

Connections

Virginia Mennonite
Conference &
Board of Missions

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Engaging our culture at the exchange

It started in 1999 with a conversation—a conversation about “what if?” What if we could create a place to meet people where they are, to create a place to relax and develop relationships, develop community?

A lot has grown from that conversation. From a table at Big Al’s Deli in Winchester, Va., where Chris and Heather Scott talked to Doug Vogt about a place to engage culture on its terms. This conversation grew to be *the exchange* and now that dream has grown and is located in downtown Winchester.

At once both a coffeehouse and a church, *the exchange* is the newest Conference Related Ministry in the Virginia Mennonite Conference.

“We are experimenting with what it means to be a Christian community in the 21st century,” Chris Scott explains. This new church has started to attract those who normally would never consider Christianity or even desire to be part of a church community.

Doug Vogt, one of the core people at *the exchange*, serves as Youth Pastor at Stephens City Mennonite Church (SCMC), which has been intimately involved in *the exchange* from the beginning. SCMC has been a supporter of *the exchange*, placing several people on a steering committee, including Vogt and SCMC pastors James and Aldine Musser. Some of the members at Stephens City also volunteer on a regular basis.

The walls of the coffeehouse are painted purple, blue, yellow, and green. *The exchange* very much wants to be a place for the arts and is filled with artwork by Heather Scott and other local artists. The building, decorated in a variety of both new and cast-off couches and stocked with reading materials, games, and puzzles, is a very relaxing place in the midst of a fast-paced world. That is intentional.

The exchange wants to be a place that anyone will feel comfortable coming into for coffee and



Beck Halsted

conversation. The mission of the place is to bring people into relationship with Christ. The goal is to help people build relationships—horizontal relationships with the staff and other regular attendees, and through those relationships, a vertical relationship with the Creator.

The exchange is an emerging community of faith. It seeks to have all the markers of a church, including celebration of communion, prayer, Bible study, and celebrations of marriages. The vision statement is “To experience the first century church in a 21st century context.”

The exchange functions with a coffeehouse atmosphere on Thursday through Saturday nights. This is a time to listen to music, play games, eat, drink, and, most importantly, get to know other people.

On Sunday evenings at 6:30, *the exchange* offers a worship experience called *the gathering*. This is an informal time of worship, sharing, and prayer. The meeting happens in the same space, right on the couches.

In addition to Bible study, prayer, and singing, *the gathering’s* worship may consist of prayer stations, candle making, art responses to scripture, or

Doug Vogt, Heather Scott, and Chris Scott are actively involved in the exchange, a church and coffeehouse in Winchester, Va.

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Resurrection resolutions

“So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God” (Col. 3:1 NRSV).

We make resolutions at the beginning of the solar calendar year. Why shouldn't we, who have entered into the resurrection, seize this time to at least review our January resolutions? Better, to let the reality of God's resurrection power transform our perspectives and resolve to live toward God's future.

We have once again experienced the death-dealing power of war. How amazing that all of the concentrated force of the war machines cannot recreate a single life that was taken! Life out of death is God's territory. Resurrection power is stronger than death-making power. It is the promise of the risen Christ that his disciples would share in the resurrection. This offers a radical perspective on the challenges of the times.

We are blessed to be part of a historical theological tradition that affirms a “seamless life-affirming



Owen Burkholder
Conference Minister

ethic” that carries from conception to death. That includes concerns about both abortion and war-making. It also means caring for those who carry the image of God but who are dependent on others for sustaining life—the young, elderly, and developmentally disabled. What principles will help us live with the reality of the resurrection? I suggest some “resurrection resolutions:”

- that followers of Jesus will not live in fear.
- that we will give ourselves wholeheartedly to the life-giving impulses of our resurrected Lord.
- that we will resist death-dealing impulses of the powers around us.
- that we will live our lives in light of the values of the Kingdom of God present and coming.
- that we will worship joyfully the One who has brought us to life even while we were dead. It is God's work. Glory and praise to our life-giving God!



Canning meat for relief



Rachel Smith

Members of Virginia Mennonite Conference churches and other local Mennonite churches gathered at the Mennonite Relief Center, Hinton, Va., on March 3-7 to can meat from 122 cattle for Mennonite Central Committee. During the first four days, 20,860 cans of beef were filled. An additional 10 cows were processed on Friday for the Faith Mission Home in Aroda, Va.

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Editor

Gloria Lehman

Assistant Editor

Rachel Smith

Copy Editor

Megan Hartman

Circulation manager

Beth Brunk

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Phone 540-434-9727

1-800-707-5535

E-mail info@vmbm.org

info@vmconf.org

Web www.vmbm.org

www.vmconf.org

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Participate, don't spectate

"These are the days of Elijah, declaring the Word of the Lord... And though these are days of great trials, of famine, and darkness and sword, still we are the voice in the desert crying 'Prepare ye the way of the Lord'..." The corporate Jamaica Mennonite Church (JMC) choir heartily sang Robin Mark's "Days of Elijah" at the Sunday morning worship service during the JMC 45th Annual Conference. The words and music to this song caught the imagination of not only the choir, but also of a very expressive liturgical dance group.

Church delegates gathered from across the island for two days of Conference business meetings, March 7-8, at Waterloo Mennonite Church in Kingston. The Conference theme, "Committed to Service: Participate, Don't Spectate," brought eager participation by young, new delegates, as well as seasoned delegates. With this call to Christian commitment for service, JMC President Richie Tyson noted that the Council of Management hoped the Lord would work in their hearts and challenge them to offer themselves for leadership and mission outreach across the country. He said, "We have too few among us in leadership. We need to lift up our eyes and look at the fields around us... we need workers in the vineyard of the Lord!"

Pastor Ramesh and Babes Jaimani, delegates from the Mennonite Church of Trinidad and Tobago, challenged JMC with their mission vision of "Seven by Fifteen," increasing the number of churches from three to ten by the year 2015.

JMC welcomed Ridge Mennonite Fellowship, St. Elizabeth, the newest congregation in the Conference, under the leadership of Keith Allen and Damion Hines. During 2002, Millicent Peart had been installed as pastor of Waterloo Mennonite Church.

Completing the long-awaited parsonage at Salters Hill and putting a roof on the Faith church at Spanish Town are priorities for 2003. Retrieve, Good Tidings, and Waterloo are upgrading their facilities; Calvary and Alpine completed renovation in 2002. Local congregations, VMBM, and work teams have assisted in these.

The Council of Management is giving oversight to the development of a mission and vision statement. They hope the vision will focus goals of the JMC for mission in the Caribbean and beyond until the year 2020. Local congregations were challenged to be more cooperative to better enable the use of resources for the broader church.

Galen Lehman



JMC Conference 2003 provided opportunity for business, fellowship, praise, and worship. As members came forward during the Sunday morning service to share in communion and respond to the call of Christ in their lives, it was evident that the Holy Spirit is alive and well in the lives of our Jamaican sisters and brothers. May God bless the church as it seeks to be faithful to the witness of Jesus Christ in the world.

"...These are the days of the harvest; the fields are as white in your world. And we are the laborers in your vineyard, declaring the Word of the Lord... There's no God like Jehovah!"

• David Paulovich
East Goshen (Ind.) Menn. Church
preparing for service in Jamaica

The JMC Council of Management interacted with delegates from Trinidad and Virginia during their annual conference in March. (L-R) Babes Jaimani, Millicent Peart, Richie Tyson, David Paulovich, Janet Moore, Cheryl Paulovich, Liston Aiken, William Broughton, Ramesh Jaimani.

— "exchange" continued from pg. 1 —

doing a compline service. For example, one night before communion, each person held a marble representing something that needed to be let go of. Each person then prayed over it and dropped it into a bowl of water as a symbol of giving it over to God.

The exchange is also open Monday through Friday for lunch. Soup, made-to-order sandwiches, homemade desserts, and a full range of espresso and coffee beverages can be had anytime the doors are open. Various kinds of music are offered in the evenings.

The coffee that *the exchange* sells is from Equal Exchange, the largest fair trade certified coffee company in North America. This ensures that coffee farmers in Latin America, Africa, and Asia receive a living wage.

"We're kind of making this up as we go along," Chris Scott said. "We're amazed at what God has done here so far and are open to wherever He wants to lead us in the future."

For more information about *the exchange*, visit the web site at exchangecoffeehouse.com or call 540-678-0600.

• Aldine Musser, Chris Scott, and Doug Vogt

Hmong church planters commissioned

“Then Jesus said to them, ‘The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field’” (Matthew 9:37-38). Four years ago the Tennessee-Carolina-Kentucky (TCK) District of Virginia Mennonite Conference began praying about beginning a ministry to the growing Hmong community in Hickory, North Carolina. Several members of the Mennonite churches in Hickory had contact with Hmong people through their occupations in education, social work, and medicine.

God answered that prayer when Chaiya Hadtasunern and Aranya Klokasuchai arrived in Hickory in January 2003. Chaiya is a recent graduate of Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary in Elkhart, Ind., with an emphasis in missions.

In a Sunday afternoon service on March 23, Chaiya and Aranya were commissioned to plant a Hmong Mennonite fellowship and Chaiya was licensed for pastoral ministry by Virginia Mennonite Conference. Mennonite Mission Network’s Hmong ministry consultant, Shoua Moua, of Denver, brought the message and VMC Conference Minister Owen Burkholder gave the prayer of dedication. Persons came from Hickory, Mountain View, and Asheville congregations to celebrate the event. A representative of the local Hmong community gave a welcome to Chaiya and Aranya and promised cooperation with their efforts.

Pray that God will open doors for their ministry in Hickory. They have already made contacts in the Hickory area and have been warmly welcomed by the Hmong community. In Hmong culture, clan relationships are very important. Chaiya and Aranya plan to gather persons of their clans as the beginning of the Hmong church. They will also develop relationships through ministries such as

translation and meeting other needs faced by Hmong immigrants. Interested persons will be invited to small group Bible studies in homes. The goal is to eventually form a Hmong Mennonite Church in Hickory.

The Hmong are an ethnic group from Laos that fled to Thailand after the Vietnam War because of their association with the United States during the war. More than 150,000 Hmong eventually resettled in the U.S.

Hmong Mennonite churches are located in

Fresno, Denver, Minneapolis, and Kitchener. There are approximately 15,000 Hmong in central North Carolina and less than ten percent are Christians. The ministry in Hickory is a partnership between TCK District, VMBM, and Mennonite Mission Network.

• Joe Bontrager, VMBM USA Regional Director, and Jim Roth, pastor of Hickory Mennonite Church



Aranya Klokasuchai and Chaiya Hadtasunern are serving as church planters in the Hmong community of Hickory, N.C.

VMBM recognized by Italian government

After waiting several years, we finally received a letter in February from the Ministry of Internal Affairs in Rome confirming the good news that Virginia Mennonite Board of Missions has been officially recognized by the Italian government as a legitimate not-for-profit entity to operate in the country of Italy. Willard Eberly is the legal representative. This should facilitate the visa application process for new VMBM missionaries. The Italian Mennonite Church is still waiting for recognition as a religious body at the national level.

• Eva Eberly
Mediterranean Regional Assistant

Baptisms celebrated in Trinidad

On the first Sunday in March, the two youngest congregations in Trinidad held a joint baptismal service at Las Cuevas beach. Around fifty persons were present to witness this public declaration of new believers of their intent to wholly follow Jesus. Pastors Ganesh Kalloo and Lalman John were in charge. Song leaders from both congregations, along with Lee Ebersole playing his guitar, led us in congregational singing. Pastor Ganesh brought a good message and we heard testimonies from each of the baptismal candidates. One by one, each of the believers, five adults and five teenagers, were baptized as the congregation sang.

Three of them, a mother and her two oldest children, are from the family who opened their home for our first Sunday School in Esperanza a year ago. One, a young adult lady, has impaired hearing. Three from her congregation took sign language lessons last year so they could communicate with her. Her mother has been impressed with her positive change in behavior since she chose to follow Jesus. One of the youngest to be baptized is following his mid-teenaged brother's example, who was baptized a year ago. They have an eleven-year-old sister who is following Jesus and looking forward to baptism when she is older.

These new believers are involved in cell groups, Friendship Bible Coffee studies, and other aspects of church life to help them grow and in turn reach out to their spouses, relatives, and friends who have not yet received Jesus as Savior. One young adult who has a deep interest in God's Word has been involved in the Friendship Bible Coffee classes and wants to be involved in teaching soon. We thank God for His work in these new believers' lives, and are excited as we see the Lord build His church.

• Richard Keeler
Balmain Village, Couva, Trinidad



Sandy Tusing

Central District celebrates open doors

Churches in the Central District of Virginia Conference gathered on March 9 for a "Celebration of Open Doors." This festival of word and song celebrated doors to mission that have already been opened, such as Beldor Mennonite Church members' service in Nicaragua and trips to Mexico planned by Weavers Mennonite Church.

New opportunities for service were anticipated as Ken Horst shared about Partners in Mission teams and Willard Heatwole spoke about the assignment he and Melba are beginning in Albania in May. Mission exhibits from a variety of service locations provided sights, sounds, and tastes of what God is doing in our world.

• Rachel Smith

Making the most of your marriage

What happens after the marriage? This was the first of four video sessions called "Making the Most of Your Marriage" by Dr. John Maxwell. Twenty-seven couples reviewed this first video session at Grace Mennonite Fellowship, Lacey Spring, Va., on Sunday evening, February 2. Wonderfully led by Mark and Liz Landis, couples discussed and answered a worksheet following each video session.

According to Dr. Maxwell, "The secret of a successful marriage after the wedding day is to have the same selfless spirit that Jesus Christ had, one that honors the mate, that lifts the mate up and desires what's best for them." He went on to say in the video that "Marriage is being the right person. Quit looking for the right person and start being the right person." The last session included each couple repeating their marriage vows.

The video sessions, held each Sunday evening during the month of February, were very much enjoyed and confirmed how each couple needs to "make the most of their marriage."

• Sandy Tusing
Grace Mennonite Fellowship

Judith Stroop, Phyllis Liskey, Kathy Kipps, and Margaret Palmer discuss the first marriage enrichment session at Grace Mennonite Fellowship in February.

Mennonite schools face leadership transitions

Eastern Mennonite High School

The Eastern Mennonite High School Board of Directors has named Paul G. Leaman as incoming principal. Leaman is currently Assistant Superintendent at Rosslyn Academy in Nairobi, Kenya, a private international Christian school for grades K-12. He will begin his new position on July 1, 2003.



Jackie Hartman, Chair of the Board of Directors, noted Leaman's administrative strength as his sense of mission. "As a person of vision and creativity, Leaman has demonstrated passion about Christian education that is connected to supporting churches."

Leaman and his wife, Mary, are members of Zion Mennonite Church, Broadway, Va., and have most recently attended and participated in church life at Karura Community Chapel in Nairobi, Kenya. They are the parents of two children, Jennifer and Kevin.

EMHS, a 6th-12th grade Christian school, is operated as a ministry of Virginia Mennonite Conference. The school has an enrollment of 332 students for the 2002-2003 school year.

Eastern Mennonite University

Dr. Loren E. Swartzendruber will become the next president of Eastern Mennonite University on July 1, 2003.

The EMU board of trustees and the Mennonite Education Agency voted unanimously to appoint Swartzendruber as the university's eighth president. The boards took final action following his Jan. 23-24 visit to campus for meetings with faculty, staff, students and other constituent groups.

The 53-year-old educational administrator is currently president of Hesston College, a two-year Mennonite institution in Hesston, Kan. He takes office on Jan. 1, 2004.

"I am honored and humbled by the opportunity to serve the church and EMU in this leadership role," Swartzendruber said of his appointment. "My primary calling has been to serve the Mennonite Church, and I have long known that our educational institutions play a critical role in the preparation of students for service in the church and world."

Joseph L. Lapp will conclude his fourth four-year presidential term on June 30. He announced earlier his desire not to accept another term.



Congregational Resource Center

As you celebrate Mother's Day, Father's Day and Children's Day in late spring, we offer you some resources to help your family time together be a positive encouragement to your children's faith:

- Bible Baseball: The Bible Knowledge Board Game
- Wiggly, Giggly Bible Learning Centers for Preschoolers
- My First Book of Bible Devotions
- Fun Excuses to Talk about God: 48 No-Fuss Family Devotions

Parenting in the 21st century presents great challenges. Here are some books that might encourage you along the way:

- God's Gift for Mothers
- Meditations for Single Moms
- Meditations for Weary Parents
- Parent Trek
- Like Dew Your Youth: Growing Up with Your Teenager by Eugene Peterson

- Parent Trek: Nurturing Creativity and Care in Our Children
- Family, The Forming Center: A Vision of the Role of Family in Spiritual Formation by Marjorie J. Thompson

We also have these video series on parenting:

- It Takes More Than Love
- Winning Your Kids Back from the Media
- Kids and Conflict
- Bringing Up Boys

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/mcrc to browse our catalog. Contact us at 540-432-4219 or wengerkw@emu.edu.

May 2003 Prayer Calendar

Sunday

Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you.

Exodus 20:12 (NIV)

4 Owen Burkholder and Joe Bontrager of the Missional Team will meet with Norfolk District tomorrow evening. Pray for district chair Harold Bergey and overseer Raymond Martin as the district discusses their vision for mission.

5 Pray for Susannah Gerber Lepley and the NewBridges Immigrant Resource Center as they sponsor an Immigrant Learning Tour in Harrisonburg. This tour will acquaint people with the needs of local immigrants.

11 Owen Burkholder and Joe Bontrager will represent the Missional Church Team at a meeting with Warwick District tomorrow. Pray for chair Ed Bontrager and overseer Raymond Martin as they explore missional ideas.

12 Pray for Owen Burkholder, Kimberlee Greenawalt, and Steve Carpenter as they join leaders of other Conferences for mutual support and encouragement at a regional meeting in Lancaster, Pa. tomorrow.

18 The VMC Missional Church Team meets in Richmond this evening and Monday to review the visits with Districts and to plan initiatives to help our congregations on their missional journey. Pray for Beryl Jantzi as he leads this meeting.

19 The drought in Jamaica has increased Jesse Bergey's workload because of needing to transport water for the vegetables in his garden. Thank God for Jesse's perseverance in nurturing plants and people.

25 Pray for Willard and Melba Heatwole as they set up their household and adjust to living in Lushnje, Albania. They are working with agricultural and community development programs and assisting with church planting.

26 Pray for Richard Pannell, director of the newly established LEAP (Learning, Exploring, and Participating) program. This is an effort Eastern Mennonite Seminary is undertaking to encourage ministry inquiry among high school youth.

Tuesday

Louise Blosser sponsored this month's prayer calendar in memory of Michael Blosser whose birthday was in May. The Blossers' interest in missions has continued through the years. Thank God for this witness in His church.

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

6 This evening is the first regional "Church Vocations Banquet" in Harrisonburg. Pray that those who have been invited will be attentive and obedient to God's call to ministry.

7 The Missional Church Team will be meeting with Central District tomorrow evening. Pray for chair Richard Bowman and overseers Glendon Blosser and Paul Kratz as the district discusses understandings of the missional church.

13 Conference Youth Ministers will be gathering in Goshen, Ind., Wednesday through Saturday for their annual meeting. Pray that this will be a time of encouragement and rejuvenation for those involved in this ministry.

14 Pray for Leon Hoover, Mennonite Mutual Aid's Regional VP for the PAVA area as he meets with Conference Coordinator Steve Carpenter and others about our conference's needs for health and long term care insurance.

20 Pray for EMM missionaries Willy and Barb Keener and family as they bring closure to five years of service in Albania. Pray that they will find God's grace to say their goodbyes and strength for the adjustments back in Pennsylvania.

21 Pray for the MC USA Covenant Mutual Benefit management team, including Conference Coordinator Steve Carpenter, as they teleconference tomorrow. Their decisions affect the future of church employees' health care.

27 Richard and Margaret Keeler are teaching a Bible study in Indian Walk, Moruga, Trinidad. They meet with a family who are believers but do not have a church fellowship. Pray that God will especially touch the mother who is battling cancer.

28 Many people are busy preparing for the VMC Assembly to be held next month at James Madison University. Pray for the speakers, workshop leaders, Bible study teachers, storytellers, staff, and others as they prepare for their roles.

Wednesday

1 Skip and Carol Tobin, former workers with Eastern Mennonite Missions in Thailand, will be sharing at the World Mission Prayer Fellowship today. Pray for them as they continue to resource EMM's ministries to Buddhists and Hindus.

8 Pray for Conference Minister Owen Burkholder and Del Glick, EMS Director of Church Partnerships, as they work together to encourage the creation of a "congregational culture of call" within VMC.

15 A Hospitality and Spirituality workshop will be held tomorrow in Harrisonburg and on Saturday in Newport News. Pray that participants will develop ways to make visitors feel welcome in their congregation.

22 Pray for the 2020 Vision Focus Group of Warwick and Norfolk districts meeting today at Warwick River Mennonite Church. They will discuss strategies for strengthening the church planting vision of these districts.

29 Ken and Stephanie Stoner frequently transport visitors to and from the airport in Montego Bay, Jamaica. Thank God for safety and protection as they make this strenuous two and a half hour trip. The possibilities for accidents are many.

Friday

2 Pray for the district, agency, and commission representatives as they meet with the VMC officers and staff for a Conference Council meeting this evening and tomorrow. Pray for Joe Longacher as he chairs this meeting.

9 The Missional Church Team is meeting with the Tennessee-Carolina-Kentucky District in Asheville, N.C., tomorrow. Pray for district chair and overseer Ed Godshall as the district discusses current and future missional activity.

16 VMC is hosting a banquet in Harrisonburg today and in Newport News tomorrow to honor the leadership of the M. Lloyd & Sara Weaver family. Pray that those in attendance will give generously toward current leadership needs.

23 The group that works together at the Ridge Mennonite Fellowship in Jamaica has a large number of children attending Sunday school. Pray that God will give Dolores Beiler creative energy as she teaches the 7-11 year olds.

30 Pray for the youth who are finishing the school year. This can be a difficult time to concentrate on their studies, especially for the seniors. Pray for clear minds and renewed commitment to learning.

Saturday

3 First Menn. Church and Springdale Menn. Church are sponsoring a Hymn Sing for Peace this afternoon at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. Pray that this will provide a peaceful witness during these uncertain days.

10 Dr. Mark and Dawn Mast and young sons will serve at the Joyland Clinic in Jamaica for two weeks in June while Dr. Omar and Dolores Beiler are on home leave. Pray for the Masts as they prepare for these weeks of service.

17 Pray for Park View Mennonite Church as they hold a mission festival this weekend that focuses on ministries in their local area. Leo Hartshorn of the Mennonite Mission Network will be serving as a resource person.

24 Pray for Eva Eberly as she seeks to complete the first draft (translation) of a handbook on praise and worship. Pray too for her Italian helpers as they work together during the summer to prepare the final draft for publication.

31 Pray for the missionaries and local believers in Bari, Italy, as they set up their newly rented worship and ministry center. Pray that many friends and new people will be present for the official dedication planned for this weekend.

Announcements

A couple or family is needed to serve a 1-3 year term at the Maranatha School for the Deaf, St. Elizabeth, Jamaica, beginning in September. Roles and responsibilities include building and grounds maintenance, teaching vocational classes (woodworking, sewing, and cooking), and relating to the hearing and deaf communities and the local Mennonite churches. For information contact Galen Lehman, VMBM Caribbean Regional Director, at grlehman@aol.com or Gloria Lehman, Caribbean Regional Assistant, at 540-434-9727, 1-800-707-5535, or gloria.lehman@vmbm.org.

"Strength for Today and Hope for Tomorrow," a retreat for families who support a loved one with long-term mental illness, will be held October 3-5 at the Precious Blood Retreat Center near Lancaster, Pa. Earl Martin, Harrisonburg, Va., and Kathy D. Yoder, Elizabethtown, Pa., will be resource persons for the retreat which is co-sponsored by No Longer Alone Ministries and Philhaven. For more information call 717-656-7358 or e-mail nlam2@earthlink.net.

Mennonite Conciliation Services, Mennonite Central Committee Office on Crime and Justice, and Eastern University are sponsoring a **Summer Mediation and Restorative Justice Training Institute**, July 13-18 at the

National Christian Conference Center in Valley Forge, Pa. The cost is \$450 (\$500 for registrations received after June 13); some scholarship assistance is available. For more information, contact MCS at 717-859-3889, mcs@mccus.org or visit www.mcc.org/us/peaceandjustice/mcs.html.

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.

Leadership Updates

Chaiya Hadtasanern was licensed on March 23 for his role as a church planter in Hickory, N.C.

Peter Simon Nguyen was licensed as Associate Pastor at Vietnamese Christian Fellowship, Falls Church, Va., March 30.



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

Register by May 26
www.vmconf.org/assembly

