

01/15/2012

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: Joshua 4:1-7,24 &
Joshua 24:15-18;25-27

Worship leader: Joyce
Peachey Lind

Preacher: Ann Hershberger

Song leader: Ray Horst

Last Sunday's attendance:
239

Offering: \$7,707

Week offering vs. Budget:
not available

YTD Offering vs. YTD
budget: not available

**Jacob's well was there,
and Jesus, tired out by his
journey,
was sitting by the well.**

The gospel of John 4:6



Community Mennonite Church annually renews our membership covenant with one another. On Sundays, January 8 and 15 we will focus on the scripture from John 4, Jesus' encounter with a Samaritan woman, and hear statements of covenant renewal from CMCers. Please contact a member of the Pastoral Team if you are seeking membership at CMC for the first time. We would be happy to help you prepare for this step in your faith journey. The following link provides a frame for verbal or written statements that you are bringing to God and the local body of Christ:
<http://www.cmcva.org/online/wp-content/uploads/2012/01/covenant-renewal-page-2012.pdf>

THE CMC CALENDAR.

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

Youth Choir 6:30 pm each Tuesday in the Sanctuary

Council Meeting 7:00 Thursday January 19th at Jennifer Davis Sensenig's home

Singing Four Eyes small group gathering 5:30pm Friday Jan 20th in room 109

Senior Breakfast 8:30 am Saturday January 21st at the Wood Grill on Reservoir Street.

Bible Quizzing at CMC 2-4 pm Sunday January 22 in Fellowship Hall.

Upcoming Worship Events at CMC

Covenant Renewal Sunday - Celebrating 40 years of CMC Jan 15

- Covenant Renewal
- Parent/Child dedication for Soren Weixler-Landis (Barry & Jessica) and Luke Rodriguez (Jesse & Maria)

Future Dates

Pastoral team-Council meeting

7:00 pm Monday Jan 23rd
in room 201

Samoan Circle Process

6:30 pm Tuesday Jan 24th in Fellowship Hall

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.

CHURCH NOTICES

A. Samoan Circle–Sexuality Discernment Process Tue, Jan 24th at 7 pm. The Samoan Circle event related to CMC’s sexuality discernment process is another opportunity to hear from the congregation. We invite everyone to participate in this guided conversation where we can both listen and speak with one another face-to-face. We hope to hear the diverse voices and perspectives among us. Do you feel “out of the loop” with this congregational process? This is another opportunity to engage. The Samoan Circle will be facilitated by a faculty member from the Center for Justice and Peace Building, Barry Hart. Then, in February, Pastoral Team will

provide the congregation a summary of both the congregational survey (Nov 2011) and the Samoan Circle (Jan 2012). If you need childcare, please contact the church office cmchurch@ntelos.net or 433-2148.

B. 2012 CMC Women’s Retreat on March 16-17. Friday 6:30pm-Saturday 6:30pm.
Retreat Leader: Jane Hooper Peifer
Location: Massanetta Springs Camp and Conference Center
Cost: Approx. \$75 (details to follow)
Contact the church office to reserve a space: 433-2148 or cmchurch@ntelos.net

Hope is born again in the faces of children
It rides on the shoulders of our aged as they walk into
their sunsets.
Hope spreads around the earth. Brightening all things,
Even hate which crouches breeding in dark corridors.

In our joy, we think we hear a whisper.
At first it is too soft. Then only half heard.
We listen carefully as it gathers strength.
We hear a sweetness.
The word is Peace.
It is loud now. It is louder.
Louder than the explosion of bombs.

We tremble at the sound. We are thrilled by its presence.
It is what we have hungered for.
Not just the absence of war. But, true Peace.
A harmony of spirit, a comfort of courtesies.
Security for our beloveds and their beloveds.

We clap hands and welcome the Peace of Christmas.
We beckon this good season to wait a while with us.
We, Baptist and Buddhist, Methodist and Muslim, say come.
Peace.

Come and fill us and our world with your majesty.
We, the Jew and the Jainist, the Catholic and the Confucian,
implore you to stay awhile with us
so we may learn by your shimmering light
how to look beyond complexion and see community.

*Excerpted from the poem **Snow in Bethlehem**, by Maya Angelou copyright 2005,
published by Random House as **Amazing Peace: A Christmas Poem**.*

PeaceNotes

C. Seeking volunteers of all ages to participate in a seminary class activity.

Joni Sancken is teaching a second-level preaching class where students are engaging with some different ways of preparing a sermon. One model is a "round-table," where preachers invite a diverse group from their congregation or ministry context to join them in engaging with the text. The sermon then speaks to the whole conversation rather than only reflecting the preacher's views or decisions about the text. One of the gifts is an expanding view of the Bible as they hear more voices, one of the challenges is for preachers to share the pulpit with these other views and voices and give over some control of the sermon to the broader congregation. She would like students to be able to "play with" or experiment with this model in class and she is looking for some engaged people of any age to join them around the table. She could envision home-schooled children ages 8 and older, and anyone else who is free or has a flexible schedule on Tuesday mornings. If they end up with many volunteers, she will divide the class into groups if they have fewer, they can meet as a whole group. The only qualification is that the volunteers be interested and engaged. The class session will run from 8:00-9:30 AM on Jan. 31. Please contact Joni Sancken (joni.sancken@emu.edu) by Jan. 29 if you are interested. Thanks for considering this opportunity!

D. Patchwork Pantry: Thanks for helping to provide childcare for families utilizing the Patchwork Pantry. If you're interested in helping, we have need for:

- 1) Volunteers 6 PM to 8PM on March 7, April 25 and Wednesdays during May, June, July and August.
- 2) Donations of games, books (including coloring books), craft materials, puzzles, etc. Items need not be new.

If you can volunteer or have items to donate, please contact Brooke Johnston at 540.568.9840 or brookejohnston@gmail.com

E. The families of "Mitleben" small group (Lee Good, Brian Martin Burkholders, Quass Ferdinands and Millard Osbornes) thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to do a service project of re-painting the 15 rocks for Community Mennonite Church. The children and young persons helped as well.

Greta Leinbach is missing a stock-pot. Have you seen it?

CMC Samoan Circle—Sexuality Discernment Process Tue, Jan 24th at 7 pm.

Patchwork Pantry needs volunteers for March 7 & April 25

F. Registration for Community Preschool for 2012-2013 is open for Community Mennonite families the week of January 16-20, 2012. Sessions fill up quickly so if you want to register, begin quickly. The 3-year old group meets Tuesday and Friday mornings. Children need to be three by September 30. The 4-year old group meets Monday, Wednesday and Thursday morning and afternoon. These children also need to be 4 by September 30. A registration fee of \$70 needs to accompany the registration form. Contact Joyce Osborne for forms and/or more information (mnjosborne@verizon.net). If you have not visited the preschool, you are welcome to visit during the sessions in January to learn more.

G. The Community Preschool is offering to register children for 2012-2013 on January 16-20 for Community Mennonite Families. Children ages 3 and 4 may be registered. They must be 3 or 4 by September 30th. See the display in the Fellowship Hall or speak to Joyce Osborne (mnjosborne@verizon.net)

H. Do you have an announcement you'd like to communicate to the church during worship services? If so, please remember to submit those announcements during the week, previous to the Sunday you wish your announcement to be made. You can do so by emailing the church office at cmchurch@ntelos.net or calling 433-2148. Thank you!

I. Greta Leinbach Kreider is missing a large stock-pot that would have been in the kitchen since early December. If you have seen this pot and know where it is please contact Greta at leinbach.kreider@gmail.com.

J. Check out the poster on the kiosk for specifics regarding the VMRC Winter Fest on Saturday, Feb. 4th starting with the ground hog breakfast, lots of baked good, silent auction and BBQ plate lunch. All proceeds go toward the new wheelchair accessible bus for residents. Thanks, Vi Miller.

K. Prayer for discernment: in the sanctuary during the Sunday School hour this Sunday and next, January 15 and January 22. Come and go as you wish during this time of silent prayer for ourselves and our congregation in the ongoing discernment process about “following Jesus in our relationships with persons who are gay or lesbian.”

L. Please notice the new pictures from David Shenk's blog. They are on the Mission bulletin Board.

LOCAL EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

1. The Bible Quizzing season started on January 8, and will continue through March as youth quiz over the gospel of John. Several chapters are covered each week, and the season will culminate with a trip to Ohio for the tournament. Teams from Virginia, Ohio and Pennsylvania come together at the tournament for a day full of quizzing, fun, reconnecting with friends, and sharing in the excitement of the weekend. Visit <http://www.vmquizzing.com> for more information.

2. Park View Mennonite Church's Women's Bible study on Wednesdays, January 11 - February 15, starting at 8:30 a.m., will focus on "Luke's Quest Stories: Seeking and Finding," led by Shirley Yoder Brubaker. All women are invited. Information at (540) 434-1604.

3. Highland Retreat is seeking items to auction that are of value for its Annual Benefit Auction including new merchandise, collectibles, wood working, baked goods, gift certificates, or services. The auction will be held Saturday, February 25, 2012, and benefits the summer youth program. If you have something to contribute contact the camp office at 540-852-3226 or info@highlandretreat.org by the first week in February.

4. A program will introduce the new Mennonite World Conference General Secretary, César García, on Sunday, January 15, at 7:00 p.m., at Park View Mennonite Church in Harrisonburg, Va. Join us for this unique opportunity to hear from and interact with César, a native of Colombia.

5. Fred Swartz will share his life-story. On Monday morning, January 16, 7:30 - 9:00 in EMU's West Dining Room, Fred Swartz will share his life-story. Swartz grew up in a Church of the Brethren milieu in the rural Shenandoah Valley during the days of racial segregation. Schools were divided under the slogan "separate but equal." When assigned to a Black roommate institutionalized stereotypes were challenged and slowly began to shatter! Fred and his wife Nancy later served for thirty-seven years in the pastorate: in Roanoke, in inner-city Harrisburg, PA, and in Manassas. Between pastorates Fred earned a D.Min. and was on the COB denominational staff in Elgin, IL. To this skeletal outline Fred will add the muscle, the neurons, and yes, the the well-tempered heartbeat that makes for an energized life of service, of joy, and of hope.

Park View Mennonite Church will host a screening of Waging Peace

Winter Fest February 4 at Park Gables Main Street & Hartman Dining Room

Meet the new Mennonite World Conference General Secretary on January 15, at 7:00 pm, at Park View Mennonite Church

What better way to start off the week than to participate in what will surely be an inspiring account

of a labor of love buoyed by faith. You will have opportunity to engage Fred in follow-up dialogue. Coffee and pastries will be provided. For more information contact Ray Gingerich gingerrc@emu.edu

6. Our Community Place Night Out event is Saturday, January 14. Local restaurant, A Bowl of Good, will be guest chefs for the event, bringing their "globally inspired, local goodness" to support OCP and La Gonave, Haiti. Call 442-7727 to make reservations or email ourcommunityplace@gmail.com. Serving from 5:30 to 8 pm.

INTERVIEW: Keaton Shenk

Name: *Keaton Shenk*

Date of birth: *July 25, 1953*

Attending CMC since: *A small group from CMC (including Dave and Mary Ann Kreider) was a God-send in 1978, so when moving back to Hburg from Luray in 1989, we returned without hesitation to CMC*

Interesting thing about me: *money for college (EMC) came from raising hogs with my dad on a farm near Elida, Ohio*

Favorite places: *at home; with family; where mountains and ocean meet; out-of-doors*

Favorite musicians: *Jim Croegaert, Enya, George Winston, Kim Thiessen*

Dislike: *dusting the furniture*

Most read authors: *Gary Paulsen, Henri Nouwen*

Favorite and most frequently eaten food: *rice and beans*

I'm good at: *waiting until the last minute to get ready to go somewhere*

I'm bad at: *directions and map-reading*

Best thing about Sunday services: *music: hymnal, STS & STJ, instruments*

7. 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.

8. Don't miss the next Writers Read at EMU: Hear Diane Gilliam on Thurs, January 26, starting with dinner at 5:30 p.m. in EMU's Martin Chapel. Purchase tickets by Jan.20: \$5 Students on EMU meal plan, \$7 if not; \$15 General Admission. All tickets include dinner. Purchase Tickets: at <http://www.emu.edu/langlit/writers-read/reservations> Note: Sign language interpretation provided at each event. Final event for 2011-12: Feb 23 - Lee Peterson. For more Information, visit <http://www.emu.edu/langlit/writers-read>. We hope to see you!

9. The Shenandoah Valley Biblical Storytellers will present on Palm Sunday, 1 April 2012 Matthew's version of the Passion of our Lord. The program, LISTEN: The ROAD TO EASTER ACCORDING TO MATTHEW, will be at Court Square Theater at 4:00 p.m. It is free to attend. The program will include instrumental accompaniment in addition to the telling. All are welcome.

10. The Shenandoah Valley Men's Chorus, under the direction of Ruel Burkholder, will begin its 2012 season with our first chorus practice on February, 5, 2012, 2:30 p.m. at the Harrisonburg Mennonite Church. Men from ages 13 to 99, who enjoy singing a cappella music, are invited to join the group. Subsequent practices are scheduled for Sunday afternoons in February and March, ending with two concerts, including benefit offerings for missions and service, planned for 7:00 p.m. March 23, 2012 at Springdale Mennonite Church and 3:30 p.m. March 25, 2012 at Dayton Mennonite Church. For more information contact Roman Miller (540-867-0854; roman.miller@northriver.coop)

11. Winter Fest will be February 4 at Park Gables Main Street & Hartman Dining Room. There will be a Ground Hog Breakfast (7:30 a.m.-9:30), a Silent Auction (8 a.m. to 1 p.m.) a Bake Sale, starting at 8 a.m., and barbeque sandwich plate lunch (11 a.m. - 1 p.m.)

12. Park View Mennonite Church will host a screening of *Waging Peace: Muslim and Christian Alternatives*, in the Fellowship Room on Sunday, January 15, 4-6 p.m. The film is jointly sponsored by EMU's Center for Interfaith Engagement and Harrisonburg's Interfaith Initiative for Peace and Justice and was produced for Third Way Media by Buller Films, LLC. A discussion will follow the movie.

13. It's not too late to hear Walter Brueggemann! If you didn't sign up for the full School for Leadership Training at Eastern Mennonite Seminary you can still attend the evening plenary sessions with Walter Brueggemann January 16-18 in Lehman Auditorium at 7 p.m. Monday evening is a free event. Tuesday and Wednesday the cost is \$25 for walk-ins. For more information visit <http://www.emu.edu/slt>

14. The sixth international literary arts festival on Mennonite Writing will be March 29 - April 1 at Eastern Mennonite University. Join writers, readers, and scholars from the U.S. and Canada for "Mennonite/s Writing VI: Solos and Harmonies," which will feature four days of readings, performances, and panels with notable poets, writers, playwrights, and publishers including Vern Thiessen, Julia Kasdorf, Jean Janzen, Rudy Wiebe, Jeffy Gundy, and many more. Visit <http://www.emu.edu/mennos-writing> for more information and to register. Registration includes admission to all performances, readings, panels, excursions, and a special banquet. Register by Feb. 3 to take advantage of the early registration rate: \$100 regular, \$75 senior, \$35 students.

15. The Shenandoah Valley Youth Orchestra is holding auditions Thursday evening, January 26 and February 2 at 7:00 (or by appointment) at Eastern Mennonite University. Talented and serious high school students (bassoon, trumpet, trombone, french horn, tuba and string players) are encouraged to apply to perform with this high-level ensemble. Call 432-4277 for information and to arrange an audition time.

16. Partners in Mission is announcing an immediate opportunity! The Wollega Church in Ethiopia has extended an invitation for a service and learning team, led by Carl Hansen, to help them build a rural satellite campus in Nekempte for Meserete Kristos College, their denominational seminary. Tentative dates are for two to three weeks in March, and the estimated cost per person is \$2,000. If you have interest in participating in or supporting this group, call VMissions at 540-434-9727 or email partners@vmmissions.org.

17. Join the Shenandoah Valley Hymn Sing on Sunday, January 29, at 7 p.m. at Park View Mennonite Church, Harrisonburg. The leader will be Les Helmuth and the hymn sing will be in partnership with Shekinah, the *a cappella* women's singing group.