

Meet the Band

Tim Shue, Kidron, OH
Song Leader



Tim is a graduate of Hesston and Bethel Colleges with Music Education degrees. At Central Christian School, he directs the Concert Choir, Varsity Singers, Jazz Band and Chapel Worship Team. Tim plays acoustic and electric guitars, bass, fiddle, mandolin, harmonica, and other folk instruments. He has sung in all types of choirs and played in bluegrass, blues, and square dance bands.

Oliver Davis, Hampton, VA
Song Leader



Oliver began singing tenor (lead and background vocal) in church choirs in 1982. His first experience with leading and singing background during praise and worship began in 1986. Oliver has 16 years of experience in ministering to the Lord in song.

Jon Bray Jr., Reedley, CA
Percussion



Jon plays drums, percussion, and sings vocals. He has participated in community bands and also formed his own rock band that plays at community events. He plays drums for his church worship team and for a Sunday night college-aged Sunday evening worship service, and is the percussionist for a worship team in a weekly Bible study.

Raquel Contreras, Corpus Christi, TX
Voice



Raquel sings soprano and alto. She has sung in various choirs, bands, and praise and worship settings. She has traveled with various church groups in ministry meeting people's needs.

Kevin Kehrberg, Pittsburgh, PA
Bass



Originally from Newton, KS, Kevin and his wife now live in Pittsburgh. He has experience playing with various bands and worship bands. He plays bass and string bass.

Durelle Leaman, Lancaster, PA
Acoustic guitar



Durelle plays guitar, trumpet, piano, keyboard, violin, and recorder. He is a music education major at Millersville University of PA, plays trumpet in the Symphonic Band, and is in the University Choir singing Bass 1. He plays in his church worship band.

Kathy Smith, Archbold, OH
Voice



Kathy sings soprano and alto and plays piano. She has sung in chorales and particularly enjoyed a worship band called *The Connection* where she was the lead singer. She has sung on radio and TV and has written and recorded some of her own songs.

Emily Troyer, Harrisonburg, VA
Piano



Emily plays piano and flute, and also sings. She has participated in worship bands in high school, college, and in congregational settings. She has led and co-led worship in various settings including EMU and her home congregation.

Tennessee Tax Exemption

If your church wishes to be tax exempt while in Nashville, you will need to apply for a tax exempt status from the state of Tennessee. To do so, contact the State of Tennessee Department of Revenue, Patsy Clark, Director, at: 615-741-3580.

Music Compact Disc

Be sure to send in to the Youth Convention office your order and payment if you want a CD with a number of the songs which will be sung in Nashville. The cost per CD is \$12 (US) or \$18 (CN).

E-mail address change

Effective immediately is a new e-mail address for the Nashville 2001 Youth Convention.

The new address is: MennYC@mennoniteUSA.org

Got guts?

Our society accepts violence as a way to solve problems. Jesus is the Prince of Peace. How do we live in the middle? Come to the Thursday afternoon "Peace

Takes Guts: A Forum on Anti-Violence." Through story, video, Bible study, and drama, you'll learn how Jesus calls us to peacemaking and how people through history and yet today have courageously responded. Seminars following the forum will teach techniques to help you diffuse the violence of a situation. Whether you want to learn how to respond to someone trying to hurt you, or get ideas about how to limit people trying to hurt someone else, come for inspiration and information!



Sponsors: We need about one hundred leaders for these seminars. If you are willing to help youth learn nonviolence through role plays, please contact Susan Mark Landis, 330-683-6844, mcpjc@sssnet.com



Memnonite Youth Convention

PO Box 1245

Elkhart IN 46515-1245

On the Road to Nashville

Vol.1, No. 4 February 2001

Seminars just
fill time at
convention,
don't
they



No! They can also fill your heart,
enrich your mind, and feed your soul.

In fact, we'll have more hours devoted to seminars in Nashville than at any recent convention. We're even adding an evening seminar session and two early morning seminar sessions in response to comments from a number of you. And the topics? We think you'll find something scheduled during each session that will speak to you. There will be seminars on life choices, current issues in the world, mission and service opportunities, and college and career choices, the Bible and peacemaking. And if those aren't enough, we're planning a few with a musical "tone."

Tuesday evening (July 3) we'll have some interactive sessions for those of you who are interested in meeting others and sharing your views and questions. These will include a panel discussion on the challenges involved in the transition from high school to college. And then early Thursday and Friday morning (or late Thursday night if you haven't slept yet!), we'll feature sessions on health and fitness and career opportunities.

This won't leave our afternoons empty, though!

Rich Meyer will talk about his family's life "off the grid" in Indiana. He'll explain why the lights in his house are all fluorescent (except in the bathrooms) and what to do when the wind-generator falls over. Rebecca Horst and John Yordy will return with a revision of their very popular presentation "How can I know what God wants me to do with my life?" And James Krabill will explore the question "Is Jesus the ONLY Way?" Is this enough variety for you? If not, we can promise there's more to come.

And by the way...there may be "special surprises" at some of the seminar sessions, so show up at all of them so you don't miss a thing!

When?

Tuesday, July 3,
Slot #1 1:30-2:30 pm
Slot #2 2:45-3:45 pm
Slot #3 4:00-5:00 pm

Friday, July 6,
Slot #7 1:30-2:30 pm
Slot #8 2:45-3:45 pm
Slot #9 4:00-5:00 pm

Thursday, July 5,
Slot #4 7:45-8:45 am
Slot #5 4:00-5:00 pm
Slot #6 9:30-10:30 pm

Mennonite Youth Convention
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Seminars

Sponsor Seminars

Sharing the Gospel Message with Youth
Jr. High Ministry and Summer Jr. High Program
Restorative Discipline, and Its Role in Youth Ministry
Pushing Pause: Re-thinking Popular Culture.
Five Pillars of Health and Fitness
Selecting Materials for Youth Groups
The Selective Service System - Helping Young People Prepare for Registration for the Draft
Preparing for and Leading a Youth Mission Trip – Advice from MCC leaders

Current Issues Seminars

Conflict in Ireland
Walking with the Colombian Mennonite Church
Media: Who Sets the Agenda for the News, or an Ad Series by one particular company
Consumer or Christian? Shaping our Witness in a Media Culture
The Cineplex: Pagan Playground or Postmodern Temple?
Jubilee Campaign to Cancel the Debts of Poor Countries
The Death Penalty -The story of the Tennessee Execution of Robert Glen Coe

Life Choices Seminars

Everything Else but...
Pushing Pause: Re-thinking Popular Culture.
Unmasking Sexual Con Games
Youth Questions Regarding Health, Sex and Relationships
Violence in Relationships at Home, with Friends and Dating Partners
How Far Can You Go?
Getting Along with Parents
What's Wrong with My Parents?
More What with Less which? Homepower and Other Paradoxes of God's Leading
How Can I Know What God Wants Me to Do with My Life?
Exploring Nutrition and Its Contribution to Our Body - God's Temple
Morning Stretching and Relaxation
The Two Sides of Love - How My Personality and My Christianity are Related

Exploring Mission and Service Opportunities Seminars

Short Term Mission Opportunities
Get to Know Service Adventure
Get to Know YES
Get to Know RAD
Urban and Rural Opportunities for Service with MCC
Top 10 Questions about Missions
EXTREME Service: Youth on the Frontline
Get a Life!
Making a Difference as a Teen... One Teen's work at a Women and Children's Shelter in California

College and Career Choices Seminars

Being a Christian in Science
Idealism Meets Reality: Teaching in the 21st Century
Mennonite Values Exemplified by Professional Nursing Graduates
Many are Called: Exploring God's Call to Serve in Ministry and Mission
Christians on the Court and in the Field: An Alternative to Violence in Sports
Moving on...Who Me?
Paying for College
Financial Aid and Mennonite Higher Education
Why Choose Mennonite Colleges?
Making the Transition to College
Getting to Know Bethel College
Getting to Know Bluffton College
Getting to Know Canadian Mennonite University
Getting to Know Conrad Grebel College
Getting to Know EMU
Getting to Know Goshen College
Getting to Know Hesston College

The Bible and Anabaptist Beliefs Seminars

Is Jesus the ONLY Way?
Shroud for a Journey?
How Do Two People Read the Same Passage Differently?
Peacemaking and the Bible
Making Moral Decisions in the New Millenium
Tools in our Toolbox for Christ
Sharing Jesus without Fear
Are We Really Following Jesus if We Aren't Telling Others Why?
Where is Hope in a World Falling Apart?
The Entertainment Market: Popular Paganism and Jesus' Truth
An Introduction to Damascus Road
Bloody Theatre and the Church's Mission: How the *Martyrs' Mirror* Can Strengthen our Witness.
How to Listen to a Sermon without Falling Asleep
Gathering at the Hearth: Stories that Tell Us Who We Are
Does Being Mennonite Matter?

Peacemaking Seminars

Christian Peacemaker Teams
Lies My History Teachers Told Me About America's Wars
Registration for War - the Selective Service System
Nonviolence Across the Curriculum: Why Mennonite Higher Education is Important
Responding to Violence: Studies in Christian Peacemaking
Youth and the Military: Know That You Have Options

Music and Youth Seminars

The Center Ministry - Independent Music in the Light of Ministry
Contemporary Christian (Classical!) Music

Life 101 Sessions

Y1 — And God Gave Them a 'Sign'— The American Sign Language	True or false: Some people really do talk with their hands; American Sign Language is universal; it actually is OK to point; many Deaf people are not deaf at all!!!! Discover the truth to these statements while having a great time learning American Sign Language. An active, but quiet seminar!
Y2 — Careers in the Music Business	What better place to learn about options for careers in music than the Music City? Join us for a discussion with local professionals in the business about the dynamics of the business and how you might prepare for and explore a future career in music.
Y3 — Environmental Workshop	Participants in this workshop will hear about local environmental issues in Nashville and efforts to address them. This workshop will include a tour of a local environmentally-oriented project.
Y4 — Exploring Careers with Ten Thousand Villages	Explore the Village. Have you ever wanted to be a writer, create advertisements or know what it is like to work in the communications field? Join the Information Department of Ten Thousand Villages to learn about fair trade and what it means to be an Art Director, Promotions Coordinator and how to work with media. This hands-on seminar will include groups working together to create publicity campaigns. If publicity and promotions sounds like a career you would like to learn more about, this is the place for you!
Y5 — Exploring the Bible	How is the Bible relevant for me today? And what are different methods of Bible study that I can use now and in the future to help in my spiritual growth? Come and explore these questions (and more) in this course focused on ways to study the Bible
Y6 — How Can I Identify My Gifts, and How Might I Use Them?	Participants in this session will discover new things about their own skills and talents as well as learning to appreciate differences and giftedness in other people. Interactive discussions will include exploration of various career choices and the possible fit with various talents and skills.
Y7 — Spiritual Retreat	Far too often we have talked about prayer without experiencing prayer. This course will introduce spiritual exercises and lead participants through a mini-prayer retreat.
Y8 — Theatre Workshop	Both youth and sponsors are welcome to join in the performance of a drama - in this workshop and then possibly on stage in mTown. This will also be an opportunity to learn about college and career opportunities in drama.
Y9 — Poetry as an Expression of Spiritual Seeking	In this course we'll review great poems of a spiritual nature, write poems and discuss together the poems we write. We'll have a good time together looking at what poetry and its language can teach us.
Y10 — Young Composers Workshop	This popular jam session is back! Bring your guitars, fiddles, pianos (just kidding) and hang out and jam with veteran composers. Find out how they started composing and get tips about developing your own skills. Both youth and sponsors welcome at this session.
Y11 — Let Your Voice Be Heard	Engage in discussion of some of the most important issues facing the Mennonite and General Conference Churches today. Also create recommendations to be passed by the Youth Assembly. Let your voice be heard! Learn what it takes to tend the church in today's world.
Y12 — Learn to Play the Javanese Gamelan	Play the Gamelan! Learn to play the Indonesian Gamelan, an orchestra of 12-15 tuned percussion instruments that plays hauntingly beautiful music. Musical experience is not necessary, although ability to keep a beat is a plus! Led by Dr. Will Peebles, Western Carolina University.

Note: Seminars and Life 101 Sessions subject to change without notice.

Life 101 Sessions

In addition to the many seminars we'll offer, 12 Life 101 sessions will be available for youth and sponsor participation. These sessions are three and one-half hours long - enough time to add depth and to treat the topics in a real "hands-on" manner.

Consider attending the session "Exploring Careers with Ten Thousand Villages." Have you ever wanted to be a writer, create advertisements or know what it is like to work in the communications field? And have you heard about the great work Ten Thousand Villages does around the world? This session offers you an opportunity to think about putting both of these together in your future.

Or...have you seen sign language being used and wanted to understand more about this universal language? Sign up for "And God Gave Them a Sign - The American Sign Language" led by Sheila Yoder.

And...have you heard of the Gamelan? It's a Javanese percussion instrument, and it takes 12-15 people to play it! Sign up for the Life 101 "Learn to Play the Javanese Gamelan." You'll not only learn to play the instrument, but you'll have an opportunity to perform in the mTown exhibits and activities area following the session. You can sign up for this one even if you just want to watch, by the way!

These are just three examples of the 12 Life 101 sessions we'll offer - all 12 are "must" events at convention — be sure to sign up on-line now! Some spots may still be available at convention, but get there early to make sure you can participate in the one you'd like! Because of the extra preparation that goes into these sessions, we do charge \$10 per person to participate.

Commit as a group

We hope your youth group will consider making a group commitment to attend seminars and Life 101 sessions in Nashville this year. Consider making a commitment within your group for each person to attend a minimum of 3 seminars and/or Life 101 sessions in Nashville - you'll find each session is well worth the effort.

And by the way, sponsors, there are lots of great seminars for you too :).

Wanna be a survivor?

Think you can survive better than the cast-aways of Survivor Island? Well, here's your chance to put yourself to the test. This July, ten youth (ages 12-18) will be given the challenge of surviving peacefully on YPeace Island during Nashville 2001, the Mennonite Church USA Assembly. YPeace Island will be located in the exhibit area, mTOWN. Abandoned on the island, these youth must successfully work through conflicts and complete daily missions together. The catch is—no one gets kicked off YPeace Island. In fact, more people are added to the island as the week progresses. And the more people on the island, the tougher it is to survive peacefully! But you won't be abandoned completely. Six other youth will be chosen to represent Peace Figures. The ten Survivors will have the opportunity to call on the wisdom of these Peace Figures in order to get through the missions and survive....together.

Applications are due by May 1, 2001 and the accepted applicants will be informed by May 15, 2001. And don't worry—you won't be stuck on the island during the whole convention. You'll simply be sent to the island for short periods twice daily and you will be allowed to shower. An application is included with this newsletter. For more applications or to address any questions, please feel free to contact Kristin Reimer at 717-859-3889 or ker@mcc.org.

Family-Based What?!

Sponsors' Institute - An Introduction to Family-Based Youth Ministry

If you've heard the term "Family-Based Youth Ministry" batted around, but you still aren't sure what it's all about, or if you're looking for a simple summary of this vision of youth ministry to share with your church leadership, this seminar is for you. Beginning by establishing the inherent limitations of a traditional approach to youth programming, the seminar will offer an overarching vision for a ministry that seeks to lead young people to mature Christian adulthood. This seminar will offer an alternative approach to youth ministry that moves beyond "the way it's always been done." The course will offer ways of connecting kids to the very structures that are most likely to lead them to maturity in Christ.