



VMC News

May

- **Step Up** - Youth wanted for participation in the **Future Church Summit in Orlando**. About 40 spots remain open for the Step Up program – an opportunity for high school age youth to participate in the Future Church Summit at this summer's Mennonite Church USA Convention in Orlando. This opportunity was initially open to only three youth per conference. Now, any interested youth attending convention may participate. Participants will attend an orientation seminar and be included in table groups during the July 6-8 Future Church Summit. Additional information and a link to registration can be found at <http://convention.mennoniteusa.org/registration/youth/>.
- The next **Our Community Place "Night Out"** will be Monday May 8. Join us for a delicious Sri Lankan meal with guest chef Margot Heffernan. Margot returns to the OCP Night Out kitchen with more of the aromatic Sri Lankan dishes that delighted over a hundred customers last year! Make your reservation at ourcommunityplace.org/no.
- Come out to **Pleasant View, Inc.'s 20th Annual Golf Tournament** to support individuals with intellectual disabilities on Friday, May 12, at Spotswood Country Club 1980 Country Club Road in Harrisonburg. The format is Captain's Choice. Registration will begin at 8:00 AM, with a shotgun start at 9:10 AM. *Fees if you pay with cash or check: \$100/golfer, or \$380/team of 4. If paying with PayPal, the fee is \$103/golfer, or \$389/team of 4 from our website www.pleasantviewinc.org/newsevents/. Team Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd Place Teams. Mulligans, Power balls, and 50/50 will be offered at registration. We will have closest to the pin and longest drive contests. A delicious BBQ buffet lunch catered by Hank's Smokehouse will be provided in the Spotswood Country Club starting at 1:00 PM. Team prizes, contest prizes, and door prize drawings will be awarded after lunch. To register call Pam Miller at 540-896-8255 or email her at pmiller@pleasantviewinc.org
- **Shekinah presents "Kuimba!" (Sing!)** a concert of uplifting songs from around the world, on Saturday, May 13, at 7 p.m. at Eastern Mennonite University's Martin Chapel. Free to the public; donations are welcome. Shekinah is a female, mostly a cappella vocal ensemble based in Harrisonburg. More information is available at shekinahmusic.net (Current members are: Eve Knepp, Greta Bucher, Chelsea Mast, Maria Clymer Kurtz, Jessica Hostetler, Heidi King, Katie Derstine, and Joanna Showalter. If one of them is part of your congregation, you may want to add that information to your announcement)
- **Virginia Mennonite Missions** will again host a **fundraising dinner and auction** to raise funds for workers on Saturday, May 20, through the efforts of their Ministry Support Teams. A new feature this year is a silent auction in addition to the live one. This is a great way for MSTs to raise support for their workers by collecting items for the auction. These should be in new or very good used condition. Live auction items will be valued at \$25 or more; lesser valued items will be put in silent auction. We also welcome items that benefit our general Mission Fund. Join us at Eastern Mennonite School, 801 Parkwood Drive, Harrisonburg, Va. The meal begins at 5:00; live auction begins at 6:00 p.m. **Please contact Steve Leaman at**

VMMissions for more information or if you have items to donate: steve.leaman@vmmissions.org or (540) 434-9727. Items may be stored by VMMissions in advance if desired.

- A **benefit concert featuring The Walking Roots Band** will be on Thursday, May 25, beginning at 7 PM at Lindale Mennonite Church. Come out and support **Bridge of Hope Harrisonburg-Rockingham**, a ministry serving homeless and at-risk single mothers and their children right in our own community! Enjoy the wonderful musical talents of The Walking Roots Band, hear their new and original music that has captured audiences everywhere they perform. Tickets are \$10 and are available at the door or by calling 540-478-2356.
- On Memorial Day, May 29, at 6:30 PM, **CrossRoads | VBMHC offers a hymn sing** in which we remember and celebrate people and places who have been formative to our faith. We invite you to submit requests for this hymn sing, and we'll offer time for you to share the significance behind the hymns you choose. The intimate 1829 Log House on our own CrossRoads campus will be an ideal setting for this time of sharing and celebrating the people who have gone before us in our faith. 1921 Heritage Center Way, Harrisonburg, VA 22801. Visit <https://www.vbmhc.org/events-calendar/> to submit a request for the hymn sing. A free-will offering will support the mission and vision of the Valley Brethren-Mennonite Heritage Center.

June

- **Valley Brethren-Mennonite Heritage Center** invites you to join us for an evening with **The Springs Ensemble**, featuring Virginia Bethune on harp and Ed Gant on cello. Bethune and Gant are accomplished musicians who have traveled extensively, and they also serve their communities by providing music therapy for residents of local retirement communities. Join us and The Springs Ensemble on Sunday, June 4 at 7:00 PM. Garbers Church of the Brethren, 1275 Garbers Church Rd., Harrisonburg, VA 22801. A free-will offering will support the mission and vision of the Valley Brethren-Mennonite Heritage Center.
- Anyone interested in helping **knot comforters for MCC**, please save the date of June 12-13. We will meet at Shady Oak (Weavers Mennonite Church) as Weavers hosts an area church comforter-knotting event for MCC, and will also host 8-12 Renew campers each day! It will be great to demonstrate our skills to these teens who are eager to help out in the community and give them a taste of missions through making beautiful comforters. Plan to be there 9am to 2pm each day and have snacks to share. Please bring a bag lunch.
- Individuals involved in health-related professions are invited to the **Annual Gathering of Mennonite Healthcare Fellowship**, June 23-25 at Laurelville Mennonite Church Center in Mt. Pleasant, PA. The theme of this year's gathering is "Creating Healing Environments", and features several speakers, as well as a children's program. Co-sponsored by Mennonite Chaplains Association. More details and registration at mennohealth.org/events/gathering
- **The Joshua Center** in Albania has a budget short fall this year and Norma Teles' MST invites your support through **Bible school offerings** to meet this need. Children would be supporting other children who have few chances to have a good education or to learn about Jesus. The Joshua Center does both. Please consider this for this year's offering project.

- **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.
 - **Crossing the Line: Women of Anabaptist Traditions Encounter Borders and Boundaries** - On June 22-25, over 75 scholars, poets, artists, musicians and dancers representing thirteen countries and ethnic groups will converge on Eastern Mennonite University to discuss, examine and celebrate how women of Anabaptist traditions have encountered borders, challenged boundaries, and crossed lines. Register now at www.emu.edu/crossing-conference
 - **Attention, music-lovers!** The **Sing Me High Music Festival** is back, Aug. 25-26, 2017. The two day event is even bigger and better than the successful inaugural 2016 effort, and now that the line-up is set, we're looking for more volunteers, sponsors, and guests! Be one of the first 500 ticket-holders to get early bird pricing and some festival giveaways. Visit www.singmehigh.com for information about tickets, volunteering, or business sponsorships. Hope to see you at #singmehigh2017!
- **Valley Brethren-Mennonite Heritage Center** announces a church building rental available in Augusta County. Historic 1875 Hildebrand Mennonite Church building will be available for rent in 2017. The church building is located 13 miles (20 minutes) east of Staunton, 7.5 miles (15 minutes) north of Waynesboro. 538 Hildebrand Church Rd, Waynesboro, VA 22980. Interested church groups contact Greg Yoder, VBMHC Executive Director, at info@vbmhc.org or 540-438-1275 for more information about the building, tenant expectations, and rental agreements.