

# Connections

Virginia Mennonite  
Conference &  
Board of Missions

July 2006  
Vol. 16, No. 9

## *The pathway to partnership*

*Third in a series of five articles on Doorways in Mission*

One of the broad themes of the church in the 21st century is already apparent. The movement of the gospel has been spreading globally south and east and we can now speak of the non-western church as from the “majority world.” Some of that dynamic movement results from 200 years of mission activity (indeed, 2,000 years!). In addition, some churches have arisen more spontaneously out of the mysterious working of God’s Holy Spirit. Whatever the source of this movement of God, the churches resulting in many locations in the world have now taken their place as mature leaders of the church of Jesus Christ.

What does this mean to us? It is possible to hunker down in little enclaves and communities of like-minded people and let the world go by. That may work for a while. More fruitful and faithful will be the church that relates humbly and openly with the global movement of God. How will we as Christians and churches do that in the 21st century?

We will enter the world as “guests.” That has always been true, at least when we step beyond our own front door. “Make yourselves at home,” we are told, and so we have. Hospitality has been a gift to us, and we will do well to receive it like any courteous guest—we will be considerate of our hosts, minimize our intrusion, and not stay too long.

When engaging together in longer-term relationships, we will conduct ourselves as true partners of the Gospel. True partnership implies mutuality. Healthy relationships are characterized by reciprocity, equity, and mutually submitting to God’s leading. “The Gentiles lord it over,” Jesus said, but “not so with you.” A partnership spirit and partnership practices will increasingly be the way the church operates in the world.

The priorities and purposes of ministry will be determined more by the needs in a particular place and context than by the needs of a sending church thousands of miles away. The beginning of a mission movement is always guided, first of all, by the

sending church. As a new community of believers emerges, that very community increasingly takes on responsibility for determining the shape of its own ministry. The role of the emergent church will increase and the role of the sending church will decrease.

At the same time that responsibility appropriately shifts more locally from a far-away church or sending mission board; churches in all places will increasingly make decisions, allocate resources, and establish priorities while paying attention to the global church. Through the amazing explosion of information technology, the world has come into our family rooms. So too, the global church will come into our congregational meetings, our small group Bible studies, and our Sunday morning worship. We will hardly make any significant decision without paying attention to God’s movement in other places. We will be chastened and we will be enriched. We will be partners in the Gospel.

• Loren Horst  
President, VMBM



In this  
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Meet our  
international  
guests

# Then and now, here and there

I came of age in a time when mission activity was presented to me in Sunday evening slide shows. A few adventurous and faithful servants of God went to the unknown (to us) parts of the earth and lived to tell about it. Our home church called them out, sent them forth, and received them back on occasion with wide-eyed appreciation. While there was a certain naiveté, at least on the part of those of us who stayed at home, I don't minimize the passion of those who went out or the priorities of the church that sent them. Such vision drove literally thousands of persons into the world in the latter part of the 20th century.

The church-organized mission agencies, who knew how to do it, recruited the brightest and best candidates, collected offerings, and commissioned persons for long-term service. They didn't come home for four or five years, and then for furlough. The rest of us had the satisfaction of knowing that we were fulfilling the Great Commission, at least the part about "the uttermost parts of the earth." The "Jerusalem and all Judea" part was a little harder although we worked at that too. Most of our congregations had a few members "from the community."

I liked that time and I appreciate the missional vision of the past. I like the present too, but note that it is different. Today, many congregations have members with much global experience and awareness. College students do their cross-cultural experiences and high school students go on trips to practice



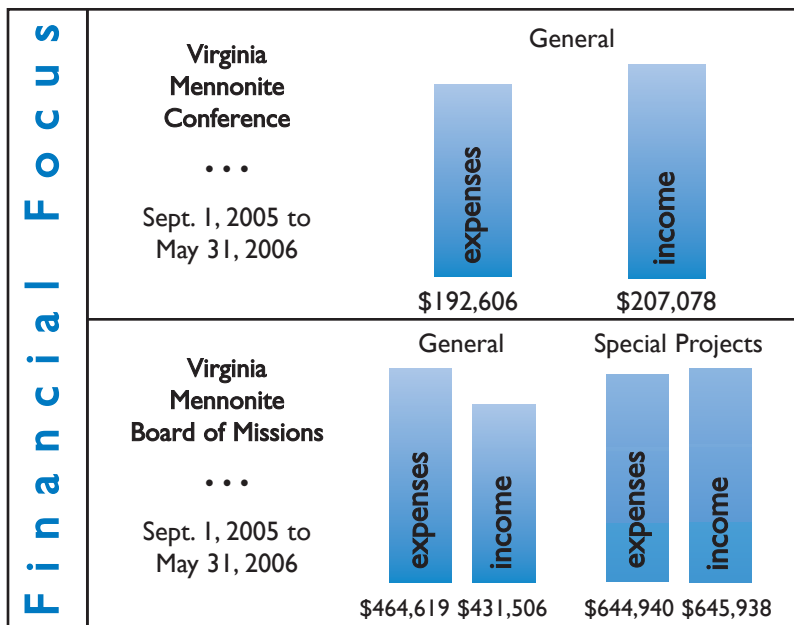
**Loren Horst**  
President of VMBM

another language and to serve. Short-term mission projects engage many. Pastors take sabbatical leaves and do a stint of overseas ministry, enriching their congregations and work at home. Our entire denomination has adopted "missional" as its orienting identity.

This period of time is different, but can be every bit as faithful. Mission is less a specialization and more a lifestyle. The world is not just faraway places, but here at home too. People are not odd and strange although they may still be a bit different. We experience first hand that God is at work there just as He is here. And too, people from "there" now come and minister to us here, living and working among us.

Today, more of us personally know members of the body of Christ from another part of the world. We have developed relationships and we have been mutually enriched. God is still calling the church to be faithful. He has multiplied the venues, voices, and locations of this call. A new generation is following Jesus.

*Loren Horst*



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## Stories of Peace

sponsored by the Peace Coordinators  
of the Virginia Mennonite Conference

# The value of convictions

It's the beginning of the Great Depression. You are 18-years-old, and poor. Your family has already lived in five states, looking for work. They have just lost their home because they couldn't keep up the payments. But you have a gift: your intellect. In fact, you are such a good high school student that you are awarded a college scholarship, and with it hopes for a better future.

That 18-year-old was my father, Joseph Longacher. I heard his story, and what happened next, years later. And in the process I learned something about his character, and the cost of one's convictions.

His high school was Morrison (now Warwick), in Newport News, and the college he won the scholarship to was Virginia Tech, in Blacksburg. When he drove there to enroll, he was told that in order to receive his scholarship, he must join the Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC). His decision was clear. As he understood Christ's teachings, participation in the military in any form was wrong. So he drove home, never to fulfill his dream of having a college education.

When, as a young adult, I heard my father's story, I was impressed with the strength of his convictions. Over time, I also began to appreciate other aspects of his response to what must have been a deep disappointment. I never sensed any bitterness, or lessening of his peace convictions. What is more, he continued to value education, encouraging his sons to attend college and providing financial assistance to promising students with limited assets.

He also was involved in his congregation, Warwick River Mennonite Church, where he served a number of roles. He was a positive influence on the younger men with whom he worked at the L.B. Weber Construction firm, among them future Warwick District churchmen Leslie Francisco, Nelson Baer, and Joe Blumber.

What might we say about my father? We can say that convictions have value, in part because of their cost; that we can choose how to respond to loss; that difficult experiences can be of benefit, both to oneself and others. He would probably say, "I was only trying to follow Jesus' way of peace."

• Joe Longacher, Jr.  
First Mennonite Church, Richmond, Va.

## Doorways in Mission:

# HMC teams create partnerships



Harrisonburg Mennonite Church has experienced great joy, purpose and blessing by intentionally forming relationships with other Christians in three contexts vastly different than our own. These intentional relationships have deepened our congregational understanding and experience in the great diversity of contexts in which the Church ministers. The three intentional relationships have arisen from what is called HMC Summer Mission Teams.

HMC Summer Mission Teams have been sent for short-term mission experiences to a variety of places but the intention of these short-term experiences is to form long-term relationships. The congregation has formed long-term relationships in Philadelphia, Alabama, and Managua, Nicaragua.

Cornerstone Christian Academy, founded by Tony Campolo, is a Christian K-8 school in inner city Philadelphia. HMC has sent teams to CCA for seven years working to maintain the physical plant, developing personal relationships with staff and parents and learning about the urban ministry context. Each year CCA reciprocates with a school choir outing to HMC. In addition to singing in the worship services, Philadelphia children, their parents and school staff stay in our homes and participate in social events planned for them. This year CCA friends spent an afternoon on a dairy farm, sang in an MYF-sponsored dinner and participated in the congregation worship services.

Poarch Community Church in Poarch, Alabama is a Mennonite congregation composed of Creek Native Americans. For nine years HMC has provided a team to lead a community Bible school at the church and to form relationships with the congregation members. This year HMC is pleased to be invited to lead the children's activities at the Native American Mennonite Assembly in Poarch.

Through MCC, HMC was connected to the Santa Rosa Brethren in Christ congregation in Managua. The Nicaraguan Anabaptist Churches were seeking to form authentic partnerships of fellowship and understanding with congregations in other cultures. The relationship with Santa Rosa has been rich in enabling several groups from HMC to experience the austere realities of these brothers and sisters. Last year an HMC group worked with Santa Rosa to construct SS classrooms. Santa Rosa's pastor has visited HMC two times and has traveled to Mennonite World Conference with the HMC lead pastor.

**HMC teams continued on page 4**

## HMC teams continued from page 3

HMC has found that these intentional mission partnerships have profoundly blessed and challenged our congregation. Participants in partnership experiences develop a deepened respect of the Church, the diversity of Christian ministry context and a desire to strengthen our relationship with others.

• Mark Keller  
Harrisonburg Mennonite Church  
Associate Pastor of Missions

## Stutzman serves others despite disability

“A disability doesn’t have to disable you” was Marvin Stutzman’s response when asked why at age sixty-five and legally blind he sought Pleasant View Supported Employment services. A life-long Mennonite pastor and man of many skills, Marvin stated that he was determined not to let this disability conquer him. Marvin first became aware of his glaucoma in 1973. Now 32 years and 20 eye surgeries later, Marvin has his own in-home book repair service.

In addition to being a pastor and missionary, Marvin developed vocational skills along the way, and one of these was book repair. With the assistance of the Virginia Department for the Blind and Vision Impaired (VDBVI), Pleasant View’s Supported Employment personnel began contacting potential customers to determine the demand for Marvin’s services. The Massanutten Regional Library graciously supplied books for Marvin to repair and judged his work as satisfactory. Marvin’s confidence grew. Both Marvin and the Pleasant View job coach, Bill Greene, sent letters of introduction and a price list to potential customers and Marvin Stutzman’s Book Repair Service” was born!

“Marvin wants to continue to support and serve others. This is a strong quality,” stated Sharon Flory, Vocational Counselor at the VDBVI concerning Marvin’s motivation to contribute to others in light of his vision loss and accompanying daily obstacles to overcome. As to the success of Marvin’s pursuit of employment, Ms. Flory stated that Bill Greene, job coach, and Marvin were a good match due to their Christian faith and Mennonite backgrounds.

Marvin and his wife, Yvonne, members of Lindale Mennonite Church, Harrisonburg, Va., have faith that they will be able to build upon the services provided by Pleasant View, Inc. and the VDBVI. “I want to go as far as I can as long as I

## “We Had It Good” at Yoder Barn

“Narrow roads transform into six lane highways. Party lines give way to cell phones. Stay-at-home moms take on additional responsibilities outside the home.” These are the headlines on the brochure advertising the most recent “Pieced Together” production at the Yoder Barn in Newport News, Va.

This community performance this year told the story of delightfully peppy Effie Schmucker played by Jewel Shenk. Her life was the theme interwoven into a patchwork quilt of stories which have taken place in the “Mennonite Colony” in Denbigh, Va., for more than 100 years.

These productions, a combination of drama and great musical harmony, started in 1997 at the 100th Anniversary of the Mennonite immigration to Eastern Virginia, and have been presented every year or two.

Twelve performances over three weekends in March and April brought together over 1,870 guests. These were not only locals, but busloads of people from Lancaster and Franconia, Pa., and the Shenandoah Valley.

Rave reviews followed, such as “This one was my favorite,” “A job well done,” “I’ve told everyone I meet to come and see it,” “It was great that many generations were included in the production.” In the cast, there was Orville Yoder in his 80s along with less than one-year-old Madeline Mahone, daughter of Lou and Jenny Mahone.

School-aged children sometimes sacrificed homework time, practicing night after night along with adults. But this experience was education on a different level.

Though the directors, set and lighting designer, song and script writers, all professionals in their fields, hail from Illinois, Wisconsin, Nevada, Tennessee and Connecticut, all of the more than 50 actors were local unpaid amateurs, mostly Mennonites. A byproduct for the members of the six Mennonite churches in eastern Virginia has been learning to know each other better. And the “Pieced Together” productions at Yoder Barn have also served as an exciting way to tell their story!

• Ed Bontrager  
VMBM Director of Development/Church Relations

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can,” stated Marvin, who is thankful for the limited vision he has left.

• Article written by Bill Greene and printed in *Pleasant Views*, adapted by Gloria Lehman for *Connections*



# Instituto Bíblico Anabautista a success at EMS

Response to the first Bible class offered at EMS in conjunction with Instituto Bíblico Anabautista (IBA) exceeded expectations. The assigned classroom was too small to hold the 18 to 20 Hispanic church members who came for training.

Seminary student, Marvin Lorenzana, who teaches the class, was delighted to move his class to larger quarters and to respond to this need in the Hispanic community.

Lorenzana became involved with the IBA program when he was planting a church in Miami, Florida. Now in Harrisonburg, he is working at creating a Hispanic service at Immanuel Mennonite church.

"I decided I wanted to provide something for the new people to give them theological and practical training," he said.

He came in contact with Armando Sanchez, pastor of *Enciende una Luz*, an independent Pentecostal church, who had a similar idea. He and Sanchez decided to partner with the seminary, Mennonite Mission Network, which developed the IBA program, and NewBridges, an organization that helps local immigrants, to begin Bible classes in Spanish.

Lorenzana said, "We decided, why don't we do something that is open to everyone, every Hispanic, lay leader or pastor who is interested in training?" They decided to do the program at the seminary, which is supporting Lorenzana by providing free facilities.

Marvin instructs Josephina Jimenez as she helps the class review for their final.

The program has met with great success. The first class in the IBA series, "Introduction to Biblical Studies," grew to 35 people as word spread about the class. Students came from four local churches. The class was completed on Wednesday, April 12. Because of interest in the class, two sections opened, beginning April 19, and Sanchez has become a teacher for the new class.

Each course takes three months. Students work on the lesson during the week and on Wednesday night they come together to go over the material.

Now, Lorenzana teaches the second course in the series, titled "Encounter with the New Testament" and Sanchez teaches "Introduction to Biblical Studies" the first course, again. Lorenzana said that they have had people as far away as Richmond contact them with interest in the classes.

Proximity with the seminary community makes these courses different from the basic IBA courses. Lorenzana supplements the IBA material with material from his seminary studies.

"These are things that are not in the IBA material but are things that are helpful for students to have a better picture of Biblical study," said Lorenzana.

• Laura Lehman Amstutz  
Eastern Mennonite Seminary

## Congregational Resource Center



**Gather 'Round  
workshop to be held  
during VMC Assembly**

**July 8, 2006 at Eastern Mennonite University  
1:30-5:00 p.m. (30 minute break at 3:00 p.m.)**

**University Commons room 211-212**

**EMU campus map available at: [www.emu.edu/map/](http://www.emu.edu/map/)**

Input will include:

- Overview of the new curriculum, including a look at the biblical foundations
- Special input on the newest multi-age curriculum and church-home connection
- Mini-workshop on multi-age intelligences and how to understand your students learning style and choose activities accordingly

- Sampling a lesson

### **Be prepared for some changes**

Beginning in July, you'll experience several changes in the CRC. Due to EMU's prioritization process, we will be located in one room, rather than two. All resources have been moved into the room where patrons check out material (Eastern Mennonite Seminary, room 110). Due to several changes, we will now be requiring patron cards to check out material. If you do not have an EMU student ID, faculty/staff ID or library patron card, contact the CRC to get yours. The card is free and simply allows us to do check-in / check-out electronically. Thanks for your understanding, and call for your CRC card!

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The Resource Center is open 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Contact Jill Landis at 540-432-4219 or [crc@emu.edu](mailto:crc@emu.edu) to make arrangements for evening use.



Jim Bishop beside his Mazda Miata with “EMU 67” on the plates, his graduating class.

## EMU: 35 years and counting

by Jim Bishop

“What, you’re STILL at EMU?”

I’d like a dollar for every time I’ve heard this expression of disbelief echoed freely—that, along with the queries, “So what do you do in the summer months with the students gone?”

I smile weakly and press on, secure in the knowledge that I’m still

here (at Eastern Mennonite University) because I desire to be and because I firmly believe in the mission of Christian higher education as embodied by this 89-year-old institution. If I didn’t have a sense of calling to this place and to my role here, I’d have left long ago.

Having concluded my 35th year as public information officer, I plunge headlong into the next, fingers on computer keyboard, camera in hand, notepad at the ready, seeking to tell the continuing EMU story to believers and skeptics alike.

It may sound almost presumptuous to say that I’m living my dream, using my God-given abilities in a job that I’m paid—not overpaid, mind you—to do. Certain aspects, such as radio announcing and photography on the side, I hope to keep doing in retirement.

Little did I dream, back in high school in the medieval early 1960s, that I’d attend what was then Eastern Mennonite College, let alone that one day I’d return to work for my alma mater.

But, a combination of encouragement from parents and a late-summer realization that I didn’t want to spend the rest of my life collecting and grading eggs on a poultry farm led me down Rt. 11 (I-81 was still under construction) to spend the years 1963-67 on this campus during an incredibly turbulent period in our larger society, but personally transforming for me.

Today, as I move around in work-related and larger social circles, I hear many good things spoken about EMU, many emanating from the mouths of other-than-Mennonites. I get disturbed when I encounter Mennonite parents and students alike who obviously never even considered EMU when choosing a college, or, they simply assume

they can’t afford it without even exploring financial aid possibilities.

Where else will young adults be exposed to the keenest minds and thought of first-rate teachers and the highest Anabaptist ideals—an incredible laboratory of Christian faith and learning—while they rub shoulders with fellow students from across North America and many overseas countries? I wish the now-required cross-cultural component was in place when I was a student here.

These many years later, I remind myself:

- If I hadn’t at least considered spreading my wings at college the fall of 1963, who knows where would I be and what would I be doing today. Why, I wouldn’t have met the fair young damsel my sophomore year who I married following graduation in 1967 and who has stuck with this crusty curmudgeon through fair skies and stormy weather for 10, some 39 years.

- I wouldn’t have received instruction and inspiration from professors like G. Irvin Lehman, who made the Old Testament come alive; or from Omar Eby, who required us to write with a specific audience and publication in mind, and subsequently, a number of my articles were published in the “Youth’s Christian Companion” and other church publications; or J. Lester Brubaker, whose public speaking class has proven invaluable for the many platform presentations I never expected to come my way.

- I wouldn’t have had the invaluable experience of serving on the staff of the school paper, the “Weather Vane,” all four years and, through the semi-annual Mission and Service Week, secured my first “real” job, a writing-editing assignment at the former Mennonite Board of Missions in Elkhart, Ind. I couldn’t have asked for a better entry-level position that prepared me well for answering the call to return to EMU in 1971.

I feel blessed beyond measure in the way my lines have fallen in pleasant places, in being part of a workplace that allows me much freedom in carrying out assignments, in the immense variety of tasks (no two days are alike), in benefitting from the multiple stimuli of fascinating people in this amazing global village, and in experiencing a genuine sense of community where students, faculty and staff truly do care for each other. And, I’m frequently inspired by reports of what our alumni are doing in making a difference in their work and service around the world.

God called me to EMU—no doubt about that. This place rearranged my life, first as a student, then as an employee, and I am eternally grateful.

Jim Bishop is public information officer at Eastern Mennonite University, a columnist, photographer and free-lance writer.



# Connections Prayer Calendar July 2006

## Sunday

**30** Many year-long service programs begin next month. Pray for those who are stepping out in faith and beginning service soon. Pray for financial provisions and emotional peace.

**2** Remember the "Settimana Felice" VBS at Centro Koinonia, Bari, Italy, this upcoming week. This is an outreach to new families that makes a significant impact. May it truly be a "Happy Week!"

**9** In the EMU Commons this morning, area churches and others will gather for worship and a sermon by Art McPhee on "The Work Prepared for Us." A commissioning service will be held for church leaders. Bathe this service in prayer.

**16** Pray for the high school graduates who are preparing to go to college, and those who are looking for jobs and living independently. Pray that they will be in tune with God's plan for their life and find a church to be tied into.

**23** Sam Hernandez, *ἡραβεῖος* participant has closed his term of service with Nazareth Village, Israel, and returned to Virginia. Thank God for his service there, and pray that God will guide him in the months ahead.

## Monday

**31** Ask God to sustain Monica Unzicker and Robert & Lois Wenger as they say "farewell" to their friends in Jamaica and return to the US. All of them will be missed in their roles at the Maranatha School for the Deaf.

**3** Be in prayer for the international guests who will be traveling to Virginia Conf. Assembly; for their safety, for meaningful participation and input at assembly, and for strong connections with our people and churches.

**10** The Mennonite Church of Chaguanas, Trinidad, is holding VBS this week. Dale & Barb Hartzler and Roy & Joanne Hunsberger are helping this week with songs, stories, and activities. May Jesus' name be lifted up.

**17** Pray for the staff of VMBM and the Conference as they hold an annual phone-a-thon to encourage faithful and generous support for these important ministries. Pray that God's people will respond with generosity.

**24** Come to Bible School at the Charleville Mennonite Church, Trinidad, this week! Thank God that VBS thrives at CMC! Pray that the teachers are guided by the Holy Spirit as they teach their eager students.

## Tuesday

The July prayer calendar is sponsored by **Martha Miller**

**In loving memory of her husband, Edgar, who died on July 3, 2003.** Edgar served in various church leadership capacities and left a legacy of faith for both family and friends.

*If you would like to sponsor the prayer calendar, please contact Gloria Lehman at gloria.lehman@vmbm.org or (540) 434-9727*

**4** Pray for VMC officers, commission representatives and district chairs as they meet tomorrow at the Conference Assembly to review next year's budget and consider how to "spur one another on to love and good works."

**11** A missionary who had Albania was arrested and imprisoned on accusations of child abuse, causing a scandal in the media. Norma Teles requests prayer for protection over her work among children.

**18** This week VBS is being held at the Hope Mennonite Church in Esperanza, Trinidad. Pray that the energetic children will see Jesus in the teachers' lives as they learn new songs and Bible verses during the daily sessions.

**25** Pray for wisdom and guidance for VMBM and the Virginia churches in responding to the invitation from believers in Montenegro to join them in reaching their country for Christ.

## Wednesday

**"You're here to be light, bringing out the God-colors in the world. God is not a secret to be kept. We're going public with this, as public as a city on a hill." Matt 5:14**  
*The Message*

**6** Pray for the Virginia Conference Assembly that begins this evening with a Missions Festival from 4-6 pm, followed by a worship service. Pray that God will speak through Ramesh Jaimani as he brings the message.

**13** A *Partners in Mission* team led by Philip Rhodes is serving in Jamaica as assistants for VBS in several Jamaica Mennonite churches. Pray that God will grant them health, energy, and new knowledge of God's Word for their tasks.

**20** Join Jerry and Jean Sabastian, Riverside MC, in praising God for Jerry's continued healing from the severe burns he sustained from the April 17 gas explosion. Support him in prayer for complete healing and God's direction for his future.

**27** Pray for Roy and Joanne Hunsberger. They have served for six months with the Mennonite Church of Trinidad and Tobago in various teaching and encouraging roles. Today they return to their home in Asheville, N.C.

## Thursday

**"You're here to be light, bringing out the God-colors in the world. God is not a secret to be kept. We're going public with this, as public as a city on a hill." Matt 5:14**  
*The Message*

**7** This evening Willard Eberly addresses Assembly participants as he preaches on "Walls Broken Down." Thank God for Willard's commitment to spreading the Good News and for his connection with the Italian churches.

**14** Pray for the small Mennonite Church serving at the children's camp in Albania from July 15-23. It is organized by Norma Teles. It's the first cross-cultural missions experience for some of them.

**21** Praise God for the very effective ministries of the Fellowship of Christ Church, Rocky Mount, N.C., where Ronnie and Louvenia Pride are pastors. God is changing people's lives spiritually, emotionally, and physically.

**28** Since its inception a few years ago, the Hickory Hmong church in Hickory, N.C., now has at least 14 families attending. Chaiya Hadtasunser is the pastor. Pray for its continued ministry among these new immigrants.

## Friday

**1** Montenegro has just voted for independence from Serbia. Intercede for this new nation that there will be not only religious freedom, but true spiritual awakening from the deadening effect of atheism.

**8** The theme of the evening worship this evening is "A Household of Peace" with Nancy Heisey bringing the message. A communion service will bring brothers and sisters from various areas together around the Lord's table.

**15** Thank God for Dick Good and his willingness to do a second interim pastorate at Riverside Mennonite Church along with Joe Minging. Pray that the search for a long-term pastor will be fruitful.

**22** Pray for our spring graduates. They are in a significant time of transition. Their faith will likely be challenged and they will face decisions and temptations they have never dealt with before. Ask God to give them strength and grace.

**29** Pray for the parents of high school graduates who are helping their children face a time of transition. Pray for peace, excitement and wisdom as they begin this new stage in their parenting.

## Saturday



# Announcements

## Upcoming events at Crossroads:

July 2: Gospel bluegrass by Daphna Creek, meditation by musician/pastor Ben Risser

July 9: Hymn sing led by Jay Hartzler, choir director of EMHS

July 16: Music by harpist Virginia Bethune, meditation by evangelist Steve Wingfield

July 23: Music and drama by Peter Eberly and youth from Harrisonburg Mennonite

July 30: Taize service of music and scripture led by Monica and Matt Carlson

All events are from 7:00 to 7:45 pm. Bring lawn chairs. Crossroads - Valley Brethren-Mennonite Heritage Center is located off Garbers Church Rd, on the lane at the north end of Harrisonburg High School at the top of the hill. For more information call (540) 438-1275 or email [info@vbmhc.org](mailto:info@vbmhc.org)

## Pastoral Transition



Southern District Overseer Howard Miller (left) ordained **Seth Hankee** to pastoral ministry at Greenmonte Fellowship Mennonite

Church in Stuart's Draft, Va. on May 7th. Seth's pastoral responsibilities include worship and outreach. His wife Melissa Hankee is pictured with him.

## Meet Your WORLD NEIGHBORS at the Mission Festival

**Thursday, July 6  
4:00-6:00 p.m.  
EMU Commons**

- Meet and greet international guests
- Visit displays from Albania, Ecuador, China, Czech Republic, Haiti, Italy, Jamaica, Nazareth Village, Peru, Trinidad, Swaziland, USA and other countries
- Taste food samples!
- Watch stage events with music, drama and dances

All are welcome with special invitations to Venture Clubs, Junior MYF groups, Sunday school classes, & families with school age children.

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