

Christ is our peace,
won through the cross
and the resurrection.
Eph. 2:14

CHRONICLES

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THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE VALLEY BRETHREN-MENNONITE HERITAGE CENTER

Upcoming Events

▶ **Civil War anniversary.** The first Cross-Roads lecture in 2005 will provide an opportunity to reflect on the 140th anniversary of the end of the Civil War. The meeting will be held on Sunday, April 10, 3 p.m., at Park View Mennonite Church, 1600 College Ave., Harrisonburg, Va. Pat and Keith Gibson of Lexington, Va., will discuss music and culture of the era and CrossRoads President Robert Alley will reflect on Brethren and Mennonite experiences of the time.

▶ **Upper Cove Church Homecoming.** Mark your calendar for Sunday, June 5, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. to attend the annual homecoming for the Whitmer School/Upper Cove Mennonite Church of Mathias, W.Va., even though the building has now been moved to the CrossRoads site at 711 Garbers Church Road. Come to see the facility in its new location and participate in worship, fellowship, and a potluck meal.

▶ **Welcome Center prepared.** The Landes house, now named The Welcome Center, is being renovated to open to the public later this year. Check the Web site for an opening-day announcement.

▶ **Tears and Ashes Tour.** A tour of sites in the Valley important to Brethren and Mennonite life during the Civil War is being planned for Saturday, July 16. This all-day bus tour will include a booklet of stories and photos, narration by experienced guides, lunch, and opportunities to meet new people and learn more about Valley history. Check the Web site for details on cost, and the time and place to meet.

▶ **Harvest Day 2005.** The second annual Harvest Day event has been set for Saturday, October 15. Mark your calendar now and plan to attend this family-focused festival.



Volunteers reassemble the Whitmer Schoolhouse at CrossRoads, near the woods overlooking the Valley.

Whitmer Schoolhouse Moved

The 100-year-old Whitmer Schoolhouse, the former Cove Mennonite Church in Mathias, W.Va., was moved in early December to the CrossRoads site where it will now reflect the early education and mission work of the Mennonites and Brethren in the Valley.

During workdays last summer and fall, the bell tower, front porch, rear classrooms and roof were dismantled by volunteers, and the 20' X 28' structure was sawed in thirds for trans-

port. Clark Martin and sons provided equipment and labor to move it.

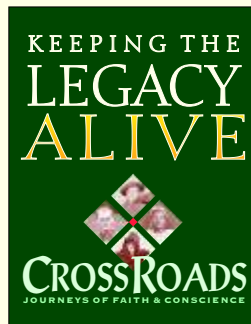
After volunteers dug and poured a concrete foundation on top of the hill near the woods, the building was reassembled including use of the old rafters, and the roof was covered with tarpaper and the gable ends weather boarded. The front porch and bell tower will soon be reattached, and metal sheeting put on the roof.



Tom Sawin Photos

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