

HMC Announcements

May 3, 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.
- **The Roatan Honduras build team is deeply grateful** for the abundance of generous support for our July build trip at our potato bar lunch last Sunday; it was wonderful to see many friendly, caring and supportive faces. Thanks to your donations we are \$6,100 closer to funding a new home for the Santos Vallecillos family. Mark your calendars for our next fundraiser lunch Sunday, June 16, at Church Campout! -The Honduras Build Team.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **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.
- **Those interested in joining a baptism class** on May 19 from 1:00 – 2:30 p.m., contact Pastor Jake.
- **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.
- **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.
- **Plan to be at Church Campout 2024 on June 14 – 16 at Highland Retreat.** It's kind of a big deal! OH Yeah! Sign up online or call the office.
- **Do you have a passion for our children's outreach and Vacation Bible School? VBS is moving dates to July 8 – 11, 6:00 – 8:15 p.m. Signup is coming soon!** 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.
- **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 needed:
 - 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).

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

- **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 VMMissions.
- **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!

- MC USA's Climate Justice Ministry is hosting a **webinar titled, "Faith, Food, Soil and Climate,"** on Monday, May 13, 2024, 2 p.m. ET/11 a.m. PT. Five panelists will explore how growing and sharing food can provide nourishment for mind, body, and spirit, while building healthy soils, lowering greenhouse gas emissions, and creating more just and resilient communities. The webinar is part of MC USA's current Learn, Pray, Join initiative, Climate Justice: Seeking Shalom. Register here: mennoniteusa.org/webinar/registration-climate-may13
- **Anabaptist Climate Collaborative** invites you to an evening of hearing stories of involved individuals who relate to the organization's programs. You can also expect updates on the direction we hope to move toward. Those inspired to give will also have that opportunity. **Join us on Thursday, May 16th, at 6:30 at Park View Mennonite.**
- Join in on the **Highland Celebration** gathering on **Saturday, May 18!** Come to Highland Retreat's largest gathering of the year, featuring a delicious lunch and an afternoon concert by The Walking Roots Band. Other special activities include guided hikes and bird watching, lots of fun games and challenges for kids, a new archery activity, and the first swim of the season in the Highland pool! Lunch, concert, and activities are by donation, and all donations support our summer camp ministry. Learn more and RSVP online at highlandretreat.org/celebration or by calling the Highland office at 540-705-0554.
- **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.
- **The Shalom Collaboratory** at Eastern Mennonite Seminary offers a variety of training programs for theologically informed conflict transformation skills. In these clinics, short courses, workshops, and webinars, participants learn how to implement an adaptive leadership approach to transform conflicts in the creative spirit of Godly imagination, incorporate strategies for trauma awareness and resilience into their ministry practices, and take up other practical approaches to the troubles our congregations routinely encounter. May 22, 2024 and June 13, 2024. <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. ams.edu/trees
- **Conectere: Sharing faith and values with your children.** Applications are now open through June 3 for Conectere cohorts, led by professors and graduate students at Eastern Mennonite University and Yale Divinity School. Starting this summer, parents and caregivers will meet monthly to strengthen secure relationships and grow in sharing faith with their children. Based on research that faith is best transmitted through secure relationships, Conectere is an attachment-based training program and peer learning opportunity to become more effective in sharing faith and values with children. Cohorts will meet in Harrisonburg, Va. and online. [Apply now or register your interest](https://emu.edu/seminary/shalom/conectere/interest-form) for a future session! <https://emu.edu/seminary/shalom/conectere/interest-form>
- **Climate STARR (Strategies for Trauma, Action, Resilience, and Regeneration) training.** June 10-12 at Eastern Mennonite University. 18 Continuing ed credits. Scholarship help. You've seen the climate data. Heard the predictions. Felt the grief. Go beyond. Find purpose. Courage. New narratives. Commitment. Together. For parents, students, educators, leaders, organizations--all who love God's creation. Join us! Register now: www.hdpi.org/ClimateSTARR

- **Early Registration open is open! Living Stones: 2024 Summer Delegate Assembly** will be held at Harrisonburg Mennonite Church July 18-20. <https://virginiacommunity.org/events/>
- **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.
- **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](#).
- **Mennonite Mission Network. Development Representative** (F/T – In office, Hybrid or Remote in Elkhart or East Coast area) provides a role in developing, maintaining, and growing relationships with Mennonite Mission Network's financial supporters, donors, and churches to ensure that organization continues to thrive and fulfill its goals.
- **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.
- **Christian Education Employment Opportunity – Weekday Religious Education** needs to hire a Bible Teacher for John C. Myers ES in Broadway. This is a part-time, paid position for classes held during school hours on two days a week. If interested, please call 540-438-9997 or email WREock1929@gmail.com.
- **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