

Calendar of Events

First Term	Sept. 16- Oct. 24
Missions Involvement	Sept. 28-29
Choir Tour	Oct. 25 - Nov. 1
Second Term	Nov. 4 - Dec. 12
Christian Nurture Conference	Nov. 15-17
Thanksgiving Vacation	Nov. 22-23
Choir Tour	Dec. 13-20
Third Term	Jan. 6 - Feb. 13
Missions Involvement	Jan. 18-19
Annual Night of Music	Feb. 7
Choir Tour	Feb. 14-21
Ministers' Week	Feb. 17-21

- ◆ We have openings for ladies & men in first, second, and fifth term. Please contact the office or check our new website for an application.

New Website

www.smbi.org

Please check out our new website! It provides information on future events, term application, reference forms, WATER application, general information, and lots more. CDs and choir information and itineraries continue to be available at www.sharonsingers.com.

Tour Itineraries

First Term ~ PA, DE, MD, VA

Second Term ~ PA, OH, IN, MI, IL

Third Term ~ PA, KY TN, OH

Fourth Term ~ Southern and Midwest States

Return Service Requested

7304 Lincoln Hwy., Harrisonville, PA 17228
ph 717.485.4341
fax 717.485.0641
smbi1@junio.com
www.smbi.org
www.sharonsingers.com

Sharon Mennonite Bible Institute



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WATER Testimonials

I'm one who does not like to face my fears. I don't mind staying in my safety bubble where nothing can harm me. I never thought it was wrong to look at life this way. I always thought that it was just who I am and that if I don't want to do something then I don't have to do it. But this summer, as I went on WATER, I found out differently. My safety bubble ruptured one afternoon as I found myself perched on top of SMBI's swing set. I stood there trembling, wondering how I would ever make it across the beam. After much encouragement from my teammates, I made it safely to the other side. Once my feet hit the ground, I felt a sense of accomplishment. I realized how much my fears held me back in life.

I think of Jonah in the Bible. God called him to preach to the city of Nineveh. The thought of preaching to that great city frightened Jonah so bad that he ran and got on a ship going far away. The ship encountered a storm and the vessel got tossed to and fro. Finally Jonah gave in. "Throw me over board!" He cried. He thought that he got away from his assigned task, but God provided a big fish to swallow Jonah. For three days and three nights, Jonah suffered in the fish, until finally Jonah's will broke and he was willing to preach to the great city of Nineveh. The people repented and God showed mercy to the city which did not please Jonah.

I often wonder how different Jonah's story would be if he would have stepped out of his bubble and would have followed God's calling the first time. Would he have gone through the storm at sea or spent three nights in a fish's stomach? I believe not. How about the end of the story? Would Jonah's attitude towards God's compassion been different? Some how I think so. So as you go out into life, will you let your fears block you from doing the will of God or will you pop your bubble and face your fears?

-Brenna McVeigh, Monterey, VA



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Debriefing...

WATER has been an amazing experience for me. I would recommend it to anyone. Before going on WATER, I had gone on a few missions trips but I didn't know what it was like to really give up my "normal" life to go and serve people in another culture and country. I know I only got a very small taste of it but it did give me some insight. The country I went to was Nicaragua. I lived in a very small vil-

lage/town with two other single girls. In basics, I learned that being a missionary is living a normal life with the natives and showing them Christ. It may not always be crazy exciting or stretching but it is what it is: Showing Christ to the people around you. We also did a lot of hiking and had some amazing adventures such as hiking volcanoes and hiking through the mountainous jungles of Nicaragua during rainy season barefooted.

One thing you hear a lot from people when they come home from mission trips is "Wow, we are so blessed and have so much stuff" and it is so true. After coming back, I realized how much stuff we have that we don't need, yet for some reason we think that we need more. It really doesn't make sense when you step back and think about it. Another thing that I absolutely loved there was the easy going, peaceful spirit. Stuff started when it started and there was not so much stuff that distracts you from serving God. I really feel like God was teaching me to just rest and get to know Him better and that I don't always need to be on the run. Overall, it was a life changing experience. I don't know if God will call me into full-time missions, but I am more than willing to go.

-Bethany Fuhrman, Thomasville, PA



Family Week 2013

~Joella Amber
Milton & Judy (Dueck) Dueck

~Judson Michael
Lucas & Anne (Yoder) Hilty

~Adam Windsor
Duane & Malisa (Peachy) Horst

~Kenden Graham
Graham & Adrienne (Krabill) Lichty

~Births~

~Jackson Amos
Clint & Nicole (Hurst) Martin

~Justin Lance
Travis & Crystal Miller

~Esther Menerva & Christian Samuel
Samuel & Sarah (Richey) Near

~Windsor Raphael
Joel & Christi (Gingerich) Oberholzer

~Lyndon Avery
Delmar & Elaine Shelly

Cassandra Jo
Amos & Shaunda (Lehman) Stoltzfus

~Kenaz Jhamal
Asher & Teresa (Miller) Witmer

~Marriages~

Daniel Miller & Joetta Stoltzfus ~12.15.12

Conrad Shenk & Cindy Gehman ~6.1.13

Darryl Schrock & Laura Dickerson ~ 7.6.13

Jason Nissley & Rosalie Petre ~7.20.13

James Allgyer & Karla Stoltzfus ~8.3.13

Derrick Miller & Danielle Miller ~8.3.13

Rosemary Penner & John Schroeder ~8.11.13

Brent Stoltzfus & Grace Yoder ~8.17.13

FAMILY WEEK 2013

Go to Family Week? What's all the hype? I'm pretty sure we aren't that type!

Does this refrain run through your mind, full of reasons you'll stay behind?

Well, here are some things to think about before you throw the idea out:

Classes full of truth to ponder; a campus in the country on which to wander;

A campground with Christians who believe as you do, your children may play without fear plaguing you.

For Dad, identifying with others who lead; For Mom, cooks who will lavishly her family feed;

A heart touching women's class to renew vision; a class for the men on victorious living;

The Youth being challenged with Lessons from the Trail, Who God Is, and Truths from Daniel.

School aged children absorb into their minds Character Training in song, skit and rhyme.

Preschoolers are cared for with kind touch and word, treated with care as gifts from the Lord.

Add crafts and a choir and friends to be found, loud games of ball and bikes riding around.

Here and there small groups discuss common ground, and often encouragement seems to be found.

The tears shed are sweet when they're shared with another; for these are the folks we call sister and brother.

We're one through God's love and we are not alone; we'll march forth with fresh vision for Godly homes.

-Regina Martin, Bradford, PA



Family Week 2013