

The torch is passed: Dora Taylor to Nancy Marshall

By **GLORIA L. LEHMAN**
 VMM Caribbean Regional Assistant

In the summer of 2004, Nancy Marshall, Deaf educator, went to Orange Walk, Belize, to tutor a young deaf boy and teach sign language to parents of deaf children. As she explored the country, she came to the San Felipe Mennonite Church, twenty-five miles from Orange Walk. There in a prominent place was a picture of a woman and in answer to her inquiry, Nancy was told that she is Dora Taylor, who started this church. Nancy thought about this woman who demonstrated a deep commitment to Christ in Belize serving as a missionary nurse and a church planter through Eastern Mennonite Missions (EMM) in 1964-67. Nancy's own heart was drawing her to return to Belize to begin a church for the Deaf community, but she had many questions and some misgivings. Will a woman be accepted as a church planter in this culture? The picture on the wall gave her an affirmative answer.

Nancy returned to her home in Lancaster, Pa., and sought God's guid-



Dora Taylor, long-time missionary in Honduras and Belize, left a legacy of witnessing for Christ wherever she went. This photo was taken just two months prior to her death. Photo courtesy of Sara Kreider.



Nancy Marshall and Dora Taylor visited and prayed together in July 2007. Photo courtesy of Nancy Marshall.

ance about returning for long-term ministry in Belize. Dora Taylor was good example for her. In 2005, Nancy visited with Dora in the Virginia Mennonite Retirement Community. Dora encouraged Nancy to pursue God's calling and promised to pray for her.

Nancy left her job as an early childhood deaf educator in Lancaster and moved to Orange Walk, teaching a classroom full of deaf children in varying ages, and opening her home for worship for deaf children, youth and adults. Her friendly interaction with neighbors, co-workers and members of the Belize Evangelical Mennonite Church made connections that brought people to her home frequently. Jesus' Deaf Church has been established and now meets in the local church of BEMC. Nancy sent newsletters to a wide circle of supporters, including

Dora Taylor, who responded with handwritten letters and constant prayers.

In 2007, just prior to the Virginia Conference Assembly, Nancy visited Dora (or "Dorita" as Nancy calls her, which is an affectionate form of her name) in her room in Crestwood, VMRC. They shared deeply around their common interest of reaching the Belizeans for Christ. Their love and respect for each other was evident. Nancy was deeply moved by Dora's prayer for her just before saying goodbye.

On March 30, Dora, age 98, went to her Heavenly home. Her mantle has been passed to Nancy, who is serving "the least of these" in Belize through EMM and Virginia Mennonite Missions. Dora's earthly ministry is completed, and Nancy is carrying it on, to the glory of God.

Ambivalence as Chestnut Ridge leaves Virginia Conference

The chestnut grove no longer exists, having fallen victim to the chestnut blight in the early part of the last century. Four relative newcomers are putting forth their sturdy efforts to again give meaning to the name of the church that has been at home there since 1873. Chestnut Ridge Mennonite Church near Orrville, Ohio, began 70 years after the creation of the state of Ohio. Most of that history has faded from memory like the chestnut trees that once occupied the ridge carrying their name.

What hasn't died is the continuing witness of Chestnut Ridge Mennonite Church. Reorganized out of a church divi-



Loren Horst
VMM President
Virginia Conference
Overseer, Chestnut Ridge
Mennonite Church

sion in 1953, Chestnut Ridge then became the second of eventually four different congregations in Ohio that held membership in Virginia Mennonite Conference (The others were Sonnenberg, Day Spring, and Dove).

On March 14, Chestnut Ridge officially transferred to Ohio Mennonite Conference.

On Sunday, March 29, the congregation celebrated its past 56 years of history with VMC and looked forward to a

new era with OMC. Joy was mixed with sadness.

I too felt ambivalence. When I was four, my parents helped reorganize Chestnut Ridge and became charter members of this new congregation. I grew up there. For most of my life, Chestnut Ridge and Virginia Mennonite Conference have belonged in the same sentence. I've always enjoyed a return visit, even the Sunday of transfer to OMC.

And then I laid nostalgia aside and noted that Chestnut Ridge is not the same congregation as 136 years ago, or even 56 years ago. The history is there if anyone is interested. A few members can trace their lineage back to those early

years. For most members now however, Chestnut Ridge is a living, breathing, witnessing, worshipping and excited body of believers in the present. They are related, not by blood, but through Christ! Signs were abundant! Joy was evident! The four young chestnut trees are growing behind the church!

Virginia Mennonite Conference hands off this healthy congregation to a sister conference with our full blessing. A little plaque commemorating the last 56 years with VMC might hang on the wall, at least when folks from Virginia visit. In time, it too will have less and less significance to those who continue to worship there.

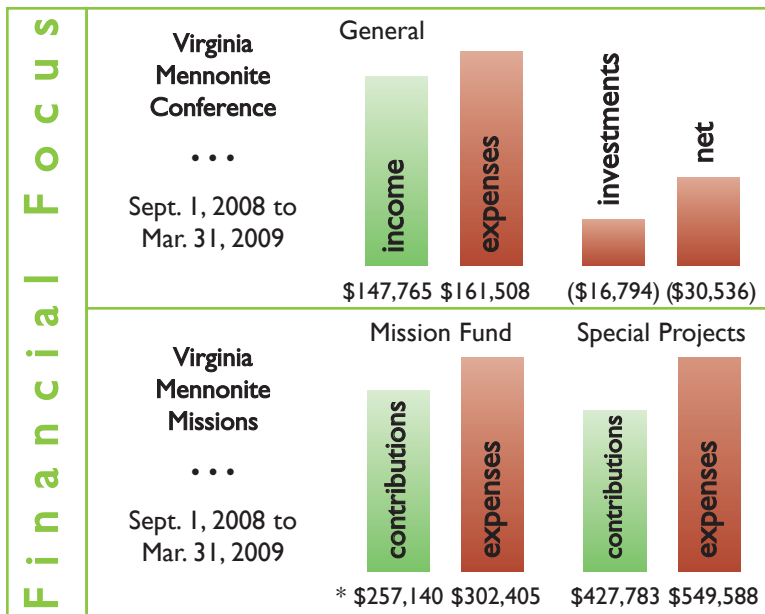
Indulge me, if you will, with one more piece of nostalgia. At the end of the service on March 29, 2009, someone noted that exactly 45 years earlier to the day, I had received water baptism in the Chestnut Ridge Mennonite Church.

Note: Chestnut Ridge Mennonite Church has embraced a strong mission emphasis from its early years and will retain a relationship with Virginia Mennonite Missions.

Loren Horst



Loren and Earlene Horst peruse a memento given to them in recognition of Loren's overseer role to Chestnut Ridge.



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Peacemaking past and present in Virginia Conference

By **DAVE POWELL**
VMC Peace Committee

Here are examples of ways VMC members and congregations have followed the Prince of Peace in the past as well as in more recent times:

Viola Lehman Dickerson from Mt. Pleasant Mennonite recalls German prisoners being held in Fentress during WWII. Some of the prisoners were allowed to work on local Mennonite farms. One day her Dad had to intervene and save those working on his farm—when some local navy men saw the prisoners working and weren't aware of the arrangements—they came at the prisoners with guns drawn. Years later, the Lehman family was pleasantly surprised when one of the prisoner's grandsons contacted them from Germany, after

reading his grandfather's stories of the wonderful people he worked for in Virginia.

In the late 1950s, Dwight and Vada Swartz from Weavers Mennonite served as chaperones for Fresh Air children returning to their homes after visiting in the Valley. Their own Fresh Air boy's mother invited them to their home in New York City. The cab driver just couldn't believe that they wanted to go into that part of town, and at first nearly refused to take them. But they were determined to go, had a great visit, and returned safely.

"I really had to come to grips with my own beliefs about peace when I went through a divorce. Working at the time in a highly competitive business environment, I was counseled by all of my co-

workers to fight in court for everything I could, to make sure my wife got as little as possible. But after reflecting on Christ's teachings, I knew I had to let the anger and vengeful feelings go and work at it as peacefully as I could."
Anonymously submitted.

The Eastern District churches recently sponsored a workshop on "Healing the Wounds of War," to help to understand soldiers returning from combat with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and to consider ways that our Mennonite Churches can be involved directly in reaching out to them. Since that time, a group from Huntington Mennonite has been actively pursuing the possibility of establishing an "Oasis of Hope," a safe place where troubled returning soldiers can come for rest, wholeness, healing, and hope.

Mennonite pastor earns Red Cross award for fire response

By **SALLY VOTH**, adapted from
The Northern Virginia Daily

On March 31, Pastor Rodney Lebron received the Red Cross hero award for alerting sleeping family members that their house was on fire. Usually Rodney is in the business of trying to save souls. But his quick thinking and bravery during a December 5 house fire also make him a lifesaver, a feat acknowledged by the Shenandoah County chapter of the American Red Cross, which awarded him the Adult Good Samaritan Hero award.

The mother of the household was at work, and three young adults were sleeping when the fire began engulfing the house. Rodney pushed the door in and yelled for anyone home to get out. The young adults quickly awoke and exited. Rodney made sure that they stayed out of the house, and he tried to calm them.

Later, when the mother arrived and heard about Rodney's brave actions, she said, "I can't thank him enough."

At the award ceremony, Rodney explained his perspective. "Whether I'm a hero or not, is not the point. I took courage with me into the fearsome situation. Courage is not the absence of fear, but rather the knowledge and wisdom that something more important exists."

Rodney works as a second-shift nighttime maintenance supervisor at Bowman Apple Products. He says, "Now when I drive home at night, I kind of look both ways along the side of the road to see, make sure there are no fires on the way home."

Rodney pastors the Woodland Mennonite Church in Basye, Va. He and his wife, Mary Ann have served that congregation since 2002.



Mary Ann and Rodney Lebron hold the Adult Good Samaritan Hero award that was given to Rodney.

Photo courtesy of Sam Weaver

VMM response to Italy earthquake

By **LOREN HORST**
VMM President

Inquiries have been received by the Mennonite churches and VMMissions workers in Italy regarding the recent earthquakes in the Abruzzo region of Italy. The area hit is 5 hours north of the nearest Mennonite church. Giovanni Greco, an evangelical pastor friend of the Eberlys, was able to visit the region although could not enter the worst damaged areas. Tremors continue and it is still impossible to fully assess damage.



In the worst hit city, Aquila (population 65,000), people are in tents, hotels, shelters, and other temporary emergency shelter. They are receiving emergency food and water. Some 26 other towns have also been affected.

The Italian government has been well trained for disaster response and has asserted control over immediate emergency operations and relief. The evangelical leaders are considering how they will respond to the disaster. Since the government is giving leadership to immediate disaster response, the churches will compliment the government efforts in additional ways.

VMMissions requests prayer for the people affected by this disaster. Opportunities to assist will follow as more information is available. We stand by our Italian friends, extend our concern to Italian brothers and sisters and are ready to assist as helpful and able.

The epicenter of the earthquake on the map at left is shown in red circles. The underlined city of Bari is where VMM mission workers live.



Director of MCSFI visits VMMissions

By **GLORIA L. LEHMAN**
VMM Director of Public Relations

On March 30, Emmanuel Minz visited with Virginia Mennonite Missions staff. He is the director of Mennonite Christian Service Fellowship of India. Nine church conferences are in MCSFI. This organization is targeting the "tea garden" area. They are working with training and instructing persons to combat HIV/AIDS. Also they promote peace in all areas of life. The Mennonites were the first church to help the Christians in the Orissa region who were persecuted for their faith.

In the photo, Paul Kniss, long-time missionary in India, who just returned from two months there, stands with Emmanuel Minz and VMM president Loren Horst.



Celebration of Missions attenders in Richmond enjoy fellowship at the dinner and program.



Missions celebrated in six VMC congregations

By **GLORIA L. LEHMAN**
VMM Caribbean Regional Assistant

Everyone loves a celebration! Since January, the staff of Virginia Mennonite Missions has celebrated missions in six different locations around the Virginia Conference area. Good food, warm fellowship and inspiring stories of God at work in the world characterized each event. Mt. Pleasant Mennonite Church, Grace Mennonite Fellowship, First Mennonite Church of Richmond, Stuarts Draft Mennonite Church, Raleigh Mennonite Church and Chestnut Ridge Mennonite Church each hosted a celebration of missions.

These congregations prepared the meal, provided special music and welcomed persons from the surrounding district to their facility.

Willard and Eva Eberly, Philip Rhodes, Maurico Chenlo, Ron Copeland, Rodney Nice and others shared about the particular ministry to which they are called. Videos of the work of the Eberlys and the upcoming work of the Nice family in Jamaica were shown. Each evening concluded with VMM president Loren Horst recapping the vision of Virginia Mennonite Missions for the years ahead.

Thank you to everyone who supported God's outreach by attending and contributing to this important work.

PIM team to London

By CLARA YODER

Shalom Mennonite Church

Where can you experience fellowship with Christians from another culture, satisfaction of doing much-appreciated work, transportation by “tube” or on foot, and the opportunity to visit world famous historical sights? Try going to London Mennonite Centre with a *Partners in Mission* Team. Our team led by Ervie Glick included James Flory, Jason Rhodes, Emery Yoder, Ed and Clara Yoder. We arrived at Heathrow the morning of February 28. We were met at the airport by Ed Shirk (host at LMC) and Sharon Kniss (Bridge Builder staff from Harrisonburg).



Upon arriving at LMC, a brief orientation was followed by coffee and sweet rolls served by Phyllis Shirk (hostess at LMC). We began our work assignments. The men worked on doing prep work for painting exterior windows and trim while I cleaned shelves in the bookstore.

In the evening LMC hosted Ron Sider and others from across the UK for a meal and to hear Ron Sider speak and discuss the effectiveness of non-violence as a peace-building tool. This event fit right into their mission statement which says “rooted in the Anabaptist tradition, cultivating Christian discipleship as a way of life.” On Sunday afternoon we, along with other folks at LMC, walked the three miles to Wood Green Mennonite Church for an informal but meaningful worship service. On Monday evening we were included in the weekly “house meal” which is a cooperative effort.

Work projects included repairing and painting window frames and trim, repairing garden walls and walks, repairing a bathroom floor, repointing bricks, applying teak oil to lawn furniture, cleaning library bookshelves, construction and assembly of a Murphy bed and repairing the prayer hut.

We enjoyed the London Eye, a visit to St. Paul’s Cathedral, the Tower of London and a wonderful experience at Queen’s Theater where we enjoyed an excellent production of “Les Miserables.” It was a wonderful week of work, fellowship, making new friends and enjoying new experiences.

Christ’s Hope in South Asia

Fifth in a series of *transSend* articles



By MICHAEL AND RUTHY HERSHEY

Michael, Ruthy, and Lia Joy serve in South Asia through Virginia Mennonite Missions, the VMM *transSend* program, and Eastern Mennonite Missions.

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing (as you trust in Him), so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.”

— Romans 15:13

This verse has been an encouragement to us in our journey of following Jesus to South Asia. We read it in the book of Romans following the quotation of four promises from the Old Testament. These promises speak of people from all nations putting their hope in Christ. This hope has sustained us through the ups and downs of life, and has brought us to this South Asian Muslim community.

A significant experience in this journey was our Youth Evangelism Service (YES) experience (Eastern Mennonite Mission’s discipleship program) in 2004-05. We spent five months in a neighboring South Asian country, working with the local church. Our faith grew as we saw God at work in amazing ways, building His church just as He promised He will do. As we continued on from our YES experience we sensed God leading us to go and live among a people

who had never been told of Christ and the hope that He gives (Romans 15:20-21).

We have been living in such a place for about three months and are part of a newly formed outreach team. We are engaged in full-time on-site language and culture learning. During the first six weeks in this country, we lived in the home of a local Muslim family, which helped us begin to learn the ins and outs of life in this foreign land.

When we first arrived here, we read these words from the devotional *God Calling*, “I am your Guide. Do not want to see the road ahead. Go just one step at a time. I very rarely grant the long vista to My disciples, especially in personal affairs, for one step at a time is the best way to cultivate faith. You are in uncharted waters. But the Lord of all seas is with you. Sing with joy.” “Surely I will bless you and multiply you...By this promise we have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us. We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul...” - Hebrews 18-19.

EMU: a life-changing mission

By **JIM BISHOP**

EMU Public Information Officer

I'm no spring chicken, and I've laid some eggs over the years. But, the older I get and the longer my involvement, I believe this more strongly: that Eastern Mennonite University is a superlative Christian higher education institution. Many others harbor similar feelings, but seem hesitant to come right out and say it.

I say this from my close association with the school that began when I first set foot on campus as a know-it-all freshman the fall of 1963. The next four years would reveal just how little I did know, but I came away with rearranged priorities, a sense of calling to use my gifts in some form of church-related journalism and a new commitment to Christ.

EMU's strengths: competent, caring teachers, a focus on students, with faith, ethics and knowledge closely entwined, life-changing cross-cultural programs, a strong sense of community—and that's just for starters.

I graduated from EMU (then EMC) in 1967, as did Anna (Mast), the fair young lady who has been my longsuffering spouse for nearly 43 years. Brothers Bob ('70), Eric ('78) and Michael ('81) followed. Daughters Jenny ('95) and Sara

('00) also graduated from their parents' alma mater and found employment locally in their respective disciplines. I'm proud, in a humble, Mennonite sort of way, of all their achievements.

Our alumni—some 17,000 strong—are doing amazing things, often behind the scenes, living out our university ideals in servant-leadership roles. I'm constantly challenged and encouraged to read of the amazing things they are doing around the world, often in less than glamorous places, helping the least of these. This has been a prime motivator in keeping me here for some 38 years, helping to tell the EMU story.

I believe in EMU, and that it merits broad, enthusiastic support—through encouraging prospective students (including one's own offspring) to see what we offer, with financial gifts to the University Fund or other needs and projects and with prayer.

EMU, a Mennonite church-owned school, is equipping students to "do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with God" (Micah 6:8). What greater calling can we have today?



Jim Bishop. Courtesy of Lindsey Roeschley

Keep your finger on the pulse of campus life several ways:

- Listen to the EMU Activities Report, 8:15 a.m. Saturdays on WBTX, 1470 AM, Broadway-Timberville, VA
- Call the EMU Activities Line any time: 540-432-4362
- Read *Crossroads* magazine, the university's quarterly publication and *The Mennonite*, *Mennonite Weekly Review* and others that carry EMU stories
- Visit the EMU web site at www.emu.edu/events

Congregational Resource Center

SUMMER VBS AND EVENTS ARE AROUND THE CORNER!

The Congregational Resource Center purchased four new starter kits for Summer 2009 VBS:

Catch the Spirit (Mennonite/Brethren) Crocodile Dock (Group)

Rome: Paul & the Underground Church (Group)

Studio Go (Standard)

You may call or come in to reserve these items for your church committee to preview. You may also sign up to USE the kits for your summer event, saving your church between \$80 and \$150.

Keep in mind that VBS kits from past summers are also in the CRC and contain thousands of ideas, activities and Bible studies worthy of using again.

Be aware that the CRC WELCOMES YOUR DONATIONS of books for our book sale. This allows us to fund the purchase of up-to-date resources as they are printed.

A display of materials for Lent and Easter may spark some ideas for your worship, children's ministry or other spring programming. Take a look at the many options for all ages and occasions when you visit.

The CRC is just off the main lobby of the seminary building at 1181 Smith Avenue, Eastern Mennonite University campus.

Open 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.
Linda Alley, CRC Director

Call (540) 432.4219 or go to the online catalog at www.emu.edu/seminary/crc to browse.

MAY 2009

Connections

Prayer Calendar

Sunday

31 Today Ramesh Jainani is ordained for pastoral ministry in the Mennonite Church of Trinidad & Tobago. Thank God for his openness for this ministry, and ask God to abundantly bless him and the people he will serve.

3 Today the Jamaica Mennonite Church is holding the annual Children's Convention. Many children and SS teachers will participate in dramas, songs, worship and education. Ask for God's blessing on this gathering.

10 Early Church effectively serves the marginalized in northern Harrisonburg. Their Sunday morning worship continues to attract more people. Thank God for their creative ministry.

17 Pray for Owen & Ruth Ann Burkholder, Mauricio Chenlo and Leslie Francisco III who are speakers at the Church Planters' Retreat for VMC church planting couples meeting at WCRC, May 17 and 18.

24 Since last summer Basil & Diane Marin have led a new church called New Song Fellowship located in the Harrisonburg area. Pray for them as they gather together a worshipping and serving community of believers.

Tuesday

This month's prayer calendar is sponsored by

Elizabeth Hostetter

who encourages all of us to spend time in prayer and Bible reading each day.

4 Thank God for the ministry of Mike & Marcia Hall and family in Trinidad as they taught people how to play musical instruments and worship music. They have returned to their home in Christiana, Pa.

11 End of year responsibilities can create stress for the LCC University staff and faculty. Pray for Steve & Betsy Dintaman as they move through this period. They serve with both VMM and Mission Network.

18 Ask God to bless Willard & Eva Eberly today as they interact with believers and non-believers. May the light of Christ shine through them.

25 Let's pray for ourselves, the people of VMC, that in this time of financial crisis our faith focuses on Jesus, courageously continuing to invest in His eternal purposes and trusting Him to supply our needs.

Wednesday

"This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing. Give everyone what you owe him: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor." - Romans 13:6-7

6 Pray for the group of 10 students and their leader, Randy Keeler, arriving in Trinidad today from Bluffton (Oh.) University for a cross-cultural experience. They will relate to church members, learn the culture, and see the beautiful island.

13 Pray for Margaret and Richard Keeler as they instruct new believers and prepare them for baptism and church membership.

20 Richard & Barbara Krehbiel Gehring and daughters from Kansas are preparing to go to Trinidad for a year of service in August. Ask God to work out all the details that they need to cover prior to leaving their home.

27 Plans for the VMC Assembly are almost finalized. Pray that many VMC members will attend and that the VMC staff will be well prepared for this gathering around the theme "Jesus is Our Peace."

Thursday

7 Pray for protection over the missionaries who travel today and tomorrow from Albania and Montenegro to Italy for the missionary retreat.

14 If you have a garden, can you plant an extra row of vegetables to give to a food pantry or bank? Fresh foods are needed by those who have limited access to them.

21 Pray for the youth groups from VMC that are preparing to attend the MC USA convention in Columbus, Ohio, in July. Ask God to guide their sponsors and all the details that are important to have in place as they go.

28 Two couples in Europe with people from a wide variety of ethnicities. Ask God to guide them as they connect with persons who are very different from themselves.

Friday

1 Mennonite Church of Trinidad & Tobago holds a marriage retreat this weekend with Lonnie and Teresa Yoder as resource persons. Ask for God's special anointing for all who attend.

8 George Brunk III, with wife Ruthann, serve as input speakers for the missionary retreat. May God's Spirit prepare and use them to minister effectively to the needs of the missionaries.

15 Impacting a child makes a difference for life. Pray for Norma Teles, Tirana, Albania, as she nurtures the children that come to Joshua Centre daily.

22 Nancy Marshall, Orange Walk, Belize, encourages everyone she meets with a warm greeting and words of concern. Pray for her as she demonstrates Christ's love with the variety of people she touches.

29 Tomorrow the men MC in Kingston, Jamaica, will gather for fellowship. May they be strengthened to do the work that God has called them to do.

Saturday

2 A small group of believers in Centro Koinonia, Bari, Italy, meets weekly in homes for intercession, worship and seeking God. Interest is growing. Pray that God uses them to ignite a spiritual awakening in an apathetic society.

9 As the VMM Mediterranean missionary retreat takes place near Naples, Italy, this weekend, pray that God instills spiritual and physical rest into the lives of each missionary and blesses their fellowship and worship together.

16 Sharon Kniss, worker with VMM and Mission Network, is in the final weeks of her 3-year term of service in London with Bridge Builders. Ask God to bless her each day and guide her in future work.

23 Micah and Adam Riddle, Bari, Italy, are coming to the end of the school year. Thank God for their ability to use the Italian language and to learn their academic subjects.

30 This weekend the leadership team of the Sangre Grande MC in Trinidad is holding a retreat for strengthening relationships with each other and God. Pray that they are encouraged to serve Christ in the months ahead.



Connections (USPS 007-205)
 Virginia Mennonite Missions
 Virginia Mennonite Conference
 901 Parkwood Drive
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Announcements

The **Mennonite Women of Virginia Annual Missions Day** will be May 7, starting at 8:45 a.m. at Weavers Mennonite Church. Come hear Rhoda Keener share about “Serving Others by Caring for God’s Temple,” participate in giving to missionary needs through the Annual Day Auction, and learn about bread baking and story telling with Susanna Lemmon & Viola Weaver. Breakfast and Lunch will be provided by the women of Weaver’s Mennonite Church. Child care is provided. Please call to reserve a spot with the number of children and their ages (540)434-7758. Contact Aldine Musser at (540) 868-0136, jamusser@verizon.net, or Beth Pease at (540) 560-4737, peasebv@jmu.edu.

Williamsburg Christian Retreat Center’s 5th Annual **Pedal the Peninsula fundraiser** is planned for May 16, 2009. Routes range from 10 to 61 miles. Registration is \$35/person; family cap \$70. Lunch included. Register by April 24 to receive a t-shirt. Door prize drawings. Brochures available; visit www.wcrc.info or call (866) 566-9272.

“**Alpine Europe**” including Germany, Austria, and Switzerland and featuring the Oberammergau Passion Play, is planned for May 17-27, 2010. Some of the sites visited will be Lucerne, the Swiss Alps, Innsbruck, Salzburg (Mozart’s birthplace), Rhine Valley, Munich, Bavarian Neuschwanstein Castle, Heidelberg and much more. Contact Ed and Edie Bontrager, tour coordinators, at 540-438-8304. Basic cost from D.C.—\$3699. Check www.travelventuretours.com for full itinerary.

On May 22 and 23 at 7:30 the Eastern Mennonite High School music department will present the musical “**Quilters.**” The cast of eight girls will tell the life story of 19th pioneer women as they traveled west. Tickets will go on sale the first of May.

Summer jobs at Williamsburg Christian Retreat Center: we’re seeking Christian high school and college students to be Camp Counselors at Kaleidoscope Camp. Students can earn college credit. For more information check www.wcrc.info or contact Jenn Hill at 757-566-2255.



Register now for Virginia Mennonite Conference Assembly!

Forms are available from your church or the Conference Center, or you can register online at: vmconf.org/assembly/

Highland Retreat in Bergton, Va., is seeking candidates for the position of Executive Director to begin in or near December, 2009. Nestled in the mountains of western Virginia, Highland offers many outdoor activities, operates summer camping programs for youth, a lodge and retreat center for groups, and is affiliated with the Virginia Mennonite Conference. Candidates should have leadership experience in a Christian camp or not-for-profit organization, experience in program development and/or strategic planning, strong interpersonal skills, charisma and visionary leadership attributes, and a living Christian faith. The Executive Director is responsible to oversee all camp operations, finances, and staff, will work closely with the Board of Directors, with donors and constituency. Please send cover letter, resume, and three letters of reference (one from pastor preferred) to: Chair, Search Committee, Highland Retreat, c/o 61 South Main St., Harrisonburg, VA 22801. www.highlandretreat.org

2009
Penny Power

Your spare change makes a difference!

Bring jugs of coins to:
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Saturday, October 3, 2009
Rockingham County Fairgrounds
www.vareliefsale.com

 Virginia Mennonite Missions
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800-707-5125 • www.vmmmissions.org

 Mennonite Central Committee
21 South 12th Street, PO Box 500
Annex, PA 17204-0500
717-808-1133 • www.mcc.org

