

Community and Conference Announcements

COMMUNITY

Bison: Mercantile on the Hoof—Keven Hiebert, craftsman and authority on the Plains Indians, will be the featured speaker at Mennonite Heritage & Agricultural Museum's annual meeting at Tabor Mennonite Church on Sunday, Feb. 12, at 2:30 p.m. A business meeting will be held prior to Kevin's presentation. A *faspa* will be served after the meeting.

CONFERENCE

Michelle Hershberger will be the guest speaker at the **Women's Spring Supper** March 15 at 6:00 p.m. at the Eden Mennonite Church. Hershberger is a well-known speaker and professor at Hesston College. Due to limited seating, reservations are due March 5 to Marge Gundy [620-463-3991](tel:620-463-3991).

StoryTime! We invite Pre-schoolers ages 3-5 to join in the fun on Wednesday mornings at 10 am. at the Western District Conference Resource Library. Spring session begins Feb. 8. Call now to reserve your space: [316-283-6300](tel:316-283-6300).

Agri-Urban would like to invite all of its supporters and people who are interested in Agri-Urban to an appreciation dinner on February 11 at 6:00 p.m. in the Eden Mennonite Church Fellowship Hall, 4 miles west and 2 miles north of Moundridge, KS. Please make reservations with your local Agri-Urban Board member or the Western District office at [316-283-6300](tel:316-283-6300) by February 5. *Open Road* from Bethel College will provide the program.

Happy birthday, Mennonite Church USA! On Feb. 1, 2012, our denomination turned 10 years old. We invite you to join us in celebrating this milestone and giving thanks for the countless amazing ways that God's Spirit has been at work among us in this last decade—in our lives and relationships, in our congregations and communities, in our agencies and organizations. May God bless each of our congregations and strengthen us all in our efforts to live out our denominational vision: *God calls us to be followers of Jesus Christ and, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to grow as communities of grace, joy and peace, so that God's healing and hope flow through us to the world.*
—Mennonite Church USA national staff

Women in Conversation—Join the conversation with other Mennonite women across the country at one of two biennial retreats (April 13-15 in Mt. Pleasant, Pa.; April 27-29 in Hesston, Ks.) jointly sponsored by Mennonite Women USA and Laurelville Mennonite Church Center. Pastor Meghan Good (Albany Mennonite Church, Albany, OR) will serve as guest speaker, and the weekends will also feature time for worship, workshops, fellowship and rest. Visit laurelville.org/women-in-conversation or call [800.839.1021](tel:800.839.1021) to register or to learn more about these extraordinary retreats.

Offender Victim Ministries Prison Arts' Choir Men are needed to assist in Offender/Victim Ministries' Prison Arts' Choir at the Hutchinson Correctional Facility. Practices are on Tuesday evenings beginning February 21 with performances on the weekend of April 21. Volunteer training is needed in order to work in the prison and will be given Monday, February 20 from 12-4 pm for new volunteers. Returning choir members can receive your annual training on February 6, 2-4 at HCF or Feb. 13, 7-9 at KIPCOR in Newton. Contact Nathan Koontz at OVM, 316-215-1758 or nathan.ovm@sbcglobal.net.

Et Cetera Shop still receiving donations, requesting furniture - Newton Et Cetera Shop is continuing to receive and process donations during its carpet and lighting renovation. The shop is also making a special appeal for furniture donations. Donors can drop off items Monday through Saturday, 9:30 am - 5:00 pm, at the back door and request assistance by calling (316) 283-9461. Furniture donation guidelines and renovation updates can be found at newtonetceterashop.com. Et Cetera will open again to the shopping public Monday, February 13.

Young adults ages 18-26: are you looking for a purposeful year-long service experience? Check out *Radical Journey*. This Mennonite Mission Network program takes you to places like China, Paraguay, England or South Africa to join in God's work. Upon return, take a month to reflect on your experience and share it with your home community. For info or an application, visit Service.MennoniteMission.net.

You are invited to the **Mennonite Central Committee Central States Annual Meeting** at New Creation Fellowship Church in Newton, Ks. on Saturday, Feb. 25 at 7pm. Joanna Hiebert Bergen, MCC's HIV/AIDS Program Coordinator will share how MCC is touching the lives of millions by caring for people living with HIV/AIDS, supporting children orphaned by the disease, teaching prevention and addressing the poverty and injustices that perpetuate the spread of the disease. New Creation Fellowship is located at 221 Muse St in Newton and refreshments will be served following the meeting.

THIRD WAY MEDIA radio program, *Shaping Families*

Weekend of February 11, 2012 – Teens and Substance Abuse

Dr. Brian Kelley is the guest on *Shaping Families* this week in a two-part series looking at the special dangers of alcohol in the brains and lives of adolescents.

Weekend of February 18, 2012 – Curbing Underage Drinking

Do you worry about your teens and college age kids and drinking? There's good reason to, says Dr. Brian Kelley, of Bridgewater College, Va., the guest interviewee on *Shaping Families* this week.

Weekend of February 25, 2012 – Stay at Home Mom

Jennifer Murch, whose family is active at Community Mennonite Church in Harrisonburg, Va., is a mommy blogger and busy homeschooling mom of four children. She'll share highlights from their family.

Listen on KBCU 88.1 FM North Newton, KS Fri 4:00 PM or visit www.ShapingFamilies.com the weekend the program airs to download a podcast or the transcript.