NOW WE ALL KNOW!

What is it we all know now?

1. The location of Brennemans Church which existed from 1826-1919.

2. The profile of Virginia Mennonite Conference Congregations. We include all churches, meetinghouses, preaching points and mission stations that were listed with a membership figure in the Mennonite Yearbook and Directory from its beginning in 1905 until the present directory. When the Virginia Conference churches or preaching points closed or left Conference, these dates are also noted. Since some were functioning before 1905, the Yearbook later listed dates of origin. This issue of the Shenandoah Mennonite Historian contains the list on pages 2-4. The same list appears for the first time in this summer’s issue of the Virginia Mennonite Conference Reports and Statistics.

FIRST

Brennemans Church, which stood about on the dividing line between the old Middle District and what was called Lower District (now Northern District). Take route 42 northward from Harrisonburg and before you get to Edom, turn left on Brennemans Church Rd. Keep going on that road, but at the last farm on the right before you reach Grist Mill Rd., watch for a sign fastened to the wooden fence on the right side. Through the courtesy of Bill and Rachel Hinegardner (Rachel happens to be a descendant of the pioneer Abraham Breneeman) they have permitted a sign to be placed that identifies where the Brennemans Church once stood.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site of</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BRENNEMANS MENNONITE CHURCH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1826-1919</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Approximately 90 yards from the road
### Profile of Virginia Conference Congregations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Dates:</th>
<th>Started</th>
<th>Closed</th>
<th>Left Conf.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sonnenberg, Kidron OH</td>
<td>1821</td>
<td></td>
<td>1976</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(joined Virginia Conf. 1952)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trissels, Broadway, VA</td>
<td>1822</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pike, Harrisonburg, VA</td>
<td>1825</td>
<td></td>
<td>1972</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Springdale, Waynesboro, VA</td>
<td>1825</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brennemans, Edom, VA</td>
<td>1826</td>
<td>1919</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hildebrand, Waynesboro, VA</td>
<td>1826</td>
<td></td>
<td>2001</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weavers, Harrisonburg, VA</td>
<td>1827</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank, Dayton, VA</td>
<td>1849</td>
<td></td>
<td>2001</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Powder Springs, Basye, VA</td>
<td>1860</td>
<td>1947</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bethel, Job, WV</td>
<td>1865</td>
<td></td>
<td>1970</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salem, Baker WV</td>
<td>1868</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hebron, Fulks Run, VA</td>
<td>1870</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Fork, Oak Flat, WV</td>
<td>1870</td>
<td>1948</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roaring Run, Onego, WV</td>
<td>1870</td>
<td></td>
<td>1972</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mt. Clinton, Harrisonburg, VA</td>
<td>1874</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kernstown, Winchester, VA * ca.1875</td>
<td>1875</td>
<td>1907</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valley View, Bergton, VA</td>
<td>1880</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain Top, Bergton, VA</td>
<td>1880</td>
<td></td>
<td>1961</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain Home, Criders, VA</td>
<td>1880</td>
<td>1955</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dry River, Lilly/Hinton, VA</td>
<td>1882</td>
<td>1924</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pleasant Grove, Fort Seybert,WV</td>
<td>1885</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zion, Broadway, VA</td>
<td>1885</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Hall, Hopkins Gap, VA ca.1886</td>
<td>1886</td>
<td>1908</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swedlin Valley,</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort Seybert,WV ca.1889 1950</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concord, Knoxville, TN</td>
<td>1889</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Union Chapel,</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weyers Cave VA ca.1890 1943</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lindale, Edom, VA</td>
<td>1898</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mabel Memorial Chapel,</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harrisonburg, VA ca.1899 1919</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warwick River,</td>
<td>1899</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newport News,</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mt. View, Lyndhurst, VA</td>
<td>1899</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachman, Lost River, WV</td>
<td>ca.1900</td>
<td>1946</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy, Whitmer, WV</td>
<td>1900</td>
<td>1974</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(changed to Horton, 1951)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gospel Hill, Fulks Run, VA</td>
<td>1900</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hinkle Mountain, Milam, WV ca.1900</td>
<td>1900</td>
<td>1946</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providence, Newport News, VA</td>
<td>1900</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(transferred to VA Conf. 1996)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crest Hill, Wardenville, WV</td>
<td>1900</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Additional Notes

- **Key:** ca. means approximately

- **Mt. Hermon, Mathias, WV** 1900 (changed to Mathias, 1973)
- **Auburn Union, Casanova, VA** 1903 1923
- **Vaughn Schoolhouse, Lost River, WV** ca.1905 1946
- **Stone House, Stone House, VA** ca.1905 1907
- **Mt. Pleasant, Chesapeake, VA** 1905
- **St. Johns, Chrisman, VA** 1906 1908
- **South Boston, South Boston, VA** 1907 1983 (changed to Ebenezer, 1933)
- **North Fork, Mouth of Seneca, WV** 1908 1972
- **Quicksburg, Quicksburg, VA** 1908 ca.1913
- **Brandywine, Brandywine, WV** 1908 ca.1913
- **Criders, Bergton, VA** 1910 1983
- **Bethany, Spring Creek, VA** 1910 1972
- **Laurel Fork, Wymer, WV** 1913 (changed to Lambert, 1928)
- **Kinses Run, Lost River WV** 1913 1930
- **Amelia, Amelia, VA** ca.1913 1916
- **Tunis, Broadway, VA** 1913 2002 (changed to Bethel, 1927)
- **Alum Spring, Alum Springs, VA** 1913 1917
- **Hoovers, Palos, VA** 1913 1917
- **Alexandria, Alexandria, VA** 1913 1917
- **Doversville, Doversville, VA** 1913 1929
- **Wolf Trap, Wolf Trap, VA** ca.1913 1929
- **Dry Fork, Harman WV** 1913 (changed to Riverside, ca. 1935)
- **Peake, Hinton, VA** 1915 1972
- **Riverside, Fulks Run, VA** ca.1915 1957
- **Mennonite Gospel Mission, TN** 1917 (changed to Knoxville, 1967)
- **Eastern Mennonite School, Harrisonburg, VA. (changed to Park View, 1953)**
- **Spruce Mountain, Onego, WV** 1918 1963
- **Stringtown, Stringtown, VA** 1918 1920
- **Valley View, Stuarts Draft, VA** 1920 (changed to Stuarts Draft, 1956)
- **Wine Spring, Milam, WV** 1920 1957
- **Woodland, Basye, VA** 1920
- **Birch Grove, Whitmer, WV** 1922 1927
- **Parleytown, Jenningston, WV** 1922 1923
- **Pennington, Harman, WV** 1922 1935
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Dates:</th>
<th>Started</th>
<th>Closed</th>
<th>Left Conf.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Morning View, Singers Glen, VA</td>
<td>1923</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zion Hill, Singers Glen, VA</td>
<td>1925</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deep Creek, Chesapeake, VA</td>
<td>1927</td>
<td>1998</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntington, Newport News, VA</td>
<td>1929</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buckhorn, Mathias, WV</td>
<td>1930</td>
<td>1973</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(changed to Mathias, 1973)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brushy Run, Oneyo, WV</td>
<td>1930</td>
<td></td>
<td>1972</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cullers Run, Mathias, WV</td>
<td>1932</td>
<td></td>
<td>1964</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carr, Mouth of Seneca, WV</td>
<td>1933</td>
<td></td>
<td>1948</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crossroads, Broadway, VA</td>
<td>1934</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beldor, Elkton, VA</td>
<td>1935</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broad Street, Harrisonburg, VA</td>
<td>1935</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>(terminated by Virginia Conference, 2003)</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicago Avenue, Harrisonburg VA</td>
<td>1935</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>(changed to Harrisonburg, 1972)</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toll Gate, Hinton, VA</td>
<td>1935</td>
<td></td>
<td>1972</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>(changed to Rawley Springs, 1949)</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mt. Hermon, Stanardsville, VA</td>
<td>1937</td>
<td></td>
<td>1972</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bennets Run, Bergton, VA</td>
<td>1940</td>
<td></td>
<td>1949</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temple Hill, Stanardsville, VA</td>
<td>1942</td>
<td></td>
<td>1972</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lost Creek, Ophir, KY</td>
<td>1943</td>
<td></td>
<td>1955</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burchettes, Relief, KY</td>
<td>1943</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ca.1963</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>(changed to Paint Cliff, 1952)</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandy Bottom, Swift Run, VA</td>
<td>1946</td>
<td></td>
<td>1972</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elkton, Elkton, VA</td>
<td>1947</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>(changed to Cornerstone, 1990)</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crockett, Crockett, KY</td>
<td>1949</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ca.1963</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ridgeway, Harrisonburg, VA</td>
<td>1949</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smoke Hole, Upper Tract, WV</td>
<td>1949</td>
<td></td>
<td>1963</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuttle Ave., Sarasota, FL</td>
<td>1949</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1972</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Heights, Richmond VA</td>
<td>1951</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1972</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>(changed to First Mennonite, 1954)</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newtown, Sarasota, FL</td>
<td>1951</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1972</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Calvary, Newport News, VA</td>
<td>1952</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>(moved to Hampton, VA, 1985)</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Bethel, Greensville, VA</td>
<td>1952</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>(changed to Greenmonte, 1957)</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rehoboth, Schuyler, VA</td>
<td>1952</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chestnut Ridge, Orrville, OH</td>
<td>1953</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mt. Vernon, Grottoes, VA</td>
<td>1953</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norview, Norfolk, VA</td>
<td>1953</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>(changed to Word of Life, 1983)</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lanesville, Dry Fork, WV</td>
<td>1954</td>
<td></td>
<td>2003</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lyndhurst, Lyndhurst, VA</td>
<td>1954</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simoda, Riverton, WV</td>
<td>1954</td>
<td></td>
<td>1972</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gladwin, Alpena, WV</td>
<td>1955</td>
<td></td>
<td>1965</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunting Ground, WV</td>
<td>1955</td>
<td></td>
<td>1963</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lucas Hollow, Stanley, VA</td>
<td>1955</td>
<td></td>
<td>1988</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Dates:</th>
<th>Started</th>
<th>Closed</th>
<th>Left Conf.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mt. Jackson, Mt. Jackson, VA</td>
<td>1955</td>
<td></td>
<td>2003</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>(changed to Windhaven, 2000)</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mt. View, Hickory, NC</td>
<td>1955</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stephens City, Stephens City, VA</td>
<td>1955</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pilgrim, Amelia, VA</td>
<td>1956</td>
<td></td>
<td>1958</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Osceola, Whitem, WV</td>
<td>1956</td>
<td></td>
<td>1965</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staunton, Staunton, VA</td>
<td>1957</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlottesville, Charlottesville, VA</td>
<td>1957</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deerfield Chapel, Deerfield, VA</td>
<td>1958</td>
<td></td>
<td>1967</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hickory, Hickory, NC</td>
<td>1958</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brush Run, Bartow, WV</td>
<td>1959</td>
<td></td>
<td>1972</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hephzibah, Hephzibah, GA</td>
<td>1959</td>
<td></td>
<td>1972</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Big Springs, Luray, VA</td>
<td>1960</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norge, Williamsburg, VA</td>
<td>1960</td>
<td></td>
<td>1968</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Powhatan, Powhatan, VA</td>
<td>1961</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Tabernacle, St. Petersburg, FL</td>
<td>1961</td>
<td></td>
<td>1972</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>(changed to First Mennonite)</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Durham, Durham, NC</td>
<td>1970</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>(changed to Oak Hill, 1986)</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dayton, Dayton, VA</td>
<td>1972</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community, Harrisonburg, Va</td>
<td>1973</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iglesia de Evangelico Completo</td>
<td>1976</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington, D.C./Hyattsville MD</td>
<td>1977</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Williamsburg, Williamsburg, VA</td>
<td>1979</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Virginia, Fairfax, VA</td>
<td>1977</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rocky Mt., Rocky Mt, NC</td>
<td>1977</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>(changed to Fellowship of Christ)</em></td>
<td>1993</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asheville, Asheville, NC</td>
<td>1980</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Room Chapel, VA Beach, VA</td>
<td>1980</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>(changed to Landstown, 1987)</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Liberty, West Liberty, KY</td>
<td>1980</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington Community,</td>
<td>1981</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>(Washington, D.C. transferred to Virginia Conference, 1997)</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waynesboro, Waynesboro, VA</td>
<td>1981</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christiansburg, Christiansburg, VA</td>
<td>1982</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faith, Cluster Springs, VA</td>
<td>1983</td>
<td></td>
<td>2002</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dayspring Christian Fellowship</td>
<td>1984</td>
<td></td>
<td>1994</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canton, OH</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southeast Community,</td>
<td>1985</td>
<td></td>
<td>1992</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roanoke, VA <em>(changed to Justice, 1989)</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christ the King Fellowship</td>
<td>1986</td>
<td></td>
<td>1989</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crewe, VA</td>
<td>1986</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cornerstone, Broadway, VA</td>
<td>1986</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2001</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

 Shenandoah Mennonite Historian / Summer 2005 / 3
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Dates:</th>
<th>Started</th>
<th>Closed</th>
<th>Left Conf.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Raleigh, Raleigh, NC</td>
<td>1986</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shalom, Harrisonburg, VA</td>
<td>1986</td>
<td></td>
<td>2005</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fredericksburg, Fredericksburg, VA</td>
<td>1987</td>
<td>1993</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family of Hope, Harrisonburg, VA</td>
<td>1987</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greensboro, Greensboro, NC</td>
<td>1988</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jubilee, Richmond, VA</td>
<td>1988</td>
<td>1995</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vietnamese Christian Fellowship</td>
<td>1988</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Falls Church, VA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christian Conquest Ministries</td>
<td>1988</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington, D. C.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harvest, Woodstock, VA</td>
<td>1989</td>
<td>1991</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JoySpring, Harrisonburg, VA</td>
<td>1989</td>
<td>1992</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Living Water, Harrisonburg, VA</td>
<td>1989</td>
<td>1992</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Church of the Mountains,</td>
<td>1990</td>
<td>1998</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hillsboro, WV</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cornerstone, Mt. Crawford, VA</td>
<td>1990</td>
<td>2001</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hope Christian, Richmond, VA</td>
<td>1990</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cornerstone, Richmond, VA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(changed to Cornerstone, 1994)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jefferson, Warrenton, NC</td>
<td>1990</td>
<td>1999</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catawba, Hickory, NC</td>
<td>1991</td>
<td>1998</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cornerstone, Waynesboro, VA</td>
<td>1991</td>
<td></td>
<td>2001</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cornerstone, Woodstock, VA</td>
<td>1991</td>
<td>1995</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immanuel, Harrisonburg, VA</td>
<td>1991</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is acknowledged that the Yearbook and Directory may have carried some mistakes or date-wise it ran behind the actual facts. However, it served as the basic documentary source.* As noted on the cover, some will be recognized as having been preaching points, but if a membership was shown it was included.

*The Calvary Church, now of Hampton, VA is an example. Begun 1952, it first appeared in the 1955 Yearbook and through 1958 it was listed as Madison Avenue, Newport News. In 1959 it appeared simply as Calvary. In 1985 Calvary had 143 members. In the 1986-87 Yearbook there was a Calvary at Newport News (129 members) and a Calvary Community, Hampton, VA with 29 members. In 1988-89 Calvary, Newport News had 59 members and the other one 30.

Since 1990-91 there has only been a Calvary Community because the two churches merged. In 1995 Calvary Community had 285 members and by 1997 Calvary Community showed 683 members. As of June 1, 2005, according to the membership list just received in the Archives, the number now stands at 1,515, the largest Mennonite church in Virginia and one of the largest in North America.

A significant number of churches had name changes during their history. These are usually named with the listing of the original church. Hence, for example, Harrisonburg Mennonite is noted under Chicago Avenue, and Park View is listed under Eastern Mennonite School.

Glendon Bross"s enormous knowledge and experience in church work was of great help. However, even with an expert like Glendon assisting, some assumptions needed to be made. Such assumptions along with possible errors in Directory sources means that there is a likelihood of factual errors. Please contact the editor, Jim Lehman, if you have solid information regarding incorrect information or omissions.

James O. Lehman/Glendon Bross
PAGE COUNTY Mennonites:
A FRESH LOOK

Page County Mennonites had a checkered history, even as the county itself also did. First, that area was in Spotsylvania County until in 1734-38 it was a part of Orange County. In 1738-45 it became a part of Augusta County, followed by Frederick County (1745-72) and Shenandoah County (1772-1831). Finally, in 1831 it became Page County.¹

The earliest source says that Mennonites came to the Massanutten colony near Luray in 1727.² Coming from Switzerland and the Palatinate they came via Lancaster, PA. Michael Kauffman (1714-88) and Jacob Strickler (-1784) are named as the first ministers and their names appear in the 1830s. Harry Brunk names three additional leaders—Martin Kauffman, Sr. (-1749), Martin Kauffman, Jr. (-1805) and John Roads (-1764).

The same 1910 source says (p. 13) that up till 1800 “all ministers deacons residing in Virginia appear to have been ordained in Pennsylvania, and it seems that all matters of organization and oversight were vested” in that conference. “In short the church in Virginia was regarded but as the southern arm extending from the central or parent body of Mennonites in America.”

The new colony flourished economically on their farms. However, church life seems to have been rather traditional, perhaps even lacking in enthusiasm according to several Moravians who visited the colony. In 1748 an itinerant Moravian paid a visit to the Massanutten settlement. He noted in his diary that most of the area people were “Menisten” (Mennonites) whom he labeled as being in “bad condition” in that “nearly all religious earnestness and zeal is extinguished among them.”

Another pietist Moravian about a year later described the community as a “dead place where their testimony found no entrance.” Another Moravian met the Mennonite minister John Roads. They discussed many things, he said. “By nature he (Roads) is a good pliable man, but without life.”³ Enthusiastic Moravian missionaries thought Mennonites needed something, but it is difficult to assess how serious the formalism of the Mennonites had become.

The 1750s and 60s brought some dreadful repercussion from the French and Indian War. Things had remained relatively calm until Braddock was defeated in 1755 by the French and Indians. George Washington, in charge of frontier defense, had his headquarters in Winchester. He saw many refugees fleeing northward.

Word filtered to the Massanutten Mennonite community of massacres on the other side of the Massanutten and southward. Eventually, the Indians also came to the area. By 1758 the John Stone and Jacob Holtman families (likely Mennonite, says Brunk) were slain. In May 1758, 50 people were killed and many families fled to Pennsylvania.⁴

Minister Michael Kauffman, was now in Pennsylvania for some years. Seeing the plight of Virginia Mennonites, Kauffman, along with several brethren, drafted a petition to Dutch Mennonites requesting aid for the 39 families of Virginia (see copy of the petition in the Winter 2005 SMH). The Dutch responded with 50

¹ The Spring 1994 issue of Shenendoah Mennonite Historian featured Page County Mennonites and Martin Kauffman, Sr. This article deals with much not said in that issue.
² Mennonite Encyclopedia. (Scottdale: Mennonite Publishing House, 1959), 105
pounds English Sterling or 78 pounds, 11 shillings, and 5 pence, Pennsylvania money.

The last Indian raid among the Massanutten Mennonites is known as the Roads massacre in 1764, when eight Indians and one white man accosted Preacher John Roads at his home, killing him and his wife and three sons. The house was set on fire before two sons and two daughters were led off as captives. Before long three of those four were killed also.6

Presumably, not all fled their homes or some returned from Pennsylvania, because a considerable Mennonite community was still to be found in the Massanutten colony in the 1760s.

THE PENNSYLVANIA REVIVAL MOVEMENT

Around 1760 religious repercussions of the Great Awakening of the 1730s began to make serious inroads into this Mennonite community. “New Light” preachers—converts of George Whitefield—came to the Shenandoah Valley. Mennonites found their faith and practice challenged. They became greatly agitated with the revival that was sweeping the land.7 Predictably, they turned to Lancaster for someone to counsel them in this new development.

In 1761 Bishop Martin Boehm (1725-1812), who had become the first Mennonite leader to become active in the revivalist movement, responded to the Virginia call. Here he “apparently encouraged emotional conversions among the perplexed Mennonites whom he encountered.” (Sutter, 42). Boehm “inferred that there was a lack of religious zeal and enthusiasm among Virginia Mennonites.” (Brunk, 25).

Now the stage had been partly set for the next major influence on the Page Mennonites—the coming of the Baptists under the leadership of John Koontz, an unordained Baptist (Sutter, 44) who preached revivalism in German, thereby appealing to Mennonites in 1770.

Martin Kauffman, Jr., Mennonite minister and oldest son of Martin Sr. and nephew of minister Michael Kauffman came under the influence of Koontz. Among the first Mennonites to be rebaptized was Martin Jr., says one source.8 Martin Kauffman, Jr. then became a “Mennonite Baptist” preacher. The alarm was sent to Pennsylvania for help “to overturn the works of Satan,” said the Mennonites.

From Lancaster came Preacher Peter Blosser with three or four colleagues to aid the Virginia Church. The delegation attempted to “persuade Koontz that Christians ought not go to war, hold slaves, or take legal oaths.” Koontz, in turn, inquired about their religious experience and declared them “strangers to vital godliness.” Neither side converted the other and Blosser and his colleagues returned to Pennsylvania without accomplishing their goal.

Martin Kauffman, Jr. became known as “Whitehouse Kauffman,” because of the white house beside the south fork of the Shenandoah River in which he lived and where services were held on the second floor. The white house was built by 1760. In 1770 a Primitive Baptist Church was organized there when Kauffman and other Mennonites joined.9

---

6 Brunk, 34-35.


Within a few years the American Revolution broke out and the Baptists took the oath of allegiance and joined the army. Martin Kauffman, Jr. and other former Mennonites took great offense at this. The Baptists pleaded for tolerance and freedom of conscience in what they called secondary matters. But Kauffman insisted that these principles were a central part of the Gospel.

Thus the church divided. Kauffman began holding services in the White House and eventually 60 or 70 people joined him. Koontz and the Baptists met in the building that has been variously called Mill Creek, Mauck, or Hamburg meetinghouse.

The new church at the White House was neither Mennonite or Baptist, says Harry Brunk, but was built around the personality of Martin Kauffman. However, Kauffman had some contact with Mennonites as he and Peter Blosser of Pennsylvania actively and strongly opposed participation in the Revolution. But by the end of the century many of Kauffman’s followers had drifted back to the Baptist Church.

Finally in 1801 Kauffman and six families moved to Fairfield County, Ohio (not far from Columbus). There they established what a Baptist historian called “The German or High Dutch Church at Pleasant Run.” (Sutter, 44, quoting David Benedict, A General History of the Baptist Denomination in America, Vol. II (Boston: Massing & Loring, 1813), 261. Kauffman died four years later.

Harry Brunk claims that for most of the 19th century the thriving Mennonite community on the other side of Massanutten Mountain (Rockingham County) periodically had ministers go to preach to the dwindling remnants of the church in Page County. Most likely, Michael Kauffman, who had returned from Pennsylvania before the Revolution, but who had settled in Rockingham County (where he was likely the first Mennonite minister) had begun this tradition. Michael was buried at the Lindale cemetery when he died in 1788. His successors in the ministry may have made that trek until 1885 or 1890. Services were held infrequently at the Mill Creek Church, at the Elk Run Brethren Church and at “old mother Gochenours above Stony Man.” (Brunk, 42).

Thus there are a few churches in which Virginia Mennonites were involved, which much greater explanation is given rather than include them in the list in this issue. Another example is the church that thrived a while in Greenbrier County, VA before the Civil War, but which is now in West Virginia territory. We hope in the near future to tell the story of that community that produced Bishop Samuel Coffman as well as the wife of Bishop Peter Burkholder, and mother of Bishop Martin Burkholder.

James O. Lehman

Shenandoah Mennonite Historian / Summer 2005 / 7
SECOND MENNO ROUND TABLE: PLEASANT VIEW CHURCH

The second meeting was held at Mt. Pleasant Mennonite Church southeast of Dayton on May 14. Norwood Shank led the group in a question and answer discussion format on the beliefs and practices of this church affiliated with the Weaverland Mennonite Conference of Pennsylvania.

Of particular interest to the group was the discussion on how church leaders are chosen by lot. Richard Weaver and Lloyd Horst told very moving stories about their personal experiences of being chosen by lot years ago. Both gave testimony of how they felt God’s call.

Mt. Pleasant was built in 1990. Before that, the congregation met in a small brick church east of Mt. Crawford. Mt. Pleasant began in the mid-1950s. The members drive cars but because of its worship format and the lack of Sunday school it is considered to be Old Order Mennonite. For years it was nicknamed “Black Bumper Church,” but this is no longer true and present generations dislike the label. Membership has varied over the years and presently stands at about 140.

Many of those in attendance (15 to 20) had not attended the first Menno Round Table at Lindale earlier this year. It seems that these small groups held several times a year at various places and with different topics will involve a greater number of members and can cover more topics than an annual meeting. Hopefully, even more members will become involved as these meetings continue.

Norman Wenger

NEXT ROUND TABLE: VALLEY BRETHREN-MENNONITE HERITAGE CENTER

August 13, 9:00-11:00 at 711 Garbers Church Road (next to the new High School)
"ALL YOU WANT TO KNOW ABOUT THE HERITAGE CENTER AND MAYBE MORE . . . .

Discussion Leader: Al Keim, CrossRoads
Volunteer Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds
Host: Elroy Kauffman

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

October 29: Harvey Yoder will guide a tour to the Beachy Amish Community in Green and Madison counties. Our tour bus will leave soon after noon and return after an evening meal at the Oak Grove Church. Details in the next Historian.

Jim Rush

SHENANDOAH MENNONITE HISTORIAN

Shenandoah Valley Mennonite Historians
780 Parkwood Drive
Harrisonburg, VA 22802

Elwood Yoder
1181 Sharon Lane
Harrisonburg, VA 22802

Editor: James O. Lehman
Sketches: Jonathan Gehman