



Our Fall Worship Series

THAT REMINDS ME...

We come to worship to remember who we are as God's people. We gather around words remembered from oral traditions and passed on by the community of faith as scripture. Some elements of our worship remind us of personal experiences and relationships that need attention or tending. Some elements of worship remind us of our connection to the world beyond our local spheres. During this worship series, consider whether God's work among us is to "re-mind" us, so that we can think, create, feel, and plan with the mind of Christ.

OCT. 13 — REMEMBER JESUS CHRIST

II Timothy 2:8-15, Luke 17:11-19

Sermon by Pastor Jennifer



OCT. 15 — MONTHLY GATHERING

6pm in the Fellowship Hall

CMC households are invited to our monthly taco buffet (\$3/person suggest donation). Afterwards in the sanctuary, Amy & Giles will be sharing about their work with MCC Colombia over a period of five years, including their experiences as participants in the Seed program living on the Pacific coast and as service workers living in Bogotá. Their reflection will include stories of Anabaptist churches in Colombia who are working to build peace in the context of an over 50-year-old armed conflict.

OCT. 20 — INTERRUPTING INJUSTICE

Timothy 3:14-4:5 Luke 18:1-8

CMC Biblical Storytellers

OCT. 27 — MEETING GOD IN THE TEMPLE

II Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18, Luke 18:9-14

Sermon by Pastor Jennifer

NOV 3 — A LIFE OF DISCIPLESHIP

Luke 19:1-10, Isaiah 1:10-18

Sermon by Pastor Jennifer, All Saints' Day Ritual

At CMC, we celebrate All Saints' Day the first Sunday of November. We remember those who have died in the past year or long ago by lighting candles in their memory. Feel free to participate in this ritual of remembering those who have shared the light of faith with us.



A WORD FROM LEADERSHIP TASKFORCE

You may have noticed the "Harrisonburg Living Wage" window sticker at the north entrance to CMC, and wondered what that was about. The Harrisonburg Living Wage Campaign is a group that is inviting local businesses and organizations to go through a certification process to verify that they pay their employees a living wage. Our own Chris Hoover Seidel is on the campaign's steering committee. CMC was one of the first six organizations to receive this designation, at the Gold level. Paying our church's employees a living wage is one of the ways we live out our daily commitment to justice. We would like to thank the Living Wage Campaign for their work to highlight this important issue in our community.

— Aili Huber, Council Chair

PRAYER REQUESTS

- * For Faith in Action's next local justice campaign, focusing on affordable housing
- * Gratitude for congregational generosity in acts of service, caring relationships, and financial giving

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

The Nursery	2
Green Good News.....	2
Faith in Action.....	2
Relief Sale	3
Notes for the Church Office	4
News, Need & Plenty.....	5

A Variety of Options for the Youngest CMCers

The CMC nursery welcomes children and visitors ages 0-2 during the weekly worship service. It is staffed with one Safe Church-approved adult each Sunday. Parents are welcome to drop their child off or stay in the nursery with their child. Please do not leave nursery-aged children with older siblings in the nursery. We strive to make the space hospitable to our youngest CMCers.

For little ones who want to stay in worship, there are Quiet Bags provided in the back of the sanctuary. Please put all items back into the bag and hang them up when done. There is a bookshelf located on the east-facing wall in the fellowship

hall that contains books, coloring books, puzzles, and a few additional quiet activities for children of all ages.

A nursing mothers/infant napping room can be found in the basement north-facing hallway. This space is not staffed and a parent should be present at all times when using the room.

If you would like to make book or toy donations to the nursery, please contact Tiffany Showalter. Please do not drop off toys without notice. If you are interested in volunteering in the nursery, we could use your help, so please let us know!

-Tiffany Showalter, Youth Commission



Children ages 0-2 are invited to the nursery during worship. Quiet bags are available for older ones.

Faith in Action Discerns It's Next Campaign

Faith in Action is a coalition of 24 congregations that work together on local justice issues in the Harrisonburg-Rockingham community. Faith in Action values reflecting and respecting the community's diversity, strengthening congregational and community networks, and connecting our faith traditions with local justice concerns.

Faith in Action's Covenant Congregations, of which CMC is one, spent several months reflecting on the needs in our community. Representatives from those congregations gathered on Monday, Oct. 7, and selected affordable housing as the area on which we will work together for the next 12-18 months.

What happens next?

The first step in ALL campaigns is to learn what's already happening in our community through our civic leaders and other organizations AND look beyond our area to see how other communities are responding to this important need.

How can you take part?

The Campaign Committee will meet on Monday, Oct. 14, at Community Mennonite Church at 7 pm and will continue to do research for several weeks. Members of Faith in Action Covenant Congregations are welcome to attend these meetings and/or take part in the learning and research process. Check with your congregational representatives Kent Sensenig, Aliese Gingerich, and Ben Bailey for information.

-Art Stoltzfus, Faith in Action Community Organizer



Green Good News!

The Green Good News this week is that CMCers responded positively to the opportunity to fund a solar array on the south side of the CMC sanctuary roof. On Sunday, Sept. 29 \$1,766 was raised during a special offering. Additionally, there were pledges offered that same morning totaling \$19,005 from 13 households, ranging from \$250 to \$5,000.

Thank you, CMCers. We're well on our way! If you have not yet made a gift or pledge for the solar array, please consider this in your generosity planning. Contact the church office if you need assistance with making a gift.

*-Pastor Jennifer,
Leadership Taskforce*

Community Mennonite Sets Sale for Relief

The thousands of hours of work carrying out the annual Virginia Mennonite Relief Sale is done by volunteers. Of all the congregations who help make this effort possible, Community Mennonite Church is among the most actively involved.

Leading the way for the 53rd annual sale, were John and Jennifer Murch and their children – Jonathan, Rebecca, Caroline, and Nicholas. For the fourth straight year they stumbled into a high-humidity fair-grounds building before dawn's early light to guide the production ~15,500 glazed donuts that quickly sold out. The CMC Seniors group earlier peeled ~200 pounds of potatoes used in creating the confectionary delights.

Other CMCers were deeply involved in satisfying salegoers' palates. Adam Yoder ran the Indian food stand, with lamb donated by Matt and Sara Hershberger Gingrich. They served 378 people with lamb and vegetable curry. For many years, Joe Yoder has managed the hamburger, hot dog, and French fries booth that is staffed by the CMC youth groups.

The Green Cup small group at Community staffed a taco booth, offering a vegetarian alternative to the traditional Friday night barbequed beef dinner. A more recent entry, the Mississippi catfish dinner, was headed up by Sam and Vi Miller with the help of many CMC members. Sam is CMC's congregational representative to the relief sale.

Others contributed to the relief sale auction. Retired New Testament professor Dorothy Jean Weaver donated a Middle Eastern dinner that she will prepare and serve (raised \$300). Ornithology enthusiast Matt Gingrich and retired biology professor A. Clair Mellinger donated a guided birdwatching (went for \$400).

A 41" x 41" vintage feedsack wall hanging pieced by Carmen Wyse and quilted by colleague Mac McArthur-Fox was auctioned for \$3,500. A 58" x 48" hand-braided wool rug made by MarthaJune Graber sold for \$1,750. She was also part of a CMC Quilters Group that hand-quilted a "Stacked Bricks" wall hanging that went for \$200.

Dwight Kauffman spent many hours in his woodworking shop, donating handcrafted items to the auction – a chess and checker set with hand-turned pieces in walnut maple and oak (sold for \$260); adjustable rotating shelves (\$175); a quilt ladder in cherry (\$250); a chest in cherry with seven drawers (\$550); a chest with five drawers in cherry (\$900); a barrister bookcase, four-shelf stacked unit in black walnut (\$1,600); and two two-drawer filing cabinets in spalted maple from a Bluffton University tree (\$675 total). A table and two chairs for toddlers in reclaimed walnut made by Jay Hartzler sold for \$400. Marv Nisly crafted mission-style bookshelves in white oak that netted \$425. Nisly is a member of the relief sale board and helps with the auction every year.

Greg Yoder organized music for the sale and is lining up a Walking Roots Band concert to benefit the relief sale on Dec. 8. Other CMC persons donated baked goods or helped with set up and take down at the sale.

CMC children raised \$1,593.75 of the nearly \$25,000 received from congregations for the "My Coins Count" project with funds divided between Virginia Mennonite Missions and Mennonite Central Committee.

Timothy Stoltzfus Jost, who serves on the relief sale board, said, "It's amazing - the Virginia relief sale raised almost \$400,000 this year in 24 hours, and CMC did its part in making this happen."

-Jim Bishop



Notes from the Church Office

YOUR CHURCH MAILBOX MAY NOT BE WHERE YOU LEFT IT

Some of you may have noticed that your CMC mailbox has wandered out of order over the past years. If you recently received your mailbox, it may never have been in its proper location in the alphabet. You can imagine that alphabetizing all the boxes is a chore. Thankfully, it will be significantly easier going forward.

On Tuesday last week, Sharon and Dennis Showalter volunteered to help make and install new mailbox labels. The new labels adhere using Velcro and will make reshuffling the boxes to accommodate new attendees a much less daunting task.

Nevertheless, it is still daunting to conceive of a labeling system that will make everyone happy. CMC has about 180 mailboxes and a variety of household preferences when it comes to their last names. Therefore, CMC staff decided to prioritize mailbox navigation, making it easy to find a person's mailbox, and gender egalitarianism, making a system that does not essentialize a man's last name. This system places any last names used by a household on the left, followed by any first names in the family.

We understand that this arrangement will not meet every need — it will not serve as a de-facto directory for instance (for that you will have to look on Breeze). We do hope that it is a system that will be easy to use and maintain, while symbolically representing our value of gender equality.

OLD-SCHOOL DIRECTORIES

We have far too many old CMC directories. They are the last hardcopies that we had printed a few years ago. They are certainly out of date, but they are also useful and somewhat fun to flip through. If you want one, send me an email and I'll place it in your church mailbox. Remember, for the most up-to-date CMCer contact info, head to the Breeze Directory on our website, cmcva.org.

A LOST & FOUND ULTIMATUM

CMC's lost and found is just about overflowing with misplaced items. Please have a look in the cabinet under the mailboxes if you think you may have left something here. Or take a peak at the pic below! Unclaimed items will be taken to Gift & Thrift after Oct. 25.

-Ben Bailey, Church Administrator



Above: a circa 2015 CMC directory. Below: an impromptu CMC senior adult work day in the fellowship hall. Dennis & Sharon Showalter installed new mailbox labels while Tom Sawin repainted a wall in preparation for a new banner hanging system.



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LOST & FOUND INCLUDE:

- * Various drinking vessels and mixing bowls
- * Flip flops, one pair
- * A copy of: *Nathan Hale's Hazardous Tales: Donner Dinner Party*
- * A bow for a classical stringed instrument
- * Bug spray

CMC News & Announcements

We invite everyone to our 5th Intercultural Community Potluck & Dance at Thomas Harrison Middle School on Sunday, Nov. 3, from 5-7 pm. Please bring your friends, family, and a favorite food from your family's repertoire or from a country in which you've lived--to share! (No pork please out of respect for our Jewish and Muslim friends.) Help celebrate the beautiful diversity we represent as a community around delicious foods and hospitality from people eager to tell their stories, hear yours, and make new friends! Everyone of every age is welcome!" -Bridges Community Gatherings Planning Team

Pastor Jennifer has been preaching from the Pastoral Epistles the last few Sundays. We do not often refer to these writings in worship or Sunday school. However, I have been writing bi-weekly lessons on 1 Timothy on my blog called "Reta's Reflections." In case you are interested in the author's views--which sometimes differ from those in the Apostle Paul's undisputed letters, you can access these lessons here: <https://ewc.com/tag/pastoral-epistles—Reta Finger> P.S. You can also have each lesson sent to your email address twice a month.

HOW DO YOU SPELL RELIEF? CMC! - It could have happened without this remarkable group's help, but . . . the 53rd annual Virginia Mennonite Relief Sale may not have set a new fund-raising record without the involvement of the Community Mennonite. "How broad was it?" Well, look no farther than the new double poster photo collage on the "CMC Today" bulletin board on the east wall of the fellowship hall. There you'll see folks you know performing diverse tasks in a united labor of love - helping to raise nearly \$400,000 in 24 hours - to benefit the worldwide mission, service and peacebuilding work of MCC as well as VMM and local needs "in the name of Christ." - Jim Bishop

Notes from the Harrisonburg Area & Beyond

EMU's Homecoming and Family Weekend is Oct.11-12. Visit emu.edu/homecoming for a schedule of events, including free lectures, an outdoor concert and fall festival, an alumni music concert, worship and much more.

Gather on Indigenous Peoples' Day at EMU, Monday, October 14, for a Ted & Company TheaterWorks production of We Own This Now starring Ted Swartz and Michelle Milne. General admission for the 7:30 pm performance is a suggested donation of \$10-\$20 cash at the door. The EMU University Commons MainStage Theater doors open at 7 pm.

Come join friends of Highland Retreat at the Annual Banquet on Thursday, Oct. 24 from 6-8:15 pm in Grace Mennonite's fellowship hall. Enjoy a dinner and an program on the theme of "Building Bridges." Child care (with pizza dinner) is available for children ages 4 and up. A freewill offering will be taken to benefit Highland. To register, visit www.highlandretreat.org

VMMissions will celebrate 100 years of making disciples with Centennial events, Nov. 2-3, at Park View Mennonite Church, Saturday, Nov. 2 at 10 am is our Worker, Board, & Staff Reunion Brunch. On Saturday, Nov. 2, at 5:30 pm is a Centennial Banquet: A special thank you banquet for prayer partners and donors. A Centennial Program will follow at 7:00: Stories, songs, and a centennial video celebrating the past and looking to the future. On Sunday, Nov. 3, at 4 pm, join us for Festival of Praise: An a cappella concert in support of VMMissions. RSVPs are needed for the Worker, Board & Staff Reunion Brunch and the Centennial Banquet. Register at 100.vmmissions.org/register

November is National Family Caregivers Month. In recognition of this observance, Valley Program for Aging Services (VPAS) and James Madison University (JMU) will present The Confident Caregiver – A Family Caregiver Conference on Nov, 12 from 9 am to 3:30 p.m. at JMU's Festival Conference and Student Center. Space is limited and registration is required. Please register [here](#) or call 540-615-5341. - Faith in Action

Need & Plenty

CMCERS ARE SEEKING...

Support for a public school green initiative! I am sponsoring the garden at Waterman Elementary School. I would appreciate some help painting the garden fence on Saturday, Oct. 26. Perhaps a small group or mentor-mentee pair could be of service. - Kathy Yoder (kjyoder@harrisonburg.k12.va.us)

CMCERS ARE OFFERING...

...nothing right now. Submit your things you have to share at office@cmcva.org. The next newsletter will be distributed on Friday, Oct. 25.

Submit listings at office@cmcva.org. To contact a CMcer about a Need & Plenty listing, look them up in the Breeze Directory on the church website. Or look for them in the Fellowship Hall after worship!

UPCOMING CMC EVENTS

Every Sunday	Congregational Worship Service, 9 am, Sanctuary Contemplative Worship Service, 8 pm, Fellowship Hall
Every Wednesday	Women's Bible Study, 8:30-9:45 am, Room 109, Childcare Available Kids' Club, 6pm, Basement
Tues, Oct. 15	Monthly Gathering, 6-8 pm, Fellowship Hall
Sun, Nov. 3	Bridges Community Potluck, 5-7 pm, Thomas Harrison Middle School
Sun, Nov. 24	Congregational Meeting, 11:45 am, Sanctuary
Tues, Dec. 10	CMC Seniors Christmas Potluck, TBD, Fellowship Hall

PASTORAL TEAM, CHURCH COUNCIL & STAFF

PASTORAL TEAM

Lead Pastor

Jennifer Davis Sensenig
Mon-Thu 9-4 (Fri Sabbath)
jennifer.davis.sensenig@cmcva.org
540-560-5126

Associate Pastor

Jason Gerlach
Mon, Wed-Fri, 8:30-3 (off Tue)
jason.gerlach@cmcva.org
540-421-8155

Pastoral Elders

Veva Mumaw
Hannah Bailey, young-adult appointee

Mike Brislen

CHURCH COUNCIL

Council Chair, Aili Huber

councilchair@cmcva.org

Vice Chair, Jeremy Nafziger

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Administrative Chair, Larry Miller

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Community Life Chair, Lonnie Yoder

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Outreach Chair, Dennis Showalter

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Worship Chair, Greg Yoder

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Youth Chair, Traci Yoder Stoltzfus

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Member-at-Large, Kathleen Leigh

councilmemberatlarge@cmcva.org

CHURCH OFFICE

Church Administrator, Ben Bailey

Finance Administrator, Delbert Wenger

Custodians, Kent Davis Sensenig

Craig Serrels

Community Mennonite Church

70 South High St., Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Church Office hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 9am-4:30pm; Wed closed

office@cmcva.org, (540) 433-2148, www.cmcva.org

Giving Update

As of Oct. 3, 2019

Annual donation budget: \$510,640

YTD budget: \$382,980

YTD giving: \$334,609

YTD +/- budget: -\$48,371

Ways to Give

By cash or check — Either place your contribution in the offering basket or mail checks to the church. Use the memo line to indicate a particular fund ("Compassion Fund," "General Fund," etc.).

By text message — Text the amount you wish to donate (e.g. "\$25") to 540-779-1276. The first time, you'll receive a link to register your information. Undesignated funds will go to CMC's general fund.

On our website — Click "donate" on the top right corner of our website at cmcva.org.

On your smartphone — Search for "GivePlus Church" in the Android or iPhone app store. Once you've installed it, search for "Community Mennonite Church."

*CMC follows
Safe Church practices.*



Should CMC hire a Director of Children & Youth Formation?

What do you think about our current pastoral staff roles?

Who do you think should be on a pastoral search committee?

We want to hear from you! All CMCers are invited to fill out a survey, which was sent via email on Tuesday, Oct. 8. If you can't find that email, no problem. Just [click here](#).