



- On November 7-8, EMU hosts **Father Tom Doyle**, a world-renowned victim advocate within the Catholic Church, a priest, a canon lawyer, addictions therapist and long-time supporter of justice and compassion for clergy sex abuse victims, for two public events. **"The Spiritual Impact of Sexual Abuse in Religious Contexts"**: Monday, November 7, from 7:30-9 p.m in Martin Chapel (Seminary). Father Doyle's presentation is followed by facilitated discussion and spaces for reflection. **"Christian Theology and Sexual Abuse"**: Tuesday, November 8, from 11-11:45 a.m. followed with a 11:45-1 p.m. lunch discussion. This presentation takes place in Chapel Gathering (Seminary) in Martin Chapel. The lunch discussion is open to public visitors. Please RSVP for the lunch to Doyle.lunch@gmail.com.
- **As a small token of gratitude** for the ways in which you have prayed earnestly and given generously to the work that God is doing through Virginia Mennonite Missions, **VMMissions invites you to a Donor & Prayer Partner Banquet**. Join us for an evening of food, music and stories of our work in the past year at 6:30 pm on Saturday, November 19, in the Fellowship Hall of Zion Mennonite Church, 3260 Zion Church Rd., Broadway, Virginia. If you plan to attend, please RSVP (for one or two persons) by November 4 by calling or emailing Melanie at (540) 434-9727 or: melanie.sherer@vmmissions.org
- The **Festival of Praise** is an annual praise-filled concert of men's *a cappella* singing groups and combined chorus directed by Jared Stutzman. This year, the Festival celebrates 15 years of song and raising money for Virginia Mennonite Missions. Join us on Sunday, November 6 at 4:00 pm at Eastern Mennonite School, 801 Parkwood Drive, Harrisonburg, Va. There will be an offering to benefit VMMissions.
- **Early Church** would like to welcome the larger body of Christ to join us at 7 pm, Friday November 11 at 292 North gallery (Church of the Incarnation) for **"Anchor of Our Soul, a proclamation of hope through the adoration of God."** We envision an evening of ecumenical worship proclaiming the hope we have in Christ amidst the churning waters of culture. During the event we will both introduce, and sing together, new songs written for the church of Christ by members of our church community. Child care is provided for ages 2-6; the event is free of charge though there will be an opportunity to cover costs and support future events which cultivate the arts of adoration. RSVP at anchorofoursoul.eventbrite.com or arrive early to ensure seating.
- The **Bridge of Hope Annual Locavore Luncheon & Fashion Show** will be Saturday, November 12, at Park View Mennonite Church. Come enjoy a delicious meal prepared by Bowl of Good and created by local food blogger, Jennifer Murch. Browse and bid on the silent auction items, and be entertained by the fashion show featuring clothing from Gift & Thrift and accessories from Ten Thousand Villages. All proceeds to benefit Bridge of Hope, a ministry serving homeless and at-risk single mothers and their children in our community. Tickets can be purchased at the door for \$25, or contact a board member or call our office, 478-2356, to reserve a ticket. Doors will open for the silent auction at 11:15 with the meal beginning at 12.
- Join **Our Community Place** for a delicious and autumnal **Night Out!** On Saturday, November 12, we will feature a Harvest Feast: from maple dressing salad, to fall-themed soups and entrees, all the way to delicious

apple and pumpkin desserts, you won't want to miss out! Visit www.ourcommunityplace.org/no to view the menu and reserve your table. \$25 per person. All proceeds go to support the mission of Our Community Place.

- A *cappella* group **Good Company** will perform on Sunday, November 27 at 7 p.m. at Park View Mennonite Church. Enrich the soul and relax to music that praises God through lifted voices in this concert from Good Company. The evening features songs spanning all genres and eras, including fan favorites such as "Awake My Soul" and "Dobbin's Flowery Vales." Come support the Valley Brethren-Mennonite Heritage Center while taking in an evening of beautiful music! A free will offering will be received to benefit the work of the Valley Brethren-Mennonite Heritage Center.
- **Celebrate Christmas at CrossRoads** (Valley Brethren-Mennonite Heritage Center) on Saturday, December 10, 3-7 p.m. with music and refreshments. Enjoy the Trissels Chime Choir, a children's Christmas sing, instrumentalists in our 19th century buildings, carolers along lantern-lit walkways, and a live Nativity candlelight walk through woods ending at a stable with carol singing. Hands-on family crafts will be featured from 3-5 p.m. including old-fashioned paper tree ornaments, popcorn balls and decorative chains. Come see Father Christmas and delight in tasty treats. CrossRoads is at 1921 Heritage Center Way in Harrisonburg, off Garber's Church Road and above Harrisonburg High School. Adults \$7, Students \$5, Children 5 and under free.
- **Perspectives on the World Christian Movement** is a class for believers from all walks of life to get threaded into God's story and experience God's heart for all peoples. *Perspectives* will open the eyes of your heart with fresh knowledge and understanding of God's unchanging purposes and why they are relevant to your life. The Spring 2017 class will meet at the Baptist Collegiate Ministry Center, 711 S. High St, Harrisonburg, Va. The first two sessions are free. For registration details, find the class at perspectives.org or contact Carol Tobin at 540-435-9887.
- Ever wonder why it's so hard to get along with those who aren't like us? Come to **School for Leadership Training**, January 16-18, 2017 at Eastern Mennonite Seminary to learn more about how we can live into Jesus' teaching to love our neighbor. Learn more and register at www.emu.edu/slt.
- The next **Virginia Mennonite Conference Ministers Retreat** will be February 24-26, 2017 in the Williamsburg, Va., area. Presenters Sheryl Shenk and Ted Swartz will do dramatic interpretation of scriptures, with the theme "Life is a Pilgrimage."

Courses and learning tours:

- **Registration is now open for "Places, People, & Prayers, A Cross-Cultural Encounter with the Holy Land,"** an Israel/Palestine study tour offered May 4-27, 2017, through Eastern Mennonite Seminary. Trip leaders are Dorothy Jean Weaver, Professor of New Testament, and Kevin A. Clark, EMS Campus Pastor. "Places, People, & Prayers" is open to all interested travelers, with or without seminary credit. NOTE: All MCUSA pastors are eligible to apply to the MCUSA "Come and See" program for a \$500 scholarship to assist with trip costs. If interested, please contact Dorothy Jean Weaver at (540) 432-4276 or at weaverdj@emu.edu at your earliest.
- Register now for **Christmas in Egypt**, a *Partners in Mission* learning tour through Virginia Mennonite Missions, with leaders Esther and David Stenson. Build relationships through conversations and worship, deepen discipleship through cross-cultural encounters with Egyptians, Christian and Muslim, and visit ministry sites in Port Said, Cairo, Alexandria, and Anafora. The tour will be December 16-27, 2016. Cost is \$3,250 (scholarships are available). For more information, contact Martin at partners@vmmissions.org or call (540) 434-9727 or (800) 707-5535.