

Transforming

Stories of making disciples in the way of Christ

Winter 2016
VOLUME 1 • ISSUE 4



Holistic witness is how we engage in mission



● More than a
teacher PAGE 4



● More than food
and shelter PAGE 6



Virginia
Mennonite
Missions

Called. Sent. Transformed.

All of life under the reign of Christ

BY AARON KAUFFMAN
PRESIDENT



If you want to get a sense of how the gospel touches all areas of life in just over 100 verses, read the book of James. Most likely penned by the brother of Jesus himself, James gives practical advice on what it means to live out God's kingdom before a watching world. Here's a sampling (all quotes from NIV):

- **Wisdom:** "If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you." (1:5)

- **Perseverance:** "Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person

will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him." (1:12)

- **Obedience:** "Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says." (1:22)
- **Compassion and purity:** "Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world." (1:27)
- **Equality:** "My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ must not show favoritism." (2:1)
- **Faith and action:** "As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead." (2:26)
- **Speech:** "Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be." (3:10)
- **Peacemaking:** "Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness." (3:18)
- **Spiritual warfare:** "Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." (4:7)
- **Economic justice:** "Look! The wages you failed to pay the workers who mowed your fields are crying out against you. The cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord Almighty." (5:4)
- **Truth-telling:** "Above all, my brothers and sisters, do not swear—not by heaven or by earth or by anything else. All you need to say is a simple 'Yes' or 'No.'" (5:12)
- **Healing:** "Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord." (5:14)

Holistic witness is about letting the gospel declaration that Jesus is Lord permeate every corner of our lives. That's why Virginia Mennonite Missions works not only at evangelism and church planting, but also with refugees, relief and development, human trafficking, peacebuilding, creation care, education and health. Christ's kingdom impacts all of life, and so should our witness as his people.

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Financial Report

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Special Projects \$438,537	Special Projects \$407,728
Mission Fund \$258,520	Mission Fund \$255,349
Income Total \$697,057	Expenses Total \$663,078

Mission Fund: undesignated giving by households and churches, **Special Projects:** giving to specific workers or ministries

Transforming

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Mission service

Brent & Alisha Justice departing for Uganda



Brent & Alisha Justice have received full funding and are ready for imminent departure for Bundibugyo, Uganda. They will have a five-year term with Serge, in partnership with VMissions. Brent will work with grounds and facilities, and teach woodworking skills to local men. Alisha, a dietician, will work with a local clinic addressing severe malnutrition in the region.

Italy

Italian Mennonite Church holds annual conference



Massimo Donato (r) gives last minute instructions to the Centro Agape worship team in Palermo, Italy, during the 28th Annual Conference of the Italian Mennonite Church (CEMI) last September. The theme was *Return to the Roots of the Gospel*, with speakers including Francesco Picone, CEMI president, Sergio Crocivera, elder, Willard Eberly, retired VMissions worker, and VMissions president Aaron Kauffman. The team released an evangelistic worship album at the event. Shawn Green, VMissions worker, participated in the recording.

Staff

VMissions welcomes two new staff members



Steve Leaman began with Virginia Mennonite Missions as Director of Public Relations on December 2. In this 60% role, he leads the

Advancement Team in the work of communications, public relations, and fundraising. Steve also serves as a member of the Leadership Council. He is an active member of Lindale Mennonite Church. Steve and his wife, Doris, live in Harrisonburg, Va., and they have two adult children, Michelle and Jonathan.



Melanie Sherer joined the staff of Virginia Mennonite Missions as an Administrative Assistant on December 15. In this 80% role,

she provides logistical support to the staff and handles receptionist responsibilities. Melanie lives in Harrisonburg, Va., and is actively involved at Ridgeway Mennonite Church.

Family Missions Festival May family event and MST auction planned

Enjoy a time of family fun and learning about the ministries of VMissions at the second Family Missions Festival on May 14, 2016. There will be various events for all ages on the campus of Eastern Mennonite School, including a auction to benefit workers' financial support with items donated by their respective Ministry Support Teams. More information will appear in the next issue. Mark your calendar and plan to join us!

Birth notice

Baby boy born to Yosiah & Anita Rahma



Simon was born in December. He is the second child of Yosiah and Anita Rahma and brother to Josh. The family is deeply connected in a slum community in a large Southeast Asian city, serving with Servants to Asia's Urban Poor, in partnership with VMissions as Associated Workers.

Same office, new address New VMissions address: 601 Parkwood Drive



The City of Harrisonburg recently updated their records and informed us of an address error in their database. **Our office address has officially changed to 601 Parkwood Drive, Harrisonburg, VA 22802.** For some time you may see references to 901 Parkwood Drive; correspondence sent there will still arrive at the right place for the next 12-18 months.

More than a teacher

Brook is in her second year of teaching at PROMESA, a Christian school in Cusco, Peru. She has found many opportunities to minister to students and other friends whom she deeply loves.

BY BROOK HOSTETTER

Anyone who has taught or even known a teacher has likely discovered that the profession of teaching is more than simply teaching. An effective teacher must prepare a lesson, they must stand in front of a class, they must speak instructive words, and they must lead engaging, insightful activities. All these things are integral to being a teacher, yet there is much more involved in the teaching profession.

In January 2014, I moved to Cusco, Peru, to serve and teach school children. My service assignment was described as “English Teacher at PROMESA School.” Although this was true, I’ve found that my life and witness in Cusco involves more than simply teaching music and English to school children.

I’m reminded of a dear student from the first grade. I’ll call him Charlie. Charlie is that boy who has his own table next to the whiteboard. Meanwhile, all the other children sit at group tables. Charlie has a big heart. He’s an intelligent

boy and he can be very lovable, but each time he is put into a group with other children we begin to have problems.

One day in first grade English class the children were working on a project. As I circulated the room, a small girl approached me with tears in her eyes. She explained that Charlie had punched her in the arm. I pulled the two students into the hall to discuss the issue at hand.

At the end of the discussion I asked Charlie to apologize and give the girl a hug. Charlie proceeded to mumble ‘I’m sorry’ under his breath, flop his arm around the girl’s shoulder, and sprint back into the classroom.

I pulled Charlie back and told him that his apology didn’t count. He needed to apologize again in a more meaningful manner. Hence, our battle began. Charlie refused to apologize again. The more I persisted that Charlie apologize, the more stubborn he got. Charlie told me that because I was his English teacher and not his “real” teacher he didn’t have to listen to me.

“You do need to listen,” I explained. “As a student, you should respect all teachers at school.”

“But if you weren’t a teacher, would I have to respect you?” he asked.

“Yes,” I said, “because I’m your elder.”

“Well I’m not going to respect you,” he replied. “You’re stupid.”

Ouch! My self-esteem! I was damaged and boiling with anger. “Deep breaths,” I thought. I took Charlie by the hand and led him to my office. As we walked, I prayed that God would help me understand this boy. I also reminded myself that Charlie was a small child. A small, confused, hurting child. We then sat down in my office and our conversation began,

“Charlie,” I asked, “tell me, how are things for you at home?”

“Fine”, he replied shortly.

“Really?” I said, “are you sure?”

“Well...” He paused. “There is one thing...my brothers. My brothers bully me.” Charlie’s head fell forward.

“Really?” I responded, “What do they do? How do they bully you?”



Brook guides an English class student as he practices a speaking lesson. Photo by James Souder





Brook guides her students as they line up to leave after class. “I’ve found that my life and witness in Cusco involves more than simply teaching music and English to school children,” she writes. Photo by James Souder

A single tear welled up in Charlie’s eye, slid down his cheek, and fell to the ground.

“Miss Brook, my brothers tell me I’m stupid. They make fun of me, and they hit me.”

“Have you told your mom about that?” I wondered.

“Yes.”

“And what does your mom say?” I asked.

“My mom buys them beautiful things so that they’ll stop bothering me...but they never stop.”

Tears continued to slide down Charlie’s cheeks. I took the small boy into my arms and prayed for him there.

“God, be with this little boy. Comfort him and show him your love.” I finished the prayer and looked at Charlie in the eye. I told him that he is a wonderful boy and that I love him. I told him that God also loves him and that when he feels sad he can ask God for help. We talked about how it feels when his brothers bully him and how his friends might feel when he does the same to them. I encouraged Charlie to use kind words and actions of love when he interacts with his brothers, his classmates, and his teachers.

Our conversation seemed to have an impact for about an hour. I then continued to struggle with Charlie’s behavior for the rest of the year.

I became very frustrated with Charlie at times, but behind his angry eyes, I knew existed a small boy who simply wanted to be loved. That’s all anyone really wants, right? To

love and to be loved. I’ve found that my time in Cusco has been just that. I have shown love and I have received love.

I have taught English and music. I have listened to others’ stories. I have visited women from church. I have given numerous back massages. I have instructed farmers in how to pick up heavy objects correctly. I have baked and shared countless pastries. I have taught songs to both children and adults. I have shown love.

I have also received love. I have received countless hugs from children in green jumpsuits. I have been taught to knit. I have been taught to make Peruvian food. I have been listened to. I have been prayed for. I have been cooked for. I have been visited. I have been accepted. I have been loved.

My service assignment in Cusco is to teach music and English, but moreover, it is to live with the love and spirit of God within me. It is to be a holistic witness to those with whom I interact.

Many have often said that our lives should be less about what we do, and more about how we do it. May we each live our lives with the love of God and the servant heart of Jesus in all that we do. May we live as holistic witnesses to those who surround us.

Brook Hostetter is a teacher at PROMESA in Cusco, Peru, serving in partnership with Eastern Mennonite Missions.

● More than food and shelter

Mitchell and Lauren Yoder serve at Fortress of Hope in Managua, Nicaragua, a temporary shelter for children who are not safe at home. Here they love and care for the whole person as they discover each one's uniqueness.

BY MITCHELL YODER

We moved to Nicaragua in October 2014 to help at a children's home called Fortress of Hope. At the time, we weren't completely sure what our role would be, but it felt like God had something in store for us.

When we arrived, we began spending time with the children and staff and soon settled into our current role facilitating communication between the board of directors in the US and the staff in Nicaragua. We also visit regularly, help with homework, attend church, and just generally spend time with the children.

As time has passed, we have seen and participated in the work being done at Fortress of Hope, and the organization

provides an incredible example of holistic witness. We are a protection center, providing a temporary place for children who cannot safely live at home. However, our work extends far beyond providing food and shelter.

In its guiding principles, VMM states that holistic witness is the way we represent God's mission. Holistic might seem like a fancy term to refer to "all of something," but there's a greater significance in the definition offered by the Oxford English Dictionary: "Characterized by comprehension of the parts of something as intimately interconnected and explicable only by reference to the whole."

The staff at Fortress of Hope knows that addressing only one area of need in these children would be futile because all areas of their lives are intimately interconnected and their needs cannot be explained without looking at the whole child. It's impossible to understand a child's needs and actions without taking into account everything that makes him or her unique. And each area needs to be addressed in order to fully witness to him or her.

This is the crux of holistic witness. To draw out the example further, consider the following. If we offer only food and shelter, the children do not receive the tools they to be successful later in life. If we also send them to school, the children still lack the ability to deal with the trauma they've experienced. If we then give them counseling, they still have the uncertainty of the home to which they must one day return.

If, in addition to everything mentioned above, we also work with their families to create a safe home environment for them, but we fail to meet these needs in light of Christ's love for us, in the end they still have not received the opportunity to develop their identity in Christ.

And the opposite? If we offer God's love without meeting the needs above, we are only talking about his love, without showing it. And if we are only talking about his love, without showing it, our words lose their ability to penetrate into the heart of someone who needs to hear about God. Everything is interconnected, and we must love and care for the whole person.



Lauren Yoder with a friend living at Fortress of Hope.

Photo courtesy of Mitchell Yoder





Children living at Fortress of Hope play circle volleyball with their house parents. The center provides a temporary place where children can live if they are not safe at home, and seeks to extend God's love in a holistic way.

Photo courtesy of Mitchell Yoder

Behind all of the examples listed above, the most powerful reason to witness holistically is that this is how Jesus witnessed to those around him. In every interaction Jesus had with others, he cared for the whole person as best he could in the short time he was with them.

In John, chapters 4, 5, and 6, we find the woman at the well, the healing of a crippled man at the pool of Bethesda, and the feeding of the five thousand.

Each story begins with Jesus meeting an obvious need; however, Jesus did not stop there. After initiating a conversation with the Samaritan woman and speaking to her emotional needs, he revealed himself as the Messiah. After healing the crippled man, he returned to find him and share the Good News. After feeding the five thousand, he explained that he was the true Bread of Life. Jesus made sure to address obvious physical and emotional needs, as well as their more important spiritual needs, with each person he met.

Here at Fortress of Hope, we do our best to follow Jesus' example. The children are enrolled in a private Christian school, because education is crucial in giving them opportunities for the future. The staff continually teaches values

such as kindness, responsibility, and respect in order to help the children successfully interact with those around them. They are provided with counseling, psychological services, and social worker support to help them deal with the situations they are facing. The staff works closely with the children's families, making home visits, providing workshops, and continually monitoring the home situation so that the children are set up for success when they return home. And above all, this work is done in light of God's love, as children are deeply involved in the local church, participating in dance teams, attending youth group and retreats, and receiving devotions each evening.

We're not sure how other people and organizations view holistic mission in light of who God is, but based on our understanding of God and His will for the world, we can't imagine doing our work any other way.

Mitchell Yoder serves in Managua, Nicaragua, with his wife Lauren, serving with Fortress of Hope and Nicaraguan Christian Academy with Partners in Mission.

Windward Retreat: into the wind of God's call

BY MARTIN RHODES

Biblical faith is a double process of letting go of the way things are and embracing at great risk what God promises will be."

We had just gotten settled into our comfortable seats, surrounded by new and old friends in a room with a warm and dancing fire when Linford Stutzman spoke these words from Walter Brueggemann to us and asked us to ponder how God is calling us into the world to share the good news of Jesus Christ.

So began VMissions' Windward Retreat, held December 4-5 at Massanetta Springs Camp and Conference Center.

In sailing terms, windward is a directional movement



One of the nautical themed stations based on the Lord's Prayer. Photo by Martin Rhodes



Linford Stutzman leads a session at the Windward event.

Photo by Martin Rhodes

into the wind; moving toward the source of the wind. As experienced sailors, Linford and Janet noted that sailing windward is challenging, often difficult, but also rewarding as you are actively responding to the wind.

Our hope for this event was that it challenge us to listen carefully to the wind of the Spirit and to tack toward God's calling in our lives in a spirit of responsiveness and trust.

Linford and Janet led three sessions over two days focused on direction, preparation, and timing. Each session was preceded by worship led by Jenny and Jason Wagner who skillfully and prayerfully helped us to prepare space within us to encounter God. "Jesus be the center" was an oft-repeated line throughout our times of drawing close to God in worship.

As Linford and Janet shared stories of the Apostle Paul's journeys of faith, and their own response to God as they sailed the missionary routes of Paul, we were challenged to listen closely for God's invitation to us as Jesus' disciples. Following each of the sessions there was time to pray, walk, journal, and let our thoughts turn to scripture and tune into the working of the Spirit.

We also spent time in small groups, discussing how God has been faithful in leading us in the journey of faith and how encounters with our risen Lord have marked the way of discipleship.

We were encouraged to see how these markers of God's faithfulness might be pointing the way into the future in guiding our response to God. Many of the conversations that began in small groups spilled over into our meal times as we shared our journeys with one another.

Saturday afternoon turned to dusk as we gathered one last time in worship and prayer.

Around the perimeters of our meeting room, Carol Tobin had created nautical themed stations based on the Lord's Prayer where participants could write prayers of repentance to attach to a life vest, set a prayer sailing on an origami boat, untangle the knots of our lives, and commit to re-anchoring our lives in God. We ended in a circle giving thanks for God's call on our lives and praying the Lord's Prayer together. As one participant noted after the weekend drew to a close, "Windward was a space where we were challenged to follow Jesus in radical tangible ways."

Consider joining us next year to explore your missional calling at Windward, December 2-3, 2016.

Martin Rhodes is the Short-term Ministries Coach and Ministry Support Team Coach for VMissions.

Loving our Muslim neighbors

BY MELISSA WEAVER

Mom's bringing the camel!" Abdul* was panting on our doorstep. Sara* smiled, delivering a huge metal camel with tassled bridle, water jugs and no explanation! That crazy camel still symbolizes the gift of my Iraqi friends.



The author holds the camel given by her Iraqi friends. Courtesy photo

students kept coming, (soon with baklava!) Their mom and I exchanged food, tutoring and friendship. I began coming uninvited, to their delight.

This family is dear to us. We've shared photos, petitions, sadness, their son's wedding (where Patrick was the only American man.) I hope we'll someday share the Lamb's banquet.

I have a few reflections on loving Muslim neighbors:

Re-think family: Sharing Gospel flows from sharing tables (radical in a climate of fear) and replaces rhetoric and generalizations of people groups/religions with stories and faces. You mourn "collateral damage" when it might be cousins you skyped with. You pray differently for hearts behind hijabs.

At their daughter's school conference, we learned we were neighbors. When I left teaching, my husband Patrick and I heard about being family on mission from Skip and Carol Tobin. They became a resource, sharing experience, asking questions, and helping us reflect through Huddle (a discipleship group concerned with response to God's leading). We began embracing our neighborhood "context."

We hosted homework times, rather unsuccessfully. But the Iraqi

Find people of peace: Mike Breen describes them as open folks who serve you! They're where to begin. This encourages me. I can't reach every refugee, but I can commit where there's connection.

Child-like faith equals sometimes feeling childish: I'm sometimes Islam-ignorant and afraid to offend. However, disciples are first learners. My friends love questions and when I discuss my faith. When they talked about how the Islamic State attacked their village, I helplessly mumbled something about Jesus being our hope. God met us anyway.

Invite others: Love for Muslim friends multiplies. Children watch parents pray, err and share Jesus. Our church family can join us. VMissions workers can share knowledge of culture and religion and an attitude of boldness. We're not alone!

On a recent visit, my kids and I watched coverage of the *hajj* (pilgrimage). The father explained the pilgrims' white towels, saying, "No one can be naked before God." He then asked, "Do Christians have anything like that?" We discussed Christ covering our sins, so we can stand before God!

These unexpected but lovely exchanges, like my camel, testify to Christ in unlikely places. Like down the street.

* Names have been changed.

Lion's Tooth (after Paris)

by Melissa Weaver

"Many species of *Taraxacum* are seed dispersal ruderals that rapidly colonize disturbed soil." —Georg Glaser, *Nature and Numbers*

A clock spun sphere
More ash than gold,

Fragile fruit filament-fixed
To soft center;

Fragile globe
Of strands and seeds,

Easily crushed under heel
struck and striking.

But add a little wind
(no matter who rules the air)

And fire fills the cracks,
Spreads indelible leaves.

Melissa Weaver is married to Patrick and has two children. She attends Harrisonburg Mennonite Church, Harrisonburg, Va.



Call to Prayer: Supporting through prayer

BY SARAH SHOWALTER

As a sending mission agency, VMissions takes on the role of supporting workers in international and USA ministries, involved in a wide range of assignments. One might consider the staff at VMissions to be the “support persons” for these missionaries and ministries.

The staff in our office offer a wide variety of supportive functions, from publishing stories from the field in *Transforming* and the monthly prayer calendar to processing donations and workers’ expenses, from providing personal and strategic support for workers to hosting events through which people can learn about the work of VMissions. Yet there is more to our “support” of workers.

VMissions understands holistic witness as the way we represent God’s mission. Just as Jesus preached repentance and salvation while also healing the sick, standing with the marginalized and confronting injustice, we as a staff desire to care for the physical and spiritual needs of our workers. This is why prayer is a central component of our support for workers.

“Devote yourselves to prayer with an alert mind and a thankful heart. Pray for us, too, that God will give us many opportunities to speak about his mysterious plan concerning Christ.”

Colossians 4:2-3

Every Wednesday morning you will find the staff of VMissions gathered together to pray. As we sit together, we share prayer requests for our workers—workers who are like family to us and with whom we share a vision for seeing Christ’s Kingdom come.

Often we spend the better part of an hour bringing the needs of our workers before the Lord. We pray for the family whose children all have colds and are not sleeping well. We pray for our workers’ neighbors who



VMissions staff and board member Eldon Layman (at right) pray for David and Eliana Shenk, who shared about their ministry in Quito, Ecuador, and who are adjusting to life in the U.S. The staff have a time of prayer each Wednesday.

Photo: Jon Trotter

are asking questions about Jesus. We pray for the church plants that go through cycles of struggle and growth. We pray for workers who are discouraged or homesick. We pray for spiritual strongholds to be broken down and doors opened for the spread of the gospel. We pray with thanksgiving when we see these prayers being answered.

Most days at the office are busy as we try to steward our personnel resources to best support the ministries of VMissions. However, we continue to see prayer as one of the most important ways we offer support.

We also recognize that your prayers, the prayers of VMissions supporters, are crucial to our mission and God’s mission.

So often we think of supporting mission workers in the financial sense. To serve overseas, or even in the USA, requires significant financial resources, and mission workers need to have financial support pledged towards their ministry in order to serve.

But focusing on the financial support alone puts blinders on our eyes, keeping us from seeing the incredible need for spiritual support. Mission workers can raise all the money in

the world, but finances will not break down spiritual strongholds. Only the Holy Spirit can change hearts, and that is best supported through prayer.

We invite you to join with us in covering our workers, and the people and places they serve, in prayer.



Sarah Showalter is a freelance writer and former VMissions staff member.

One way you can partner with VMissions in prayer is by following along with the daily prayer requests on our monthly prayer calendar. Each day highlights a specific way to pray for a VMissions worker or family. The monthly prayer calendar can be viewed at vmmissions.org/read/monthly-prayer-calendar/. You can also sign up to receive the prayer calendar via e-mail or postal mail by contacting Melanie Sherer: melanie.sherer@vmmissions.org or (540) 434-9727.



Vince and LaVonne Ramella serve in Istog, Kosovo, with their three sons (from left) Sid, Justin and Bradie. Courtesy photo

Worker profile: **Vince & LaVonne Ramella**

Home: Christ’s Church of the Valley (Peoria, Arizona)

Service program: Long-term

Serve in Lezhë, Albania

Join the teaching staff of Lezha Academic Center (LAC), which offers rigorous academics with a biblical worldview to over 80 students in grades 7-12. This assignment supports the long-term vision and ministry of the Albanian Mennonite Mission, including church planting, leadership training, community development, and education. Qualified applicants will be licensed secondary education teachers in the areas of history, math, and science; TESOL training preferred.

Go to vmmissions.org/tranSend to learn more and to discover other service opportunities.

Assignment:

Our current assignment in Istog, Kosovo, is to build relationships while modeling a life lived for Christ, learning culture and language. We are in this particular community because of a milk collection project that began about 10 years ago between VM Missions and EMM. Our assignment is not with the collection center, but rather a result of the relationships that were established in the process.

Biggest joys and challenges:

Oftentimes our challenges and joys stem out of the same experiences. It is a huge challenge living in a community where there aren’t other believers, but it is an incredible opportunity to rely on Christ for strength and nurturing. Seeing all around us lives without the hope of Christ generates a greater incentive for us to be his light and share his love. Learning Albanian is tremendously harder than we imagined and is the most consistent challenge for each of us. But

when we can enter into a conversation with understanding, what an incredible reward for the weeks and months and even years of struggling to learn. Understanding and appreciating the culture has been a challenge; particularly concerning schedules—here relationships and image are critical. We’re still learning the balance between when to do work and when to build relationships.

A typical day:

Vince: A typical day may involve minor maintenance issues to chopping wood. Coffee and tea with friends and neighbors is a certain and important staple. These times also prove to be beneficial in language practice and study as well. I schedule time for reading and prayer, to always remain available to God’s nudging.

LaVonne: A typical day has some mixture of my homeschooling our kids (grades 3, 6 and 8), tea with our friends and neighbors, and some form of language study. There is always a lot to do; in the evenings I can relax and unwind.



**Virginia
Mennonite
Missions**

Transforming (USPS-15280)
Virginia Mennonite Missions
601 Parkwood Drive
Harrisonburg, VA 22802-2498

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making
disciples
in the way
of *Christ*

2016 Service Opportunities

Where is God calling you?

The opportunities listed below are currently open.

We also welcome conversations about *your* dream for participating in God's mission around the world!

Partners IN MISSION (< 1 year)

Albania	English teachers at Lezha Academic Center, a Christian high school
Egypt	Teach English to Christian and Muslim students in Port Said
Jamaica	Assist with Vacation Bible School
Thailand	Serve on a discipleship and learning tour Serve on a prayer team Teach English at a camp
Trinidad	Assist with Vacation Bible School
USA	Volunteer at Good Works, a ministry to the homeless Volunteer with SWAP (Serving with Appalachian People) in Kentucky

transSend (1 year)

Albania	Teachers at Lezha Academic Center Preschool teacher at Joshua Center
China	English teachers w/ Mennonite Partners in China
Costa Rica	Volunteer at Pura Vida (discipleship immersion)
Indonesia	Join a team living and working in a Jakarta slum Serve as an urban ministry volunteer Teach English at a Christian School Teach English for community outreach
Israel/Palestine	Nazareth Village volunteer
Peru	Teachers at PROMESA (Christian school)
Philippines	Serve as an intern with Peacebuilders Community in the conflict-ridden area of Mindanao
South Asia	Dive into an immersion experience in a Muslim context with home stays, language study and mission mentoring
Thailand	Explore a variety of service options (teachers, social workers, nurses) as part of the life and ministry of our team in Bangkok

United States Serve in Charlottesville, Va., Waynesboro, Va., or Wardensville, W.Va., in mentored church leadership and community outreach

Long-term (2+ years)

Albania	Serve on a church planting team Teachers at Lezha Academic Center
Belize	Church planter for deaf community
China	English teachers w/ Mennonite Partners in China
Indonesia	Join a team living and working in a Jakarta slum (nursing, teaching, social work skills an asset)
Italy	Serve as church planters
Jamaica	Teach at Maranatha School for the Deaf
Kosova	Serve on a Church planting team Agriculture Extension work
Montenegro	Serve in church planting and teach English
Thailand	Join in the life and ministry of our team in Bangkok; priority on language study for first term Young adult discipling Church planting team

Interested in learning more?

Contact VMissions through email, Facebook or phone. We'll connect you to the appropriate staff person about the assignment of interest and guide you through the possibilities.

Visit us at: vmmissions.org



Like our Facebook page to get updates at facebook.com/vmissions