

O Sing to the
Lord a new song...
Psalm 96:1

CHRONICLES

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July Tour Planned

The Tears & Ashes bus tour planned for July 16 will focus on early Brethren and Mennonite sites in Dayton and surrounding areas. It will begin at 8 a.m. at Garbers Church of the Brethren and end there at 4 p.m.

Norman Wenger and Dave Rodes, local businessmen and researchers and compilers of the Unionists book series, will narrate the tour. The \$50 tour fee will include a Mennonite-German meal.

The tour this year will begin a five-year cycle. Next year's tour will feature sites in the Broadway area; future tours will focus on eastern Rockingham County, Singers Glen, and the black experience and other related stories.

Receipt of your check by July 8 will reserve your seat(s). Write your check to CrossRoads and send to P.O. Box 1563, Harrisonburg, VA 22803.



David Showalter Photo

This year's tour includes Silver Lake Mill, built by a Brethren family and owned by Brethren during the Civil War. Stories about the families will be shared.



More than 100 persons attended Park View Mennonite Church Sunday, April 10, to hear Keith and Pat Gibson of Beuna Vista, Va., tell stories and sing and play music that portrayed life in the nineteenth century, especially of Civil War days. Singing together while playing a flute, banjo, guitar or melodeon of the era, they featured pieces written by Stephen Foster, George Root and others. During this first lecture of 2005, Robert Alley, pastor of Bridgewater Church of the Brethren and President of CrossRoads, also told stories of how the war impacted Brethren and Mennonites in the Valley.

Sunday Vespers Set

A series of informal outdoor worship experiences for the whole family is being planned at CrossRoads every Sunday in July and August at 7 p.m. They will include singing, storytelling and features for children.

These programs will take place in the woods behind the Whitmer Schoolhouse where a "sinkhole" is being developed as an amphitheater. In case of rain, the vespers will be held in the schoolhouse. Bring lawn chairs or blankets for seating.

Upcoming Events

- ▶ **June 5.** Cove Mennonite Church homecoming.
- ▶ **July-August.** Vesper services, CrossRoads Amphitheater.
- ▶ **July 16.** Tears & Ashes bus tour.
- ▶ **August 27.** Lecture by Nancy Bondurant Jones at Sunrise Church of the Brethren, 7:30 p.m.
- ▶ **October 15.** Harvest Day at CrossRoads.

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