

NOVEMBER 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Pray for pastor Rodney Lebron and the ministries of Woodland Mennonite Church in Bayse, Va. This small congregation lives out the gospel faithfully in their rural community.	2 VMMissions Administrative Assistant, Sarah Showalter, is expecting a baby in January. Pray for this baby boy who has been diagnosed with a severe heart defect and will need several open heart surgeries in order to live.	3 Pray for Jacob and Hosanna as they reunite with their team and the local believers in South Asia. Ask God to make their connections strong and life-giving.	4 Pray for pastor Del Glick and the Washington Community Fellowship congregation as they minister in a vibrant urban setting, seeking to be "a church for all peoples." <i>*pseudonyms</i>	5 Ask God to provide playmates and opportunities for growth for Raleigh and Opel's children, Robbie and Anna,* as they adjust to a new home in North Africa. <i>*pseudonyms</i>	6 Give thanks for the dedication and support of VMMissions' Board of Directors. Pray for this group as they gather today and tomorrow for board meetings.	7 Pray for the many opportunities that transSender Caitlin Tice has to interact with customers at New Creation Shoppe. Ask God to use Caitlin as an advocate for the justice that Christ's Kingdom brings.
8 Ask God for a smooth transition in ministry and new opportunities for Ross Erb, who served in youth and family ministry at Park View Mennonite Church, Harrisonburg, Va., for more than a decade.	9 Ask God to cover the local Kid's Clubs with his peace as children from various backgrounds come together to play and learn about Jesus. Pray for freedom from unkind words, anger, and fighting.	10 Ask God for continued opportunities for Michael and Ruthy to pray for people who need physical and spiritual healing. Pray that these opportunities will open doors to faith for many in their South Asian neighborhood.	11 Pray for Eugene Kraybill, a Mennonite chaplain at Dulles International Airport, as he represents the love and reconciliation of Christ to a diverse group of travelers and airport workers.	12 Pray that Steve and Bethany Horst would reflect God's character day by day as they share their lives with the Thai people in Bangkok.	13 Lift up the Sunday School program beginning at Jesus' Deaf Church in Belize. Ask God to empower the teachers and helpers who are taking on this responsibility.	14 Ask for God's mercy on the many who are suffering in Grace and Yugo's neighborhood in Indonesia. Ask God to give Grace and Yugo the courage to seek God's healing and show His love to others.
15 Pray for Knoxville Mennonite Church, Knoxville, Tenn., and the ministry of pastor Pat McFarren. This community of believers is working together to know and love God and each other.	16 Pray for Steve and Laura Campbell and their church in Montenegro, as they together seek to do intentional follow-up with many people who have had some connection to their ministries.	17 Ask God to bless the opportunities Dave and Rebekka Stutzman have to connect with believers in the United States, and share about what God is doing in Germany.	18 Pray that God will guide Adam and Jeanette Strode, VMMissions workers in Bangkok, Thailand, and surround them with God's perfect peace.	19 Ask for God's guidance for transSenders Tyler and Kendra Yoder as they seek out opportunities to connect with and disciple college students in their home.	20 Lift up VMMissions' board member Jim Hershberger and his wife Ann, as they spend several days with workers at the Lezha Academic Center in Albania.	21 Ask God to give Raleigh and Opel* continued energy and excitement for language study as they work with intensity towards the goal of communicating and sharing with those around them in North Africa. <i>*pseudonyms</i>
22 Lift Ryan Ahlgrim, pastor of First Mennonite Church, in prayer. This diverse congregation in Richmond, Va., seeks out and reaches others with the good news of Christ's love through the life and teachings of Jesus.	23 Ask God to raise up young new leaders in the Life Enrichment Church in Det Udom, Thailand, who will be empowered to offer their gifts to this expanding group of believers.	24 Lift up transSender Joyce Crissman and her partnership in Waynesboro Mennonite Church's Kids' Club and Celebrate Recovery programs. Pray that God will be opening doors for many to enter into His Kingdom.	25 Pray for the daily safety of Steve, Bethany, Anjali, and Immanuel Horst, as they travel through crowded Bangkok streets by taxi, bus, train, motorcycle, and bicycle.	26 Pray that the children at the Joshua Center in Lezha, Albania, would experience the love of Jesus as the greatest gift. Lift up Norma Teles and her continued ministry with these children.	27 Give thanks for Mitch and Lauren Yoder's presence in Nicaragua at the Fortress of Hope orphanage. Ask God to continue pouring out His love on the Yoders and the on the children they work with.	28 Pray for respect, love, and unity between the younger believers and elders in the church where Jacob and Hosanna serve in South Asia.
29 Ask God to bless Dean Williams and his pastoral leadership of Mathias Mennonite Church, a rural congregation in Mathias, W.Va. May this community of faith be a light in their neighborhood.	30 Ask God to surround Vince and Lavonne Ramella with a sense of His strength and faithfulness as they seek God's promises for the people around them in Kosovo.	<p>"Consider how the wild flowers grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today, and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith! And do not set your heart on what you will eat or drink; do not worry about it. For the pagan world runs after all such things, and your Father knows that you need them. But seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well." - Luke 12: 27-31 (NIV)</p>				
<p>Prayer calendar sponsored by: An anonymous sponsor</p>						



Virginia
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A conference of
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Connections (USPS 007-205)
Virginia Mennonite Missions
Virginia Mennonite Conference
901 Parkwood Drive
Harrisonburg, VA 22802-2498

Connections

November 2015

The 14th annual **Festival of Praise**, a concert of 12 men's singing groups and a combined chorus finale, is Sunday, November 1, 4 p.m., at the Eastern Mennonite School auditorium, Harrisonburg. This concert will raise funds for the ministries of Virginia Mennonite Missions.

Credentialed leaders: a **VMC Pastoral Leadership Consultation** on "Same-Gender Attraction, Relationship, Lifestyle," will be November 9-11 at Lindale Mennonite Church, Harrisonburg, Va. Cost is \$40 for all three days. RSVP: (540) 434-9727 or anieta.mccracken@virginiaconference.org



Steer into the wind with a 24-hour retreat offering a space to discern what God is saying to you about your missional call. Leaders Linford and Janet Stutzman will share expertise as cross-cultural mission workers and as leaders of university students sailing and studying in the lands of the Bible. Join us December 4-5, 2015 at Massanetta Springs Camp and Conference Center. RSVP by November 16 at vmmissions.org/serve/windward Cost is \$60/person or \$100/couple for all sessions, including meals and lodging.

Save the date: The **VMC Ministry Retreat** will be February 26-28 at Williamsburg Christian Retreat Center. The speaker will be Dr. John Roth, professor of history at Goshen College. More details and a registration form will be forthcoming.

Registration is now open for the upcoming **Nazareth/Bethlehem Work Group** (May 6-23, 2016) sponsored by VM Missions as a *Partners in Mission* program. For more information, contact Dorothy Jean Weaver at (540) 432-4276 or at weaverdj@emu.edu

Virginia Mennonite Missions seeks an Administrative Assistant to be employed up to 80% time. Qualified candidates should demonstrate a passion for the gospel, an active commitment to the church, be professional and organized, and have a gracious and cheerful disposition. More details are at vmmissions.org/u/bk6 Interested persons, please contact Dianna Lehman: dianna.lehman@vmmissions.org.

Virginia Mennonite Missions seeks a Director of Public Relations to be employed up to 60% time. Qualified candidates should demonstrate a passion for the gospel, an active commitment to the church, strong skills in leadership, communications, and interpersonal relationships, and the ability to organize and motivate a team. More details are at vmmissions.org/u/bk6 Interested persons, contact Dianna Lehman: dianna.lehman@vmmissions.org.

Alternative Christmas Gifts



Give an unconventional gift this Christmas season. Virginia Mennonite Missions is again offering ways to bless mission workers with important outreach opportunities. Learn more at vmmissions.org/support/alternative-christmas-gifts/

Canadian Rockies by Train: Dave and Joyce Eshleman invite you to join them for a train adventure through the Canadian Rockies next September. The trip will include Calgary, Banff, Lake Louise, Jasper, Vancouver, Victoria, and a two-day, daytime-only train travel through the Rockies. The dates are September 20-29, 2016, with travel arranged by TourMagination. **Save \$500 per person by signing up by December 1, 2015!** For details, contact Dave at DEshleman41@gmail.com • (540) 421-1651.

Connections is transitioning to a Virginia Mennonite Missions prayer calendar-only format beginning next month. News items as currently published in *Connections* will be sent electronically to congregations, which are encouraged to publish them in bulletins and distribute them to members.

Connections is a monthly publication of:



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