

## Events & Announcements | June 22, 2011

*Connecting the congregations of Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference*

- *Bethany Christian Schools needs host families for international students*
- *Host families needed for Youth Venture exchange program July 13 – Aug. 3*
- *Institute on Theology and Disability in Gettysburg July 18 – 22*
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- *Upcoming workshop from the Center for Congregations (limited to Indiana congregations)*

**Bethany Christian Schools needs host families for international students.** Bethany Christian Schools is in need of host families for serving international students who would like to attend Bethany. This opportunity to gain cross cultural experience in your own home often becomes a rewarding experience for the host family, as well as a blessing to the student. Families receive monetary compensation. For more information or to inquire contact homestay coordinator, Denise Reesor, at [dreesor@bethanycs.net](mailto:dreesor@bethanycs.net) or at 574-849-4471, or admissions director, Rachel Roth Sawatzky, at [admissions@bethanycs.net](mailto:admissions@bethanycs.net) or at 574-534-2567.

**Host families for French youth needed July 13 – Aug. 3.** Host families are needed for a group of French youth who are visiting the northern Indiana area this summer to learn about U.S. faith and life. The Youth Venture program of Mennonite Mission Network is coordinating this exchange between French and U.S. youth; in 2009, fourteen youth from the Alsace region of France visited the Northern Indiana area for three weeks and in 2010 ten youth from the U.S. reciprocated the visit ([www.Exchangeleadstotwo-waylearning.aspx](http://www.Exchangeleadstotwo-waylearning.aspx)). This summer, from July 13 to Aug. 3, a group of ten youth will again be in the area and host families with youth between the ages of 14 and 18 are needed. Some activities will be planned for both the French youth and U.S. youth to participate in as convenient for your family. For more information contact Rebecca Helmuth at [Rebecca@TheMennonite.org](mailto:Rebecca@TheMennonite.org) or Arloa Bontrager at [arloab@mennonitemission.net](mailto:arloab@mennonitemission.net).

**Institute on Theology and Disability in Gettysburg July 18 – 22.** The second annual Institute on Theology and Disability will be held July 18-22 at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, Pa. A number of major writers and leaders in the arena of inclusive ministries will be present. Presentations and discussion groups focus on theology, Biblical studies, pastoral care, ethics, religious education, congregational ministries and more. **For more information click here.** You can come for Monday, July 18, an introductory day with all the faculty and mentors for the Institute, or for the whole week. The Institute is sponsored by the Faith Community Leadership Project in Pennsylvania, funded by Pennsylvania Developmental Disabilities Council.

**Disability resources available.** Also available now are a CD from the 2010 Summer Institute on Theology and Disability with lectures by Hans Reinders, Amos Yong, Tom Reynolds, Peggy Johnson, John Swinton, Bill Gaventa, and Erik Carter (audio files) and two booklets on inclusive ministries (*Autism and Faith: A Journey into Community* and *Brain Injury: When the Call Comes. A Congregational Resource*). The CDs may be ordered individually; the files may be downloaded from the website and/or are available in quantity for faith networks at little or no cost, depending on the method of distribution (while supplies last). **To order or download click here.**

Please feel free to share this with others interested in inclusive faith-based supports. Click the link for information or other resources from the **Faith Community Leadership Project** or contact Bill Gaventa at [bill.gaventa@umdnj.edu](mailto:bill.gaventa@umdnj.edu) or 732-235-9304. –Christine Guth, Program Director, Anabaptist Disabilities Network

**MVS volunteers wanted!** Mennonite Voluntary Service has high-need positions with Habitat for Humanity International and Ten Thousand Villages. Also, volunteers are needed to coordinate refugee childcare, repair homes for low-income families, build LEED-certified homes and assist at a homeless shelter. Visit [www.Service.MennoniteMission.net](http://www.Service.MennoniteMission.net) or e-mail [JIIS@mennonitemission.net](mailto:JIIS@mennonitemission.net) for more information. Orientation begins Aug. 7, 2011, in San Antonio. –Jill Schmidt, Personnel Counselor and Recruitment Coordinator, Mennonite Mission Network

**Shadow Voices airing on NBC-TV stations.** *Shadow Voices: Finding Hope in Mental Illness*, a documentary showing how individuals live successfully with a mental illness, is being re-broadcast on NBC-TV stations from June 12- December 12 at the discretion of local NBC affiliates.

The program features former First Lady Rosalynn Carter, former U.S. Surgeon General Dr. David Satcher, Dr. Joyce Burland of National Alliance on Mental Illness, and Dr. William Anthony of Boston University. Along with these experts, five people tell personal stories of living long term with depression, schizophrenia, obsessive compulsive disorder, cutting and burning and multiple addictions. The program also looks at the history of treatment of mental illness in the U.S. and how a faith community can help.

In 2006 *Shadow Voices* was broadcast on ABC-TV stations and later on Odyssey Network; it received a VOICE media award from the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and an honorable mention in the Columbus (Ohio) International Film festival. Public service radio spots produced from the documentary are currently airing on dozens of radio stations and received Gracie and Gabriel Awards.

The hour-long program was produced by Third Way Media on behalf of Mennonite churches. For more information go to [www.ShadowVoices.com](http://www.ShadowVoices.com); see [news releases](#) or a [list of stations](#) airing the program at the Interfaith Broadcasting Commission website under whose arrangement the program will appear on NBC-TV.

To see this program air on your local affiliate, please call a local NBC station and ask for the program manager. —*Kimberly Metzler*

### **MCC and Ten Thousand Villages announce new partnership relationship.**

AKRON, Pa. — Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) and Ten Thousand Villages are moving to a new partnership relationship in the United States, according to actions taken by their governing boards in April and June, respectively.

In the new relationship, Ten Thousand Villages in the United States will be a partner of MCC, rather than wholly owned by MCC as an operationally independent, nonprofit program. The two organizations will continue to work together to benefit artisans and their families worldwide. MCC will continue to be represented on the Ten Thousand Villages board of directors.

MCC is a worldwide ministry of Anabaptist churches, engaged in relief, development and peace efforts in about 60 countries. Ten Thousand Villages is the nation's largest and one of the oldest fair trade retailers of artisan-crafted products.

"As always, MCC supports the mission of Ten Thousand Villages. MCC workers around the world regularly connect with Ten Thousand Villages staff in our shared goals of working alongside artisan groups as they build better lives and futures for their families, and this will continue," said MCC executive director Arli Klassen.

### **Upcoming workshop from the Center for Congregations (limited to Indiana congregations):**

*Youth Activities that Teach and Reach* with Ritch Hochstetler, president of uLEAD, and Betsy Houser, program director, will be held Wednesday, Aug. 3, 2011, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m., at Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 2417 Getz Road, Fort Wayne, Ind.

In this luncheon workshop, participants will be introduced to games and activities that are engaging, fun and support their ministry message. uLEAD will open its game and activity closet to youth workers and student representatives for a full two hours of high-energy, soul-searching entertainment and information, showcasing its best experiential methods for building authentic relationships and growing in faith. uLEAD is a nonprofit training organization offering experiences for leadership, growth and change. The cost is \$10 per person. This fee includes lunch and participants' choice of the book *99 Thoughts for Youth Workers* by Joshua Griffin or *99 Thoughts for Smaller Church Youth Workers* by Stephanie Caro. To register go to [www.centerforcongregations/events](http://www.centerforcongregations/events).

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