

12/11/2011

CMC Newsweekly

Community Mennonite Church, 70 S High Street, Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Phone: 540-433-2148

Website: www.cmcva.org

Email: cmchurch@ntelos.net

WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY

Scripture: John 1:6-8, 19-28

Song leader: Jay Hartzler

Week offering vs. Budget:
\$11,886

Worship leader: Sue Swartz

Last Sunday's attendance:
278

YTD Offering vs. YTD
budget: -\$831

Preacher: Pastor Jennifer
Davis Sensenig

Offering: \$19991.5

God continues to call CMC to deepen our spirituality in 2011

We recognize that God's call to us may not always feel comfortable, but we believe that together we can:

Enrich our prayer practices.

- We continue to offer Prayers of Confession as our Advent preparation for celebrating Christ's birth.

-As you listen and sing the carols and hymns of the Advent/Christmas season, consider that "those who sing pray twice".

Follow Jesus in our relationships with persons who are gay or lesbian.

-Thank you for participating in our survey. This data and a summary of the Samoan Circle process will be shared with Council at our next regular meeting and then with the congregation.

Respond to the Holy Spirit's invitations.

-Not only CMC, but also partner congregations and the broader network of HARTS are responding to the Spirit's call to provide safe overnight shelter to homeless neighbors.

-We are grateful that this congregation responds with practical love when households among us can be supported with a meal during a time of need.

*Come to me...
my burden is light.
Matthew 11:28-30*

THE CMC CALENDAR.

Needlecraft Group 7:00 pm each Tuesday in the Fellowship Hall

Youth Choir 6:00 pm Tuesday December 13th in the Sanctuary

MYF Fundraiser meal after Sunday School Sunday December 11

Senior Event 8:30am breakfast Tuesday December 13th

Remember you can also check our online calendar in the "Member Pages" section in our website. If you forgot or need the password for that, please email the Church Office.

Future Dates

CMC hosts HARTS
at Mosque Dec 12-19

Council Meeting
7:00 pm Thu Dec 15 at Terry Burkhalter's house.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Community Mennonite Church
Saturday, December 25th at 6pm.

Senior Breakfast
8:30am Saturday January 21

HARTS
suppers/breakfast/overnights
Wed/Thu/Fr (1/4 - 6/12) at Catholic
Campus Ministries as the partner
church.

CHURCH NOTICES

A. Bible Quizzing at CMC. We have participated in quizzing for the past two years. During this time we've enjoyed learning the material, the camaraderie with local groups, the King Quizzer shirt, and participating in last year's tournament in Pennsylvania. This year we're hoping to have two teams!!

Age: Youth (Grade 7 through 12) welcome to participate.

Time: January through March.

During those months we'll meet once during the week to practice (possibly Wednesday from 6:00 to 7:00 pm) and then, on Sunday from 2:00 to 4:00 pm we'll compete in quiz matches against other local congregations.

Text: This year's quizzing material is the Gospel of John.

Tournament: This year the tournament will be held at Central Christian School in Kidron, OH during the weekend of March 24th & 25th.

So, please consider participating in Community MC Bible Quizzing Teams and, if interested, contact Jason Gerlach before Saturday December 10th by email youthpastor@ntelos.net or by phone (540) 421-8155.

B. The youth choir just this next week, Tuesday the 13th will meet from 6:00-6:40.

C. Ride for Ben. Ben Wyse only (not Anna and the kids) is looking for a ride to or from Iowa sometime from Dec 17th to Jan 1. If you or anyone you know is coming from or going to Iowa please contact him at ben.wyse@yahoo.com He would like to see his Dad. Thanks.

D. The children raised \$100 in their fall Sunday School offerings for James Ntunda in Kenya, friend of the Leonards. We will continue this offering ministry during the winter quarter. Anna Bishop.

E. The Pastoral Team has nominated Linda Gnagey as the next Pastoral Elder for Community Mennonite Church. This is a three-year term beginning January 2012. Linda would join Lonnie Yoder, Anna Maria Johnson and the pastoral staff (Jennifer Davis Sensenig, Jason Gerlach and Steve Schumm) to form the Pastoral Team. Follow this link to read Linda's brief bio <http://www.cmcva.org/online/member-info/> The congregation discernment regarding Linda serving in this role will be completed on Sunday, Dec. 18.

Peace Notes

Consider these excerpts from: Marvin McMickle, *Preaching God's Transforming Justice: A Lectionary Commentary, Year B*. Eds. Ronald J Allen, Dale P Andrews and Dawn Ottoni Willhelm (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2011), 14-15. Commentary on the lectionary texts for the Second Sunday of Advent:

Advent is a time of waiting for the realm of God. But Advent waiting is not sitting silently with folded hands while God magically establishes the realm. Advent waiting is active: we not only join God in the movement toward the realm, but, as much as possible, we live as if the realm is already here....

...Psalm 95 applies to the United States as much as it did to ancient Israel. We are at a crossroads. The greed of a few brought about the massive economic collapse that began in 2008 and has caused suffering for people of every income level, race, and ethnicity. This is God's judgment on a nation that has not only tolerated but celebrated greed. But now, the nation has a choice: We can repeat the mistakes of our past, or we can create a new economy that is based on managing the nation's wealth for the good of all....

...We have always waited. Israel waited in Egypt for 430 years. Moses waited on Sinai for forty days, and the Hebrews waited forty years before entering their promised land. They waited for the exile to end. The waiting did not end with the coming of Jesus. Indeed, the waiting goes on: waiting for God's eschatological reign of justice and peace. God is not late; we are anxious. We need not be. God has promised.

F. Marriage Enrichment Adult Sunday School Class is full now. Any future changes in the openings will be announced. If you have questions please contact Lora Steiner at lora.steiner@gmail.com

G. Open Windows Sunday school class. We are now discussing a variety of topics and using Presence: Giving and Receiving God by Alexander and Villegas as a starting point for discussion. This class meets in the Dean House Room 1.

H. Immanuel Mennonite Church invites Community Mennonite to join them Wednesday Dec 21st at 7:00 pm for "The Longest Night." This is a special worship service of scripture, prayer and song that helps us face the darkness of December and our grief and losses of the past year, as we prepare to celebrate Christ's birth. Call: 540-432-0711

I. Volunteers needed. Winter is coming, and the college-age Sunday School class that meets at Alden & Louise's house is looking for volunteers who could pick up students in Park View at a designated spot, bring them to church, and then drop them off at Alden & Louise's around 10:45. If you could help with this, please contact Kaitlin Heatwole or Hannah Schrock at hannahschrock09@gmail.com or at kaitlin.heatwole@gmail.com

J. A Creation Care Task Force (CCTF) was recently approved by Church Council. This group will care for congregational efforts in caring for Creation as well as broader advocacy initiatives. By nature of serving as the CMC liaison for Mennonite Creation Care Network, I will provide initial leadership for the CCTF. If you have interest in being part of the CCTF leadership team or contributing to its work in some way, please let me know. -Brian Martin Burkholder (brian.burkholder@emu.edu, 540-746-6419)

K. Patchwork Pantry is seeking for 4 childcare volunteers each Wednesday from 6 PM to 8 PM. Upcoming dates are:

December 21
January 4
March 7
April 25

Please consider joining us. Brooke Johnston
540.568.9840

Ben Wyse is looking for a ride to or from Iowa from Dec 17th to Jan 1

Please check the Mission Board for new messages from Jessica and Larisa. Keep all our persons serving in Missions in your prayers.

Nikita Stoll & Harold Shenk, are looking for basketball sponsors

L. Next Senior Event, Tuesday, December 13, 8:30 am breakfast at CMC, Fellowship Hall. Bring "white elephant" gift for a fun-time. This can be wrapped, something-- a nice item you already have but would be willing to share with another. For more information contact Millard Osborne 438-8390

M. Basketball Sponsors. Basketball season is here and Nikita Stoll is playing JV basketball at EMHS. Nikita and his mentor, Harold Shenk, are again looking for "basketball sponsors" during the season to help raise money for Nikita to visit his homeland of Sierra Leone. The basketball fundraiser last year netted almost \$600. Nikita and Harold will have a table set up for sponsorship sign-ups after church. Thanks for your anticipated support. Harold Shenk morshenk@juno.com

N. Pine cone fire starters for sale: I'm making wax-based fire starters out of beautiful large pinecones from my grandparent's home in Chesapeake, Va. These make great Christmas gifts. I'm selling them to raise money for a trip with Shenandoah Valley Children's Choir to Carnegie Hall next May. Please email orders to Leah Wenger, leahjwenger@gmail.com or phone 896-3346. Individual gift wrapped fire starters with card and instructions for use are \$3 per piece. A gift basket of three fire starters and additional large pinecones, \$10. If you'd like to see a photo before ordering, send me an email. - Leah Wenger

O. Needed at Patchwork Pantry: on Dec. 14 and Dec. 21 - four kitchen workers; 5 cart pushers; and for Dec. 14 only - 2 English interviewers. Email Sheri at Patchworkpantry@gmail.com to indicate your interest. I'll confirm in case there are more people offering than there are spaces! - Sheri Hartzler



HARTS

Harrisonburg and Rockingham Thermal Shelter



Thank you CMC for all the volunteers and work organized so far for HARTS!

This is just to update you on the two remaining tasks still needed for our week at the mosque and to inform you of the few tasks needing volunteers for our second (and last) round of HARTS work as we “partner” with the Seventh Day Adventist Church first week in January. Sign up sheets are again posted on the wall leading to the Fellowship Hall from Room 109. Descriptions of the tasks are found below.

For those interested in the broader picture of homelessness locally and what is being done to work on this, you are invited to an “Action Committee” meeting being convened @ Emmanuel Episcopal January 11, 2012 to be convened by the Rector there, Rev. Daniel Rubayo, 7:00pm.

QUESTIONS/CONCERNS/COMMENTS?? Contact Hadley
[\[hhjenner@hotmail.com\]](mailto:hhjenner@hotmail.com) or 908-6815]

NEEDS FOR WEEK OF 12/12/11 - 12/19/11 AT THE MOSQUE

Supper Meal Friday, 12/16/11: Ideally two small groups could collaborate on this.

Clean Up Person needed Mon AM 12/19/11: Just need someone to team with Hadley to clean up.

NEEDS FOR WEEK OF 1/2/12 - 1/9/12 AT CATHOLIC CAMPUS MINISTRIES

Supper Meals	Wed, 1/4/12	_____
	Th, 1/5/12	_____
	Fri, 1/6/12	_____
Breakfast	Th, 1/5/12	_____
	Fri, 1/6/12	_____
	Sat, 1/7/12	_____
Overnight Volunteers	Wed, 1/4/12	_____
	Th, 1/5/12	_____
	Fri, 1/6/12	_____



HARTS

Harrisonburg and Rockingham Thermal Shelter

Supper Meals: I am suggesting that two small groups coordinate this each night. Bear in mind that you will need to plan to feed 40 - 50 people. We expect to accommodate 40 guests and perhaps some “overflow” that will be accommodated elsewhere. I am expecting that three other churches will be partnering with us in the provision of meals so our CMC need is for four nights (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday) that week. Volunteers should arrive about 6:00pm. Registration of guests begins about 6:30pm with meals then served beginning about 7:00pm - 7:15pm. Someone could offer a prayer prior to opening serving. We will coordinate menus using a Take-them-a-meal schedule (details just below). Overall think nutritious meals - low fat, low sugar, whole grains, veggies! and fresh (but soft! Bananas are ideal) fruit given our guests’ chronic dental problems. Finally, clean up in the evening after the meal is served would be needed, although this is simplified somewhat at the mosque because they have no dishwasher. There is simply a lot of throwing stuff in trash bags and the guests themselves can help with that. Please be sure to check the website www.takethemameal.com (Find a meal schedule last name: **harts** / password: **harts**) to find out **who** is bringing **what** and **when** to avoid having lasagna three nights running! The Supplies Guys should provide all the stuff needed for a meal (i.e. plates, utensils, cups, coffee, tea & hot cocoa, etc.). Those supplies will be available at the mosque when you arrive. If you want to provide some other drink, the supper meal people may provide that.

Breakfast Meals: Providing a breakfast buffet will be a separate task open to either a small group or individuals each morning. I am hoping the partner churches will come through for breakfasts following their turn at evening meals, so that means for us at CMC breakfasts needed for Tues, Wed., Fri., Sun. (12/13, 12/14, 12/16 & 12/18). Unlike in past years, there will be no “bag breakfasts” (supposedly no one took them!). Instead, the breakfast meal group would organize food like; hot/cold cereal, soft fruit, muffins, boiled egg, coffee, milk, juice, hot cocoa. If you like, you could drop that by the previous night for the Overnight Volunteers to set out the next morning OR you could swing by @ 6:00am and drop it off. Whatever works! The Supplies Guys should provide all the stuff needed for a meal (i.e. plates, utensils, cups, coffee, tea & hot cocoa, etc.). Those supplies will be available at the mosque when you arrive. If you want to provide some other drink, like juice, the breakfast meal people may provide that.

Overnight Volunteers: I will need two volunteers to stay with our guests each night, a total of 14 people. But thankfully, the mosque will also be providing two of their members who will be in the prayer room in case we would need someone more familiar with the facility. Plus there will be a HARTS night Shelter Manager awake and on duty throughout the night. The purpose of these volunteers is simply to humanize the sheltering, oversee things and work with the HARTS staff. These volunteers should be there by 9:00pm to allow some overlap with the guests before lights out at 10:00pm. In the morning, it would be helpful for these volunteers to have set out coffee, hot water & breakfast stuff by 0600. When the guests leave at 0700, the volunteers may leave unless you want to help out the morning clean up crew.

Morning Clean Up Crew: The mosque requests that each morning the floor be swept and mopped together with the two bathrooms. I am asking for two volunteers each morning to work at this perhaps augmented by some overnight volunteers (!?). The crew could come at 7:00am and maybe in 1 - 2 hours job done!

QUESTIONS/CONCERNS/COMMENTS?? Contact Hadley
[\[hhjenner@hotmail.com\]](mailto:hhjenner@hotmail.com) or 908-6815

LOCAL EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

1. Discounted preaching class at Eastern Mennonite Seminary Advanced Topics in Preaching, Tuesdays 8-10:40a.m. January 9- April 23, will be offered as participation audit for \$460. This course is for students and preachers who desire to explore the theology and practice of preaching at a greater depth. Topics addressed will include: awareness of different theological foundations for preaching and articulation of one's own theology of preaching; different sermon forms; preaching without notes; preaching and the cross; preaching Paul; special occasion sermons, and the use of technology and visual arts in preaching. Students will engage these topics through readings, smaller written assignments or oral assignments, and preaching sermons in class. As auditors, students will have some freedom and choice in terms of level of engagement with each topic. For more information or to register email Beth Bergman at bergmane@emu.edu by December 20.

2. You have an opportunity to support the ministry of Peace House: Through contribution of needed items such as - couch, chairs, kitchen worktable, shelves, and knife sharpener. (To donate tangible items please contact the residents directly at jmupeacehouse@gmail.com) Or you can support through an end-of year donation by making your check payable to the Harrisonburg District of Virginia Mennonite Conference with "Peace House" designated in the memo line. These monetary donations should be mailed to Dan Martin at 1064 Chestnut Drive, Harrisonburg, VA 22801. Peace House is a ministry of the Harrisonburg District to young adults through creative missional service, hospitality, and worship.

3. The JMU Madison Singers will present their Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols at Park View Mennonite Church on Saturday, December 10, at 8 p.m. All in the community are welcome.

4. The Shenandoah Valley Choral Society, directed by Curtis Nolley, presents its 42nd annual Christmas concert on Friday, December 16th at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, December 18th at 3:00 p.m. at the Bridgewater Church of the Brethren. The concert features Marc-Antoine Charpentier's Midnight Mass for Christmas, accompanied by John Barr at the organ and student soloists from Bridgewater College and James Madison University. The second half of the concert includes a variety of contemporary and traditional carol settings featuring the Mosaic handbell ensemble directed by Kath Wissinger. CMC members Sue Cockley, David Cockley, Sam Miller, Dorothy Jean Weaver, and Ray Horst sing in the Choral Society.

Tickets are available from Choral Society members, Family Christian Book Store and Red Front Supermarket (Harrisonburg); Ruth's Books (Bridgewater), on-line at www.singshenandoah.org, and at the door. Admission is \$12 for adults/\$10 for seniors and students.

5. Part-time job opening at Gift & Thrift: Available immediately - part time furniture supervisor. Applicants must be able to move up to 50 pounds on a regular basis, drive the company box truck and perform tasks associated with loading and unloading. Should have good people skills to supervise volunteers and work with donors and customers. Good organizational skills are helpful. Contact Peggy Brubaker at 433-8844, ext. 101, or at thriftmanager@yahoo.com.

*Wanted: Full-time
Director of Development
for MennoMedia*

*Support the 5 CMCers
that participate in The
Shenandoah Valley Choral
Society concert!*

*EMU's 'Christmas
Chapel: Mary's Child,' on
Monday Dec. 12*

INTERVIEW: Olivia Smucker

Name – *Olivia Smucker*

Date of birth – *April 25, 1998, 13 years old*

Attends CMC – *my whole life*

Interesting thing about you – *I am the only child in my family who is not adopted*

Favorite place – *my bedroom and anywhere my friends are*

Favorite thing about Sunday Services – *when the Vogals do one of their dramas in church*

Book/s you've enjoyed – *The Glass Castle by Jeannette Walls and The Help by Kathryn Stockett*

Favorite Movie – *You Again, Letters to Juliet and Arthur*

Favorite music group – *I really like the singer Adele and Owl City*

Dislikes – *homework or seafood*

6. Mennonite Mission Network and Mennonite Partners in China seek a teacher/administrator for the English-language program of the Nanjing Theological Seminary, beginning in Fall 2012. A B.A. in English or an education-related field is required; an MA degree in ESL or education is preferred. Several years of English-language teaching experience, preferably in China or a similar overseas location, are required. The candidate should possess experience in arranging curriculum, testing, lesson planning and preparation and overall administration of a language teaching program. Some theological training or a background in theological studies is preferred. Must have genuine interest in and sensitivity to Chinese students and colleagues. Please contact Sharon Norton at SharonN@Mennonitemission.net for more information or apply on our website <http://www.MennoniteMission.net>

7. Discount for online seminary classes at AMBS Tuition will be cut in half for first-time online students at AMBS, beginning with spring semester. To be eligible for the discount, students must be taking their first online course from AMBS and must not be enrolled in any theological education program. In addition to the discount, registration and online course application fees will be waived.

Two online courses are set for spring:

Biblical Foundations of Peace and Justice, taught by Mary Schertz, professor of New Testament;

Turnaround Strategies for Churches, taught by Gerald Shenk, sessional instructor.

Read more about these courses and the discount here <http://www.ambs.edu/student-resources/tuition/online-course-discount>

8. URGENT NEED: Gift & Thrift is in need of a part-time dock worker. This job requires lifting/moving furniture, organizational skills and courteous customer service. Contact Peggy Brubaker at 540-433-8844, ext 101, or thriftmanager@yahoo.com

9. The campus ministries department at EMU will host 'Christmas Chapel: Mary's Child,' on Monday, Dec. 12, at 4:30 p.m., in Lehman Auditorium. Admission is free. For more information call 540-432-4115 or email brian.burkholder@emu.edu.

10. Want to see beyond the headlines?

Go to Israel & Palestine with Virginia Mennonite Missions in July 2012. This group will get dust on their feet as they connect with Palestinians and Israelis while exploring the cultural, biblical, historical, and political geographies of the land where Jesus walked. For details, email partners@vmmissions.org, call 540-434-9727, or check <http://facebook.com/vmmissions>

11. Help Wanted: Full-time Director of Development for MennoMedia, effective April 1, 2012 with earlier start date negotiable. The job includes oversight of all development functions, including fundraising, donor contacts and capital campaigns. Requirements: bachelor's degree and at least three years' experience in fundraising and development, ability to travel 5-10 days per month and a commitment to the Anabaptist/Mennonite faith. Application deadline January 30, 2012. Full job description available at <http://www.MennoMedia.org> - click on Job Openings.