

Calendar of Events

Water	June 19 - July 28
Family Week	July 30 - Aug. 4
Staff Retreat	Sept. 14 - 15
First Term	Sept. 16 - Oct. 18
Choir Ministry Tour	Oct. 19 - 26
Second Term	Oct. 30 - Dec. 8

- Contact the office for a catalog and application materials, or visit us at SMBI.org for class schedules and descriptions, student handbook, application materials and more.
- The planned choir tour to Alaska following fifth term has shifted some enrollment from third and fourth terms. All terms are either open or with short waiting lists.

Prayer Request: A full-time assistant administrator/instructor is needed ASAP.

Family Week 2023

July 30 - Aug. 4

Instructors: Elijah Yoder, Samuel Heatwole, Matthew Bontrager

During the morning, child care is provided for the 0-5 year olds, and there are classes for the 6-12 year olds, youth, and parents. In the afternoon, there are additional activities, free time and more with chapel and recreation in the evening.

For more information and registration visit us at SMBI.org

The 1802 Silver Dollar

-Clifford Schrock

We recently attended a family estate auction to disperse of Grandpa and Grandma's personal items. They were both in their mid-90's when they passed away, but it is still a mix of emotions to walk through the end of an era. It was fun to find the diary entry recording my wife's birth. It was exciting to get some memorable items like Grandma's beautiful, hand stitched quilt, her china set, and Grandpa's gold-knobbed walking stick- all for \$54! It was disappointing to lose the bid on the Fisher-price cash register and the Romanian tea set- both at prices far more than they were actually worth. Something did not feel quite right about having some things declared "of no value" just because no one would start a bid on them. After all, this was Grandpa and Grandma's "stuff" and I am sure it had value to them! But what kept me awake the other night was the 1802 silver dollar.

As I was browsing the items before the auction, I found several coins on a shelf including 1898, 1921, 1896 and 1802 silver dollars. I am not a coin collector and know nothing about coins, but I looked a couple of them up and it seemed like they were probably worth something. The 1802 piece seemed to be of particular value, maybe even 100's of dollars. But how was I to know if it actually was? I decided to wait and see what they went for, but maybe take a risk on this one and bid it up to \$100. The first coins went pretty high and definitely more than I was going to pay for them. But then this 1802 came up. It did not say "silver" on it, so the auctioneer and those interested were not sure what it was. It was definitely an 1802 coin, but was it silver? They sold a couple other things first to provide a chance to look at it. No one knew anything about it, so they went ahead and sold it. With the questions about whether it was actually a silver dollar or something else, I decided to keep my hands in my pockets and let it go for \$35!

There are probably at least two reasons I didn't take the risk and bid on that coin. First, I did not know its true value and, really, I still do not know what it was actually worth. If I would have known for sure that it was worth what I suspected, I surely would have bid. Secondly, I was not willing to take the risk. What if I paid \$100 for it and it was only worth \$20? There's a general principle with investment- the greater the expected return, the greater the risk. If I had actually known its value, it would not have been a risk.

I didn't think much more about it, but a couple

days later, I remembered it and decided to see if the coin I had looked up said "silver" on it. No, it definitely did not, but it was still listed on Ebay for \$1500! Was it the same one? Was it actually worth that much? Did I just miss an opportunity to own a valuable coin that was over 200 year old- and belonged to grandpa? Why didn't I go with what I had looked up earlier and take a risk on it? Even if it wasn't worth that much, it would still be neat to have such an old coin. What if? Those were some of the thoughts running through my mind that kept me from falling asleep as quickly as I usually do. In other words, I am embarrassed to admit that I apparently lost sleep over it!

But then I started thinking, "What would I do with a coin like that? Would I sell it? But, it was Grandpa's coin, so would I keep it? I'm not a coin collector, so what would I do with an old coin like that?" Since I didn't actually buy it, I don't have to figure that out! Hm, if the "treasure" is not mine, I do not have to decide what to do with it or how to protect it. It is not a distraction to me.

Also, the experience reminded me of a man that found a treasure in a field, but no one knew its true value. So, he sold what he had and went and bought it because the return on the investment was well worth it. I would not have had to sell anything to buy this "treasure" and I missed the opportunity because I did not want to take the risk. But that little story was not really about investing, investment returns, and risk; it was about seeking true treasure.

As I think about this 1802 coin, there is a twinge of regret. But, how much greater the regret if we miss opportunities with true treasure. Do I fully grasp the power of the gospel message? Do I miss valuable time spent in reading the scripture or in prayer? What opportunities have slipped away because I have been scared to take the risk of initiating a conversation or offering a kind word? How many times has fear kept me from seizing the moment?

So, now the moment is yours. Opportunities come to us every day. Some are routine, like devotional time. Others are once in a lifetime opportunities like the "chance" encounter with someone in the grocery store. Whatever the case, open your eyes to the incredible value of the treasures in front of us every day. Take a risk and see what treasures will be found.

Return Service Requested

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-2022/2023 Year At A Glance -



Discipleship Groups -1st Term

# of Students per term:	# of staff terms 1-5
1st Term: 43	26
2nd Term: 51	Highest average term age: 23.7
3rd Term: 65	Lowest average term age: 21.0
4th Term: 66	
5th Term: 25	

4th Term Choir Tour to Dominican Republic



Weeks of choir tour throughout the year ~ 7 1/2

States toured this school year:

Connecticut, Georgia, Indiana, Kansas, Maryland, Missouri, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia ... and the Dominica Republic



Ministers Week Count: 122 (including staff)

Number of Students This Year: 171

Number of Student Terms: 246

Countries represented: Canada, Belize, Thailand, Cambodia, Chile



2022 WATER

~ Weddings ~

Neil Byler & Natalie Heatwole - 2/11/23

Jamin Miller & Leah Weaver - 6/30/23

Lance Borntrager & Sara Peachey - 4/22/23

Spencer Funk & Jessenia Crutch - 7/1/23

Luke Hochstetler & Cari Nolt - 5/27/23

First Term Course Schedule (There are still openings for men and ladies) September 16 - October 18, 2023

Romans - Elijah Yoder
James - Larry Bergey
Mennonites in America - Samuel Heatwole
I, II Thessalonians - Larry Bergey
Growth in Christ - Clifford Schrock
Developing the Servant - Larry Bergey

Discipleship Groups

Choir Ministry Tour ~ October 19-26

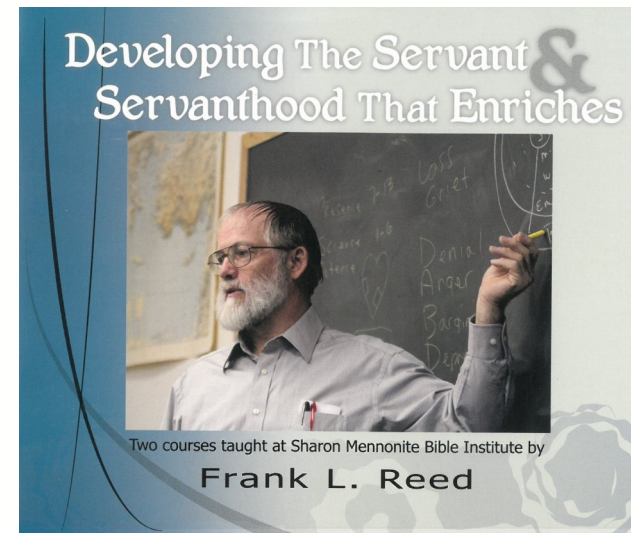
Congratulations! 2022-2023 Graduate



Weston Burkholder



Like us on Facebook:
Sharon Mennonite Bible Institute



SALE!!! Developing The Servant DVD series
Original Price: \$199
Sale Price: **\$99**



Check out the opportunity to set up a recurring contribution on the support page at SMBI.org. Expand the impact of "small dollar donations." Every dollar counts! Just 30 donors contributing \$1/day (\$30/mo.) adds over \$10,000 to the budget.

Board Update

SMBI is led by a 16 member association, which is the primary decision making body. In the past year, Raymond Harnish, John Harrison, Ernest Weaver, Aaron Horst, Merle Gingrich, and Steven Yoder decided to step down for various health, age, and schedule reasons. A huge thank you to these men for their many years of dedicated service. New members have been found and they will be introduced in the next issue.

Within the association, the 16 members are divided into five committees, which are chaired by the five members of the executive board. After 10 years as board secretary, Daniel Hege was replaced, but will remain on the association. The five board members are Kevin Hurst- chairman, Rene Clugston- vice chairman, Lyle Musser- secretary, Elmer Glick- assistant secretary, and Daniel Beachy- treasurer.

New Secretary

For over 8 years, Carolyn Fisher has been the first to meet many as they arrive at SMBI. She has decided it is time for change and we bless her as she moves on to other things. Thank you for your friendly and competent presence!

Janell Eby is from Dundee, NY. She's not new to SMBI as she first arrived as a student in 2017. Since then she has served multiple terms on the kitchen staff, was ladies dean for a term, and in between all that completed a term of service at The Walk in Cambridge, OH.



~ Births ~

Trenton & Kara (Troyer) Byler
Cohen Briggs

Duane & Crissy (Beiler) Fisher
Hudson Drew

Jason & Gloria (Weber) Eby
Clark Bennett