

# Connections

Virginia Mennonite  
Conference &  
Board of Missions

October 2002  
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## The God of the impossible

The story of Pino and Rosanna Arena as told to Gloria Lehman and interpreted by Eva Eberly

“God takes care of the sparrows and He will take care of you,” said Pino’s brother, Franco, as Rosanna told him about her despondency. While reading the Bible that Franco gave her, she asked Jesus into her life and felt a warmth come over her. The Word of God became like bread for her soul. She shared this with Pino, but he didn’t understand. Pino decided to read the Bible and prove that Rosanna was wrong. Six months later, Pino accepted Christ.

When Pino read Exodus 20, God touched his intellect with “You shall have no other gods before me,” but God touched his heart with John 14, “My peace I give unto you, not as the world gives...” A year later Pino and Rosanna were baptized together in the Emanuele congregation in Capaci, Sicily.

Before he knew Christ, Pino was bound by superstitions, including a good luck charm carried in his car for protection. When he lost his job and Rosanna was sick, it became obvious that the charm didn’t work.

Christ’s presence in their lives dramatically changed Pino and Rosanna. The Lord instantly released Pino from superstition, and his habits of lying and stealing were broken. The depression and confusion that Rosanna felt in the past disappeared. The peace of Christ permeated their whole lives, opening them toward others where they had been closed before. Many commented about the joy they saw in Pino and Rosanna. “I did not know myself anymore,” Pino said. “I was a different person.”

In the years that followed, the Lord called them to serve Him together. Pino and Rosanna were asked to take pastoral leadership of the Shalom Mennonite Church. They had been disciples in the Capaci church, and wondered why would God call them to the Shalom church. “No,” they said, “the responsibility is too big for us.” They feared the crime in that part of the city. Surely God would call someone else.

But the Lord was talking to Pino and Rosanna individually. Who would take care of these brothers and sisters in Brancaccio? They each heard an inner

call that they were supposed to go. Almost the whole church voted “yes” for their leadership—a very clear affirmation of Pino and Rosanna’s willingness. From that moment they began to see the marvelous work of God in their ministry to others through physical healings, spiritual liberation, and radical change in speech and behavior.

The Arenas are learning that when God’s people say “yes” to Him, He provides for them. A house near the church became available, and they have enough money to live. Pino is paid part-time by the congregation, and sometimes brothers and sisters designate money in the offering for them.

Pino also receives a scholarship from Virginia Mennonite Board of Missions that enables him to pursue pastoral training. Without this partnership between Chiesa Evangelica Mennonita Italiana (the Italian Mennonite Church) and VMBM, Pino would not have been able to give full attention to the pastorate. He declined an offer for a very good job because it would take too much of his time. Although paid only part-time, Pino gives full time to the church.

Pino says, “We have experienced the God of the impossible, and day after day, we see Him do things that are much bigger than we are. God answers because He loves his people.”

Rosanna recalls the teaching of the tithe in Malachi—not only money, but all of life: “This is how we experience God’s blessings. Sometimes we are amazed at the generosity of God and stand with our mouths open at how good God is. We can’t count all the ways that God is good to us. That’s what we will do when we get to heaven!”



Eva Eberly

Pino Arena, along with his wife Rosanna, serves as the pastor of Shalom Mennonite Church in Brancaccio, Palermo, Italy. They were delegates to the Virginia Mennonite Conference Assembly in July.

# Human voices, but God's invitation

I was saved at the age of 11. Enough sin found its way into my life for me to know that I was not the "fine young man" many thought me to be. Enough preaching got to my ears for me to know God's opinion of me, both his holy consternation as well as his winsome grace. I heard both. Frank and Evelyn Nice, my boyhood pastors, became the human voices of God's invitation. I accepted.



**Loren Horst**  
President of VMBM

Some years later I rededicated my life to the Lord under the preaching of Robert Mast. Robert met with me after the service in the furnace room in the basement and I realized I was about as warm as I wanted to get. I took care of a few more things between me and the Lord.

I was baptized by Bishop Linden Wenger at the age of 14. I had witnessed a baptism some months earlier in which the trickling water had reduced a candidate to giggling. I was determined not to repeat the embarrassment. I succeeded, but was not quite as successful when my cousin Kenneth and I first washed feet. That tickled. My baptism and first foot-washing, however, were sincere.

Earlene and I felt called to respond to an invitation to be newly open to God's leading one year at Virginia Conference Assembly. The speaker was Tom Sine. The year, I believe, was 1986. That led to our opening our home for a month to a refugee family and one year later to a mission assignment in Trinidad.

While in Trinidad, we listened to God's voice inviting us to follow his leading and to have less concern for other's opinions of us. God's preacher was

Michael Ramai. During that same time I experienced God's healing through the anointing touch of his servant, Anil Solanki.

God continues to speak to us through his people-at Asbury Seminary, at Lindale, and now here at the mission board. I've been moved by music. I've experienced a sense of worship and awe while watching a sunset, hiking in the mountains, and sitting by the sea. Specific leading and direction, however, have almost always come through God's human voices, and nearly always in the context of his church.

This truth is illustrated by the practice of John, "We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us...and with the Father and with his Son." What a privilege to be the recipients of God's grace through God's people! What an honor to be recruited to join! What a responsibility to be expected to share!



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## Partners in Mission

short-term service opportunities

**Spanish Town**

build a church in Jamaica

November 2002

10 days

**Salters Hill**

build a parsonage  
in Jamaica

November 2002

10 days

Contact Ken Horst, Director of Partners in Mission

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## Bugs, water tanks, and God's love

Vacation Bible School took on a whole new look this year at Mt. Vernon Mennonite Church, Grottoes, Va. During the week of July 8-12 the church was transformed into a jungle ready for a real "Bug Safari!" Over sixty children attended the five day exploration about God's love for them. Each day they received a different insect with a Bible verse imprinted on it which they added to their critter keepers.

The children raised a little more than \$250 in their evening offerings which was given to MCC to purchase five water tanks for Nicaragua. They also brought soap and toilet paper which was given to the Grottoes Food Pantry.

It was an exciting week for all those involved. Especially exciting were the times of gathering



Worship-in-motion is a good way for the children at Mt. Vernon Mennonite Church to remember the song's message.

together for skits and music during the opening and closing times in the sanctuary in which all the chairs were removed. Much room was needed for worship-in-motion as young and old alike interpreted the message of songs through movement.

• Cindy Lambert  
Mt. Vernon Mennonite Church

## Family of Hope: a missional church

Marguerite was the oldest member of the Family of Hope house church in Harrisonburg, Va. The youngest of 17 in an Italian immigrant family in New York City, she knew her share of hardship growing up during the Depression and later raising two sons in the city. Christian faith was not a significant part of her life.

For the past three and a half years, Marguerite lived with her son and daughter-in-law, Guy and Margie Vlasits, and became a loyal and much loved part of Family of Hope. Relating to Family of Hope gave new meaning to faith for Marguerite. The love and warmth she received nurtured a growing faith in God that in turn enriched her church family and other friends around her.

Marguerite was admitted to the hospital over the time of her 89th birthday and from there transferred to a nursing home for continued care. Marguerite died on August 9, hours after having asked Margie to say goodbye to all of her church friends and after praying her last prayer to the God who had increasingly become her friend.

Pastor Harvey Yoder says, "People like Marguerite, who live a life of quiet faith don't make a lot of headlines, but to me they are the real salt of the earth, unsung saints who just keep showing up and doing what's right." That is being missional.

• Joe Bontrager  
Missional Church Team

## Missional Church Team begins work

In May, Conference Council approved the proposal for a Missional Church Team and in July, the team was introduced at VMC Assembly. The team—Beryl Jantzi (chair), Owen Burkholder, Beryl Brubaker, and Joe Bontrager—was asked to "provide an assessment of VMC congregational and agency ministry and bring recommendations that would move us toward being a missional conference."

They see their initial task not as focusing on programs, but processes; listening to stories from congregations, commissions, and agencies about efforts to be missional; and sharing the stories more broadly.

One of the team's first tasks will be to identify persons who represent various ethnic groups, interests, and geographical areas throughout our Conference: persons who will enable in-depth contact and will broaden the base for consultation.

The Missional Church Team has begun meeting with churches and commissions and is hearing stories of God's people doing God's work, which is what being missional is about.

• Joe Bontrager  
Missional Church Team



## Trinidad churches rely on the “hand of God”

The congregations of the Mennonite Church of Trinidad and Tobago (MCTT) held their annual meeting August 2-4. On Friday evening a service of worship was held in the Diego Martin Mennonite Church with spirited singing and a sermon by Ganesh Kalloo.



Galen Lehman

The children of Esperanza added joyful sounds to the joint worship service during the annual meeting in Trinidad.

Delegates from all the congregations met to do the church’s business during sessions on Saturday. Each congregation reported their outreach goals and accomplishments for the past year. MCTT President Rawl Gunpath promoted the 7 x 15 Vision—seven new congregations by 2015. Persons attending the delegate session were blessed by the encouragement and affirmation that was shared.

On Sunday morning the congregations gathered at the Esperanza Community Center for a joint worship service. The children of Esperanza sang two “specials” for a crowd of more than 100 people. Liston Aiken, pastor of the Good Tidings Mennonite Church, Kingston, Jamaica, who served as delegate from the Jamaica Mennonite Church, preached on “Let your hand be with me.”

Also that morning, Lalmon John was licensed to serve as the pastor of the new congregation that will become the Hope Mennonite Church. The leadership team was commissioned and the charter members of the church were recognized. As the MCTT looks ahead, the “hand of God” that sustained them in the past will guide them as they reach out to others with the Gospel.

• Gloria Lehman

## Leadership updates

**Direl Fyffe** retired as pastor of West Liberty (Ky.) Menn. Church, March 10, 2002.

**Edward Godshall** retired as pastor of Mountain View Menn. Church, Hickory, N.C., July 31, 2002.

**Loren Horst** concluded his role as pastor of Lindale Menn. Church, Harrisonburg, Va., June 30, 2002.

**Willis Hunsberger** was licensed as pastor of West Liberty (Ky.) Menn. Church, March 10, 2002.

**Douglas King** concluded his role as youth and young adult pastor of Weavers Menn. Church, Harrisonburg, Va., July 31, 2002.

**Clyde Kratz** was installed as pastor of Zion Menn. Church, Broadway, Va., July 14, 2002.

**Carolyn Lyndaker** was licensed as co-pastor of Crest Hill Community Church, Wardensville, W. Va., August 11, 2002.

**David Maurer** concluded his role as young adult pastor of Harrisonburg (Va.) Menn. Church, June 23, 2002.

**Terry Miller** concluded his role as interim pastor of Stuarts Draft (Va.) Menn. Church, June 15, 2002.

**Wayne North** was installed as interim pastor of Lindale Menn. Church, Harrisonburg, Va., June 30, 2002.

**Aaron Onelangsy** concluded his role as pastor of Laotian ministries at Harrisonburg (Va.) Menn. Church, June 30, 2002.

**Flinn Ranchod** was ordained as pastor of Calvary Community Church of Chesapeake (Va.), May 11, 2002.

**Brent Siegrist** concluded his role as assistant pastor of Immanuel Menn. Church, Harrisonburg, Va., June 30, 2002.

**Robert Yutzy** was licensed as pastor of Chestnut Ridge Menn. Church, Orrville, Ohio, August 25, 2002.

## Mediterranean Festival

One hundred and fifty people met in Shady Oak at Weavers Mennonite Church, Harrisonburg, Va., on August 18 for a Mediterranean Festival. Skits from Albania and Italy were performed by former missionaries. Choruses were sung in Italian. Francesco Picone (*right*), president of the Italian Mennonite Church and co-author of “New Awakenings in an Ancient Land,” autographed copies of this book. Strong support for the ongoing vision of the Mennonite churches in Italy and Albania was evident.

• Gloria Lehman



## New missionaries in St. Elizabeth, Jamaica

Jesse Bergey, Chesapeake, Va., is teaching agriculture and small-scale farming at Maranatha School for the Deaf, St. Elizabeth, Jamaica. Jesse graduated from Eastern Mennonite University in 2002 with a degree in international agriculture. Jesse is a member of Mt. Pleasant Mennonite Church and is the son of Harold and Rose Bergey.



**Jesse Bergey**



**Karen Brunk**

Karen Brunk, Canfield, Ohio, is serving as a nurse at the Joyland Mennonite Church clinic, St. Elizabeth, Jamaica. She assists Dr. Omar Beiler at the clinic and visits patients at home who cannot go to the clinic for treatment. She is a member of Niles (Ohio) First Community Church of the Nazarene.

Jesse Lucke, Timberville, Va., is teaching computer skills to the students and staff of Maranatha School for the Deaf, St. Elizabeth, Jamaica, during this school year. He will be earning cross-cultural credit at Eastern Mennonite University. Jesse attends Immanuel Mennonite Church and is the son of John Lucke and Betty Flournoy.



**Jesse Lucke**

## Books Abroad and At Home gets new director

Melba Heatwole assumed the role of Director of Books Abroad and At Home on September 1. She brings to this ministry her many years of experience in missions and active service to the Mennonite Church. Melba's interest in and background with good books is a strength that she brings to the program. She can be contacted at 540-828-2999 or [wmheatwole@juno.com](mailto:wmheatwole@juno.com).

Vivian Beachy served as Director for the past five years. Vivian donated her time to receive tons of books, often from the libraries of retiring or deceased pastors and church leaders. During the last ten months Vivian dispersed 3,098 pounds of books, and most were shipped overseas. Outdated, yellowed, and unusable books are sent to be recycled. Books Abroad and at home has a collaborative, working relationship with the emerging

Booksavers in Harrisonburg, a program of the Gift and Thrift Board.

Many thanks to Vivian for all she has done to keep Books Abroad and At Home an important ministry and a hearty welcome to Melba for her willingness to push it forward into the years ahead.

• Glendon Blosser  
Advisory Group Chair



Rachel Smith

Melba Heatwole serves as the director of Books Abroad and At Home.

# Festival of Missions and Ministries



Joe Bontrager

Participants learned drumming basics and heard stories about peace during the “Drumming for Peace” workshop.

Floor boards creaked in a kind of syncopated rhythm in the halls of an old school building in Raleigh, N.C. It was August 17, and a dozen volunteers worked to empty halls and classrooms for Eastern Carolina District’s Festival of Missions and Ministries.

Using the theme “Sharing Christ Across the Street and Around the World,” the festival was designed to celebrate

what God is doing locally through ministries related to our churches and through missions in far-away places. Our special guests were Willis and Byrdalene Horst, who work with Mennonite Mission Network among the Toba peoples of the Chaco of Argentina. In our gathered worship the Horsts told stories about their call to missionary service and of the ways their faith is strengthened through working with Toba and Pilagá believers.

Displays and videos offered insights into the work of Virginia Mennonite Board of Missions, Mennonite Central Committee, neighborhood and preschool ministries, as well as the work of our guests. A table offered Herald Press books for sale.

There were also workshops—“Taking Jesus into the streets,” “How healthy churches grow,”

“Jesus and indigenous spiritual life,” and others. “Drumming for peace” was popular with children, teens, and adults. In the closing session, Leo Hartshorn, Minister of Peace and Justice for Mennonite Church USA, led a group of teens and adults in a drumming demonstration.

A variety of international and ethnic foods made lunch time a great treat. Jars placed in strategic locations received contributions to help cover costs of the festival and provide an offering for local and foreign missions. During lunch there were presentations. Solid Ground, a musical group from Durham Mennonite, sang and played several numbers. Teens from Raleigh Mennonite reported on their summer service trip.

A Mennonite Central Committee water pump and a meat-packing simulation attracted a lot of attention from the younger folks. They enjoyed turning the hand pump crank, drawing water from the PVC bucket “well” and packing play dough “meat” in plastic “cans” for “shipping overseas.”

The festival was initiated by Eastern Carolina District’s Urban Ministries Director, Paul Godshall, and was sponsored by Greensboro, Durham, and Raleigh Mennonite churches. Additionally, folks came from Iglesia Betel, a Hispanic church in Sanford.

The floorboards creaked again as people stayed to return shelves to the hallways and put back desks in the classrooms. Soon quiet would return to the old school building and we would be back in our homes again—tired but very happy.

• Paul Godshall  
Durham Mennonite Church

## Congregational Resource Center

The Center has assistants and resources that will help you take some of the stress out of the upcoming holidays! It is open 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, with a key available at the EMU Information Office in the Campus Center for use after 5:00. Visit our **newly updated catalog** on our website at [www.emu.edu/mcrc](http://www.emu.edu/mcrc). Contact us at 432-4219 or [wengerkw@emu.edu](mailto:wengerkw@emu.edu) with requests or questions.

### Advent worship resources:

- **Builder** theme for Advent to Epiphany: “With arms outstretched...” September 2002
- **Cloth for the Cradle** by the Iona Community Wild Goose Worship Group
- **In the Days of the Angels: Stories & Carols for Christmas** by Walter Wangerin, Jr.

### Advent educational resources:

- **In Advent** by Elaine M. Ward
- **Counting the Days: Twenty-five Ways**, with activities for children

### Here are some instant Christmas pageants:

- **The Fumbly Bumbly Angels**, a musical drama for children with CD soundtrack
- **The Mouse's Tale**, with CD and costume plans
- **Child of the Star**, a nativity play in 10 scenes
- **Innkeepers & Light Sleepers** from the Iona Community with 17 new songs for Christmas - book & CD
- **God Comes Tomorrow...** Advent & Christmas music by the Cathedral Singers conducted by John L. Bell



# October 2002 Prayer Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
<p>This month's prayer calendar is sponsored by Elizabeth Hostetter.</p> <p><i>If you would like to sponsor one or more months of the prayer calendar, contact Gloria Lehman at 540-434-9727 or 1-800-707-5535.</i></p>	<p><b>6</b> Richard Keeler and Loren Horst will teach classes tomorrow at the West Indies Theological College in Trinidad. Pray that God's Spirit will guide them and that the students will hear and comprehend God's truth.</p>	<p><b>7</b> Tomorrow the board of the Albanian Mennonite Mission Foundation will meet for fellowship and administrative decision-making. Pray for safety for the missionaries and Albanian believers as they travel to this meeting.</p>	<p><b>8</b> Chia Yang plans to move to Hickory, N.C., in January 2003 to lead a church plant for the Hmong people. Thank God for the vision by Hmong leaders and the Hickory churches that have led to this point.</p>	<p><b>9</b> Stephanie, Andrew, Leesha, and Danielle Stoner in Jamaica give full attention to homeschooling tasks each weekday. May God bless them with interest and motivation for learning.</p>	<p><b>10</b> Jesse Lucke is teaching computer skills to the students at the Maranatha School for the Deaf in Jamaica. Pray that God will give him patience and insight for this challenging task.</p>	<p><b>11</b> Dolores Beiler shares life and laughter with the women in the Joyland community in Jamaica. These relationships strengthen the bonds of "sister love" in the church. Thank God for these connections.</p>	<p><b>12</b> Pray for the youth in your congregation as they make plans for next summer's activities. Pray that they would consider serving on a short-term Partners in Mission team.</p>
<p><b>13</b> Pray for Ken Stoner, Anna Edwards, and Damien Hines who recently walked through the community surrounding the Maranatha School for the Deaf, Jamaica, inviting people to attend worship services in the school chapel.</p>	<p><b>14</b> Today and tomorrow EMU is hosting representatives from mission and service agencies with whom students can discuss service opportunities. God opens doors for service; pray that His people will choose to walk through them.</p>	<p><b>15</b> An important annual event is the coming together of the many missionary organizations that work together in Albania. Pray for the Mennonite representatives that will take part in these important sessions this week.</p>	<p><b>16</b> Paul Godshall is Director for Eastern Carolina District. Pray for efforts by Paul and the District to strengthen existing churches and expand the Mennonite presence and witness in eastern North Carolina.</p>	<p><b>17</b> Pray for congregational leaders as they process and make decisions about the proposed COMB (Covenant Mutual Benefits) health care insurance policy for pastors and congregational employees.</p>	<p><b>18</b> Pray for the leaders of the Italian Menn. Church as they finalize details for their annual conference in November. Pray that speaker Giovanni Greco will be empowered to bring stimulating presentations to the conference body.</p>	<p><b>19</b> Pray for the "third agers" who are engaged in service with SOOP (Service Opportunities for Older People), a program of Menn. Mission Network. The Partners in Mission office is the local contact for SOOP.</p>	
<p><b>20</b> Milford &amp; Carolyn Lyndaker pastor Crest Hill Comm. Church, Wardsville, W. Va., with support from Northern District churches and VMBM. Pray that the church will continue to grow.</p>	<p><b>21</b> Margaret Keeler is a valuable "shoulder-tapper" for young people in the Mennonite churches in Trinidad. Thank God for Margaret's gift, and ask His guidance for her as she continues to influence young lives.</p>	<p><b>22</b> Pray for the Virginia Mennonite Conference officers (Joe Longacher, Mark Wenger, Ron Piper, and Malinda Stoltzfus) and staff as they prepare for the Conference Council meeting in November.</p>	<p><b>23</b> Karen Brunk, nurse at the Joyland Clinic in Jamaica, sees physical and spiritual need each day. May Christ's compassion flow through her to each person she serves.</p>	<p><b>24</b> Chaplain Ron Baker of Rehoboth Jail &amp; Prison Ministry makes eight visits each month to various prisons in Augusta, Nelson and Buckingham counties. Pray for his ministry of Bible teaching and counseling with prisoners.</p>	<p><b>25</b> The Boards of Virginia Menn. Auto and Property Aid Plans will meet tomorrow. Pray for guidance and direction as they review current operations and plan for the future directions of these mutual aid programs.</p>	<p><b>26</b> Pray for the church in Zimbabwe as they prepare for Mennonite World Conference Africa 2003. Pray for international coordinator Ray Brubacher and national coordinator Dothan Moyo as they carry out their responsibilities.</p>	
<p><b>27</b> Rawl Gumpath, president of the Menn. Church of Trinidad and Tobago, serves as a pastor, takes courses at the Univ. of the West Indies, and holds a full-time job. Ask God to give him daily strength and wisdom.</p>	<p><b>28</b> Jesse Bergey is working at the Maranatha School for the Deaf in St. Elizabeth, Jamaica. Ask God for stamina for Jesse as he teaches the students about agriculture and small-scale farming.</p>	<p><b>29</b> Are you or your family considering a short-term service opportunity? Pray about involvement with Partners in Mission. There are opportunities for families, individuals, and groups to serve in the U.S. or overseas.</p>	<p><b>30</b> Pray for Bishop Leslie Francisco III, Urban Ministry Director for 2020 Vision, and the congregations of Norfolk and Warwick Districts in their efforts to minister effectively and to expand their witness in southeast Virginia.</p>	<p><b>31</b> Pray for Bishop Danisa Ndlovu as he leads the church in Zimbabwe in preparing to welcome the Mennonite World Conference assembly in 2003. Pray also for peace and stability in Zimbabwe.</p>	<p><b>[The Lord] covers the sky with clouds; he supplies the earth with rain and makes grass grow on the hills.</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Psalm 147:8 (NIV)</p>		

## Announcements

The 36th annual Virginia Mennonite Relief Sale, which raises funds for Mennonite Central Committee, will be held Friday evening and Saturday, October 4-5, at the Rockingham County Fairgrounds, Harrisonburg, Va. The event will include auctions, food, demonstrations, crafts, plants, children's activities, and more. For more information, contact Marv Nisly at 540-433-9319 or [mnisly@aol.com](mailto:mnisly@aol.com) or visit [www.vareliefsale.com](http://www.vareliefsale.com).

MMA's Stewardship University will be held at Park View Mennonite Church, Harrisonburg, Va., on Saturday, November 9, 8:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. The registration fee is \$29, and group discounts and an early-bird discount are available. The fee includes lunch and an all-day children's ministry. For a detailed schedule, contact your church MMA advocate or call Barbara Borntreger, MMA Church Relations Manager, at 540-434-3666 or 1-800-442-7930.

Highland Retreat Annual Fall Dinner will be held on Friday, November 1, 6:30 p.m., at Eastern Mennonite High School, Harrisonburg, Va. All who are interested in the ministry of Highland Retreat are welcome. To make your reservation call 540-852-3226 or e-mail [highlandrt@juno.com](mailto:highlandrt@juno.com).

Fidele Lumeya and Krista Rigalo have begun a three-year term with Mennonite Central Committee in Angola. Krista is a member of Shalom Mennonite Church, Harrisonburg, Va.



Steve Carpenter, Cheverly, Md., has accepted the position of Conference Coordinator for Virginia Mennonite Conference, beginning January 2003. Steve is a member of Washington Community Fellowship.

Del Glick, Washington, D.C., has accepted the position of Director of Church Partnerships at Eastern Mennonite Seminary. Del serves as interim pastor of Washington Community Fellowship.



## Gift and Thrift celebrates twenty years

Since its opening on October 1, 1982, Gift and Thrift in Harrisonburg, Va., has doubled in size, brought its total of volunteers to 90 persons, and realized annual increases in the profits sent to Mennonite Central Committee. Net income in 2001 was \$128,415. It is time to celebrate, to evaluate the past, and to plan for the future.

Special plans for October include the following events:

- Week 1 - Drawings for 3 prizes.**
- Week 2 - 20% discount to celebrate the first 20 years.**
- Week 3 - An international emphasis with special foods, guests, and music.**
- Week 4 - Drawings for 3 prizes.**



Dick Good

The annual banquet will also feature an international flavor of foods and music. Churches will be encouraged to recognize their volunteers on a particular Sunday.

The board and managers of Gift and Thrift wish to thank all who have made these 20 years possible and successful—those who have donated so many usable items, given numerous hours of volunteer service, found practical thrift purchases, and chosen beautiful gifts made by those earning a living in developing countries.

• Nancy A. Yoder

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