

HMC Announcements

April 26, 2024

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

- **Sympathies to Ruthanne (& Leo) Heatwole and the Janzen family** as they mourn the loss of their sister-in-law, Anna Janzen, who passed away March 19.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **This Sunday, the EMU Chamber Singers** will be sharing in the worship music led by Benjamin Bergey for part of both services.
- **This Sunday is the fundraiser meal for the 2024 Honduras Build Team** – April 28, Potato Bar lunch at HMC starting after the DC hour for those who attended 1st service and continuing for those attending 2nd service. If you plan to attend, sign up here today to help with planning: <https://forms.gle/Sy39N4AnCXaYnPLG7> but all are welcome even if you forget. Your gift is tax-deductible to the extent that it exceeds the value of the 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.
- **Come hear how God is at work in South Asia** through Freedom Life Ministries, a partner of Harvest Frontiers and YWAM Myrtle Beach. Friday, May 3, from 7:30 – 8:30 p.m. at the Virginia Mennonite Missions Barn, 601 Parkwood Dr., Harrisonburg: Austin & Emma will have their friend, Anirudh, sharing how God is moving through their children's home and church planting ministry, and about their vision for the future. After a time of fellowship and sharing, there will be an opportunity to partner with this ministry both prayerfully and financially. Dessert and refreshments will be provided. Please RSVP with this link or contact Austin to help them prepare: <https://form.jotform.com/241126909720151>.
- **All are welcome** to come hear Austin & Emma share about their work on May 5 in the Fellowship Hall during the Discipleship Community/Sunday School hour between services.
- **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 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. There will be fruit & pastries shared as part of the Honduras Build fundraiser.
- **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.
- **Looking for four rain sticks (musical shaker stick) for the Chorister Choir Musical on May 19.** If you have one or more, please call Lenora. We need four more!
- **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).
- **As you plan your summer, save these dates: Church Campout at Highland Retreat**, June 14-16, **Vacation Bible School**, working on a possible change in date.
- **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 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:** Lift up Clay Kauffman and Brynn Yoder, interns serving with Highland Retreat, Bergton, Va., as they contribute in various ways to the ministry of the camp and also serve in the local community.
- **MMN prayer requests:** Praise God for the collaboration of Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Mission Network and Meserete Kristos (Christ Foundation) Seminary for the training of church leaders in Ethiopia. Pray for Henok Mekonin, who coordinates this initiative.

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.
- **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!
- **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 VMissions.
- **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. Newly added acts by Shekinah and Tide Spring. 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!
- **Mark your calendars!** VMissions 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 VMissions.
 - **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.

- Eastern Mennonite University is currently planning three workshops for this summer to be held during the 2024 [Summer Peacebuilding Institute](#): **May 22: Becoming Resilient Leaders with Trauma-Aware Practices** (a half-day workshop facilitated in a hybrid on-campus/online format); **May 22: Healing Harm and Repairing Relationships within Churches and Beyond** (a half-day workshop facilitated in a hybrid on-campus/online format.) **June 13: Navigating Tough Conversations with Adaptive Leadership Skills** (a full-day clinic facilitated on-campus in Harrisonburg, Va.). Registration pages and more information on these three workshops can be found on [our website here](#). We’re offering bundle discounts and group rates. <https://emu.edu/seminary/training/>
- **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
- **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/>
- **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](#).
- **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@virginiacference.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 or mcc.org/swap-summer-job-site. Or contact the MCC Appalachia SWAP office at (606) 634-4418 or AppalachiaAdmin@mcc.org.
- **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.
- **Dr. Lesley F. McClendon** presented this devotional at the Mennonite Church USA Executive Board meeting recently. She reflects on what reimagining the church means and how we can stay true to the gospel message, while also accommodating our rapidly changing needs as a culture. Read it here: mennoniteusa.org/menno-snapshots/reimagining-church
- **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