

later teachers and were highly revered by both students and fellow mission workers.—*Mennonite Mission Network*

Solar energy lights up classrooms at Hinkletown Mennonite School

EPHRATA, Pa.—Students at Hinkletown Mennonite School in Ephrata will look at the weather forecast in a whole new way this fall as they monitor the results of the sun's energy in their own classroom. Through new solar panels installed at the school, HMS will meet much of its energy needs through renewable sources while giving students opportunities to investigate creation care in real-life ways.

Four hundred sixty-eight solar panels have been installed on the roofs of HMS and will generate more than 75 percent of the current electrical needs of the school. Under the terms of the



Western Mennonite School

Hands-on learning

Western Mennonite high school freshmen (from left) Kirsten Newman, Elyssa Fahndrich and Emily Nye explore the wildlife at Drift Creek Camp on the Oregon Coast during their environmental science mini-term experience.—*Western Mennonite School*

Power Purchase Agreement, Sun Energy LLC is placing the solar panels and will provide the electricity at a negotiated rate that is favorable for long-term savings for the school, estimated at over \$250,000 through the life of the panels. The system has been installed by Advanced Solar Industries, a New Holland, Pa.-based, HMS parent-connected business.—*Melissa L. Beidler*

Bethel team academic national champions

NORTH NEWTON, Kan.—Not all championships are won on the field, court or course, as the Bethel College golf team proved.

The Golf Coaches Association of America informed Bethel coach Gregg Dick Aug. 1 that his 2011-12 team had been named academic national champion of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics.

To be considered for the honor, a team must submit a GPA of 3.0 or higher (the average of the GPAs for each player on its official squad list for the academic year). The GCAA names national champions in six divisions—NCAA Divisions I, II and III, NJCAA D I and NJCAA D II, and NAIA.—*Bethel College*

Evangelical Mennonite Conference celebrates its bicentennial

STEINBACH, Manitoba—In 2012, the Evangelical Mennonite Conference, a Canadian conference, is celebrating its 200th anniversary.

The conference began in Russia (now southern Ukraine) in 1812, and was called the “Kleine Gemeinde” (Small Church) when it broke away from a larger body because of its concerns about preserving holiness and nonresistance.

The group moved to North America in 1874–75, with most members residing in western Canada. It changed its name to Evangelical Mennonite Church in 1952 and Evangelical Mennonite Conference in 1959.

Currently it has a weekly atten-

dance of about 7,800, 7,200 members and 62 churches in nine regions across five provinces in Canada. It has an active missions program in about two dozen countries.—*Tim Dyck*

Two Goshen College students awarded theological fellowships

GOSHEN, Ind.—Two Goshen College students were awarded a 2012 Fund for Theological Education Undergraduate Fellowship. Seniors Jeffrey Moore and Emily Hedrick received the fellowships to help fund their ministerial explorations. FTE is a nonprofit organization that seeks to cultivate and support young Christian leaders through a summer conference.

Moore is from Ashland, Ohio, majoring in Bible and religion and communications. This summer he participated in the Ministry Inquiry Program by shadowing the lead pastor at Oak Grove Mennonite Church in Smithville, Ohio.

Hedrick is from Telford, Pa., majoring in music and Bible and religion. She has served as a student ministry leader and chapel planning assistant, and this summer she worked on a farm in London, Ohio.—*Goshen College*

200,000 newly displaced in Eastern Congo conflict

GOMA, Democratic Republic of the Congo—Since April of this year, more than 200,000 people have fled their villages and fields in the region, bringing the total number of internally displaced people in DRC to more than 2 million.

Between 30,000 and 40,000 of the displaced have become refugees in neighboring Rwanda and Uganda, but the majority has joined other people either in overcrowded camps in North or South Kivu, or with host families.

On July 15, Mennonite Central Committee staff and emergency services staff of the Church of Christ of Congo, an MCC partner for more than 15 years, visited Kibati. Their report will serve as the basis for an emergency response from MCC.—*MCC*