

Atlantic Coast Conference Currents

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

Above: Pastor Jane Peifer (center) of Blossom Hill Mennonite Church, introduces recently credentialed ACC leaders to the October 22 delegate assembly. All photos on this page are credit: Jon Carlson.

HIGHLIGHTS



Larry Shirk (left from Ridgeview Mennonite), and Julie Dunst (right from Zion Mennonite), present the Peace & Justice Committee Peace Mug to Dick Thomas (Ridgeview Mennonite) for his work with restorative justice at Lancaster Mennonite Schools.



Harry Jarrett, Jr., (Neffsville Mennonite) presents the revised bylaws to the delegate body during the breakfast business session.



Delegates singing during the morning worship service at the October 22, 2010, ACC Fall Assembly with the theme of "Where Are We Going? Heading Home Together."

1 ACC Women's Dinner Speaker Joy Sawatsky the day before Assembly—more coming next issue



3 Mission Begins with Dwelling



Spanish-speaking delegates in discussion: Pastor Sylvia Shirk (Manhattan), Pastor Confesor Linares (First Mennonite), Rolando Santiago (Neffsville), and Miledys Linares (First Mennonite). Persons with their backs turned are Sandra Perez (Manhattan) and Frantz Santiago (Hopewell).



Charles Mugi (left from African Community Church of Lancaster), and Pastor Jim Ralph (right from Ark Bible Fellowship), participate in delegate discussions.



8 Ducks in a Row

Currents

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Lois Ann Mast
Editor

Jessica Shirk
Contributing Editor

Lois Whisler
Contributing Editor

Keith Wilson
Contributing Editor

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17602; currents@
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gations, organiza-
tions, and photos
can be sent to:
Editor Lois Ann
Mast, 219 Mill
Road, Morgantown,
PA 19543-9516;
currents@atlantic
coastconference.net

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Atlantic Coast Conference

2257 Old
Philadelphia Pike
Lancaster, PA
17602

1-717-394-8107
1-800-238-0126

office@atlantic
coastconference.net

ACC Moderator's Reflections



Harry Jarrett
Conference Moderator
Neffsville Mennonite

Opportunities

are like doorways along a street or hallway. Each doorway offers us entrance into a new and different space. We generally choose a door because we think it will take us to where we want to be; our home, a friend's house, our bedroom, a child's room, the kitchen or wherever.

Sometimes, in new places, when we open a doorway for the first time we don't always know exactly where it will lead.

We don't always know for sure what lies on the other side. But we chose a particular door, sort of like a contestant does on "Let's Make a Deal." We believe what lies on the other side of that door will be better for us than what is behind the other doors and what is on this side of it. And so we evaluate, we reflect, we discuss, we discern, and then we decide what we will do.

Either we enter into the new space through the door, or we pass it by for another door that we feel will provide a better future for us.

What we find is that no matter what door we end up choosing, it leads us to places with more doorways that lead to more places. And, once again, we need to decide whether we will open the new doors to see what lies behind, stay where we are because we like it there or retreat through the last door because we don't like where it has taken us. But in most cases we don't know what lies behind the door unless we at least crack it open and take a peek inside.

As a conference we are on a roadway. We are walking down a hallway together. And there are many doors, many opportunities, that we could take, open and enter into that may or may not lead us to a better future together in the name of Jesus Christ. But the risks are too great not to decide on a least a few doorways to open for ourselves. It is clear to me that we cannot just wander along the street or meander down the hallway. We must discern together what doorways we need to open for each other so that we can all enter

into the places that God desires for us to be as a people. There are opportunities that we need to enter into and pursue on each other's behalf if we are going to become the people that God desires for us to become. There are places that we need to walk into together if we are going to be a people of God that brings healing and hope in our homes, workplaces, where we rest, where we play and especially where we worship in churches as Atlantic Coast Conference of Mennonite Church USA.

As a leadership team, we have spent ample time looking down the road and have chosen four opportunities that we believe, if pursued, will take us into better places as a conference. We are asking you to discern with us if our leanings are in line with the Spirit of God for us as a people. And if they are, we are asking you to take those opportunities with us so that we can become everything God desires us to be together.

The four opportunities that we desire to pursue over the next two years on your behalf are...

Opportunity #1: We will **BETTER DEFINE AND ARTICULATE WHAT "UNITY IN CHRIST" MEANS**, with and for Atlantic Coast Conference of Mennonite Church USA congregations.

Opportunity #2: We will **ADEQUATELY RESOURCE OUR PASTORS** so that they can function effectively.

Opportunity #3: We will **PURSUE, WELCOME, INCLUDE, AND UTILIZE NEW GROUPS** in manageable and responsible ways as God brings them into our conference kingdom work.

Opportunity #4: We will **BECOME MORE ACTIVE PARTICIPANTS IN THE WORKING AND WORKINGS OF MENNONITE CHURCH USA** in the world.

May God bless us as we walk the road together for God's glory.

Mission Begins with DWELLING

One may wonder what a Lancaster pub, a flea market, the Leola Sharp Shopper, and an estate auction have in common. These venues plus a variety of county and city streets became places of observation for four local congregations who tuned their five senses towards discerning what God might want to reveal about their communities.

“Who is My Neighbor? Dwelling in Word and Context” was held on October 7-9, at Forest Hills. The weekend was a collaborative effort initiated by Pastors Jim Amstutz, Chuck Goertz, Cheryl Hollinger, and Michelle Armster, along with John Powell of Mennonite Mission Network.

On Friday evening, members from Akron Mennonite, Forest Hills Mennonite, St. Andrew United Church of Christ, and Community Mennonite Church of Lancaster gathered around tables to dwell in the Luke 10 story of Jesus sending out 72 disciples. John Powell who facilitated discussion, reminded participants that God is already present in their communities. Their mission was to discover what God was up to and listen for what God might be inviting them or their congregations into.

On Saturday morning, participants dispersed throughout their communities as Dwellers. Over lunch, stories unfolded. “The pub smelled like nicotine,” a former smoker noticed. “And it was empty except for the owner.”

“I chatted with a flood victim,” an Akron member said. “There may be some people in our church willing to help him.” “We had impromptu conversations with two women in a Laundromat and one at Sharp Shopper,” recalled two from Forest Hills. They were surprised when each woman commented about the faith and positive outlook of a Forest Hills member who has lost her ability to speak. “In spite of Elizabeth’s silent voice, God is present in her life and therefore in her neighborhood,” the Dwellers noted.

The Saturday debriefing and group interaction led by Michelle Armster,



supplied participants with a broad scope of experiences and insights. But Michelle made it clear that ongoing conclusions and discernment will need to take place in individual congregations.

Each congregation concluded the mission weekend on Sunday morning in their individual buildings. Dwellers told of their experiences. Pastors preached sermons from Luke 10 and God’s people were invited to join God’s missional work in their local community through ongoing discernment and action.

~ Cheryl Hollinger, Forest Hills

Forest Hills participants discuss their routes (left to right): Cheryl Hollinger, Byron Zimmerman, Anne Sherman, and Chuck Goertz.

Credit: Kris Shertzer.

ACC Leadership Transition

Nathan R. Hyde (Carolyn), pastor, CrossWay Church, Ocean City, Md., recognition of previous ordination approved August 25. Nathan has served as pastor at CrossWay Church (previously known as Ocean City Mennonite Church) since 2007. Nathan was ordained by the Southern Baptist Convention in May 2004. He served as a youth pastor and associate pastor in two SBC congregations in the Ocean City area prior to coming to the CrossWay Church. Nathan’s wife grew up in the Ocean City Mennonite congregation.

~ Warren Tyson, Executive Conference Minister
Forest Hills Mennonite

“I have learned a lot of words in this class like Father, Holy Spirit, and Son. It makes me feel good.”



The school year at Lancaster Mennonite School is going well in spite of earthquakes, hurricanes, and floods. Students have settled into routines and classes are digging deeper into their subjects.

A new course at the high school is titled “Introduction to the Bible,” for our first-year international students. This discovery Bible class meets daily. The following are comments from students in this class.

- From this class, it’s my first time to hear about these terms: sin, God, Lord, Jesus, and grace.

- This is the first time for me to have any contact with the Bible. In China, I

Learning About God for the First Time

never believe in any religion. I don’t believe the world has God. I think it’s good to have a belief. I don’t have enough understanding about God. I think I need to learn more from the Bible.

- Two weeks ago I did not know what was the Bible. Now, I know that the Bible is God’s words.

Thank you for supporting LMS and our mission to transform students to change our world. This is one missional way that your support is impacting the lives of students every day.

~ Heidi Stoltzfus, Conestoga Mennonite

CURRENCY CORNER

In the last Currency Corner, we stressed the need for increased church giving in the last quarter of the calendar year. That need still exists. Here is a quote taken from the New Revised Standard Version 2 Corinthians 9:10-12 in this season of harvest and thanksgiving.

“He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God.”

Do Apostle Paul’s words to the church in Corinth inspire us to generosity in this thanksgiving season? Thank you for being an ACC partner helping fulfill ACC’s mission of being *Centered in Christ, Building Connections, Sharing God’s Love*.

- Delbert Seitz, ACC Treasurer
Community Mennonite Church of Lancaster

Mennonite Mission Network

Meet Dean Heisey who has begun the role as Mennonite Mission Network liaison to ACC (replacing John Powell). Dean will attend conference assemblies and relate to conference leaders. He also will visit congregations, listen to what congregations are doing in mission, discern what their interests are, and reflect with them on questions of what God is doing in their life and what vision is emerging in congregations.

Heisey enjoys working with congregations to clarify their mission interests and help bring vision into reality. He networks widely and refers congregations to others involved in similar ministries. He offers training for congregations interested in clarifying mission vision or learning about principles of partnership.

Heisey is based in Elkhart, Ind., where he is a member of Prairie Street Mennonite Church.



Dean Heisey,
Church
Relations
Associate,
Mennonite
Missions
Network



Pastor Frantz from Hopewell Mennonite at Reading leading the seminar on the Psalms and Wisdom Literature at Conestoga.

Conestoga Church Opens Its Doors to EMU Lancaster Classes

Classes on a variety of topics are available for hundreds of Anabaptist faith followers—not only to broaden our understanding of the Scriptures but to also become better “servants” to share the powerful story of Jesus in our culture today.

Conestoga Mennonite Church has served as host of a number of these classes sponsored by Eastern Mennonite Seminary at Lancaster.

Mark R. Wenger, Director of Eastern Mennonite Seminary at Lancaster, recently said, “The initial response we have received from students is quite favorable toward Conestoga as a central location between the Lancaster and Franconia areas. This fall, the following courses are meeting at Conestoga: ‘The Psalms and Wisdom Literature’ taught by Frantz St. Iago (Pastor at Hopewell Mennonite Reading), ‘Ministry in Times of Trauma’ taught by Mary Thiessen Nation, ‘Formation in Ministry I’ taught by Marcus Smucker, and ‘Anabaptist Mission and Peace’ taught by David Shenk.”

Conestoga’s historian J. Lemar Mast shared that he had heard an older church member who lived in the church house say in the 1960s, as he pointed to the field east of the then church building (now the Morgantown ReUzit Shoppe), “I see in that field a future seminary.”

Conestoga’s new building was built in that field in 2001, and is not a seminary, but the excellent facility is now used by both extended church and community organizations. It is a stewardship gift to be used for strengthening

God’s kingdom work relevant to His purposes. “We are thrilled that includes partnership with EMS to strengthen our Anabaptist theology,” stated Conestoga’s Pastor Bob Petersheim.

Personally, Lemar and I enjoyed traveling to Lancaster for several EMU classes over the past eight years, but what a privilege and blessing it was when we could attend seminars here at Conestoga where persons from both the Franconia and Lancaster areas chose to study topics from an Anabaptist perspective!

~ Lois Ann Mast, Conestoga Mennonite



Nancy Frey with her family on the day of her ordination at Mennonite Congregation of Boston. She is married to Bruce Yoder and they have two children, Jeremiah and Deborah.

Credit: Linda Tyson.

*Eastern
Mennonite
University
at Lancaster*

*P.O. Box 10936
Lancaster, PA
17605-0936*

*lancaster@
emu.edu*

866-EMU-LANC

*Winter 2012
Classes at
Conestoga:*

*Formation in
Ministry II
taught by
Marcus Smucker*

and

*Church
Planting and
Community
Development
taught by
Jeffrey Wright*

News, notes, and announcements may be sent to *Currents* editor, Lois Ann Mast 219 Mill Road Morgantown, PA 19543; or e-mailed to: currents@atlanticcoastconference.net



Serve in SOOP: Are you looking for something new to do this fall or winter? Put your gifts into action! Share your time, skills and experience in service at one of Mennonite Mission Network's many SOOP locations around the country. To learn more and apply, visit: <http://www.mennonitemission.net/Serve/SOOP/ServiceOpps/Pages/Home.aspx>

Youth Opportunity: Over 200 senior high youth and sponsors experienced the Lower Yough River last summer before and after the MC USA Convention during the Great Whitewater Connection at Laurelville. Due to its popularity, Laurelville is hosting the retreat again in 2012. Sign up now for the Great Whitewater Connection (July 6-8, 2012) and find an opportunity for faith development, relationship building, and summer fun—all for just \$50/participant! Get a youth sponsor registration at www.laurelville.org/whitewater or call 800-839-1021 for more information.

Landis Communities: In 1964, a single building in the middle of a farm field began as Landis Homes, has expanded to the current campus of 675 persons living in cottages, apartments, suites, personal care and healthcare. Newer efforts include two Adult Day Services centers, "Landis at Home," and Landis Support Services. A new name—Landis Communities—has been chosen to oversee the continued expansion and vision, even though the mission has not changed. Board Chair John Eby commented, "This is a change to more fully reflect our ongoing and new efforts. Landis Communities gives guidance and leadership to the continuing care community at Landis Homes. It is in keeping with the board's mandate to provide care to people across a larger spectrum of health needs and financial resources."

Classes Online: Take an online class from Eastern Mennonite Seminary this spring without leaving home. EMS is offering Pastoral Care and Interpreting the Biblical Text online this spring. For more information visit www.emu.edu/seminary/distance-learning.

Mission Tools: Are you looking for new and exciting material to use for a children's story, moment in mission, or Sunday school class? Mennonite Mission Network offers mission education tools for free! These packets include illustrated story cards, games, activities, recipes, prayer cards and more. To order online, just visit <http://www.MennoniteMission.net/Tools/MissionBank/Pages/Home.aspx>



timbrel: *Timbrel* is the official publication of Mennonite Women USA—providing a place for women to share perspectives and stories as we seek to follow Christ. *timbrel* is edited by Patricia Burdette, and is published bi-monthly. To read

back issues of *timbrel* follow this link: www.mennonitewomenusa.org/timbrel and scroll to the bottom of the page.

The Sept.-Oct. issue was based on the theme of "Young Women and the Church." Featured writers were Rachel Halder, Parnell, Iowa, and Jessica Schrock-Ringenberg, Bryan, Ohio. Upcoming issues of *timbrel* will focus on the following themes:

- Nov. - Dec. 2011—Global sisters
- Jan. - Feb. 2012—Women in leadership
- March - Apr. 2012—Modesty in clothing and fashion
- May - June 2012—Women who have inspired us

MC USA on Facebook: Link up to facebook for news updates, questions, and humor related to Mennonite Church USA at: www.facebook.com/MennoniteChurchUSA

MC USA News: If you do not already receive the MC USA News Service e-mails, subscribe by e-mailing mcusanews@mennoniteusa.org. Annette Brill Bergstresser, news service coordinator, sends the News Service e-mails on Mondays—sometimes weekly, sometimes a few weeks apart, depending on the season and the news flow. Occasionally other e-mails may be sent to this list with special news or prayer requests.

Planting the Gospel

“**True** Jesus movements always practice ‘planting the gospel’ within a people and then allow the church to emerge from an authentic encounter with Jesus.” (from Alan Hirsch, *Right Here, Right Now: Everyday Mission for Everyday People*, Shapevine/Baker Books, 2011, p. 228).

How does the Atlantic Coast Conference plant the gospel?

One church at a time.

One church plant at a time.

One relationship at a time.

It is always easy to ask if “more” churches are needed in a given area. I wondered that too, as I entertained the possibility of working with a conference that is centered in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. Entering the Mennonite world as a young adult some thirty years ago, I was quickly taught the lesson that there were lots and lots of good Mennonite churches in Lancaster County, and indeed, up and down the eastern seaboard.

And do you know what? There are lots and lots of good Mennonite congregations in Lancaster County, and in the ACC, and indeed, up and down the eastern seaboard. But there are even more people who need to experience the transforming grace and truth of the gospel in a cultural environment they understand.

There are many peoples in Lancaster and beyond who are marginal in our society, and it is in these margins that we need—desperately need—the persistent necessity of not just existing Mennonite churches, but more Mennonite churches, and not just more Mennonite churches, but new Mennonite churches.

We need more new Mennonite churches that can transmit an Anabaptist perspective on the Jesus Way to people who are marginal to the existing church culture.

We need more, many more, Mennonite congregations that are confident in following

Jesus daily in life. We need more, many more, Mennonite congregations that are safe communities of healing and hope. We need more, many more, Mennonite congregations that unashamedly declare the good news of God’s mission of nonviolent reconciliation of all things to Himself.

I want to see every single Atlantic Coast Conference congregation passionately following Jesus daily in life. I want to see every single Atlantic Coast Conference congregation creating safe spaces of healing and hope. I want to see every single Atlantic Coast Conference congregation unashamedly declaring the good news of peace.

And I want to see more, many more, Atlantic Coast Conference congregations . . .

To suggest that starting new churches and revitalizing existing churches for mission are at odds with each other, and only one of these ministries can be accomplished, is a false choice. Church planting and missional revitalization is about empowering people with passion to plant the gospel of peace in new seedbeds, and celebrating the harvest of reconciliation that grows there.

And the Atlantic Coast Conference needs to do just that.

One church at a time.

One church planting at a time.

One relationship at a time.

~ Jeff Wright, ACC New Church Development Coordinator

Jeff Wright is the ACC New Church Development Coordinator. He serves ACC through an arrangement with Urban Expression North America. He lives in Riverside, California, connecting with church planters and commuting to the Atlantic Coast once a month. He can be reached at churchplanting@atlanticcoastconference.net.

MISSIONS



Jeff Wright is the ACC New Church Development Coordinator

One church at a time!

One church plant at a time!

One relationship at a time!

CONNECTIONS

Forward births, marriages, and deaths to:

Lois Ann Mast
219 Mill Road
Morgantown, PA
19543
currents@atlantic
coastconference.net

EVENTS & MORE

Items may be sent to:

Currents Editor:
Lois Ann Mast
219 Mill Road
Morgantown,
PA 19543

or e-mailed to:
currents@
atlanticcoast
conference.net

Births

Micah William Carlson born April 29, 2011, son of Jon and Lyn Carlson (Oley Mennonite).

Leena Iyengar born October 8, 2011, dau. of Raj and Carmalena Stoltzfus Iyengar (Community Mennonite of Lancaster).

Miriam Catherine Long born September 22, 2011, daughter of Dave and Joy Long (Neffsville Mennonite).

Ephrem Michael Tomoszewski born August 17, 2011, son of Jonas and Sherri Tomoszewski (Oley Mennonite).

November 6, 2011

The King's Herald's Music Concert

Conestoga Mennonite Church (host)
Tel Hai Retirement (sponsor)
6:30 p.m.

November 17-19

"Up the Down Staircase"

Lancaster Mennonite High School
7:30 p.m.
717-299-0436, ext. 340

November 19

LMS Fall Festival & Homecoming

Cruizin' car show
11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
www.lancaster
mennonite.org
717-299-0436, ext. 706

November 27, 2011

No Longer Alone Ministries Family Support Group

"Self Care When the Holidays Press In" by Ann King-Grosh
3:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Lancaster Brethren in Christ Church

December 1, 2011

Mennonite Children's

Marriages

Roger Hoffner (Conestoga Mennonite) married **Diane Brubaker** on September 10, 2011.

Daniel Mast (Conestoga Mennonite) married **Rachel Kolb** (Conestoga Mennonite) on October 22, 2011.

Death

Gladys Kennel, 88 (Maple Grove Mennonite) on September 8, 2011. She was the wife of the late Elam D. Kennel and daughter of the late George E. and Leah W. (Martin) Lehman.

Choir of Lancaster

7:00 p.m.
Neffsville Mennonite

December 14, 2011

Live Nativity Scene

Garden Spot Village
7:00 p.m.
717-355-6007
cmusselman@garden
spotvillage.org

December 15, 2011

LMS Middle School Christmas Concert

7:00 p.m.
Lancaster Mennonite H.S.
717-299-0436, ext. 340

December 17, 2011

LMS High School Christmas Concert

4:00 p.m.
Lancaster Mennonite H.S.
717-299-0436, ext. 340

December 28-30, 2011

Jr. High Winter Camp

at Black Rock Retreat
717-529-3232
help@blackrockretreat.
com

January 20-22, 2012

Silent Sanctuary Retreat

at Black Rock Retreat
717-529-3232
eldercoord@blackrock
retreat.com

"A weekend of strengthening faith, taught by Nate. LOL that kinda rhymes."
- Michael King

"You don't have to get your ducks in a line before you take time to rest on the Sabbath."
- Abby Bunting

"I liked all of the activities going on and Nates' lessons"
- McKayla Pinchak

Ducks in a Row . . .

The 2011 ACC Fall Youth Retreat was once again held at Refreshing Mountain Camp in Pennsylvania. Youth groups from ACC gathered together September 16-18, for fellowship, music, and fun.

Nate Stucky spoke this year and had a lot of great points that our youth continue to discuss. Nate's focus for the weekend was that we do not need to have all of our "ducks in a row" before we can come to Christ. He encouraged us to think about why we pray, why we worship, and why we often do not take the time to rest on the Sabbath.

When asked to reflect upon the weekend, quotes from several youth from Holly Grove are printed above.

Nates' personal reflection on Saturday evening discussed how his family struggled when each of his children were hospitalized for an unknown sickness shortly after birth. His openness about his struggles reached a lot of our youth. They were reminded that God is always there for us and understands when we become frustrated. Holly Grove had a great weekend and we are looking forward to gathering again next year with other youth groups from ACC!

~ Jensen and Sarah Long
Holly Grove Mennonite



Nelson and his wife Jessica live in Lancaster with their two sons, Barak, 4, and Izak, 2. Nelson, a graduate of Daystar University, holds a master's of Divinity degree from Eastern Mennonite Seminary and is taking doctoral classes at Catholic University of America (Washington, D.C.). He served as lead pastor of Capital Christian Fellowship (Lanham, Md.) before beginning as EMM president in October 2011.

EMM Welcomes New President

Nelson Okanya, Eastern Mennonite Missions' new president, does not recall when he first heard about Mennonites. But sometime in his childhood, in a slum in the eastern part of Nairobi, Kenya, he became aware that his family belonged to a Mennonite church.

In 1973, just a year after Nelson's birth, EMM workers David and Grace Shenk moved from Somalia to Nairobi, Kenya, to an area called Eastleigh. The young Kenya Mennonite Church, birthed when Tanzanian Mennonites evangelized their fellow tribesmen across the border in Kenya, had invited the Shenks to open the first Mennonite church in Nairobi.

Many rural Kenyans had come into the big city in search of work to supplement the meager earnings from the family shamba or farm plot. Nelson's father John Okanya had come to Nairobi from Suna in western Kenya.

In his relentless search for a job, John had met the Shenks and began attending the young Mennonite fellowship that met in a rented hall at the Avon Rubber Company. In a desperate time of need, the Shenk family opened their home to him.

Today as Nelson reflects back on this period of history, he says, "For a white family to invite a black African to stay in their home was a cultural anomaly. My father had never even been in a modern

home before."

Nelson grew up attending Nairobi Mennonite Church and traveling between Nairobi and his family's village, Migori, in western Kenya. Life became a journey back and forth between rural and urban, and between Luo, his mother tongue, and Kiswahili and English, the national and official languages of Kenya.

"Already at a young age, I developed the art of border crossing," Nelson says. "This has stood me in good stead as I've since crossed numerous social, cultural, and national borders. It's given me multiple lenses through which to see life."

"My life is a living testimony of EMM's effectiveness as a mission agency," Nelson said. "I hope that my story and many other stories of transformation will inspire others to consider God's service. I believe these stories are also an encouragement to the thousands of people who have supported EMM throughout its history.

"Above all, I am passionate about the gospel going out in relevant forms to the entire world as a message of healing and hope. My life story bears testimony to the wonderful work done through EMM in the past, and I am excited to be part of the EMM team as that story continues in this next era."

~ Jewel Showalter

Germantown Mennonite Historical Trust

6133
Germantown
Avenue
Germantown,
PA 19144

215-843-0943

gmht@meeting-
house.info

www.meeting-
house.info

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Germantown Mennonite Historic Trust

The mission of the Germantown Mennonite Historic Trust is to protect and maintain the 1770 Germantown Mennonite Meetinghouse, a significant symbol of the first permanent Mennonite settlement in North America, and to interpret and share the history, faith and witness of Mennonites in Germantown from 1683 to the present.

“**Being** here makes our history come alive!”

This reflection came from a student who recently completed a course in “Anabaptist History and Theology” held by Eastern Mennonite Seminary, Lancaster Campus. The group met weekly in the historic Germantown 1770 Mennonite Meetinghouse.

The course is just one of many activities that take place at the Meetinghouse each year. From a Rook Tournament to Lent and Advent services to programs for Mennonite youth, the Meetinghouse is an active space. It is also used by Mennonite congregations who choose to have their Sunday morning service in a place of such historical significance.

Hundreds make the pilgrimage each year from near and far to visit this symbol and touchstone of our common faith heritage

and legacy—the first permanent community where Mennonites settled in North America. The Meetinghouse is a place of reflection where visitors are prompted to consider their own faith and the leading of God’s spirit in their lives. The Meetinghouse is always open by appointment, and Germantown Mennonite Historic Trust welcomes the privilege to share the Germantown story with families, Sunday School classes, and other groups. In addition, every second Saturday from 1-4 p.m., the Meetinghouse and thirteen other Historic Germantown sites are open to the public, which is a great way to spend an afternoon immersed in the fascinating history of the area.

To schedule a tour or use the Meetinghouse for a worship service, contact our Program Director, Christopher Friesen, at programs@meetinghouse.info or call 215-843-0943.



Left: A significant artifact on display at the historic 1770 Meetinghouse is the humble table upon which the first written protest against slavery in North America was signed. Here, GMHT Board member Ruth Marino consults with John Anderies, the Head of Special Collections at Haverford College, where the table was on loan recently for a special exhibit, “ye Quackers doe here handel men: confronting Slavery within the Society of Friends, 1676-1776.”



If you haven’t already marked your calendar, plan to join our 3rd Annual Auction on, Dec. 2, at 7:00 p.m., or our Christmas Candlelight Service with seasonal refreshments on Dec. 3 at 6:00 p.m.

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
E-mail: 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-6

Landis Homes

1001 E. Oregon Road
Lititz, PA 17543
Phones: 717-569-3271
717-581-3935
Fax: 717-569-5203
info@landishomes.org
www.landishomes.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.



Ted & Company Kairos Fall Fundraiser

See Ted & Company's
presentation:
"Excellent Trouble"

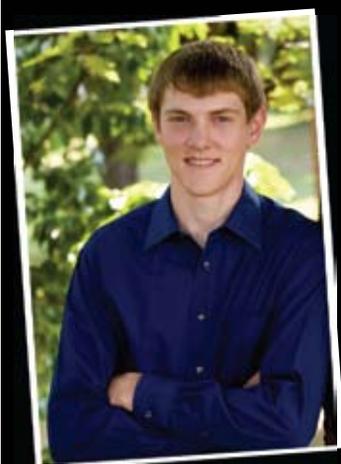
Ted and Ingrid explore the interactions of men and women in the Bible, finding the humor and the heart. They want these stories of relationships in the Bible to connect you to a God who longs to be part of your everyday relationships.

Who: Ted & Company featuring Ted Swartz and Ingrid De Sanctus.

When: Saturday, November 26, 2011, at 7:00 pm

Where: Neffsville Mennonite Church, Lancaster, Pa.

Info: 717-669-2957; kairos@on-the-journey.org



DANIEL BAKER

Lancaster Mennonite School
Class of 2011

LANCASTER MENNONITE SCHOOL
CHALLENGED DANIEL BAKER
EDUCATIONALLY.

Dan thrived at LMS where he could choose a variety of courses to explore his interests and stretch his academic abilities. "I surrounded myself with other strong students," he says.

"I wanted to take classes with people who would drive me to be **SUCCESSFUL.**"

More about Dan and others at
www.lancastermennonite.org/testimonials



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