Moundridge, KS 67107**

SMCHA MISSION

- ◆ Collect and disseminate information concerning the spiritual and cultural history of Anabaptists of Swiss Volhynian origin
- ◆ Offer financial assistance to qualifying students
- ◆ Relate in a meaningful way the faith of our Mennonite forebears to present and future generations
- ◆ Maintain the Hopefield Cemetery and Swiss Mennonite 1943 Marker and Centennial Monument

Upcoming Events: Mark Your Calendar

Movie of Ulrich Zwingli, **February 18**, First Mennonite of Christian, Moundridge, KS

Genealogy Workshop. Learn ways to do genealogy research both on the computer and in the library to prepare beautiful family trees and records. Presented by Jerry Juhnke, **March 18**, Pine Village Wellness Center, Moundridge, KS

Historical Drama, "A Goodly Heritage," directed by Jenny Schrag remembering the immigrants who left Russia and came to Kansas and Dakota Territory and other places, Saturday and Sunday, **March 23-24**, at Eden Mennonite Church, Moundridge, KS

Kansas Mennonite Men's Chorus Concert, **April 7**, at Bethel College, North Newton, KS

Matt Cotton, McPherson College professor, speaking on the historical relationship between Ukraine and Russia and how it has reshaped global politics in the 21st century, **April 21**, at First Mennonite Church, McPherson, KS

Binding and Threshing Wheat **June and August**

The October annual banquet was well attended. Delicious food was served. We heard updates about our August celebration from Danielle Goering. Eugene Goering showed plans for an immigrant house museum. And Jerry Juhnke shared stories from the past about Schweitzers. **Plan on attending the March 10 annual meeting at the Pine Village Wellness Center at 2:30 in Moundridge.**