

## Night of Music February 3, 2017 7:30 pm

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

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 13-17, 2017

Registration: Monday, February 13, 10 am - 12 noon  
Dismissal: Friday, February 17, 1:00 pm

The Holy Spirit– Frank Reed  
I and II Peter– Keith Clugston  
Practical Church Life– Earl Martin  
Introduction to Greek– Elijah Yoder  
Women of Encouragement– Deloris Clugston  
...and more

Costs: Institute rooms - \$9.00/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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A Quarterly  
Newsletter Of  
Sharon Mennonite Bible Institute  
Vol. 39 • Issue 04

# 04

October– December 2016

# the Monitor

## The Cavalry is Coming!

By: Elijah Yoder

Have you ever wanted to do great things for God's kingdom? Is your dream to be a Mennonite couch potato or to be a shaker for the Lord? In Jeremiah 9:1, the prophet Jeremiah cries out to God saying, "Oh that my head were waters, and mine eyes a fountain of tears, that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people." Jeremiah, the weeping prophet, desired to be mightily used by the Lord in crying out for the nation of Israel. But before this could happen, God had to take Jeremiah on a journey.

In Jeremiah 11:18-23 is recorded a plot by the men of Jeremiah's home town of Anathoth. Though Jeremiah was innocent of any wrongdoing, these men were planning to kill Jeremiah because he was prophesying in the name of the Lord (vs. 21).

What would you do or say if you knew that others were plotting to kill you? Just like you or I would likely get a bit emotional, so does Jeremiah! Jeremiah's response to these plotters is recorded in Jeremiah 12:1-4 as Jeremiah cries out to God.

Jeremiah acknowledges the righteousness of the Lord, but then also asks the question: Why do the wicked prosper? These plotters spoke about God (vs. 2), but did not know Him. They seemed to think that God did not see and would not judge them!

God's answer to Jeremiah is recorded in Jeremiah 12:5. It is a simple and yet very deep and profound verse packed with truth and application for us today: "If thou hast run with the footmen, and they have wearied thee, then how canst thou contend with horses? and if in the land of peace, wherein thou trustedst, they wearied thee, then how wilt thou do in the swelling of Jordan?" Following are four observations from this text with applications for us today.

First of all, God told Jeremiah that the sufferings and threats he was now experiencing were nothing compared to those which were coming. God did not give Jeremiah a "pity party"! This was only the foot soldiers! Wait till the cavalry comes! Sometimes we, like Jeremiah, think we are having hard times. And yet, in reality,

we are still living in a time of relative peace and prosperity. But, it may and probably will, get much worse! Secondly, beyond the questions God asked Jeremiah in verse 5, He gave him words of comfort in the following verses. God told Jeremiah specifically to not believe the words of the men of Anathoth (vs. 6). Just like Jeremiah felt pain and sorrow, so did the Lord. In the end, these plotters would be taken into captivity (vs. 14). God also will care for us and give us specific words of direction for the trials we may face. God assures us that He is with us, not against us.

The third truth from this passage is that God will never call us to face the horsemen until he has trained us with the footmen. He will not call us to fight in the thickets by the Jordan until he has trained us in a land of peace. Jeremiah was being trained by means of a plot against his own life. This was minor compared to the devastation and death he would soon see and face.

And fourthly, Jeremiah's struggle with a personal issue prepared him to face a much greater struggle for and with his people. Did Jeremiah ever face the cavalry? What did God mean when He said, "then how canst thou contend with horses?" A few years later when the Babylonian army destroyed Jerusalem, Jeremiah was there. He describes the devastation in Lamentations 2:21: "The young and old lie on the ground in the streets, my virgins and my young men are fallen by the sword; . . .' And indeed, Jeremiah did cry and cry and cry for his people (as he had longed to do in 9:1).

What about you and I? Conditions in our country and in our world are sometime going to get worse, not better. The peace and prosperity we now experience are not the norm! The trials and difficulties we now face are still small, but they are the training ground for what lies ahead!

As God was with Jeremiah, so he  
will be with us!

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Building Project Update

In the Oct. – Dec. 2015 *Monitor*, it was announced that the staff house on the SMBI property was being expanded. Permits were finally received in July and construction began in August. Praise the Lord, we received temporary occupancy permits and Byron Wolfers were able to move into the new housing on November 25! We are grateful for the many workers, volunteers, donated and discounted materials, and financial contributions that have made this project possible. While there are a few exterior details to complete, it is already being enjoyed and appreciated by staff. Currently, all bills are paid for the project. However, as the project nears completion, additional finances are needed to cover the final bills that are being submitted. We would appreciate your prayers for this need.



WATER 2017

Registration is open for the summer missions program which runs June 26 – Aug. 4. Come spend a week on campus in intense orientation and then spend almost five weeks at one of 25 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.

Sharon Mennonite Bible Institute		
Financial Report		
July 2015 through June 2016		
Income		
CD SALES & MUSIC INCOME	14,162.22	
CHURCH CONTRIBUTIONS	81,122.35	
FACILITIES RENTAL	22,975.92	
INTEREST	40.61	
LAUNDRY	2,727.84	
PERSONAL CONTRIBUTIONS	56,177.45	
RESALE ITEMS	3,596.12	
ROOM & BOARD	111,247.18	
SNACK BAR	3,603.23	
STUDENT AID	827.26	
TELEPHONE	1,217.35	
TOUR INCOME	82,606.05	
TUITION	120,528.69	
VIDEO INCOME	9,268.40	
WATER	110,514.20	
YEARBOOK	2,085.00	
Total Income	622,699.87	
Expense		
AUDIT & ACCOUNTING	4,707.50	
BUILDING IMPROVEMENT	2,552.85	
ELECTRIC	28,293.77	
FOOD	57,724.52	
FUEL	5,838.98	
FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT PURCHASE	5,440.03	
FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT REPAIR	4,430.45	
GIFTS & REMU	14,323.51	
INSURANCE	7,282.98	
LIBRARY	29.50	
MAINTENANCE & BUILDING REPAIR	11,585.94	
MUSIC	11,610.11	
OFFICE & PRINTING	15,187.58	
PAYROLL	172,871.05	
PAYROLL TAX	13,027.47	
POSTAGE	2,366.45	
PUBLICATIONS	761.42	
REAL ESTATE TAX	7,101.15	
RENT	19,799.93	
RESALE	1,935.29	
SANITATION	2,175.60	
SNACKBAR	2,381.34	
STAFF DEVELOPMENT	1,749.44	
SUPPLIES	8,062.58	
TELEPHONE EXPENSE	9,925.37	
TOUR EXPENSE	67,929.73	
TRAVEL	4,659.97	
TUITION WAVERS	11,227.50	
VEHICLE EXPENSE	1,711.71	
VIDEO EXPENSE	434.30	
WATER PROG	97,483.32	
YEARBOOK EXPENSE	2,796.30	
Total Expense	597,407.64	
Net Income	25,292.23	

Did you hear...

Births

Jason & Rosalie (Petre) Nissley  
~Janiece Diane  
Marcel & Krista (Beiler) Witmer  
~Liam Alexander  
Joshua & Bethanna (Taylor) Harper  
~Edmund Lee

Marriages

Warren Eshleman & Kimberly Nolt ~ 10.8.16  
Jaden Kilmer & Jewel Gingerich ~ 10.22.16  
Graham Vandersbosch & Juanita Burkholder ~ 11.26.16  
Verlin Eshleman & Shanna Peachey ~ 11.19.16

Thank You!

With just under \$20,000 in contributions through Dec. 8, 1976, SMBI opened the doors of a faith journey with its first term in January, 1977. Through 40 years, God has faithfully provided and we are grateful. Thank you to the many churches and individuals who have been the hands and feet of God’s provision again this year. May God bless you!  
Part of the surplus in last year’s financial report was early contributions toward the building project. Those funds and other money set aside for the project have been used. In mid-November, our faith was stretched as we began to wonder how bills would be paid. Then at just the right time, God provided through a generous donor. Now, we are excited to see how God will again provide whether through end of year giving or otherwise. Please, join us in prayer.

REMINDER!!!

Save the Date!  
May 26 – 28, 2017  
SMBI 40th Year Anniversary Celebration  
1977 – 2017

Tentative plans for this celebration/reunion weekend include sharing times by former staff and board members, chicken Bar-be-que on Saturday, and a music program on Sunday afternoon led by former music directors. Come and join us for a time of reconnecting with friends, sharing memories, fun, and inspiration. Watch for more information in coming newsletters.

Calendar of Events

Third Term ..... Jan. 2 - Feb. 9  
Missions Involvement ..... Jan. 14 - 15  
Annual Night of Music ..... Feb. 3  
Choir Tour ..... Feb. 10 - 17  
Ministers’ Week ..... Feb. 13 - 17  
Fourth Term ..... Feb. 20-March 30  
Missions Conference ..... March 17 - 19  
Graduation ..... March 25  
Choir Tour ..... March 31-April 21  
Fifth Term ..... April 10-May 18  
We have openings for ladies and men in fifth term.

Tour Itinerary

3rd Term  
Feb. 10 7:00 pm Plainview Gospel Fellowship  
Feb. 11 Travel  
Feb. 12 11:00 am Petrey Memorial Baptist Church  
7:00 pm Pilgrim Christian Fellowship  
Feb. 13 6:00 pm Rainbow Mennonite Church  
Feb. 14 Kempsville Amish Mennonite Church  
Feb. 15 Travel & Rest  
Feb. 16 8:00 am Recording at Altar of Praise Studio  
7:00 pm Mine Road Mennonite Church  
Feb. 17 11:00 am SMBI – Ministers Week

4th Term  
Haiti  
Note: Passports are needed for 4th term tour  
Check out our website for more specific info...  
[www.sharonsingers.com](http://www.sharonsingers.com)