

## Night of Music February 6, 2015 @ 7:30 pm

Needmore Bible Church  
6939 Great Cove Rd,  
Needmore, PA 17238

Held in the gymnasium behind the church building.

Directions: From I-70- Warfordsburg exit, take  
US 522 North 7 miles and church will be on the left.  
From McConnellsburg, PA, take US 522 South  
14 miles and church will be on the right.

Local eating and hotel suggestions are  
Breezewood, PA and Hancock, MD.

When registering at hotels, mention that you are with  
Sharon Mennonite Bible Institute.

## Ministers' Week February 16-20, 2015

Registration: Monday, February 16, 10 am - 12 noon

Dismissal: Friday, February 20, 1:00 pm

~ Understanding Divine Revelation in the Divine Names

by Tim Zook, Loman, MN

~ Going for the Gold (Ladies) by Diane Freed, Rustburg, VA

~ Biblical Interpretation by Melvin Lehman, Guys Mills, PA

~ Biblical Foundations for Exhortation by Frank Reed, Manheim, PA

~ Perspectives on Education and the Anabaptist Identity

by Elmer D. Glick, Slanesville, WV

~ Health Care and Christian Ethics by Dan Freed, Rustburg, VA

Costs: Institute rooms - \$8.00/night, meals - \$3.00/meal.

An offering will be taken to help cover costs.

Pre-registration is Required.

Please contact the office for a brochure and/or registration.

[www.smbi.org](http://www.smbi.org)

Return Service Requested

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# 04

October - December 2014

# the Monitor

## Truths from the River

By Anna Brubaker, Myerstown, PA

As part of the post-term opportunities offered with the First Term Enhanced program, I had the privilege to go on the canoe trip with eleven other ladies. We chose the theme of Beauty in Brokenness for the trip. It was our desire and prayer for that to be true in our lives. We wanted to be a group that was broken before God and allow him to make something beautiful out of the brokenness.

On Monday, Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>, we headed to the James River in Virginia. We had been looking forward to this trip for a long time and now it was finally here. On one hand, our days were mostly the same. Get up, eat breakfast, load up, canoe down the river, find a campsite, unload and set up camp, eat supper, talk about the day, share life stories, and go to bed. How boring some may say. But you see, that's just outside of the trip. I invite you to come get a glimpse of the real picture. I will show you why I get excited when I think back on those days. There are many things we learned that we will not forget very soon.

The one thing that really stood out to me on the trip was that we did everything together. We were a group of individual girls that became a community. Everything we did was a group effort. We ate together, sent up tents together, prayed together, sang together, packed the canoes every morning together, etc. We learned early in the trip how important it is to be unified as a group. We needed each other. We all had different personalities, gifts, and abilities, but when we joined those together, it gave us a strength that would take a lot to break. We learned that we are not made to go through life on our own. We need our canoe partners in life to help us around the rocks and over the rapids (hard things in life).

Another thing that we learned on this trip was the difference that encouragement makes. Some of us hadn't canoed very much at all and most of us were sitting in classes the last four weeks. The miles got long and we got tired. We were sore and there were times that we just wanted to stop and rest but we couldn't. The thing that got us through those times was the encouragement of others. It doesn't take much to help lift someone's spirit and give them the strength to keep going. You would hear things like, "Two more spoonfuls of grits." "You can do it!" "Here, I'll show you again how to tie that knot." "You'll get it!" "Hey, make sure you're drinking your water." "You girls are doing great! I'm proud of you!" or "Good job over those rapids." It was amazing the difference in our group when we decided that we would make it our goal to encourage each other. It doesn't take much most times, but encouragement can make a world of difference for someone else.

A lot of us girls came on the trip with a desire to see God. We really wanted to meet Him on the trip. There is something about going out in the wilderness and nature, away from all the noise and busyness of life. There is nothing quite like waking up in the morning with the sun shining through the fog on the river and everything is quiet. I found that you can meet God out there in ways that you don't normally. God seriously blew us away on this trip. We saw Him come through for us many, many times. We saw His power, but we also saw and felt His great love for us. We experienced first-hand how much He cares for his children. The time that sticks out the most to me is when one canoe was stuck on a rock in the middle of a big rapid with no human way possible to get through without crashing. It was scary and we prayed a lot. Finally, we watched the canoe slip off the rock in just the right way, the only way it could, without tipping. They continued through the rapids with the front person not having a paddle and the back person not doing much with her paddle. Amazingly, they made it through at the perfect spot, and all the way through to safety. All I can say is that God is good and He cares about us a lot. He has power and is in control of all things. We certainly met God on that trip and we won't forget anytime soon.

Finally, as I said, our theme for the trip was "Beauty in Brokenness." Every evening around the campfire, we shared life stories with each other. It was amazing to see that each girl had gone through some very hard and

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painful things. But, as we heard her story and what God had done and was doing in her life, it was amazing to see the joy and beauty that God was bringing out of her struggle and pain. Sometimes it is hard to let people see the things that are broken in our lives, but we found on our trip that when we allow God to have the pieces that are broken, He will make something beautiful out of it. It may look different than it originally did, but it will no doubt be beautiful. Till the end of the trip we knew each other very well. We saw the pain, but we also saw the beauty and were able to speak truth into each other's lives. We came away very close to each other but more importantly, very close to God. It was definitely a trip that changed our lives and we will look back on with fond memories.

We thank all who made this trip possible by your support, blessing, and prayer in our behalf.

Note: In addition to the wilderness personal development trip, First Term Enhanced offered post-term opportunities in urban ministries and music ministry.



First Term Wilderness Discipleship Group

**Notice:** We are now accepting applications for a two-year secretary position beginning in March. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact the office by January 5.

**Future mailing information:** In consideration of rising postage costs, we are reducing international mailing. Individuals living outside the United States should email the office with your current mailing address and an email address. Churches and special requests will still be mailed like normal.

## Sharon Mennonite Bible Institute Financial Report

July 2013 through June 2014

<b>Income</b>	
ROOM & BOARD	122,676.50
PERSONAL CONTRIBUTIONS	120,434.50
TUITION	103,231.88
CHURCH CONTRIBUTIONS	76,720.19
WATER	71,384.18
TOUR INCOME	62,216.81
FACILITIES RENTAL	25,867.00
CD SALES	8,225.14
RESALE ITEMS	8,051.40
SNACK BAR	4,192.70
LAUNDRY	3,922.32
TELEPHONE	2,441.28
YEARBOOK	1,728.00
VIDEO INCOME	1,500.00
TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT	750.20
STUDENT AID	243.08
INTEREST	77.59
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$613,662.77</b>
<b>Expense</b>	
PAYROLL	159,563.92
FOOD	63,629.45
WATER PROG	60,818.07
TOUR EXPENSE	52,580.14
FUEL	37,725.74
ELECTRIC	21,951.69
OFFICE & PRINTING	15,210.75
RENT	13,410.00
GIFTS & REMU	12,778.74
PAYROLL TAX	11,967.42
MAINTENANCE & BUILDING REPAIR	10,835.39
BUILDING IMPROVEMENT	9,701.84
SUPPLIES	9,597.92
INSURANCE	8,961.98
TELEPHONE EXPENSE	7,216.54
REAL ESTATE TAX	6,966.56
RESALE	7,084.41
TRAVEL	5,608.46
FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT REPAIR	4,512.12
SNACKBAR	3,450.78
VEHICLE EXPENSE	3,253.56
POSTAGE	3,103.66
STAFF DEVELOPMENT	3,050.91
FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT PURCHASE	2,647.80
SANITATION	1,900.75
VIDEO EXPENSE	1,545.00
YEARBOOK EXPENSE	1,450.00
STUD-AID	1,187.50
RESALE	1,118.00
LIBRARY	481.06
PUBLICATIONS	376.87
MISC EXPENSE	306.00
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$542,875.03</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$70,787.74</b>

An estate donation contributed to an increase in personal contributions. This will be reserved to help fund larger projects in the future. We are continually grateful for the ongoing financial support that makes SMBI possible. Thank you so much!

# Did you hear...

## Marriages

- Jason Delagrang & Verna Schmucker~ 8.8.14
- Daniel Braun & Florence Dueck~ 8.31.14
- Randy Risser & Sarah Hackman~ 8.30.14
- Cameron Miller & Valerie Miller~ 9.6.14
- Leighton Martin & Amber Martin~9.13.14
- Andrew Smucker & Ashley Hostetler~ 9.13.14
- Glendon Kuhns & Lana Martin~ 9.20.14

- John W. Beachy & Vera Schmucker~ 9.27.14
- Jared Good & Rolanda Beachy~ 9.27.14
- Doug Yoder & Missy Hershberger~9.27.14
- Winston Miller & Bridget Yoder~ 10.11.14
- Caleb Stoltzfoos & Katie Beachy~ 11.1.14
- Anthony Martin & Rachel Mullett~ 11.8.14
- Aaron Lapp & Andrea Schrock~ 11.15.14
- Trent Clugston & Rhonda Brenneman~ 11.23.14

We need your help in getting out the glad news of recent weddings and births!  
Please feel free to email or call the office with any updates.

## Calendar of Events

- Third Term** . . . . . **Jan. 5 - Feb. 12**
- Missions Involvement . . . . . Jan. 17 - 18
- Annual Night of Music . . . . . Feb. 6
- Choir Tour . . . . . Feb. 13 - 20
- Minister's Week** . . . . . **Feb. 16 - 20**
- Fourth Term** . . . . . **Feb. 23 - April 2**
- Missions Conference . . . . . March 21 - 22
- Graduation . . . . . March 27
- Choir Tour . . . . . April 3 - April 24

We have openings for ladies and men in fifth term.

## Tour Itinerary

### 3rd Term

- Feb. 13 at 7pm- Mount Joy Conservative Mennonite Church in Raglesville, IN
- Feb. 15 at 9:30am-Leon-Salem Mennonite Church in Leon, IA
- Feb. 15 at 7pm-Sunnyside Mennonite Church in Kalona, IA
- Feb. 16 at 7pm- Berea Fellowship in Bremen, IN
- Feb. 17 at 7pm- Pleasant View Amish Mennonite Church in Hartville, OH
- Feb. 18 at 7pm- Myerstown Mennonite Church in Myerstown, PA

### 4th Term - Guatemala

### 5th Term- Prince Edward Island

Note: Passports are needed for 4th and 5th term tours

Check out our website for more specific info...  
[www.sharonsingers.com](http://www.sharonsingers.com)

## Births

- David & Jessica (Sharp) Burkholder  
~Jackson Alexander
- Tim & Katie (Koop) Croft  
~Timothy Shane
- Keith & Lesa (Enns) Maust  
~Landon Carter
- Craig & Joy (Mast) Miller  
~Dexter Craig
- Benjamin & Becky (Stoltzfus) Peters  
~ Kensington Magdalena

Alfy & Anita (Beachy) Schrock

~Zoe Kristine

Asher & Teresa (Miller) Witmer

~Adrion Deontée

## WATER 2015

Registration is open for the summer missions program which runs June 22 - July 31. Come spend a week on campus in intense orientation and then spend almost five weeks at one of 34 locations of your choice in North, South, or Central America, the Caribbean, Europe, Africa, or Asia. Contact the office or visit [smbi.org](http://smbi.org) for more information.