



P A N O R A M A

Celebrating with the people and congregations of Pacific Southwest Mennonite Conference WINTER 2006-07



An olive tree planted by First Mennonite members along the Rails to Trails project was a gift to the Reedley community and a symbol of the congregation's longstanding commitment to peacemaking.

Gifts from the Past: Reedley congregation marks its 100th birthday

By Hope Nisly

Birthdays are significant, and First Mennonite Church of Reedley, one of PSMC's oldest congregations in the heart of California's Central Valley, spent much of 2006 telling the many stories of its first one hundred years.

The commemorations of its centennial year culminated Nov. 17-19, with a weekend gathering of food and festivities.

The first minister at First Mennonite Church was H.J. Krehbiel. Shortly after World War I, Krehbiel and his

wife, Lydia, traveled to Basel, Switzerland, to attend the assembly of Mennonite World Conference. Krehbiel was so moved by the endless sea of white crosses marking the graves of the war dead that he came back and wrote a book about the experience. In it he proclaimed that, "To oppose war is part of the calling of the Christian church." His pronouncement was prophetic, setting the tone for this congregation for the coming century.

The first event of the year-long celebration was November 2005, at the annual Church Loyalty Day. On that Sunday, Fresno artist Margaret Hudson unveiled a sculpture of three children singing. That morning the bilingual congregation, which includes both Spanish- and English-speaking congregants, sang familiar tunes in both languages.

Music has always been an important part of First

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PANORAMA

is a publication of Pacific Southwest Mennonite Conference, which unites and serves congregations across Arizona, California and Nevada.

Please help us share what's going on in your congregation and community! Contributions of news, faith stories and photos are heartily encouraged.

Write to the editor, Doreen Martens, at: panorama@pacificsouthwest.org

(905) 829-9640

Reedley celebrates a century of worship and service

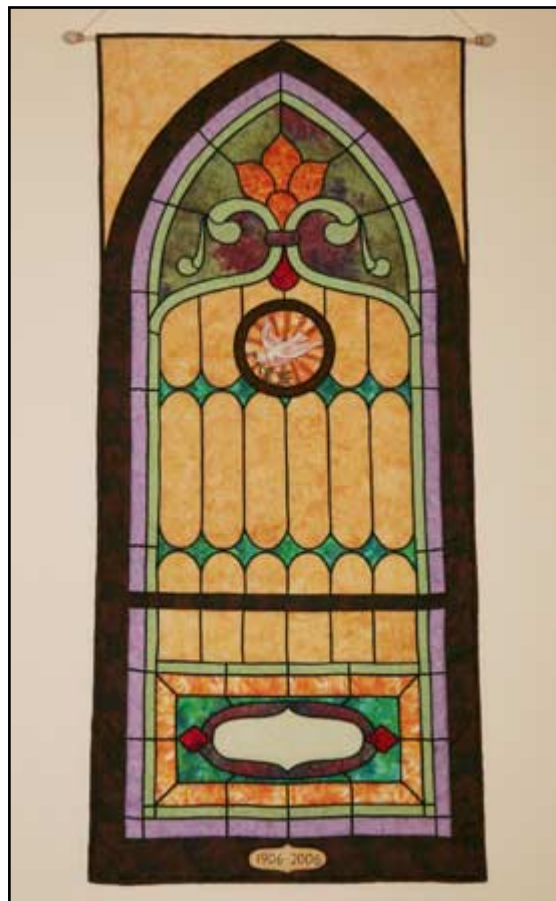


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Mennonite. As several children assisted Hudson in unveiling the sculpture, she noted, "Being here this morning, I realized why I had to make this sculpture the way it is, with children singing. I have never been in such an incredibly singing and joyful congregation as I heard this morning." The name of the sculpture is "Joyous Celebration."

In February 2006, Melva and Arnold Ewy hung their joint creation, a quilted wall hanging that is an exact replica of one of the church's original stained-glass windows, "Dove in the Window." Melva used her wall hanging and early church photos to lead the children on a whirlwind tour of church history. She shared with them church legacies such as the love for music and desire to be peacemakers.

Various actors presented monthly historical vignettes written by Dorothy Boldt and current pastor Steve Penner. These windows into the past depicted stories such as the one about Pastor Krehbiel, outlined some of the local cultural influences, and explained what brought people to Reedley. The stories included some painful moments in the church's history, such as an acknowledgment of the displacement of indigenous people and the forced relocation of local Japanese farmers during WWII.



Melva and Arnold Ewy's 'Dove in the Window' replicates a stained-glass window. Below left, Margaret Hudson with her sculpture.

In April, the church planted an olive tree on the Rails-to-Trails path that runs through downtown Reedley. A gift to the Reedley community, the olive tree, much like the quilted dove-in-the-window, is a symbol of FMC's efforts and commitment to peacemaking in the community and in the world. The church presented the olive tree to the city in a September dedication ceremony. Reedley city officials and a Rails-to-Trails representative were present at the dedication.

In November 2006, the final centennial events spanned a weekend. The celebration began with a music concert. The centennial book, edited by Corinna Ruth, was presented along with an introduction to families of founding members. Other activities included a German meal, a fajita buffet, a quilt display, and an exhibit at the Reedley Museum. Mennonite historian John E. Sharp was the featured speaker.

As First Mennonite Church moves into its second century of life in Reedley, it has been a privilege to learn about and honor the many gifts from the past. Each pastor and every person who has worshiped at this church in the past one hundred years helped lay a foundation of hope for the future. Each event has led toward becoming a multi-ethnic congregation, where members strive to discover what it means to be God's people, who are part of a local community that is in turn part of a global society.



San José 2007

Come expecting great times of worship!

A roster of leaders drawing heavily on gifted people from the West Coast will lead worship at San José 2007, the much anticipated biennial assembly of Mennonite Church USA to be held July 2-7.

The national executive recently announced that Maribeth Troyer of Phoenix and Rod Stafford of Portland, Ore. – a former pastor at Pasadena Mennonite in our own conference – will serve as adult worship leaders. Youth worship leaders will be Ben Bolanos of San Francisco, who has served on the PSMC board, and Rachel Gerber of Denver.

Music leaders for the adult services will include George Makinto of Los Angeles Faith Chapel, Tom Harder of Wichita, and Helen Hudgens of Evanston, Ill. Jeremy Kempf of Goshen, Ind., will lead music for the youth assembly services.

Worship and music leaders met with planning committees in San Jose in October.

Troyer is a certified chaplain and a member of Trinity Mennonite Church in Glendale, Ariz., where she is currently serving as pastoral intern. Stafford, a native Californian and graduate of Fuller Seminary, is lead pastor at Portland Mennonite Church. Director of Convention Planning for Mennonite Church USA Executive Leadership Jorge Vallejos is confident Troyer and Stafford will facilitate meaningful worship for San José 2007 participants.

“In selecting worship leaders we wanted to make sure they possessed a strong Anabaptist frame of reference coupled with a stage presence that is welcoming and sincere,” Vallejos said. “I think both Maribeth and Rod possess these qualities plus a strong commitment to Christ’s church. Moreover, Maribeth is from Pacific Southwest Mennonite Conference, and Rod from Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference, which will give our worship sessions the additional a unique West Coast touch.”

Bolanos is an active member of First Mennonite Church of San Francisco. By trade, he is a high school history teacher in Palo Alto, Calif. Gerber is associate pastor of faith formation at First Mennonite Church in Denver and serves Mountain States Mennonite Conference as its Conference Resource Advocate.

“By adding Ben and Rachel to the mix, we are widening the spectrum of people who are impacted by convention worship. We, as a committee, are blessed to have them on board,” said Rachel Swartzendruber, associate director of convention planning for Mennonite Church USA Executive Leadership. “They bring fresh ideas and have a sense of calling to this role. They are excited about helping youth *Live the Call!*”

Worship planning for San José 2007 has been underway for several months and is almost complete. The week will include multiple worship services, including some joint services that will bring youth and adults together.

Brother Makinto is a multi-talented musician, singer, composer and international recording artist. He has traveled through more than 60 countries studying various



Members of the Youth Worship Planning Committee for San José 2007, Ben Bolanos, Jeremy Kempf and Kendra King, work together in preparation for the big gathering in July. Photo by Marathana Prothro.

music styles including classical, jazz and African traditional music.

Harder serves as co-pastor with his wife, Lois, of Lorraine Avenue Mennonite Church in Wichita and is an active and versatile musician with a doctorate in classical guitar performance from Arizona State University.

Hudgens is the worship minister at Reba Place Church in Evanston, Ill., where she helped start the Reba Gospel Choir in 1995 and the vocal ensemble Reba Praise in 1997. She also is on the faculty of the School of Music at North Park University.

Kempf currently works as recruitment coordinator for Mennonite Mission Network. He graduated from Hesston College and Greenville College with a degree in contemporary Christian music and has spent several years as lead guitarist in the Christian rock/worship band *thirstborne*.

Joel Shenk of Pasadena, who served on the Adult Worship Planning Committee, is looking forward to seeing how the creative and thoughtful work of the people planning worship for San José 2007 will come together under the *Live the Call!* theme. “God was definitely at work in bringing together a team with a wide range of gifts and skills, all of which are needed to plan and coordinate large-scale worship services,” Shenk said.

“I’m continually amazed by the passion our planning committee members bring to each San José 2007 meeting. We have committee members who have dedicated their lives to youth ministry and others who are youth themselves. This provides us with a very wide spectrum of people represented and that is what makes our meetings so beneficial,” Swartzendruber said.

For details on San José 2007, see www.SanJose2007.org or call 1-866-866-2872 and ask for Convention Planning. You can now register online or by mail.

– Adapted from a Mennonite Church USA release by Maranatha Prothro



From top:
Rod Stafford,
Maribeth Troyer,
George Makinto

Hearing the Call

Winter Assembly set to bring our diverse conference together

The theme chosen for Winter Assembly (Feb. 2-3) of Pacific Southwest Mennonite Conference looks ahead to our role as host conference for San Jose 2007 – the convention of Mennonite Church USA this summer. Grounded in a short passage from Mark 4, the theme is: “Whomever Has Ears: Hearing the Call.”

Our hosts for this gathering, which puts the accent on worship, fellowship and celebration, will be Indonesian Worship Church/ JKI Maranatha Harvest, located at 18425 Kittridge St., Reseda, Calif.

Selected delegates are expected from every PSMC member congregation, but you need not be an official delegate to attend. Everybody who’d like to come is welcome to join in a lively gathering featuring great fellowship with Mennonite brothers and sisters of many cultures and backgrounds, lots of worship and music, three excellent speakers and a little business, as we ponder what it means to “listen” as Mark 4:23 urges.

The assembly begins with registration at 5 p.m. and the opening worship at 7 p.m. continuing through Saturday afternoon. Breakfast, lunch and snacks will be available on Saturday.

Guest speakers will include:

- **Sunoko Lin**, pastor of the host church and a member of the Shalom Ministries board;
- **Jennifer Davis Sensenig**, associate pastor at Pasadena Mennonite, district elder and instructor in biblical interpretation at the Center for Anabaptist Leadership’s School for Urban Mission; and
- **Tom Leard Longenecker**, the district elder for PSMC’s Foothill congregations and currently a doctoral student in religion at Claremont Graduate University.

The assembly will be preceded by an engaging workshop titled *Faith, Labor, and Sabbath Economics: Does God Care about Economic Justice?* sponsored by the Peace Center at the Center for Anabaptist Leadership (see separate article).

For more information for either event, or to register online, go to www.pacificsouthwest.org/assembly.



Assemblies offer a twice-a-year opportunity for folks from PSMC churches to enjoy rich fellowship, fruitful discussion (above right) and communion.



The Peace Center at CAL Presents

Faith, Labor, and Sabbath Economics:
Does God Care about Economic Justice?

In these days when the increasing disparity between the rich and the rest of us threatens our very democracy, people of faith are called to speak and act with a prophetic faith. This workshop explores biblical themes of economic justice and brings us stories of people of faith who are successfully struggling against the tide to bring about this justice for working people.

Workshop Leaders:

- **Alexia Salvatierra:** An ordained pastor in the Lutheran Church of America, she has participated in workers’ struggles around the world and in the Los Angeles area. She is currently the Executive Director of Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice (CLUE), based in Los Angeles, and co-chair of a new statewide alliance of interfaith worker justice groups (CLUE California).
- **Bert Newton:** An associate pastor at Pasadena Mennonite Church and Director of the Peace Center at Center for Anabaptist Leadership.

When: Feb. 2, 2007

Time: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Where: Indonesian Christian Fellowship/JKI Maranatha Harvest, 18425 Kittridge St. Reseda, CA 91335

Fee: \$30 per person (includes lunch; please let us know if vegetarian option is needed). Make check payable to The Center for Anabaptist Leadership.

RSVP: Contact Joel Shenk at 626-720-8100 or Joelshenk@gmail.com if you plan to attend.

Did you know?

PANORAMA

is available in an electronic (PDF) version in full color, delivered promptly to your inbox. If you’d like to be placed on the email list, please write to panorama@pacificsouthwest.org, and put “subscribe” in your subject line.

You can also see past issues of PANORAMA online at the conference website, www.pacificsouthwest.org

Community just this side of heaven

Goldensun Peace Ministries a blessing in Arizona

Marla Pierson Lester Mennonite Central Committee

In a Goldensun Ministries home in Phoenix, a home for adults with developmental disabilities that receives support from Mennonite Central Committee, Anna Klitzke and her housemates prepare dinner together, sometimes inviting guests. They talk about how their day went and watch movies.

These cozy acts of domesticity can be tremendous milestones.

Anna, now 26, lived with her parents before moving in. Her mother Donna worried what would happen when she and her husband could no longer care for their daughter, a fear common to parents whose children have developmental disabilities.

Donna wanted to find a situation where Anna could live more independently, but she also wanted her daughter to be in a Christian setting. She and her husband considered moving to California, where MCC had helped to start a Christian home. Then, in 2005, MCC support led to the opening of the first Goldensun house in Phoenix.

Parents in the area, including several who serve on the West Coast MCC disabilities committee, had long pushed for a residential program in the region. Trinity Mennonite Church had started a school for people with developmental disabilities before the public education system was mandated to serve them, and members were interested in other forms of outreach.

MCC asked Leroy Willems to move from Elkhart County, Ind., where he was the executive director of a similar faith-based, church-supported program, to start a residential program in Arizona.

Children with developmental disabilities often have access to wide net of peers and friends through school or other programs. But as they grow up, their social circle narrows dramatically.

Goldensun seeks to create a community of friends and activities for residents, as well as weaving a web of support with area churches, especially Trinity.

A distinctive aspect of the program is that it brings together residents such as Anna with housemates who do not have developmental disabilities.

Paid staff members assist residents with their daily needs, freeing residents without developmental disabilities to simply serve the role of housemate and friend.

"It creates a real community, which we believe as Christians is the answer to loneliness. We believe in interdependence, that we're better off when we share our gifts," Willems said.

Willems said the mix helps to make the house feel less like an institution and more like a home. Something very different happens. It elevates the self-worth of the people that live there. They experience themselves as friends, peers. The residents see themselves as just one member of



Anna Klitzke, center, lives in a Goldensun community for adults with developmental disabilities. Pictured with her are her mother, left, and Lisa Hostetler, a former housemate who now is on staff at Goldensun.

a spectrum of abilities, instead of being grouped by capabilities.

And volunteers, Willems said, get to learn about gift-fulness that comes outside our social values. "They learn what it means to be shoulder-to-shoulder with people that are generally on the outside of society. When they experience that solidarity, I believe they experience God in a new way."

Lisa Hostetler described it as "family."

Hostetler, who lived with Anna in the house as a volunteer and now serves as a paid staff member in another Goldensun home, said she and residents including Anna learned to lean on each other and love each other.

"We each bring something to the table," Hostetler said. "We can all teach and take from each other. They're always ready to give you a hug, ask how your day was. They're eager to tell you how they're doing and the things on their mind."

There are now three Goldensun homes – one for women and two for men – and another is planned. Willems describes his dream for a web of churches that would support and care for residents, becoming another branch of the extended family he strives to form. Church members will know individual residents, keep tabs on how they're doing and ask how their lives are going. That is a success Willems longs for.

But each day, with group outings, cookouts or home-made dinners, residents are settling into their own lives, tackling new goals and doing things that may have once seemed impossible.

Anna talks about how she cooks for housemates on Thursday nights and her outings and activities. She is glad she moved in, she says.

Donna, for her part, nearly breaks into tears talking about how her youngest daughter had her over for dinner – a moment that signified leaps in growth she could scarcely have imagined.

"It's something I thought would never happen on this side of heaven," she said.

What's the scoop?

People and events

Did you know?

Serving and Learning Together (SALT) is an 11-month program of Mennonite Central Committee for Christians ages 18 to 27 interested in a cross-cultural service experience. Through participation in the daily lives and realities of communities in need, SALT participants will learn, reflect, absorb and above all, change. The primary goal is personal transformation and learning in hope of sowing seeds for transformation of our society and of global relationships. Participants commit themselves to an uninterrupted term from August through July. For more information check out www.mcc.org/salt.

Choice Books of West Coast is looking for part-time ministry employees and volunteers in Southern California. Choice Books is a literature evangelism ministry related to Anabaptist churches nationwide that placed more than 5 million Christian and inspirational books in secular stores in 2006. With ministry expanding in Southern California, it needs part-time workers to help with delivery and customer relations. Openings are available both west and east of the I-5. All persons interested in this ministry, including retirees interested in part-time ministry, are encouraged to apply. Contact Fritz or Christy by phone, 559-638-1745, or send e-mail to: friesenc@wc.choicebooks.org.

College news: Two students from PSMC churches, **Jordan Penner**, of First Mennonite Church Reedley, and **Jeff Janzen**, of Mennonite Community Church in Fresno, have been named to the dean's list at Bethel College, a four-year liberal arts college affiliated with Mennonite Church USA. Founded in 1887, it's the oldest Mennonite college in North America and has been named a top tier college by *U.S. News & World Report* annually since 1998. **Betsy Houser**, a first-year student at Goshen College from Phoenix, was one of five students chosen to speak Jan. 23 as part of a tradition nearly a century old: the Henry Smith Peace Oratorical Contest. Houser chose current immigration issues as the topic for her speech "Peace, Prosperity and the Promised Land." She is a collegiate studies major, the daughter of David and Wendy Houser, and attends Sunnyslope Mennonite.

Christian Peacemaker Teams, an active peacemaking organization created by Mennonites, Brethren and Quakers, is putting together two delegations to investigate and challenge the use of **depleted uranium munitions**,

which are implicated in the disabilities suffered by thousands of U.S. military personnel who fought in the first Gulf War and by civilians in Iraq. The delegations, March 16-25 and May 18-27, are part of a larger campaign to halt the production of DU munitions, which are still being produced – though the European Union has banned them – in Jonesborough, Tenn., a community that appears to be suffering health effects simply from its proximity to the plant. Delegates will start in Jonesborough and meet veterans, hospital administrators and plant employees, as well as organize a nonviolent public witness. The March group may also travel to Washington, D.C. Delegates arrange their own travel to Knoxville and raise \$300 for other expenses, including meals and accommodations. For details, contact CPT at 773-277-0253; or delegations@cpt.org, or see CPT's website at www.cpt.org and click on "delegations".

On Jan. 7, Pima County Court Judge Maria Felix sentenced **Nancy Gallen** and **Christian Peacemaker Teams** member **Scott Kerr** to eight hours of community service for obstructing a highway as part of a nonviolent protest at the Raytheon Missile Systems plant south of Tucson last March, the third anniversary of the U.S. invasion of Iraq. The two had pleaded no contest to the misdemeanor charge. Four others had received the same sentence in November, while charges of unlawful assembly, disorderly conduct, public nuisance and being a pedestrian in a roadway were dropped. Kerr contrasted the name Raytheon ("Light of God") with the concurrent holy day of Epiphany, celebrating the light that guided the Magi to Jesus. King Herod later had babies killed to protect his imperial power from the prophesied King of Kings. Raytheon's weapons kill and maim indiscriminately in the service of empire, just as Herod did, Kerr said. "Herod is still killing babies." Kerr reminded the court of its own complicity in the slaughter of innocents, by convicting peacemakers who try to stop it.

Steve Penner, pastor at First Mennonite Church Reedley, is among a dozen Mennonite Church USA representatives who plan to visit Mennonite leaders and congregations in the **Democratic Republic of Congo** in February – a significant step in plans to develop closer global connections and relationships with Congolese Mennonites. Delegates from the Congo Evangelical Mennonite Church, the Congo Mennonite Church and Mennonite Church USA first began exploring the idea at the Mennonite World Conference Assembly in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, in 2003. The February delegation will divide into smaller groups to visit various parts of the country, including urban centers like Kinshasa, Tshikapa, Kikwit and Mbuji Mayi, as well as more remote rural congregations. Church leaders from these conferences visited American churches in connection with their participation in MWC General Council meetings last spring in Pasadena, Calif. The delegation hopes to learn more about the challenges Congolese churches are facing, particularly as a result of centuries of interference from outside powers and decades of dictatorship, political collapse and unrest. A long process of peacemaking and democratization culminated in national elections this year. According to MWC, Congo – including a third conference, the Congo Mennonite Brethren Church – has more Mennonite believers than any country other than the



Mission workers Michelle and James Stabler-Havener, who relate to PSMC member congregation Pasadena Mennonite, share a Thanksgiving meal with Xu Xinhao and Li Dan, friends in Chengdu, China. Such informal get-togethers are a fun and valuable part of their relationship-building work in China with Mennonite Partners in China (formerly China Educational Exchange).



Kids at Hopi Mission School don a variety of dress, contemporary and traditional, during an annual three-day event to celebrate their heritage. The event includes demonstrations of traditional foods and crafts, below.

United States. CMCO is the fourth-largest denominational body relating to the World Conference.

The **Mennonite Church USA Peace and Justice Support Network** is looking for high school age and older folks interested in contributing writing, photos, graphics, posters and other materials for a new youth section on its website: www.MennoniteChurchUSA.org/peace. The Web may be huge, but there's very little on it that helps youth link Christianity and peace, says director Susan Mark Landis. She invites prayers for the many young people who spend a lot of time exploring violent websites and the highly attractive military sites. If you're interested in contributing your gifts to the youth web pages, write to her at susanml@mennoniteusa.org.

Mennonite Central Committee is appealing for donations of various kits of basic supplies to send to people in need in eastern Europe, Central America and Africa. It is hoping to receive 25,000 **health kits**, 7,000 **relief kits** and 500 **AIDS care kits** by Jan. 31. Health kits contain a toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, nail clipper and hand towel, while relief kits contain a larger number of personal items. AIDS care kits contain basic items, such as washcloths and bedsheets, for use in caring for people with AIDS. AIDS care kits must be accompanied by a \$100 donation. A complete list of kit contents and drop-off locations is available online at mcc.org/kits.

David Martin, MCC's material resources manager, says that there are about six shipments that need to be sent as soon as kits are donated: "We would like to be able to fill these requests as soon as possible and also have a reasonable quantity on hand for unforeseen emergencies that might come up in the next few months."

Each fall, **Hopi Mission School** adjusts its regular class schedule for Indian Days, a three-day celebration that helps students learn more about their own heritage and history. On a Wednesday, students are encouraged to wear traditional clothing. On Thursday, a variety of demonstrations are held involving skilled artists and craftspersons. On Friday, a clan run is scheduled, with students wearing the insignia of their clan membership. Family members conclude the observance by sharing a



carry-in lunch featuring traditional foods. Demonstrations this year included parched corn with Ruby Chemerica; weaving of plaques with Anita Koruh; pottery-making with Marilyn Sakeva; flute making and playing with Ernie Northup; blue marbles (a kind of blue corn dumpling) with Marion Montoya; and windmaker toy creation with Wave Dashee.

This is just one of the many creative activities that make the 56-year-old school, which began as the fruit of Mennonite missionary work among Arizona's Hopi community, so unique.

Improvements to the school continue, following the dedication of the long-awaited gym. This time the focus is on the kitchen, with the purchase of a new gas range thanks to a grant from the Showalter Foundation, gifts of a new freezer and refrigerator from an anonymous benefactor, and other improvements including striking wall artwork provided by Htyram Namoki, a Hopi painter of considerable repute and father of cook Jarvis Namoki.

Members of PSMC churches interested in supporting the school (painlessly) may do so through scrip programs (Vons, Pavilions, Safeway – sign up at www.escrip.com), boxtop and label collecting, or – if living in Arizona – through the Arizona tax credit program. A corporate tax program is now up and running, so if you know of a business that might be interested in contributing, check the school's website for details: www.hopimissionschool.org.

Jan. 28
**Mennonite World
Fellowship Sunday**



April 8
Easter

April 13-14
**West Coast Mennonite
Relief Sale & Auction**
Fresno Pacific University



May 6
Many Peoples Sunday

May 18-19
**Southern California
Festival & Sale for
World Hunger & Relief
(MCC)**
Pacific Christian
Center, Upland



June 15-16
**Pacific Southwest
Mennonite Conference
Annual Assembly**
Arizona

July 2-7
San José 2007
**Biennial assembly of
Mennonite Church USA**



News you can use: Resources for congregations

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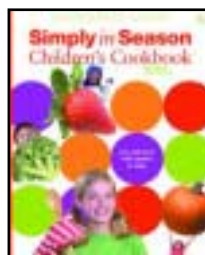
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Simply in Season Children's Cookbook (Herald Press, \$21.99)

will help children ages 6-to-12 make the connection between what they eat, where it comes from, and when it is in season. This colorful cookbook by Mark Beach and Julie Kauffman makes it easy and fun for children to think and cook in season and to center food around the table and give thanks for it. Chapters on each season feature recipes for a complete meal adapted for children from *Simply in Season*, released last year. Available through Herald Press, 800 245-7894 x 278; or at www.mph.org.



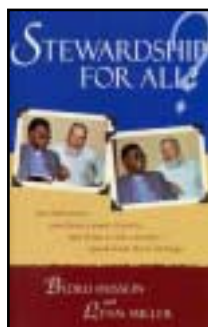
Psalms, by James H. Waltner, is a new addition to the Believers Church Bible Commentary Series, providing a rich treasury of resources for preachers, teachers and students of the Bible delving into the psalms. Waltner sets them in their canonical context and the context of the life of the church.

"This is a resource of immeasurable worth to serious students of the Bible and to those seeking spiritual direction from Psalms," writes Helmut Harder. Waltner served as a pastor for 38 years in Mennonite congregations and has taught courses in the Psalms at Bethel College and AMBS. Available through Herald Press.



Stewardship for All is the latest selection chosen for the Mennonite World Conference's "Global Anabaptist-Mennonite Shelf." The book is written by two authors, one from a poor country, one from a rich one: Bedru Hussein of Ethiopia and Lynn Miller of the United States.

Stewardship for All offers a collaborative approach to a topic that affects us all. Hussein wrote part 1 for the Meserete Kristos Church (MKC) as it faced the need to fund its own ministries after North American missionaries left. Miller's part 2 reflects on the flame at the



heart of stewardship – God's boundless generosity. Part 3 is a handful of stories from fellowships and individuals in various parts of the world (Belize, Indonesia, Paraguay, Ethiopia, and the U.S.) about their experiences of practicing stewardship today. "Our settings and our circumstances can have a great effect on what we think Jesus and the Bible say," commented Larry Miller, MWC's general secretary. "This unusual pairing of writers brings together voices from two vastly different parts of the world. They open an old subject to more light, no matter where and how we live." The book includes discussion questions that can make it a helpful resource for small groups and weekend retreats. It's available from www.GoodBooks.com, or by calling 800/762-7171.



Relate: A Christian Service Newsletter is a new online Anabaptist youth ministry resource for pastors, sponsors and key leaders that features Bible studies, discussion guides and activities for use with youth and young adults from middle school through college. Produced by Mennonite Mission Network, the newsletter is free and will be sent to your inbox every other month. See a sample activity and subscribe by going to www.Service.MennoniteMission.net/Relate.

Support for PSMC

Pacific Southwest Mennonite Conference gathers California, Arizona and Nevada churches in partnership for leadership, mission and congregational renewal. Giving by congregations and individuals ensures that conference ministers are funded, mission activities flourish, and resources are available for church nurture.

Donations may be sent to:
Treasurer, Box CAL, 1539 E. Howard St.,
Pasadena, Calif. 91104



Pacific Southwest
Conference of the
Mennonite
Church