

# HMC Announcements

April 19, 2024

- **The church office will be closed April 22 & 23 for staff retreat.**

## CONGREGATIONAL CARE

- **A sincere thank you** to all our brothers and sisters at HMC for your support both spiritually and financially for our recent mission trip to Ifugao, Philippines. We were able to share better hearing with 123 Filipino friends because of your generosity! With gratefulness, Woody & Regina Driver

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Little Food Pantry** – Julie Lee has received permission from Church Council to install a little food pantry (think little free library like what we have by the playground, but for canned foods/pantry staples instead of books). This would be a way to bless our neighbors with a free food source and donation station. She is excited to get this project started but needs someone with construction skills to help either build or put together a prefabricated kit. If you have an interest in helping her with this project, please reach out to her at 540-908-4121.
- Due to all the unrest in many parts of the world, there are individuals that can't even meet their most basic needs. The HMC Women's Service and Friendship Circle is launching a plea to **fill MCC Hygiene Kits!** <https://mcc.org/get-involved/kits/hygiene> How many Hygiene Kits can we fill?

Here are your options:

- Pick up a bag at the church entrances and fill it with the following supplies or purchase any of the listed items and place it in the bins at the church entrances, we will fill the bags.
- Make a money donation and we will purchase the items: Write your check to: Women's Service and Friendship Circle, note: "Hygiene kits" place in the offering boxes at the entrances.
- Items needs:
  - 1 adult-sized toothbrush (in manufacturer's packaging)
  - 1 large bar bath soap (leave in wrapper)
  - 1 nail clipper (good quality)
  - 1 hand towel (medium weight, dark or bright colors; approx. 16 in x 26 in)
  - 1 wide-toothed comb (6-8 in)
- **Contributions for the Creation Care book, *A Walk in God's Creation***, are still welcome and can be given at the office. Please let them know if you would like a copy (copies) of the book for your donation (\$12 each).
- **HMC Intergenerational Women's Tea is this Saturday, April 20**, 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall with light tea luncheon. Dana Blauch, Licensed Professional Counselor, and member of HMC, will provide inspiring input on emotional health and wellbeing. We look forward to seeing all those who have signed up.
- **The Creation Care Group** meeting will be Wednesday, April 24, at 6:30 p.m. in the church conference room. This is our last planned meeting until fall.
- **Fundraiser meals for the 2024 Honduras Build Team** – April 28, Potato Bar lunch at HMC starting after the DC hour for those who attended 1<sup>st</sup> service and continuing for those attending 2<sup>nd</sup> service. If you plan to attend, sign up here by April 24 to help with planning: <https://forms.gle/Sy39N4AnCXaYnPLG7>. Your gift is tax-deductible to the extent that it exceeds the value of meal, which is \$5 per person. Please indicate the number of meals purchased in the memo line of your check. Also, plan to attend Church Campout worship and stay for another tasty fundraiser meal on June 16.
- **The EMHS Touring Choir** will be singing at HMC on April 28 at 7:00 p.m. in the Worship Center.
- **May 12, Graduation Sunday**, is a combined worship service at 9:40 a.m. followed by adult & children's classes from 10:50 – 11:50 a.m. IF you have a graduate (all levels) to share in the bulletin, please email

[secretary@harrisonburgmennonite.org](mailto:secretary@harrisonburgmennonite.org) by May 8 with their name, school, and any other degree information necessary.

- **May 19, all are welcome to come hear the Chorister Choir's musical *L.O.S.T But Now I'm Found*** in the Fellowship Hall during the DC/SS hour at 9:40 a.m.
- **Join Valley Program for Aging Services (VPAS)** Wednesday, May 22, 7-8:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall, as HMC works towards becoming a "dementia friendly" congregation, a place that is safe and accessible for those struggling with cognitive decline. Questions can go to Pastor Carmen at 540-746-8845.
- **As you plan your summer, save these dates: Church Campout at Highland Retreat, June 14-16, Vacation Bible School, June 17 – 20.**
- **HMC's Philadelphia Mission trip is June 9-14.** The Cornerstone Christian Academy counts on us to bless them with work on renovation projects. This HMC ministry partnership is a significant contribution to both this urban Christ-centered elementary school and to HMC. Contact James Blakely and Mark Keller for ways you can participate.
- **Do you have a passion for our children's outreach and Vacation Bible School?** We are looking for several people to prayerfully consider being part of the VBS leadership team which will help to plan and implement VBS this summer. If you are interested or want to learn more, contact Lenora Bell at [lbell@harrisonburgmennonite.org](mailto:lbell@harrisonburgmennonite.org) or call 540-383-3456.

#### PRAYERS FOR MIDDLE EAST

- Resources are listed on the HMC Website under the worship tab: prayer ministry.  
<https://harrisonburgmennonite.org/prayer>

#### VMM/MMN PRAYER REQUESTS

- **VMMissions prayer requests:** Pray for wisdom for Baker Rigg, serving as a chaplain at Rockingham-Harrisonburg Regional Jail, as he interacts with deep needs in the jail and manages an increasingly busy schedule.
- **MMN prayer requests:** David and Rebekka Stutzman, with their three children, have served in Germany since 2012. Pray for them as they seek ways to be the church that resonates with people living in a post-Christian context.

#### VMC/COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **The Shenandoah Valley MDS unit has been investigating local projects.** First is a house we plan to refurbish North of Harrisonburg. Secondly, we are looking into building houses lost in forest fires in Virginia and West Virginia. If you would like to bless people financially, mark your giving MDS and give through your local church. If you would like to help with the projects, contact Woody Driver (Shenandoah Valley MDS chair) at 540-820-9676.
- **Worship with Tennessee, Carolina, & Kentucky (TCK) District on Saturday, April 20,** from 1-3 p.m. at Mountain View Mennonite Church in Hickory, N.C. Transportation from Harrisonburg is being considered. Contact Caleb if you are interested in carpooling ([caleb.schrock-hurst@virginiacommunity.org](mailto:caleb.schrock-hurst@virginiacommunity.org)).
- **Join us for the 2024 Harrisonburg Ecumenical Earth Day Worship Service** on Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, (the day before Earth Day) 9:45 a.m. The service will happen with more than 11 churches and organizations at the Turner Pavilion, where the Harrisonburg Farmer's Market is. You can learn more about the service on the Lutheran Church website:  
<https://www.muhlenberglutheran.org/earthdayworship.html>
- **Join Striking Accord,** a Harrisonburg-based men's a cappella ensemble, for a concert this Sunday! The program is titled "Rocky Road: Songs of Adventure and Homecoming." Join us at Park View Mennonite Church on Sunday, April 21, at 7 p.m. Admission \$5, children 12 and under free.

- **Seed Exchange Party to Support Mayan Communities:** The Racial Justice Task Force will host a Seed Exchange party in support of The Maya Collective ‘In Laak Le Ixiimo?’ (CILLI) and their annual Fiesta de Semillas, or Seed Festival. The funds we raise will sponsor North American indigenous people and allies from the Coalition to Dismantle the Doctrine of Discovery to attend the seed festival. **Join us on Earth Day Monday, April 22, at 6:30 p.m. at the EMU Discipleship Center** –bring seeds that you care about to share about, or just come to learn and support! Learn more about a past delegation to southern Mexico and the bridge-building work between Mennonites and Mayan communities [here](#); learn more about the seed conservation movement [here](#).
- **Strength through Peace: Youth making a change.** The panel discussion around peacemaking and military alternatives will be held at Eastern Mennonite School dining hall on **Monday, April 22, at 7 p.m.** Teenagers and the adults who care about them are invited to hear from several young peacemakers about their peace convictions and how they actively respond to the US military. There will be information about alternatives to registering for Selective Service for young men. The Counseling Director for the Center on Conscience and War will be present to answer questions about conscientious objections. Refreshments will be served, and a livestream is available at <https://shorturl.at/vzLW7>. Hay interpretación en español disponible.
- **[Shenandoah Valley Children’s Choir](#).** Students in grades 1-6 are invited to sign up for Shenandoah Valley Children’s Choir’s 5-week spring choir program beginning Monday, April 22, and concluding Monday, May 20. No audition is necessary! Cost is \$75 and includes an SVCC t-shirt! For more information, go to [svcc.org/springchoirs](http://svcc.org/springchoirs)
- **Introducing the Celebrate Recovery program** which will be held on Tuesday, April 23, at 7 p.m. The webinar will include testimony by Nate Karr, current ministries active in Harrisonburg, and resources to start a ministry. The event is free, but registration is required. [virginiacommunity.org/events](http://virginiacommunity.org/events)
- **Webinar! Pioneering Women in Ministry.** Join Amy Zimelman, Conference Minister of Mountain States Mennonite Conference, on April 23, 2024, at 7 p.m. ET/4 p.m. PT for a panel discussion. We will hear from Dianne Garcia, who recently planted a church ministering to asylum-seekers in San Antonio, Texas, and Marilyn Miller, who is the first woman ordained to pastoral ministry in the General Conference Mennonite Church. Register here: [mennoniteusa.org/webinar/registration-wil-april23](http://mennoniteusa.org/webinar/registration-wil-april23)
- **Mennonite Public Education Professionals** are invited to “Simple ways to show our faith” on Thursday, April 25, at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. There is no cost, but registration is required. Contact [info@mennoniteeducation.org](mailto:info@mennoniteeducation.org).
- **Highland Retreat is holding a workday on Saturday, April 27.** You are invited to come out and help with a variety of tasks, ranging from simple jobs (spreading wood chips) to tasks that require more skilled labor (improving campsites). Volunteer for the morning and/or afternoon as a family, a small group, or an individual, and enjoy a delicious (free!) lunch in exchange. More details and an RSVP form online at <https://highlandretreat.org/get-involved/work-days/>. Your help is appreciated!
- **Join us** for an evening of beautiful and uplifting music by the **EMU Chamber Singers** on Sunday, April 28, 7:00 p.m. at Park View Mennonite Church. The concert's theme is "A Chorus of Peace: Songs of Lament and Hope," exploring the range of emotions surrounding our desire for peace. The concert is free, with donations gratefully accepted toward their touring expenses, as they were chosen as the North American choir to sing at the 500-year celebration of Anabaptism next May in Switzerland!
- **Living Stones: 2024 Summer Delegate Assembly** will be held at Harrisonburg Mennonite Church July 18-20. Early Registration opens on May 1. <https://virginiacommunity.org/events/>
- **Catfish Fry – Friday, May 3, from 3:00 - 6:30 p.m.** at Park View Mennonite Church. Dine-in or Drive-through. The meal includes fresh Mississippi Catfish, beans, coleslaw, hush puppies, and dessert. Donations support Lezha Academic Center in Albania, a church and school affiliated with VM Missions.
- **May 4 Concert: VMC will host the concert “The Hills Break Forth In Singing: An Evening of Christian and Mennonite Music” on May 4 at 6:30 p.m.** at Lindale Mennonite Church in their new outdoor amphitheater; many thanks to Lindale for making their space available. We’ll have music

from Cantore, members of The Walking Roots Band, Joel Ross from 'Good Company,' Lightning Lucas and the Thunderstorm Warnings, and more! Entrance is free; we'll receive an offering to support VMC's work of equipping congregations.

- **MAY 9TH HYMN SING FUNDRAISER for MCC Gazan internal refugees.** Join us at Park View Mennonite Church's sanctuary at 7 p.m., under the direction of Dr. Benjamin Bergey, Musical Editor for Voices Together and an assistant professor of music at Eastern Mennonite University. Three anonymous donors are providing a dollar for dollar match up to \$25,000. Organized by the Share Our Surplus committee of the Virginia Mennonite Relief Sale. Come ready to sing and to give!
- **Men's Breakfast and Bible Study** - Join for fellowship, Bible study, and worship Tuesday mornings at Park View Mennonite Church. **Breakfast 6:45 a.m., study 7:00 a.m.** Livestream of the event is available [here](#).
- **AMBS Trees of Life Retreat: May 31 – June 1** (Friday at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary; Saturday at Camp Friedenswald). This retreat led by Janeen Bertsche Johnson, MDiv, and Steve Thomas, MDiv, will weave together study of biblical texts about trees; understanding of trees as organisms and within ecosystems; ecological issues; and spiritual practices. The retreat can be taken for one hour of academic credit (\$596 total) or as a noncredit retreat (\$130 total). Both costs include lunch on Friday and Saturday and use of the camp. (Lodging is not included.) Register by May 24. [ambs.edu/trees](https://ambs.edu/trees)
- **Employment opportunity! Calling all educators!** EMS is currently accepting applications for the following teaching positions: Middle School Science Teacher and 6th-grade teacher. If you're passionate about education and want to make a difference in the lives of students, we'd love to hear from you! Apply online [here](#).
- **Virginia Conference is looking for an Administrative Assistant and Event Planner (0.5 FTE).** The position is temporary (April-Aug 2024) with the potential to be permanent. Click the link for the job description. Email cover letter and resume to [june.miller@virginiacommunity.org](mailto:june.miller@virginiacommunity.org).
- **MCC's Sharing With Appalachian People (SWAP)** home repair program is seeking summer staff in Kimball, West Virginia, or Elkhorn City, Kentucky. These three-month positions for Job Site Coordinators and Meals Coordinators will allow you to explore new cultures, develop skills, build friendships, and live out your faith. Applicants should be at least 19 years old, but the roles are not limited to young adults. An hourly wage plus room and board are provided. For more information and to apply, visit [mcc.org/swap-summer-meals](https://mcc.org/swap-summer-meals) or [mcc.org/swap-summer-job-site](https://mcc.org/swap-summer-job-site). Or contact the MCC Appalachia SWAP office at (606) 634-4418 or [AppalachiaAdmin@mcc.org](mailto:AppalachiaAdmin@mcc.org).
- **Peaceful Options for Training and Careers**, an independent initiative formed by MC USA and Mennonite Central Committee, has begun training volunteer counselors to help young adults find non-military career, service, and training opportunities. Read more here: [mennoniteusa.org/news/potc-mobilizes](https://mennoniteusa.org/news/potc-mobilizes)
- **Subscribe to PeaceMail** to receive MC USA's blogs, together with news and resources in one weekly email. Subscribe to PeaceMail here: [mennoniteusa.org/peacemail](https://mennoniteusa.org/peacemail).
- **Mennonite Women of Virginia's Fall Retreat, Nov. 8-10, 2024!** Mark your calendars! This is a wonderful weekend of worship, fellowship, and encountering God, hosted at the Marriott in Short Pump, Va.
- Mark your calendars! VM Missions has exciting events coming up to help share new life in Christ with neighbors near and far:
  - **Putt for Missions (May 18th):** This fun mini-golf fundraiser is perfect for families, youth groups, and anyone who wants to enjoy a day of fellowship while supporting VM Missions.
  - **Motorcycle for Missions (May 31st – June 1st):** Calling all motorcycle enthusiasts! Gear up for a scenic ride and weekend adventure, all for a worthy cause.

Visit our website <https://vmmissions.org/get-involved/events/> or follow us on social media for updates and registration information.