

Small churches can make a big difference

Crossroads Mennonite Church, a small congregation in Timberville, Va., recently made a big impact on the community. Pastor Bill Greene carried the message of Jesus to reflect belief and action when dealing with a group of boys who went looking for trouble and found it.

Last summer, six teenage boys were enjoying a swim in the local pool. When that activity no longer held their interest, they decided to skateboard in the basement of a nearby commercial building. Seeking a new dimension for their entertainment, they ventured to the hardware store, purchased some spray paint, and upon reentry to the warehouse, vandalized the interior walls. Although the young men did not know each other, they were about to embark on a journey that would bind them together as they sought restoration within the community.

One young man attended Crossroads Mennonite and his parents soon learned of his post-swimming activity. They solicited Pastor Bill's help in dealing with their son's behavior. Bill was familiar with Restorative Justice Initiatives, a program of the Community Mediation Center in Harrisonburg, and he decided to use their practice to bring restoration to the situation.

Bill explained to the family that as Christians, it's important for us to correct our mistakes when we've wronged someone. When the boy showed interest in seeking restoration, Bill explained his conditions of no legal involvement or talk of "getting out of this."

The Timberville Chief of Police, Richard Sullivan, was receptive to the idea of restorative justice as long as all six boys participated in the clean up of the building. Because the vandalized building was in the process of being donated to the county for a Community Center, both the present and future owners needed to be supportive of the restorative justice process as well.

After all parties agreed to try the restorative justice model, a meeting took place at the vandalized warehouse. The resulting dialogue between the victims and offenders yielded an agreement of correcting the misbehavior and repairing the building to the owners' satisfaction.



Cindy Greene

The charges against the boys decreased from a felony to a misdemeanor, and Chief Sullivan indicated that he would use this model again in the future. Bill felt this was significant evidence that the restorative justice model could work in the community.

As Bill gathered the necessary supplies for the clean up at the local hardware store, he told the manager the reason for his purchases. Impressed that the boys were making the repairs themselves, the manager mixed various cans of paint into an acceptable gray, then donated them to the repair project. Bill recognized that God was blessing this journey of restoring justice.

The graffiti-covered walls and broken windows in the warehouse were soon transformed. Some of the youth pointed out that they weren't responsible for all the broken windows, the trash and even some of the graffiti. Nevertheless, they had agreed to clean the entire warehouse!

This model of restoring justice and being responsible for our actions is how Crossroads Mennonite is using the teachings of Jesus as a witness to their community. A small church putting its faith into practice can make a big difference.

• Dawn Mast

Bill Greene (center), pastor of Crossroads Mennonite Church, worked with Chief Sullivan (L) and Officer Ritchie (R) to make a big difference in the community of Timberville, Va.

A lot of dollars and a little sense

Sometimes I wish it weren't so—this connection between God's work and money. This is nail-biting time for conferences and mission boards, congregations and ministries. Virginia Mennonite Conference and Virginia Mennonite Board of Missions together handle over two million dollars per year and this time of year seems to be the low point. Year after year budgets seem to run the same cycle, lag behind early and then, hopefully, finish strong at the end. Makes for an interesting Boston Marathon, but an agonizing way to do God's work.

The problem comes from this. We believe it is important to make the Good News available free of charge. Hence, people should not have to pay to go to church. Corresponding ministries should result from the freely given generosity of God's people in worshipful and joyous response to God's grace. Generosity should be the response we offer, not the price we pay, for God's favor. I agree.



Loren Horst
President of VMBM

Of course, if we managed physical food the same way we administer spiritual food, no one would be required to pay at the grocery store. Offering baskets would be placed at the door, or perhaps passed up and down the aisle. If the baskets contained a surplus, we would commission a few farmers to raise more food. Most grocers would be bi-vocational and many farmers would be farming with the old Massey Harris.

What doesn't work at the grocery store, however, seems to work providentially well with the Gospel. There is always a bumper crop of God's grace. The distribution systems continue to work pretty good. Satisfied customers seem less interested in hoarding than in sharing.

In the meantime, both producers of food and ministers of the Gospel share this thing called faith. Both live in the confidence of what is hoped for but not yet seen. We at the Mission Board and Conference are still confident of this, that He who began a good work among us will finish the job. We'll cooperate to the best of our ability.

Loren Horst

Roamin' through Romans



Rick Beil

"Roamin' through Romans," a musical journey through the Biblical book of Romans, was presented by the children at Harrisonburg Mennonite Church on April 13. Songs, drama, and choreography brought the Scriptures to life. An offering of \$1,188 was received to benefit the Smith family in Jamaica through VMBM. Donovan and Maxine Smith are co-pastors of Salters Hill Mennonite Church near Montego Bay. Their family of five has been living in one room and more space is urgently needed. Could your Sunday school class, Vacation Bible School, or small group contribute to this need? For more information, contact Gloria Lehman at 540-434-9727 or gloria.lehman@vmbm.org.

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Huntington celebrates Italian missions

Huntington Mennonite Church, Newport News, Va., pulled out the stops on April 5-6, raising almost \$4,500 for missions in Italy! The weekend included a bike- and walk-a-thon in beautiful Newport News Park, children's projects, a spaghetti dinner accented with red, white, and green, and a concert. All of these activities, as well as a special offering on Sunday, demonstrated that the people at Huntington believe that our partnership with our mission workers in Italy is a call from God.

Almost a dozen missionaries who had served in Italy within the last forty years trekked to the Hampton Roads area. They preached, acted, and sang, and told about the work of Virginia

Mennonite Board of Missions. Beth Jarrett, who served in Sicily with her husband, Harry, from 1992-2000, entertained us with a variety of musical pieces. On Sunday morning a group performed the skit, "Sorella Franca's Baptism," followed by a message from Harry Jarrett, "Learning to Fish in Your Pond."

Building into the hearts and lives of children insights of missions,

Glenda Mosemann, Children's Ministry Director planned unique ways to involve them in raising a little over \$400 for children's programs in Italy. During kids' church, the second to fifth graders made prayer cards which reminded them to pray for the missionaries and Italian leaders, compiled questions about life in Italy to ask the Eberlys by e-mail, and made a salt map of the country. During the Saturday evening concert, they participated in games, crafts, and food, all with an Italian flair.

"We need to do this again," someone said after it was all over. "Let's pick another of our VMBM locations, and do what we can to encourage them also." We were truly blessed and encouraged as we sensed the dedication of those who had served in church planting and discipleship, and saw the love for the Italian people which they displayed.



Glenda Mosemann

Where in the world is Italy? Glenda Mosemann helps the children at Huntington locate the answer on the globe before they begin making a salt map of the country.

• Ed Bontrager
Huntington Mennonite Church

Born out of destruction

Recently Willard and I joined in the twentieth anniversary celebration of a miracle: a church fellowship, a kindergarten, and a Christian Scouts program that have brought faith, hope, love to many people in Volturara, a small town in the mountains above Naples, Italy. Following is the moving story of how this effective ministry was born out of destruction.

After the widespread earthquake of 1980 in central Italy, there ensued a spontaneous outpouring of relief funds from Mennonites and other European Christians. Francesco Picone insisted that Italian Mennonites must do something tangible to meet some of the desperate needs.

Francesco Picone, Willard Eberly, Ken Horst, Walter Sawatsky of MCC Europe, and others

formed a committee that gave leadership to developing a rebuilding project and a comforting Christian presence to the victims. The severely damaged town of Volturara was chosen, where government assistance had not yet arrived and where no evangelical witness existed.

Overcoming government bureaucracy and corruption, fear and prejudice against evangelical believers were major hurdles. But slowly trust and respect were earned

as the labor of love persevered through the years in assisting the people to rebuild their homes, businesses, and lives. Today the kindergarten is fully accredited by the Italian government and more students are applying than can be accepted. Their model scouts program is spreading to other parts of Italy. The fellowship of believers that formed through the powerful demonstration of the Gospel now has an Italian pastor, one of the first believers from the town.

The celebration was a time of festivity and gratitude for God's faithfulness. Francesco Picone and Willard Eberly both participated in the informative, inspirational program. They and many others testified to the reality that those who by faith invested money, effort, time, prayer, and love have witnessed a miracle emerge out of destruction.

• Eva Eberly
Mediterranean Regional Assistant

Eastern Carolina Dist. kicks off City on a Hill

Eastern Carolina District churches met in Durham, N.C., on March 29 to celebrate the beginning of City on a Hill 2003. Musicians and musical groups from the various congregations led worship. John Powell and Marty Bender from Mennonite Mission Network each spoke. Urban Ministry Director Paul Godshall gave an overview of “Triangle-Triad Vision 2006,” a three-year church development strategy developed by the District. Near the end of the service, there was opportunity for individuals to make an “offering” of time, prayer, finances and ideas. There was also a commissioning of District and other leaders who will be involved in City on a Hill 2003.

City on a Hill is a program of Mennonite Mission Network that recognizes a different urban area each year. It provides a grant of \$21,000 with the requirement that at least \$15,000 will go towards planting a new church. The remaining funds are used for community outreach that will be determined locally.

The City on a Hill 2003 award supplements existing efforts by Eastern Carolina District. About four years ago, the District began talking with Virginia Mennonite Board of Missions about ways to strengthen their churches. A series of consultations resulted in a vision and strategy statement that was approved early last year. The District appointed an Urban Ministry Director, Paul Godshall, to give guidance and encouragement to implementing the vision locally. Virginia



Representatives from Eastern Carolina District, Mennonite Mission Network, Virginia Mennonite Board of Missions, and Virginia Mennonite Conference discuss the “Triangle-Triad Vision 2006.”

Mennonite Board of Missions provided a grant toward Urban Ministry Director support.

Two sub-committees have been formed for City on a Hill 2003. One is for the new church plant. The focus and location of the new church has not been decided, but there is strong interest in a Latino church plant. The second sub-committee will develop an Anabaptist Center to provide information on peace theology and may include outreach to students. Other activities that are planned include Bible studies to strengthen existing churches, as well as a “news and prayer network” to keep persons informed and assure prayer support.

The Triangle-Triad region of North Carolina is a rapidly growing area of about 2 million people with several major universities, hospitals and research facilities. The first Mennonite churches in the area were started 1970 in Durham and Winston-Salem, building on relationships that were established by Voluntary Service units. Raleigh Mennonite Church was organized in 1986 and Greensboro Mennonite Fellowship in 1988. A new fellowship was formed in Chapel Hill in the past year. These congregations will provide the foundation for new outreach efforts, assisted by the additional funding and consultation that City on a Hill provides.

• Joe Bontrager
USA Regional Director

Wanted: your soiled, used Bibles

At the edge of the Virginia Mennonite Board of Missions parking lot in Harrisonburg stands a red barn containing books donated to Books Abroad. From this “office,” boxes of books are sent by request to churches, seminaries, schools, and libraries in many countries. The most common plea is for Bibles, commentaries, and study helps. Letters typically tell of church members sharing one Bible between many persons and ask if we could please send even one box of “your soiled, used Bibles.”

After packing boxes in April, Books Abroad had only a few Bibles and several commentaries left on the shelves. If you have Bibles (or portions of the Bible) in any version or study helps that are no longer being used, please consider donating them to Books Abroad. We gladly accept any quantity, for to those without Bibles, one is a blessing.

• Melba Heatwole
Director of Books Abroad

A show of faith for Iraqi refugees

While thousands of raucous antiwar demonstrators marched through the streets of downtown Washington on April 12, a different kind of peace effort by a small group of Christians and Muslims was taking place in the parking lot of an aging brick church in Fairfax City.

Instead of carrying placards and shouting slogans, the interfaith activists were loading 325 boxes of soap, shampoo, toothpaste, towels and other humanitarian aid into a 20-foot truck behind Northern Virginia Mennonite Church. The packages will be collected, along with others from across the country, by Mennonite Central Committee in Akron, Pa., and then flown to Iraq to relieve refugees, organizers said.

The project was as much a statement against the war as the protests, principal coordinator Hoyt Maulden said.

“We’ve gone to the big demonstrations in D.C.

... but it was very unsatisfying because the way we are against the war is not the same as the way the protesters around us were against the war,” said Maulden, a

member of the Mennonite church. “A lot of the war protests downtown sometimes got vindictive and got out of hand, and that made us very uncomfortable. We are looking for a positive way to express ourselves.”

From beginning to end, the effort brought pacifist Christian denominations and Muslims together, Maulden said.

Half of the aid kits were prepared by several hundred Muslim students from Al Fatih Academy, an Islamic elementary school in Herndon, and the All Dulles Area Muslim Society. The rest were donated by area Mennonite, Quaker and Church of the Brethren congregations. A similar collaboration took place across the country, organizers said.

The interfaith cooperation doesn’t end when the packages reach the Middle East. The Mennonite Central Committee and Islamic relief agencies will work together to make sure that the packages get into the hands of refugees, Maulden said.



photos by Hoyt Maulden

During a break from loading boxes, Loyce Borgmann of Oakton Church of the Brethren explained why the faiths joined together: “Our basic God beliefs may not be the same, but our sense of justice and what’s right—that’s what connects us.”

Borgmann, whose husband heads the Oakton church, said pacifism is a founding principal of all three Christian faiths involved in the relief effort. “Our personal position as a church is all war is sin and all war is wrong.”

Suhaib Albarzinji, whose wife was a principal organizer of the project among the Muslim children, said his stance against the war was due to more personal reasons. He was born in Baghdad and has relatives living there. He doesn’t know if they are dead or alive.

“Everyone would love to see Saddam [Hussein] go and are glad to see him go, but we’ve progressed enough as a civilization to solve

these problems without killing and destruction and dropping bombs on people,” he said.

His wife, Afeefa Syeed, director of Al Fatih Academy, which has about 55 students in pre-kindergarten through third grade, said she joined with the pacifist Christian groups because many of her students asked if they could do something for the refugees.

“A lot of the kids have friends and family in Iraq and relatives in Turkey and Afghanistan. This really hits hard with a lot of the kids,” she said. “We can’t not talk about it at school—the kids were already bringing it up. So we took the kids’ lead.” The Muslim children designed handmade cards that will be sent with the packages.

Each relief kit contains four bars of soap, a bottle of shampoo, 10 cups of laundry detergent, a tube of toothpaste, four toothbrushes, four bath towels, a hairbrush, comb and nail clippers.

Northern Virginia Mennonite Church, Fairfax, Va., joined with other local groups to assemble 325 refugee kits for Mennonite Central Committee to distribute in Iraq.



Excerpt © 2003, The Washington Post. Reprinted with permission.



Rachel Smith

Mildred Stoltzfus, Ina Mae Meadows, and Evelyn Maust, all of Park View Mennonite Church, decide which mission needs they will contribute to later in the morning.

Mennonite Women enjoy 50th Annual Day

The 50th Annual Day of Mennonite Women of Virginia Conference, formerly Women's Missionary and Service Commission (WMSC), was held at Weavers Mennonite Church, Harrisonburg, Va., on May 1, 2003. Approximately 130 women attended this annual business day where offerings were received for missionaries (\$5,418), special projects and the operating budget.

This day was special as we looked back to women in the past through vignettes. These dramatic scenes highlighted the first sewing circle of Virginia Mennonite Conference at Weavers Church in 1908, the sewing circle of Warwick River Mennonite Church who served five hundred people

at conference in 1946, and the increasing number of sewing circles that had been organized state wide in 1953. Women were also given a glimpse of the first Women's Retreat in 1965 and the Annual Day at Park View Church in 1976, where 300 ladies raised \$6,000 for mission needs.

We were challenged in the afternoon by Rhoda Keener, Executive Director of Mennonite Women USA, who spoke to us on the topic of "Sisters Linked in Mission and Ministry." Rhoda has been a full-time homemaker and was also employed for 16 years as a psychotherapist, English teacher and mental health administrator. She comes to her position with sensitivity, understanding, and a heart for the work. Rhoda told us that women often tell her of their traumas. She envisions women encouraging each other spiritually as well as serving the needs around them. Her closing remarks were of Jesus asking the dead girl of Mark 5:41 to "Arise." Jesus says to each of us, "Arise."

The three special projects of the day were Mercy House, helping the homeless in Harrisonburg; "In Your Hands Ministry," providing leadership training for women in Trinidad and Tobago; and MOMS, a local support and nurture group for mothers.

Dorothy Shenk led our congregational singing, Sue Kirk and Robin Zook provided special music and Diane Burkholder played piano interludes. We enjoyed a delicious lunch in charge of Carolyn Carr. It was a day well spent!

• Jane Burkholder
Mennonite Women of Virginia Conference

Congregational Resource Center

Graduation is a time of transition. It includes endings that celebrate friendships made along the way and the joy of new frontiers. Here are some resources for this special time of life as young adults:

- **Through Laughter and Tears The Church Celebrates!** Worship Services of Rites of Passage and Pilgrimage in the Christian Church
- **Youthworker: Life After Youth Group**, July/August 2002 includes an article "Ending Well: Pilgrimage as Transforming Discovery"
- **Big Questions, Worthy Dreams: Mentoring Young Adults in Their Search for Meaning, Purpose, and Faith**
- **Live It Up! How to Create a Life You Can Love**
- **Push It! Young Adults Engage the Bible**

Summer gives us time to do things with our children that we can't do in the school year. Here are some creative ways to spend time with them:

- **Kids and Blessings: Living the Beatitudes**
- **The Talking Money Game** to teach children good stewardship
- **Pray & Play Bible 2**
- **Boundaries with Kids** video curriculum

The Resource Center is open 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, with a key available at the EMU Information Office for use after 5:00 p.m.

Visit our website at www.emu.edu/mrcr to browse our catalog. Contact us at 540-432-4219 or wengerkw@emu.edu.

June 2003 Prayer Calendar

Sunday

1 Today is the official dedication ceremony for the newly rented worship facility in Bari-Sud, Italy. Pray for pastors and believers from the Mennonite churches in Sicily and Salerno as they travel to Bari for this event.

8 Omar and Dolores Beiler are on "home leave" for 5 weeks beginning this week. Pray that they will be renewed by interacting with their friends and family members during this time away from Jamaica.

15 Pray for Conference Youth Minister Kimberlee Greenawalt as she engages young people with the claims of Christ and calls them to discipleship.

22 Pray for the delegates from VMC and its 66 congregations as they prepare for the first assembly of Mennonite Church USA in Atlanta next month.

29 Pray for EMU President Joe Lapp as he concludes his fourth four-year presidential term tomorrow. Pray for Interim President Beryl Brubaker as she leads the university until Loren Swartzendruber begins in January.

Monday

2 Pray for the students who graduated from Eastern Mennonite High School yesterday. Pray for wisdom as they discern their next steps, whether it is work, service, or further education.

9 Pray for the staff of VMC, VMBM, and JMU, as well as the many volunteers, as they make final preparations for the VMC Assembly and World Neighbors International Fair being held this weekend.

16 Pray for the administration, staff, and board of Highland Retreat as they make final preparations for their annual Steak Barbecue and Auction Fundraiser on Saturday to benefit the summer youth camp program.

23 Pray for Sam and Bev Scaggs and the PIM team that is ministering in Bari, Italy, this week and in Palermo from June 26 to 30. In Bari, the team will assist in evangelistic outreach and intercessory prayer.

30 Pray for Paul Leaman as he begins as principal of Eastern Mennonite High School tomorrow. Pray also for former principal J. David Yoder in his new role as Associate Director of the Mennonite Education Agency.

Tuesday

3 Pray for Joe Bontrager as he meets with the 2003 City on a Hill committee this evening in Durham, N.C. Pray for insights and resources to identify opportunities for outreach efforts by district churches.

10 Pray for Jim Schrag, Executive Director of Mennonite Church USA, as he travels to Virginia to be a part of VMC's Delegate Assembly and World Neighbors International Fair.

17 Pray for discernment as VMC recruits an Assistant Moderator to follow Mark Wenger. Pray for Mark as he continues his roles as co-pastor at Springdale Mennonite Church and chair of Southern District.

24 A good number of Partners in Mission teams are being sent to various locations this summer. Pray that each one will be a real blessing to the people with whom they work. Pray also for safety as they serve and travel.

Wednesday

4 Richard and Margaret Keeler will share in the World Mission Prayer Fellowship tomorrow. Thank God for the lives that are changed through their ministries of mentoring pastors and leading women's Bible studies.

11 Pray for those attending the VMC Assembly at JMU tomorrow through Saturday. May God guide each person as they discern Jesus' call to follow Him in these uncertain times.

18 Pray for Maurita Eberly as she begins a two-month assignment in a music ministry in Palermo and Bari, Italy. Pray that the music camps will impact the ongoing formation of Italian children in the areas of music and worship.

25 With the assistance of the YES team, Norma Teles is holding a children's camp in Lezhe, Albania, this week. Pray for the children's safety, for health and stamina for the workers, and for new connections with families.

Dwight and Vada Swartz sponsored this month's prayer calendar in memory of their daughter, Glenda Sue (Susie), who died in 1980 in an automobile accident. Her birthday was June 30.

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

Thursday

5 Pray for Harry Jarrett, Rose Huyard, and Glen Guyton as they prepare to speak during VMC Assembly worship services next weekend. Pray also for Marton Bontrager as he prepares to lead the Bible studies.

12 Pray for Conference Moderator Joe Longacher as he faithfully fulfills his responsibilities in steering the assembled delegates through their agenda and decision making.

19 Pray for the pastors and wives of the four Mennonite congregations in Trinidad. They are seeking God's will for future work in nurturing believers and for reaching out to those who do not know Christ.

26 Pray for Sam Weaver, chair of the Virginia Mennonite Conference Gifts Discernment Committee, as he completes a five-year term and takes a mandatory sabbatical.

Friday

6 Assisted by VMBM missionary nurse Karen Brunk, Dr. Mark Mast will serve at the Joyland medical clinic in Jamaica, June 9-20. Pray for Mark's wife, Dawn, and sons Nathan and Jared as they live in the Joyland community.

13 The World Neighbors International Fair will be held tomorrow at JMU. Pray that many people will attend and learn about a variety of countries, including food, dance, music and crafts.

20 Pray for the Hmong Outreach Committee as they meet in Hickory, N.C., tomorrow to hear reports of the new Hmong church plant and ministries and consult together about plans for the future.

27 Ken and Stephanie Stoner and their 3 children have finished their term of service in Jamaica. Thank God for their service, and pray that God will help them through the transitions in the next few months.

Saturday

7 Pray for Jack Scott, Director of Marketing and Development for Mennonite Publishing Network as he briefs assembly delegates on their financial health and publishing initiatives next weekend.

14 Willard & Melba Heatwole are getting into their work in the Lushnje area of Albania. Pray that the Lord will grant them good favor in building positive relationships with the Albanian people.

21 Pray for Steve Campbell as he prepares to begin a one-year assignment in Albania in August. Steve will be leading Bible study groups and teaching the Hess children in their home schooling.

28 Ron Baker of Prison Ministry holds Bible studies at Dillwyn Correctional Center and Buckingham Correctional Center. Pray for prisoners who participate in these Bible studies.

Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (NIV)

Announcements

Eastern Mennonite High School is seeking an Instrumental Music teacher. This 80% position (with additional load potential) includes Music 6, Music 7 and working with the Winds in the full orchestra. Applicants must exhibit a strong commitment to the Mennonite faith. Fax resume to 540-432-4528, e-mail lehmandr@emhs.net or contact J. David Yoder at 540-432-4502.

Virginia Mennonite Retirement Community's 18th Annual **Alzheimer's Benefit Golf Tournament** will be held Friday, July 18, at the Lakeview Golf Course. Sponsored by Layman, Diener & Borntrager Insurance Agency, Inc., the tournament proceeds will be divided between the Alzheimer's Association and VMRC.

Shotgun starts are 8:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Registration for morning play will begin at 7:30 a.m. Continental breakfast will be provided. From 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., participants will enjoy a grilled lunch, prizes will be drawn and mid-day activities will occur. Registration for afternoon play will take place around 12:30 p.m., followed by play at 1:00 p.m. Awards and prizes will be given at 5:00 p.m.

For more information regarding the event or to register, contact Melanie Eby at 540-564-3406 or meby@vmrc.org.

Steak Barbecue & Auction Fundraiser at Highland Retreat will be held Saturday, June 21. Special activities include a bicycle tour of the Bergton/Criders community, horse drawn wagon rides, zipline & super swing for teens, swimming pool, funyaks at the pond, dipped ice cream and more. The auction and special activities begin at 2:30 p.m. and the barbecue will be served at 5:00 p.m. Bring a potluck salad and dessert. Special music by Blue Mountain Sunrise. Auction proceeds and donations at the meal benefit the summer youth camp program.

A-frame cabins are free for families and individuals. Advanced reservations are required. For reservations and information call the camp office at 540-852-3226 or e-mail info@highlandretreat.org.

Mennonite Women of Virginia will hold their annual retreat September 26-28 at the Holiday Inn in downtown Williamsburg, Va. Leslie Vernick, a licensed clinical social worker, will speak on "Growing in Truth." Watch for information in your church mailbox or contact Kathy Zendt at 540-886-5832 or zendt@cfw.com. A registration form will be available in the July issue of *Connections*.



Virginia Mennonite Conference Assembly & International Fair

June 12-14
James Madison University
Harrisonburg, Va.



Speakers

Worship services held at 7:00 p.m.

Thursday • Harry Jarrett, associate pastor at Harrisonburg Menn. Church for Praise Fellowship

Friday • Rose Huyard, co-pastor of Mt. Vernon Menn. Church, Grottoes, Va.

Saturday • Glen Guyton, youth pastor at Calvary Community Church, Hampton, Va.

Bible study • *Fri., Sat., 8:45 a.m.* Marion Bontrager, chair of Bible and Ministry Center, Hesston College, Hesston, Kan.

World Neighbors

an international fair
Saturday, 1-5 p.m.

Country displays
Crafts, food, artifacts

Performances
Macedonian music
Alpenhorn group

Children's activities
Henna painting
Chinese characters
Origami

Come join us!

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