



Atlantic Coast Conference Currents

Centered in Christ, Building Connections, Sharing God's Love

Above: Sharing around the discussion tables at ACC's regional gatherings in Feb. and March.

HIGHLIGHTS



3 Sharing at Regional Gatherings



4 Warren Tyson addresses the CLC at Camp Hebron



7 Jim Smucker—
EMU's new Vice President

Acts 15 In Action

During the Fall Assembly, delegates determined that Conference would spend six months in intentional, focused, conversation and discernment, reflecting on Frazer Mennonite Church's request to transfer conference affiliation to ACC.

To facilitate these conversations, the Executive Committee retained the services of Dr. Marcus Smucker, a seminary professor and skilled facilitator. Dr. Smucker developed a process that created safe space for delegates, pastors, and other leaders to discuss concerns and affirmations about Frazer joining ACC.

Delegates from throughout ACC churches met during four regional gatherings in late February and early March, at Bethel Mennonite Church, Forest Hills Mennonite Church, Oley Valley Mennonite Church, and Primera Iglesia Menonita de Brooklyn.

At each of these gatherings, delegates expressed diverse viewpoints about how



All photos on this page and on page 3 were taken by Jon Carlson, Oley Valley Mennonite Church.

theology and polity should shape ACC's response to Frazer's request. Several themes emerged:

- Affirmation for Frazer's thoughtful process of discernment within their congregation
- Concern that ACC's response to Frazer may be interpreted as a position statement on same-sex behavior
- Affirmation for ACC's historical practice of granting congregations autonomy to determine matters of faith and practice
- Concern about the limits of congregational polity



Many delegates expressed thankfulness for the opportunity to be in open dialogue together. Marilyn Henderson, pastor at Hebron Mennonite Church, attended the delegate gathering at Bethel. "I greatly appreciated our table conversations," she said, "and the freedom the discussion guide-

(continued on page 2)

Currents

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Acts 15 in Action

(continued from page 1)

lines that Marcus chose to give each of us. I was able to be honest.”

Anita Whisler, a delegate from Zion Mennonite Church, noted how the delegates gathered at Forest Hills spoke to each other. “I appreciated the respectful tone of the meeting,” she said, “and the openness with which people expressed their concerns.”

Sylvia Shirk, pastor of Manhattan Mennonite Fellowship, recognized that for delegates gathered in New York, “our views about welcoming Frazer were about as far apart as they could be.” Yet Shirk valued the unity they experienced in the midst of diversity. “Ten days later,” she noted “the same individuals were back in the same meeting space because we are all part of a ministry to immigrants whom we care about deeply.

“I don’t know how we will come to agreement,” she continued, “but it is heartening to me to know in many ways that we are sisters and brothers in Christ.”

Other delegates also affirmed the ways in which people spoke with each other. Glenn



and Marge Steffen, delegates from Oley Valley Mennonite Church, appreciated “the freedom to express differing views without animosity. It was an honest search to be faithful to Scripture.”

Dr. Smucker opened each meeting by reminding participants that they were gathered for preliminary conversations, not a final decision.

Whisler echoed this idea, noting, “I left the meeting feeling that more conversation is needed before the resolution of the Jerusalem Council in Acts 15 (‘it seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us’) is reached on a variety of topics within ACC.”

According to Smucker, “Strongly held, different convictions remain. The differences have not yet been resolved. But important conversations have begun. ACC leaders have been provided with an important picture of the convictions and concerns of ACC members.”

Reflecting on the experience of giving leadership to the process, Dr. Smucker said, “I observed, with gratitude, people with different convictions being able and willing come together to speak openly about their concerns, their differences, in a spirit of mutual respect and care. It has been my privilege to witness the presence of God’s Spirit in these meetings.”

At the conclusion of the gatherings, participants were given opportunity to voice a concluding thought to their table groups. For some, silence felt more appropriate than words. “When we stated our individual positions at the very end,” Henderson said, “no one commented as we went around the table. We listened to each other in respectful silence—a *holy moment*.”

At the Crossroads—Again

In fact, as I think about it, life is lived at the metaphoric crossroads. The ground underneath our feet is constantly shifting. So much so that we sometimes wish we could stop the world and catch up.

Fear of change can paralyze us and rob us of the joy of living. We need to be reminded that it is in reaching out beyond ourselves that keeps meaning in life. Once we put the lid on—it is all over! We are, as it were, “consigned to the ash heap of history.”

It is captured in the lyrics from “Change” by Jim Croegaert.

*Changes coming upon us
It keeps moving, moving around us
Got to keep dancing knowing*

*He loves us
Got to keep joy in our hearts.*

But in real life, it is not that simple. Change can be like jumping from the frying pan into the fire. While change can be good and even necessary, it is not necessarily good.

Timothy Radcliffe stated it in addressing change in the Catholic Church: “If one embraces the language of modernity too uncritically, then we are likely to lose our identity and be absorbed without a trace. We must not let ourselves be assimilated to the world. We must not be afraid to underline what is distinctive about our faith, otherwise we will disappear.”

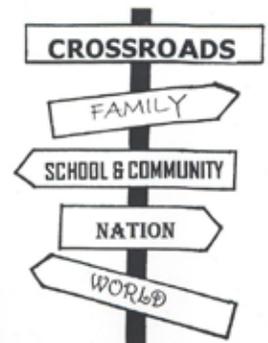
And then we read I John 4:1: “Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God.”

Our ability to “test the spirit” has been undercut by the almost instantaneous communication made possible by modern technology. Testing the spirit takes time, and time is what we have the least of. It requires openness and humility.

In a Christian sense, testing the spirit requires waiting to be guided by the Holy Spirit, first to show us the way and then to have the courage to act on the conclusion to which we have been led.

*~ Edgar Stoesz
Akron Mennonite*

ACC
SHARING



ACC Ladies:

*Put the
“Chatter,
Chow,
& Cheerful
Service”
event on your
May 4, 2013
calendar!*



Chatter

(fellowship)

Chow &

(bring soup to share)



Cheerful Service

(work at MCC Material Resource Center, 517 Trout Run Rd., Ephrata)

Saturday, May 4, 2013, 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Hosted by Atlantic Coast & Lancaster Conference Mennonite Women

Invite a friend...

Teen and Young Adult participation encouraged!

Go Green

*Bring a mug,
bowl & spoon,
and a pint of
Chicken Corn or
Vegetable Soup
to share!*



*Sisters in Christ, sharing & working together
Ages 12-99 welcome*

Save the date for: ACC-Fall Ladies Dinner - Friday Oct. 25, 2013 - details to follow

“And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.”

Hebrews 13:16

Save a Life . . .



Twila Taylor became acquainted with North Baltimore Mennonite Church through a neighbor, who happened to be the pastor at that time. She became a member in 2008 saying, “Little did I know that our friendship would mean meeting the most wonderful Christians.”

Over the next five years, it was discovered that a rare kidney disease (cause unknown) would require dialysis or a kidney transplant. At this time, no suitable donors have been found.

A LIVING KIDNEY DONOR is needed.

The University of Maryland Medical Center has determined that Twila is ready for a transplant, when it is available.

People can live well with one kidney. The process starts with a blood test, is confidential, and involves two to three days of inpatient stay. The donor’s only expense would be travel (a social worker can assist with this). Laproscopic surgery removes one kidney through a one-inch opening at the belly button.

After a short recovery, the donor can return to life/work as usual. If you are interested in more details, please call UMMC at 410-328-5408 for a questionnaire.

~ Jo Funk, North Baltimore Mennonite



On March 9-11, **Mennonite Church USA Resource Advocates** came from across the U.S. to meet at their annual meeting at the invitation of the different agencies in Mennonite Church USA. The wealth of new information from MennoMedia, Everence, Mennonite Women, Mennonite Mission Network, and Mennonite Education Agency was presented. Each conference in MC USA has an appointed Resource Advocate, and I have the privilege of serving ACC! Then it is our responsibility to share with our conference congregations about the new projects and news. This was my fifth year to attend and I always say, “This year is the best!” But it really was in 2013 because on Monday morning, we traveled from our meeting site in Harrisburg to Camp Hebron to meet with MC USA’s Constituency Leaders Council. I and two others were invited to share with the group (pictured above left with ACC’s Warren Tyson speaking). Ervin Stutzman, Executive Director of MC USA, spoke at our Sunday evening gathering (pictured above right). Questions are welcomed about any MC USA agency and I will find the answer if I do not know it.

~ Lois Ann Mast, mast@masthof.com



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4" x 4" size = \$100.00

Camera-ready artwork should be sent to mast@masthof.com along with your name and address so that an invoice can be mailed.

ACC Leadership Transitions

Redeat Abebe (Zemedkun Baykeda Habtyimer) was approved for ordination as pastor of the Hiwet Legeta Church, an Amharic speaking church plant in Lancaster with ties to Neffsville Mennonite. The Hiwet Legeta congregation worships each Saturday across the hall from Pastor Redeat's office in the education wing. Redeat and Zemedkun are the parents of three children and reside in Akron, Pa. Ordination date yet to be decided.

Catharine Frederick (Dale) was licensed for specific ministry and installed as Minister of Community Life at Hope Community Church, Fleetwood, Pa., on February 3, 2013. Catharine and Dale have been involved many years with the congregation. After an extended time of prayer and consideration, Catharine expressed a calling to this new staff position. She taught school for the previous 17 years. Catharine and Dale operate a large farm in the Hamburg, Pa., area.

Dwight Rohrer (Jennifer) was ordained for Christian ministry as Associate Pastor of Youth at Neffsville Mennonite Church on November 11, 2012. Dwight grew up in the congregation and has served as youth director and then youth pastor since January 1999. Dwight and Jenny have four children and reside in the Manheim, Pa., area.

Recent public services for new ministers:

Julio and Ana Damaso (Eben-Ezer, Bronx, N.Y.), licensed as co-pastors on January 19, 2013.

Joyce Martin (Wilmer) (Zion, Birdsboro, Pa.), licensed for chaplaincy ministry at Philhaven Hospital on February 3, 2013.

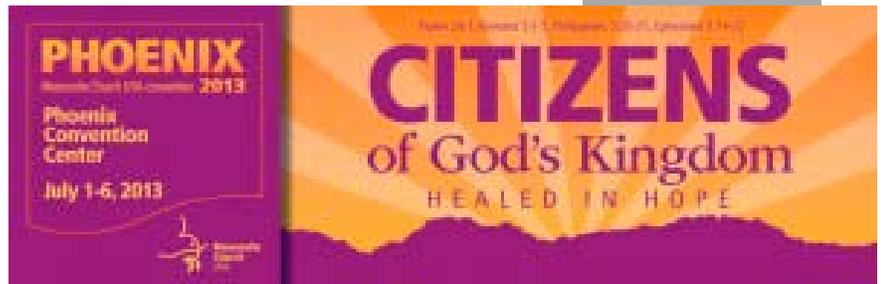
~ Warren Tyson, Executive
Conference Minister

CURRENCY CORNER

In the Gospel of Mark, chapters 6 and 8, there are two stories of Jesus feeding the five thousand and the four thousand. In both cases, Jesus asks: "How many loaves do you have?" And the answers were seven loaves and five loaves. Without getting into the details of the stories, I believe the point of the stories is that if we give to Jesus what is available and what we have, it will be enough and more than enough. In this time of limited resources, let us have faith that if we give to Jesus what is available and what we have, it will be more than enough.

- Delbert Seitz, ACC Treasurer
Community Mennonite Church of Lancaster

Pastors and youth pastors are invited to nominate high school youth from their church to participate in a leadership development program to be held at the Phoenix 2013 MC USA Convention on July 1-6. (see below)



Have you registered for the Mennonite Church USA Convention in Phoenix, Arizona, this July? Early bird registration ends on April 25, so be sure to visit MennoniteUSA.org/Convention to register today!

The 2013 Delegate Orientation is scheduled for Thursday, June 6, at 7:00 p.m., in the Lancaster Conference Center, 2160 Lincoln Hwy East, Lancaster, Pa.

Call or email Keith Wilson to register: 717-394-8107
keithw@atlanticcoastconference.net

For more information about this opportunity for youth, please see: <http://mennoniteusa.org/2013/01/29/nominate-a-high-school-leader>.



Conestoga Mennonite Church

ACC Spring Assembly Celebration will be held on Saturday, April 20, at Conestoga Mennonite Church.

All are welcome and there will be childcare and programming available.

Please plan to join us for a time of discernment, encouragement, worship, and fellowship.

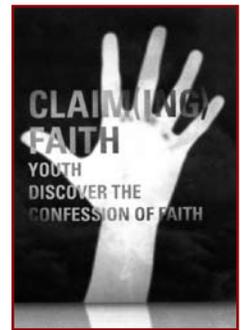
Hopewell Mennonite Church (45 S. 6th St., Reading) needs someone to lead worship from time to time on Sunday mornings (10:30 a.m.). Volunteers are also needed to help develop an educational children's ministry, e.g. VBS. For more information, contact Pastor Frantz at 610-373-3907 or at HMCPastorFrantz@gmail.com.

Maple Grove Mennonite Church, (549 Swan Road, Atglen, Pa.) is currently accepting resumes for a full-time associate pastor. They are looking for candidates whose strengths include evangelism, preaching, and community outreach. Visit their website at www.maplegrove-atglen.org for more information.

On the Way, Mennonite Church USA's online newsletter, is available at www.mennoniteusa.org/on-the-way. *On the Way* is a free, short, bilingual online resource for everyone in Mennonite Church USA. Each issue focuses on one of the seven churchwide priorities. You can subscribe to receive *On the Way* directly at <http://eepurl.com/i8oX9>. The latest issue focuses on Church-to-Church Relationships, highlighting how Mennonite Church USA is building relationships with alternative church groups, and Christian intentional communities. Interchurch Relations Associate Joanna Shenk shares about communities she has visited, offers reflections from her new book—*Widening the Circle: Experiments in Christian Discipleship*—and challenges Mennonites to consider how we are living up to our theological commitments. We hope you will enjoy the content and consider sharing your responses and ideas via our website or Facebook page.

Mennonite Education Agency has produced a booklet that provides the latest and most complete picture of what has happened and is happening in Mennonite education. Current year statistics, basic enrollment trends, Mennonite/non-Mennonite enrollment data and racial/ethnic enrollment data are provided. It is available for viewing or downloading at www.MennoniteEducation.org/ANNUAL2012

Claiming Faith—Youth Discover the Confession of Faith, a new curriculum of ten sessions by MennoMedia, is scheduled to be off the press in May 2013. It invites youth and their leaders to embrace the basic beliefs and practices of Mennonites.



Insightful and engaging, this print and video study contains dynamic personal stories, reflections, and discussion starters—all applying the teachings to personal situations and life decisions. Cost is \$36.99.

Camp Deerpark's annual benefit banquet will be held at Shady Maple Restaurant in East Earl on Friday, April 12, starting with hors d'oeuvres at 6:00 p.m., followed by dinner at 6:30 p.m.

Anabaptist Learning Institute, a program of Mennonite Education Agency and Mennonite Schools Council, is designed to provide a Christ-centered education program encouraging dialogue about faith and values. Courses for 2013 include:

- ✦ *Learning the Language of Community* offered June 13-14, 2013, at Lancaster Mennonite School, and online in August 2013. Three key questions will be examined: What is the ethics base for Mennonite education? What is discipleship within the Mennonite Anabaptist community? What do you believe and model about truth seeking?
- ✦ *Shaping a Community of Learners* offered June 17-21, 2013, at Lancaster Mennonite School. Students will reflect on their spiritual journey, craft a personal mission statement to integrate faith into their work.
- ✦ *Understanding the Roots of Community* offered August 5-9, 2013, at Christopher Dock Mennonite High School. Course explores the theology and history of the Anabaptist movement.

Note: To take an online course, participants need a computer with internet access, a web cam, and plug-in sound device.

Jim Smucker— New EMU Vice President From Akron Mennonite

The next vice-president joining the presidential cabinet of Eastern Mennonite University (EMU) will bring a skill-set rare in the leadership of academic institutions: decades of success as a business leader and owner.

Jim Smucker, president of the Bird-in-Hand Corporation in Pennsylvania, will be the first full-time graduate dean of EMU, announced Provost Fred Kniss, on Feb. 26, 2013. “Jim brings a wealth of leadership and entrepreneurial experience to the role, as well as appropriate academic training and experience,” said Kniss.

“Our graduate programs are entering a period of growth and organizational development,” he added. “They will be well served by Jim’s leadership experience and organizational expertise.”

Though Smucker holds degrees from Goshen College and two other universities, his exceptional qualities are linked to his business leadership. He and his brother John have expanded what began in 1968 as a motel built by their Amish-born father on family farmland.

As the business grew, Jim felt called to explain to fellow Christians, especially those affiliated with his Mennonite Church USA, how being an entrepreneur is “missional,” and not just about making money.

“Most people spend more time each week at work than they do in church, or even with their families,” Smucker says. “This means that a work environment that includes developing and empowering employees as part of its mission can have a significant positive impact on their social, emotional, and spiritual development.”

In an 2012 article posted by Menno-Media at leaderonline.org, Smucker wrote of



surveying 20 leaders—about evenly divided among churches, non-profits, educational institutions and businesses—and asking “What, in your opinion, are the top five or six organizational and/or leadership skills needed to be an efficient and effective leader in your organization?”

Smucker will bring these leadership skills and qualities to EMU with an understanding that the academic world operates differently than for-profit businesses. “Savvy leaders understand that, to be an effective leader, they need to understand the cultural differences inherent in individual organizations,” he says. “Even leaders who move between organizations in the same category, from one church or business to another, can experience extreme cultural differences.

Long-distance running is Jim’s main hobby—or daily bout of “therapy,” as he jokingly refers to it—with 23 marathons, including three Boston Marathons, and six ultra-marathons completed.

Jim and Anna Smucker (parents of three adult children) plan to move from Bird-in-Hand, where Jim grew up and helped build the family business, to Harrisonburg, Va., before Jim tackles his latest career challenge of being EMU’s first full-time graduate dean, beginning July 1, 2013. He will occupy a newly created slot as EMU’s seventh vice president reporting to President Loren Swartzendruber.

As graduate dean, Smucker will oversee and coordinate the fastest-growing component of EMU, with master’s degree students accounting for about a third of EMU’s enrollment.

~ Bonnie Price Lofton, EMU

Jim Smucker, a passionate runner of marathons, has been named the first full-time dean of graduate studies at Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, Virginia.

CONNECTIONS

Forward births, marriages, and deaths to:

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EVENTS & MORE

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Births

Frederick Matute Eshleman born January 5, son of Jeff and Soila (Matute) Eshleman (Blossom Hill Mennonite).

Marriages

Brendon Petersheim (Conestoga Mennonite) married **Blair Bruce** on January 12, 2013, at Mt. Carmel Presbyterian Church, Aliquippa, Pa.

Matt Beam (Conestoga Mennonite) married **Rebecca Horning** (Conestoga Mennonite) on March 23, 2013, at Rockville Mennonite Church.

Deaths

Miriam E. Bair Buckwalter, 85 (Akron Mennonite) died January 12, 2013, wife of the late Leon H. Buckwalter.

Edna Mae (Mast) Good, 89 (Conestoga Mennonite) died December 28, 2012, wife of James Allen Good.

John Robert Nissley Jr., 46 (Akron Mennonite) died January 15, 2013, husband of Leslie Elizabeth (Smith) Nissley.

Helen B. Peachey, 101 (Akron Mennonite) died January 5, 2013, wife of the late Chester J. Peachey.

Ruth A. Pellman, 81 (Blossom Hill Mennonite) died January 6, 2013, wife of William Pellman.

Walter Overgaard, 92 (Forest Hills Mennonite) died February 19, 2013, wife of the late Esther Overgaard.

Alvin F. Smoker, 89 (Ridgeview Mennonite) died January 7, 2013, husband of Mildred O. (Landis) Smoker.

Marian B. Stoltzfus, 87 (Maple Grove) died March 19, 2013, wife of Omar S. Stoltzfus.

Elizabeth A. Yoder, 87 (Forest Hills Mennonite) died February 3, 2013.

April 20, 2013
ACC Spring Assembly Celebration
Conestoga Mennonite
Morgantown, Pa.
Childcare provided.

May 4, 2013
Chatter, Chow, & Cheerful Service
9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
MCC Resource Center
All Ladies, ages 12-99
ACC and Lancaster Conf.

May 7, 2013
GRACE Choir
Swiss Choir with
alphorns and yodeling
Conestoga Mennonite
Morgantown, Pa.
484-798-8556
7:00 p.m.

May 11, 2013
Edgar Stoesz
Garden Spot Village
Chapel, 7:00 p.m.
Discuss *Searching for a Homeland*, the biography of Nikolaus Kampen, whose search for a homeland took him from the Ukraine to Germany, Paraguay, Canada and, eventually, Lancaster County. Call 717-355-

6000 or email info@
gardenspotvillage.org.

June 6, 2013
MC USA Delegate Orientation
Lancaster Conference
Center, Lancaster, Pa.
7:00 p.m.
Register by calling
717-394-8107 or

keithw@atlantic
coastconference.net

July 1-6, 2013
MC USA Convention
Phoenix, Ariz.

Concert 2013
Lorena Schwarz with the *Choir of the Future*
Grace
Tuesday
May 7, 2013
7:00 p.m.
Conestoga Mennonite Church
2779 Main Street
Morgantown, PA 19543
For more information, call 484-798-8556

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LMS has provided a quality, Christ-centered education across the generations for me, my children and my grandchildren!
—Loretta Lapp, class of 1953
Lancaster Campus
MAY 5 • 1-3 p.m.

GREAT SINGING OF THE PAST

Rolando Santiago, Director of the Mennonite Historical Society, asked me to help prepare a music program titled, “What made 20th century singing great?”

Simple question. My knee-jerk response was, singing schools. I had often heard that. But as I prepared for the May 4 event, I knew there has to be more. After all, I was born in the first half of the 20th century, yet I never went to a singing school. I tried another simple answer: shaped-notes. Again, yes, for a lot of people, but not for me. I tried acappella and four-part. As I reflected, I saw that many factors were at work.

So I got a pencil and made a list. You may add or subtract.

First, hymnals. Yes, hymnals with words between the notes started in 1903. And since most of the congregations had the same hymnals, it meant that we all sang—young and old—from pretty much the same song list. So a standard body of music shared by all was reinforced whenever, wherever, and with whomever we met.

Many meetings. At the dawn of the century, in 1900, Sunday services in meetinghouses were generally held every other week. Times changed. By the 1950s, my parents were taking me to church at least 100 times a year. And there was singing every time.

Leadership. While not everyone went to singing school, you could bet that your song leader did. You might go merely out of peer pressure or to get a date, but it was a stimulating environment, especially for youth who had reluctantly quit school after 8th grade. Song leading was a worthy aspiration. The brightest and best went into it. It meant you had mastered the unique art form of hymns, how to inspire a large group, how to figure out the notes, how to pull together a quartet or chorus, and the reason singing was so great a gift to a spiritual life.

Gospel songs and Christendom. Across the board, the popular style for most people was the gospel song with a catchy chorus. Before grunge or heavy metal, popular secular song looked very much like the song of the church. America was in a highly church-ed era. One was practically an outcast if not connected to a church. So, popular culture reinforced our singing.

All acoustic. No electricity in our music. What we sang was what we got. If we wanted music we went to church, not to theaters or other commercial stages. And we sang at home, to ourselves at work, at reunions and social gatherings. All the meetinghouses for most of the 20th century were acoustically alive. With no carpets, cushions, or drapes, the sound was as vibrant as in Carnegie Hall. The pay-off for even a modicum of effort was great.

Language. For many of us by 1900, the switch from German to English was mostly complete and there was only one Bible, the KJV. All the hymns used KJV language, creating unity between the Bible we picked up during the sermons and the hymnal we opened to sing. One language, one hymnal, one Bible. Before the century ended, of course, we were finding riches in other traditions.

Church schools. After 1900, church-sponsored schools were founded, and they picked up where the singing schools left off. “Chapel” entered our vocabulary, a place where music would reach greater heights than a meetinghouse could attain. The EMU mass choir sang “The Heavens Are Telling” without filling in the orchestra parts. It sounded good once you got used to it. But no one was listening on fancy stereos or YouTube and comparing it to the New York Philharmonic. When we got stereos, we stocked up on Mennonite Hour and other acappella group LPs.

Sometimes people describe the church singing of several generations ago by what was not allowed, such as no instruments, no performance-like display, and no choirs.

Certain customs of restriction did enhance singing. Gender-separated seating made it much easier to sing parts. No special groups meant that everyone sang everything. Part-singing helped keep musical literacy high and the mind focused.

Meetinghouse to chapel to YouTube—the 20th century singing was great because editors, writers, composers, architects, publishers, and song leaders all dedicated their God-given talents to a focused beauty of the spirit. I do not want to live in the 20th century again, but I want that dedication.

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Thirteen volunteers from Tel Hai staff made the trip to Far Rockaway in Queens, N.Y. on January 16 for a “Day of Service” to benefit residents impacted by super storm Hurricane Sandy last October. From left (front row): Bruce Hartshorne, Keeli Looper, Luann Thomas, Katie Buck, Eden Fiano, Sue Verdegem, Hope Miller, and Natalie Miller; (back row) Christina Silva, Gwynne Johnson, Joan Brooks, Renny Magill, and Joe Swartz.

A baker’s dozen of Tel Hai staff members participated in a “Day of Service” in Far Rockaway, N.Y., as part of a work day organized by Mennonite Disaster Services (MDS) on January 16 in response to the devastation created by October’s super-storm, “Sandy.” The group headed to Queens by motor coach at 4:00 a.m. to assist in two work projects—one at a local church and a second in a private home once inundated by five feet of water. Sue Verdegem, Sr. Executive Vice President of Finance & Administration, coordinated the Tel Hai effort with representatives of MDS. Aided by Kelly Jester, VP of Human Resources and Katie Buck, Residential Living Administrator, the work crew was identified.

A crew of four was assigned to work in a church building damaged during Hurricane “Sandy.” The Tel Hai volunteers—Katie Buck, Eden Fiano and Christina Silva—were paired with a seasoned MDS volunteer from Harrisonburg, Va. All worked hard in two “gigantic rooms” until the job was done—sanding and making drywall repairs, priming and painting—and then all pitched in with clean-up. The young volunteers shared

Tel Hai Participates in Day of Service

positive impressions of the experience and all expressed an interest in going again. Christina Silva commented, “Even though we were only there for a day, it was amazing to know I can help make

a difference in someone’s life in this way.” She admitted, “It was hard to leave knowing there was more to do, but it was a good feeling finishing what we set out to do.” Eden Fiano shared how much she enjoyed getting to know others from Tel Hai whom she did not work with on a daily basis and concluded, “I would definitely do this again in a heartbeat!”

The remaining nine volunteers did demolition work in a damaged home—removing drywall and flooring. Volunteer Joan Brooks added, “The hardest part was seeing how much more needed to be done before people could move back into their homes. I was grateful for the experience.” All members of the work crew expressed gratitude for being given the opportunity to serve the residents of this devastated neighborhood. They also learned a lot about coworkers they may have only seen in passing while completing their own duties on Tel Hai’s campus. Doing good was the best experience of all.

~ Sue Garthwaite
Public Relations Coordinator
Tel Hai Retirement Community

ACC Conference Related Ministries . . .

Black Rock Retreat

1345 Kirkwood Pike
Quarryville, PA 17566
Phone: 800-858-9299
Fax: 717-786-6022
info@blackrockretreat.com
www.blackrockretreat.com
Retreat Facilities for use by churches and other Christian organizations, a Summer Camp program for youth, an Outdoor Education program for Public & Christian schools, a Challenge Ropes Course, Road Scholar programs for seniors.

Camp Deerpark, Inc.

200 Brandt Road, P.O. Box 394
Westbrookville, NY 12785
Phone: 845-754-8669
Fax: 845-754-8217
info@campdeerpark.org
www.campdeerpark.org
A ministry of the New York City Mennonite churches, founded in 1969. Mission is to empower youth to serve Christ in the city. Summer children's camps.

Camp Hebron

957 Camp Hebron Road
Halifax, PA 17032
Phone: 800-864-7747
Fax: 717-896-3391
hebron@camphebron.org
Web site: www.camphebron.org
Changing lives since 1957, this camping and retreat ministry offers a variety of overnight camps and year-round events for all ages where people connect with God, nature, and each other.

Choice Books PA

121 S. Main Street
Manheim, PA 17545
Phone: 717-665-3933
Fax: 717-665-3059
info@pa.choicebooks.org
Web site: www.choicebooks.org

Eastern Mennonite Missions

53 West Brandt Blvd.
P.O. Box 458
Salunga, PA 17538-0458
Phone: 717-898-2251
Fax: 717-898-8092
info@emm.org
www.emm.org
Equips, sends and supports more than 200 workers in 40 countries, focusing particularly where the church is weak or nonexistent.

Friendship Community

1149 East Oregon Road

Lititz, PA 17543
Phone: 717-656-2466
Fax: 717-656-0459
office@friendshipcommunity.net
www.friendshipcommunity.net
A non-profit, Christian ministry serving people with developmental disabilities. Since 1972, Friendship offers residential services, training in daily living skills, and social services.

Garden Spot Village

433 S. Kinzer Ave.,
New Holland, PA 17557
Phone: 717-355-6000
Fax: 717-355-6006
info@gardenspotvillage.org
www.gardenspotvillage.org
Carriage Homes, Cottages, Apartments, Assisted Living, Memory Support, Skilled Nursing Households, Adult Day Services, Garden Spot Village At Home, Center for Health.

Germantown Mennonite Historical Trust

6133 Germantown Ave.
Germantown, PA 19144
gmht@meetinghouse.info
www.meetinghouse.info
Site of the first permanent settlement of Mennonites in America called "The Gateway of American Mennonitism," through which most North American Mennonites have symbolically passed.

Harmonies Music Ministry

34 W. Eby Road
Leola, PA 17540
Phone: 717-656-2749
office@harmonies.org
www.harmonies.org
Committed to creating new Christian music resources for the church worldwide through performance, resource development, leadership training, and product creation.

Kairos: School of Spiritual Formation

2160 Lincoln Highway East #13
Lancaster, PA 17602
Phone: 717-669-2957
Kairos@on-the-journey.org
www.on-the-journey.org
Provides programs in spiritual formation and spiritual direction from September to May in weekend retreats. Other opportunities include day retreats and experiential prayer sessions in congregational settings.

Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society

2215 Millstream Road
Lancaster, PA 17602
Phone: 717-393-9745
Fax: 717-393-8751
lmhs@lmhs.org
www.lmhs.org
Educates, inspires, and promotes the history, beliefs, and lifestyle of the Mennonite expression of the Anabaptist tradition. Offers educational programs and a library/archives, bookstore, and museum.

Lancaster Area Council of Mennonite Schools (LACMS)

2176 Lincoln Highway East
Lancaster, PA 17602
Phone: (717) 299-0436
Geographical organization of elementary and secondary schools whose administrators work to strengthen the Mennonite expression of Christian faith in the schools and who meet regularly to inspire and resource one another.

Lancaster Mennonite School (LMS)

2176 Lincoln Highway East
Lancaster, PA 17602
Phone: (717) 299-0436
Fax: (717) 509-4088
thomasjr@lancastermennonite.org
www.lancastermennonite.org
Serves over 1,500 students at:

- Kraybill Campus, PreK-8
- Lancaster Campus, 6-12
- Locust Grove Campus, PreK-8
- New Danville Campus, PreK-5

Landis Homes

1001 E. Oregon Road
Lititz, PA 17543
Phones: 717-569-3271
717-581-3935
Fax: 717-569-5203
info@landishomes.org
www.landiscommunities.org
Serves aging adults and their families by honoring and enriching them in a Christ-like community. Residential living, assisted living, healthcare, rehab, adult day care services, special care for persons with memory loss, at-home care, and child day care.

Laurelville Mennonite Church Center

941 Laurelville Lane
Mt. Pleasant, PA 15666
Phone: 800-839-1021
John@laurelville.org
www.laurelville.org
Conference center specializing in retreat services and innovative programming.

Mennonite Home Communities

1520 Harrisburg Pike
Lancaster, PA 17601
Phone: 717-393-1301
Fax: 717-509-2823
mhash@mennonitehome.org
www.mennonitehome.org
A continuing care retirement community (CCRC) providing care to senior adults with a tradition of care spanning 100 years. Services include cottage and apartment residences, assisted living, health care, and rehabilitative therapies.

No Longer Alone Ministries

630 Janet Ave.
Lancaster, PA 17601
Phone: 717-390-4891
Fax: 717-390-4894
blong@nlam.org
www.nlam.org
No Longer Alone Ministries provides supportive, caring services for individuals and families experiencing significant mental illness, as an expression of Christ's love.

Philadelphia Mennonite High School

860 North 24th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19130-1996
Phone: 215-769-5363
office@pmhsonline.org
http://pmhsonline.org
Founded in 1997 for grades 9-12 interested in pursuing college.

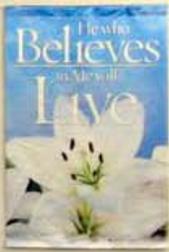
Reservoir Hill House of Peace

2401 Eutaw Place
Baltimore, MD 21217
An outreach ministry of the North Baltimore Mennonite Church that includes a Mennonite Voluntary Service unit, Asylum Seekers Housing Network, Kids on the Hill, as well as housing for residents committed to the mission of RHHP.

Tel Hai Retirement Community

1200 Tel Hai Circle, P.O. Box 190
Honey Brook, PA 19344
Phone: 610-273-9333
Fax: 610-273-4141
jswartz@telhai.org
www.telhai.org
Tel Hai is a nationally accredited, nonprofit provider of services for senior adults. For over 50 years, they have provided health care, housing, and services to enhance residents' quality of life in cottage and apartment residences, personal care, Adult Day Services, health care, and rehabilitative therapies.

Still the greatest
treasure remains
For those who gladly
choose You now



Renewal Services at Maple Grove Mennonite

Renewal services were held at Maple Grove (Atlglen, Pa.) from March 17 to 20, 2013. In preparation for the services, each ministry group in the church was challenged to find a way to help with renewal. The church met in small groups during the five weeks leading up to the meetings focusing on stepping-stones toward a closer relationship with Jesus: acknowledgement, repentance, obedience, faithfulness, and renewal. An energetic service of praise and prayer for renewal was held on the evening of March 10 with a large participation from church members.

Lively and meaningful worship was coordinated by Arlin Kennel, Lay Minister of Worship and Music. Worship teams were led by different worship leaders at each service: Arlin Kennel, Jesse Koehn, Ken Umble, Rhonda King, and Chelsey Davis. The Glory of God came down to us through music and singing and prepared the congregation to receive the Word of God.

Leonard Dow was our renewal speaker. Leonard is pastor of the Oxford Circle Mennonite Church in Philadelphia and bishop of the Philadelphia District of the Lancaster Conference. Pastor Dow's messages focused on "The Significance of Bethany" using Biblical passages that spoke about times Jesus spent in this town just two miles from Jerusalem. Bethany was a significant place for Jesus—it was the place where Jesus felt welcomed and where He could fully reveal Himself. Church members were challenged to visit Bethany with Jesus, to empower the church to become a faith community where Jesus is at home in and among us.

The week concluded with a service of anointing where each person was set apart for God to act in and through their lives. God's presence is truly moving among Maple Grove and we are strengthened and energized to go into all the world, whether near or far, to share His good news with others!
- Pastor Steve Crane



Photos by
Morgan
Umble