



VMC News

The **Shenandoah Valley Men's Chorus** under the direction of Jared Stutzman will be in concert at the Eastern Mennonite High School auditorium on Sunday, February 26, beginning at 3:00 p.m. The collected offering will benefit New Creation.

Make sense of your Medicare choices "Retiring Soon? An introduction to Medicare" will be presented at The Gathering Place behind the Everence office in Harrisonburg the first Thursday of each month (6 - 7 p.m.). Representatives from Everence will speak on Medicare, provide instructions on how to enroll, explain how continuing to work affects your benefits, and answer related questions. For more information call (540) 437-7422. RSVPs are requested but not required. *Flyer on Bulletin Board in Fellowship Hall.*

Annual Meat Canning is scheduled for February 27-March 3, 2017 at the Hinton Mennonite Relief Center, Hinton, Va. **Virginia Mennonite Conference is responsible to help provide help on Tuesday, February 28.** Help is needed from 5 AM until 11 PM each day. Friday, March 3 is scheduled as a community day and help is especially needed in the early morning. Anyone is welcome to come and help on any day! Funds are needed to purchase turkey for processing and for the ongoing operation of the Relief Center. If you would like to contribute to this project you can send a donation to the: Hinton Mennonite Relief Center, PO Box 519, Dayton, VA 22821. If you have any questions about this project you can contact Leon Rhodes at (540) 820-5443 or Gerald Knicely at (540) 478-4203. Thanks for your participation in this effort to feed the less fortunate in the world.

EMS Senior Class presents: William Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream" March 2*, 3, 4 at 7:30PM at Eastern Mennonite School, Main Campus Auditorium, 801 Parkwood Drive. Come see the EMS Class of 2017 perform this Shakespeare comedy classic. Tickets are sold at the door: General Admission \$7 adults and \$5 students and senior citizens. *March 2nd performance is a Pay What You Will Preview night.

Eastern Mennonite School invites you to: **An Evening at the Gallery** - Saturday, March 11, 6:30-8:00 PM at Eastern Mennonite School Main Campus Dining Hall, 801 Parkwood Drive. Come enjoy delicious desserts and see EMS' commitment to visual arts with K-12 pieces on display. Senior art students will also exhibit the culmination of their high school work for you to enjoy.

Williamsburg Christian Retreat Center is hosting fundraising banquets at Huntington Mennonite Church in Newport News on Saturday, March 18, and at Eastern Mennonite School in Harrisonburg on Saturday, April 1, from 5:30 to 8pm. Enjoy music, an update on the ministry of WCRC, and the chance to win a handmade quilt stitched by "Peace by Piece" sewing group of Williamsburg Mennonite Church using donated fabric. Dinner is by donation and there will be opportunities to give to WCRC. RSVP to director@wrcr.info or by calling 757-566-2256.

Holy and Beloved is a gathering for women who minister in many ways. This year's gathering will focus on the theme "Compassionate Sanctuary," hearing from a wide variety of women who are making spaces in their lives to be compassionate to themselves and to those around them. The event is April 1 from 8:30-3, with lunch and childcare provided, at a cost of \$25. Registration required! <http://emu.edu/seminary/women-in-ministry/>

Join the exciting, new *a cappella* competition "The Shenandoah Valley Sing Off!" on Saturday, April 8, 2017, 7 pm, Harrisonburg High School. This will be a fun, family friendly event attracting *a cappella* groups from all across the state. 1st place-\$750 cash prize, 2nd place-\$500 cash prize, Audience Favorite-\$250 cash prize. Application deadline: February 19. For more information, visit singoff.org

Celebrating Congregational Life, a one-day seminar sponsored by Virginia Mennonite Conference and Virginia Mennonite Missions, is for lay leaders and pastors to be equipped for the missional impulses that nurture congregational life and the mission of the church. Join us on April 22, 8 am — 2:30 pm at Eastern Mennonite School, 801 Parkwood Dr., Harrisonburg, Va. The keynote Speaker is Dr. Art McPhee, pastor, teacher and church planter, speaking on "The Missional Church." Twelve workshops on a variety of topics will be offered (choose 3). Cost is \$30 per registrant (includes lunch). Register at virginiacommunity.org/news/ccl-seminar. See *Flyer on Bulletin Board in the Fellowship Hall*.

Save the date for the Spring 2017 Credentialed Leaders Consultation addressing racism on Friday, May 5, 2017, most likely 8 or 8:30 to 3:30 p.m. at Shady Oak at Weavers' Mennonite Church, Rawley Pike (Rt 33) in Harrisonburg. Shady Oak is the building off to the side of the church. More details about the topic and presenters, and registration, will be coming soon.

Mennonite Women of Virginia invite you to their **Annual Missions Day** on Saturday, May 6, in Richmond, Va. A bus will be leaving Harrisonburg at 7:00 a.m. and stopping along the way for persons in the Staunton, Waynesboro, and Charlottesville areas. Learn more and register at virginiacommunity.org/partners/mennonite-women-of-virginia/annual-missions-day-event-2017/.

Interested in creating positive social change in your community? Whether you are a pastor, lay leader, congregational member, or church elder, the **Summer Peacebuilding Institute** can help you gain the skills to help your church help its community. Over 20 courses in leadership, trauma awareness, restorative justice, dignity, and peace education are offered each year in May and June at Eastern Mennonite University in Harrisonburg, VA. For more information about courses and costs, visit www.emu.edu/spi. Partial scholarships are available to help congregations with tight budgets.

Register now for Kaleidoscope Summer Camp at Williamsburg Christian Retreat Center. Camps are available for ages 7 to 18 and run from June 25 through August 3, featuring fun activities, great counselors, Christ-centered worship, amazing food and new friends. Information is at www.wcrc.info or call us at 866-566-9272.

Information for delegates to Orlando 2017: Every two years, at the Mennonite Church USA convention, the Delegate Assembly convenes to tend to the business of Mennonite Church USA. However, at convention in Orlando, Florida — July 4–8, 2017 — the role of delegates will be anything but business-as-usual. This year we will be trying something new — the **Future Church Summit** — in conjunction with the regular Delegate Assembly. Click on this link to find out how it will work: http://mennoniteusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/Information-for-Delegates_Final.pdf **SELECT YOUR DELEGATES NOW AND REGISTER BY FEBRUARY 28.**

Local sculptor Esther Augsburger's monumental "Guns Into Plowshares" project, dedicated at the D.C. Metropolitan Police Department in 1997, is in need of a new home. On Tuesday, March 7, there will be a meeting at VMRC's Village Hall, Harrisonburg, at 7 p.m. in which interested persons are invited to bring their suggestions and questions for Esther Augsburger regarding the history and the future of this project.



Washington Post photo by John Kelly