



FAITH BUILDERS

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS, INC.

“Discipling the head, heart, and hands”

Issue 81

Fall 2006

WESTERN CIVILIZATION AND THE KINGDOM OF GOD: PART 2

This article—part 2 of 2—is adapted from Melvin Lehman’s State of the School address given March 22, 2006. In part 1 Melvin described the developing crisis in western civilization, that general culture’s rejection of traditional values, an increasing radical Islamic population, and the web of conflict between the two will catch us as we attempt to maintain absolute standards and a Christ-like faith.

What are the implications for us and how does this intersect with strategic planning at Faith Builders?

- Our strategy must be bold, because nothing is accomplished by fear. It must be bold because faith is bold.
- Our strategy must be courageous, because the path forward will not be easy. Rather, it will be increasingly difficult.
- Our strategy must be realistic, because life demands realism or debilitating disappointment.
- Our strategy must be good news, because the ultimate reality is the goodness of God. This must be communicated to the nations.

The day of chaos in civilization is the day of opportunity for the child of God. It is not the day for fear, cowardice, and inaction. None of us should run and hide. It is the day for courage and strength. It is the day for bold initiative in the fear of God. I have been encouraged by the forward movement I have felt from many of you during these days of strategic planning. Here is my perspective on what I heard from you.

Last year you spoke and I heard about the lack of connectedness within the organization. We have taken a few faltering steps to address

continued on page 466

TEACHER WORKSHOPS OCT 21-22, 2006

Principals – Looking for a way to energize your teachers for the year?

Teachers – Would you like to spend a weekend with fellow teachers?

Join us for Teacher Workshops, a weekend of encouragement and input for teachers in the trenches.

WORKSHOPS & SESSIONS– Five workshops will be offered during each of the six workshop time slots listed in the event schedule on page 466. These will be taught by FBEP personnel and TAP alumni.

Janelle Glick: Going Beyond the Curriculum; Creating a Safe Learning Environment for All

Jonas Sauder: Helping Students Appreciate Art; The Art of Asking Questions

Steven Brubaker: Climbing Mt Everest – the Future of Mennonite Education

Milo Zehr: Teaching on the Edge – Avoiding the Precipice of Burnout

David Strubhar: Dueling Philosophies – The Debate over Earth’s Age

Carla Zehr: Through the Day with the Kinesthetic Learner

Yvonne Yoder: Tools and Techniques for Teaching Reading

Melvin Lehman: Titus 2 – Schools & Sound Doctrine

Leila Hartranft: Managing the Elementary Classroom

Wendell Glick: Basic Choir Method for Upper Grades

Jason Croutch: Reaching the Hearts of Our Students

Ryan Zook: The Computer as a Teacher Power Tool

Allen Petre: Teaching Math – The Puzzling Percent

Sharon Yoder: Creating Bulletin Boards that Teach

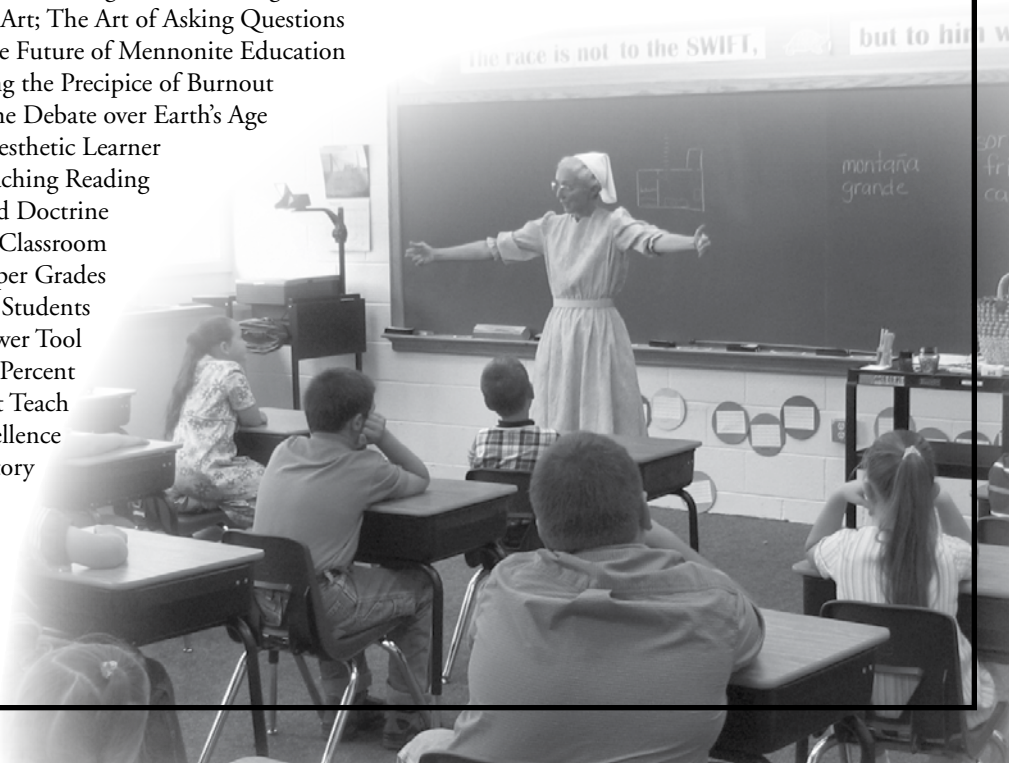
Gerald Miller: Leading Your School to Excellence

Esther Bean: Using Literature to Teach History

Amos Stoltzfus: Teaching Elementary Music

Vivian Mast: Organizing Your World

Please register for Teacher Workshops
by calling or emailing our office.





continued from page 465

that problem. We can do more, and we must. One means of communication that we are still developing is our Internet websites: the internal student and staff portal we call "Celebr8" and our public website at www.fbep.org. Please recall with me my point: our strategy must be bold! The Internet is shot through with decadence; there is no denying it. We have chosen ways to filter much of this decadence and shall continue to do so. But it is also a great highway of communication with an international posture. I support using the Internet as a tool to accomplish a good purpose in the hands of God's people. However, I do have a few words of caution and perhaps even rebuke. These exotic means of communication—such as blogs, Xanga, Skype, personal pages—are a window through which unbelievers may gaze upon our household and way of life. This may be positive or negative. I call us to a high level of discretion. I do not mean to be stodgy or Victorian. I mean to call us to responsible use of such technology as followers and imitators of Jesus Christ—bold but discreet. We must not forget that the most significant connections normally occur along the way as we work together, play together, and worship together.

For a number of years now we have heard a call for help. The call is coming from our fellow teachers in the field. Their voice has changed a bit over the years. It used to be the

shrieks of one about to drown. It is now a longing voice; it is the voice that cries out for the tools to do a very important job well. That job is to train the children of our communities for the challenges they will face in their generation...and who knows what they will face? We want to answer that call by offering what we can. We cannot do everything. We know that. But I believe we can play a pivotal role in building healthy educational climates in every Mennonite community and beyond. Steve and the academic department have begun to put together the components of an initiative that will head in this direction. Essentially this means taking many of the things we offer here directly to the communities and offering our help there.

The academic department is also leading us toward a greater involvement in publishing. We turned down an excellent opportunity to publish last year but that does not indicate a direction; the decision was an issue of timing and focus. It is time to pursue the written page. I am encouraged by Stephen Russell's decision to write a book on nonresistance. I am also encouraged by the movement of FB Resource Group's History Curriculum Project. It is more than satisfying to see Sharon Yoder and our daughter, Jolynn Schmucker, collaborating on a biography for children that is soon to go to press. Perhaps there are more in the pipeline that I do not know about. To these efforts, I say, "Amen!" Let's have more of it!

Some of you have heard that we have set a goal of fifty students in three years. As of today we think that goal a bit ambitious. Nevertheless, let me tell you about several of the key components we are developing in this drive. First is the scholarship component. We are quite aware that funding is an issue for many students who would like to come to FBEP. We aim to bring together men of means and young folks with purpose. There are significant hurdles and hoops that stand in the way of this, but we are committed to jumping over them and going through them one by one until this becomes a reality. Merle Herr, the academic department, and board members are working on the developmental stage of this effort. Stay tuned and tell your friends about this initiative.

Second is the need for adequate staffing to offer a quality education to our students. Our core staff must grow to realize that fifty-student goal. Instructors are hard to come

Join us for Biblical studies, personal growth, and ministry development.

WINTER TERM

January 1-February 2, 2007

Instructors

Steven Brubaker (SRB), John Coblentz, Sr (JAC), Wendell Heatwole (WH), Melvin Lehman (MBL), Brandon Mullet (BMM), Marie Mullet (MM), Allen Roth (AR), Stephen Russell (SMR), Sharon Yoder (SY), Milo Zehr (MEZ)

Classes

Anabaptist Theology	MEZ
The Anabaptist Worldview	SRB
Choir	BMM
Church Growth & Evangelism	AR
Church History: Early & Medieval....	SMR
Class Voice	BMM
Early Anabaptist Writers Seminar	SMR
Growing into a Godly Woman	MM
Helping the Hurting	JAC
Introduction to Ministry	JAC
Introduction to Spiritual Formation ..	MEZ
Introduction to Worldviews	SRB
Leadership & Life for Men	MBL
Marriage & Fathering	MBL
Marriage & Mothering	MM
Music & the Church	BMM
Music History & Appreciation	BMM
Nonresistance	SMR
Pastoral Care	JAC
Romans Seminar	MEZ
Sermon Preparation & Delivery	WH
Singleness & Women	SY
Studying the Bible	SRB
Systematic Theology	SMR

We will ship our Winter Term brochure by the second week of October. Visit our website for more information.

by, because most who qualify are already significantly committed to their home communities...and this is the way it ought to be. Join us in prayer as we seek people for our staffing needs.

Third is the physical plant development. We simply cannot house fifty students in this facility without some major overhaul. However, we are developing a plan that will allow us to manage fifty students without building beyond the existing parameters of the building. It's awesome...and so is the price!

TEACHER WORKSHOPS

Saturday | October 21, 2006

9:00 Opening

9:15 Steven Brubaker:

*Climbing Mt Everest –
the Future of Mennonite
Education*

10:10 Workshops #1-2

12:00 Lunch

1:20 Workshops #3-6

5:15 Supper

Sunday | October 22, 2006

9:15 Opening and Worship

9:30 Groups

10:30 Melvin Lehman: *Titus 2 –
Schools & Sound Doctrine*

11:45 Dismissal

FBEP Board Members

John Miller, Wayne Martin, Roy Gingerich, Sam Bontrager, Richard Herr, Melvin Lehman, Reuben Yoder

FBEP Advisory Council

Dave Nisly, Earl Koch, Gordon Goertzen, Lamar High, Howard Lichty, John Nisley, Jonas Sauder, Jonathan Sauder, Ben Stoltzfus, Marvin Weaver, Norman Yoder, Melvin Zook

FBEP Pastoral Council

Howard Brubaker, John Coblentz, Sr., Ernest Hochstetler, Roy Longenecker, Paul Miller

Service Opportunities at FB

- Computer tech: immediate
- PCH: November, December 2006; all training required will be provided here, including CPR/First Aid. Applicants must be female and +21 years old.
- Domestic: January 2007
- Maintenance: August 2007
- Kitchen: (3) May, Aug 2007

Please pray that that we would find a suitable replacement for William Miller as Administrator of Operations by June 2007.

Special Projects for FB

- West wing office A/C: \$7,000
- Safety lighting in front of dorms: \$1,800 remaining
- Skid-steer loader / snow plow

Phase II of Student Complex

- Concrete - \$5,000
- Insulation - \$2,000
- Stone - \$1,000
- Concrete insulation - \$1,000
- Plumbing - \$1,500
- Interior wall framing - \$5,000
- Dry wall 5/8" - \$7,000
- Exterior Doors - \$5,000
- Entrance Porch - \$2,200

Plans of this proportion take boldness and courage to dream and approve. Sometimes implementing such a plan seems to require

a denial of reality. But God has brought us through deep waters in the past, and He can still accomplish his good intentions.

In all seriousness, we do have a realistic plan for the next year or so that will allow us to accommodate at least 35 students. That plan calls for completing the Student Complex that is currently under construction. It also calls for the removal of the hill on the north side of the East Wing. This will permit renovation of 2,000-3,000 square foot of living space in the men's dorm area. These quarters could then be accessed from the north rather than from the internal hallway.

Some have heard that we are going to close Faith Builders Personal Care Home. After careful consideration, we have felt that increased state regulations, difficulty in recruiting staff, and lack of congruity with important aspects of the overall program pressure us to make this difficult decision. Throughout the organization we have appreciated the positive financial influence of our PCH. The outstanding reputation for sterling care that has been earned by our quality staff should not be forgotten. The community has seen, heard, understood, and appreciated the gift of love that our staff offered on a daily basis to these older folks. This has been a tough choice. Please remember us in prayer as we prepare for these changes.

Finally, I turn your attention to the Scriptures. Isaiah 40 says, "Comfort ye, comfort ye my people," saith your God. ...O Zion, that bringest good tidings, get thee up into the high mountain; O Jerusalem, that bringest good tidings, lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, Behold your God!"

So, my fellow-laborers, while I am persuaded that the future of western civilization is dismal, I am more convinced that the message we offer in the Christian school to our children, the loving care we offer the aged in our Personal Care Home, the Judeo/Christian framework we teach MAP and TAP students, a clean and pleasant facility—yes, even good food—is indeed **good news**.

Thus I pray that as the memory of God recedes and western civilization declines, we will lift our voices and shout salvation from the rooftops.

~ Melvin B. Lehman

FB CALENDAR

Teacher Workshops Oct 21-22, 2006
 Men's Music Weekend.....Nov 10-12, 2006
 Chorale Christmas Program Dec 10, 2006

Winter Term.....1/11-2/2, 2007
 Student-Staff SocialJan 19, 2007
 Colloquy 2007: NonresistanceJan 27, 2007
 Choir Programs.....Feb 3-4, 2007

Spring Term.....2/14-5/15, 2007
 Board MeetingFeb 24, 2007
 Discipling Conference.....Mar 23, 2007
 Anniversary Open HouseMar 24-25, 2007
 Shady Maple BanquetMar 30, 2007

NEWS from Faith Builders

Welcome to:

❖ Julie Stoltzfus, Kitchen, Lewisburg, PA, Aug.
 New students this fall:

- ❖ Mark Kurtz, TAP, Adams, NY, Aug.
- ❖ Yann Larrieu, MAP, Qatar, Aug.
- ❖ Kyle Lehman, TAP, Guys Mills, PA, Aug.
- ❖ Joel Martin, MAP, Mifflin, PA, Aug.
- ❖ Norma Miller, TAP, Partridge, KS, Aug.
- ❖ Rebekah Miller, TAP, Dalton, OH, Aug.
- ❖ Keith Nissley, TAP, Madison, VA, Aug.
- ❖ Wesley & Iris Rohrer, Raymond, AB, Aug.
- ❖ Ruby Steiner, MAP, Apple Creek, OH, Aug.
- ❖ Jeremy Sauder, TAP, Lancaster, PA, Aug.
- ❖ Hilda Yoder, TAP, Partridge, KS, Aug.
- ❖ Chad Weaver, MAP, Meadville, PA, Aug.

Farewell to:

- ❖ Sarah Kauffman, PCH, Ulster, PA, May
- ❖ Mark Nisly, Tech, Oswego, KS, Aug.
- ❖ Joel Thomas, Maintenance, Harrisonburg, VA, June
- ❖ Hilda Yoder, Kitchen, Partridge, KS, Aug.
- ❖ Joanne Yoder, Kitchen, Rustburg, VA, Aug.

Graduates:

- ❖ Vincent Beiler, MAP, Gap, PA, May
- ❖ Lydia Croutch, MAP, Hagerstown, MD, May
- ❖ Crystal Derstine, TAP, Harleysville, PA, July
- ❖ Rosemary Eberly, TAP, Harrisonburg, VA, July
- ❖ Lisa Good, TAP, Harrisonburg, VA, July
- ❖ Brenda Hershberger, MAP, Greenville, VA, May
- ❖ Arlyn Kauffman, TAP, Weldon, IA, May
- ❖ Rachel Kuhns, TAP, Belleville, PA, May
- ❖ Estalee Martin, MAP, Hayward, WI, May
- ❖ Robin Soukup, MAP, Gap Mills, WV, July
- ❖ Sherilyn Troyer, MAP, Plain City, OH, May
- ❖ Eugene & Jewel Yoder, TAP, Aroda, VA, May
- ❖ Keith Yoder, MAP, Harrisonburg, VA, May



Engagements

❖ Vincent Beiler & Lydia Crouch

Weddings:

❖ Rachel Kuhns & Peter Goertzen – June 24, 2006

❖ Crystal Good & Joe Miller – June 24, 2006

❖ Tilda Byler & Alvin Nissley – July 15, 2006

Births:

❖ Shannon & Rachel (Stutzman) Latham, 5th child & daughter, Vonita Serena Faith, May 10, 2006

❖ Gerald & Cathy Miller, 4th & 5th children, 3rd & 4th sons, Andre Lane & Alex Trenton, May 25, 2006

❖ Chris & Cynthia Hochstetler, 5th & 6th children, 1st daughter, 5th son, Sarah Emily & Alexander Elliot, June 20, 2006

❖ Linford & Tina Herschberger, 1st child & daughter, Daisy Nila, June 22, 2006

❖ Roy & Tonya (LeFever) Campbell, 2nd child, 1st daughter, Joanna Marie, July 16, 2006

❖ Florence Nolt, Karalyn Rose, born Jan 30, 2006, received for adoption Aug 22, 2006

❖ Michael & Michelle (Funk) Fisher, 4th child, 1st daughter, Danielle Paige, Aug 31, 2006

❖ Jonathan & Brenda (Beachy) Sauder, 2nd child, 1st son, Gabriel Beachy, Sept 14, 2006

UPCOMING FBEP EVENTS...

Teacher Workshops
October 21-22, 2006

Men's Music Weekend (invitational)
November 10-12, 2006

January Colloquy
January 27, 2007

Fighting Evil with God's Weapons
Featured Speaker: Stephen Russell
Responders: Jonathan Sauder
& Merle Burkholder

FAITH BUILDERS EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

"Discipling the head, heart, and hands"



Contact us...

- ☎ By Phone 814-789-4518
- ☎ By Fax 814-789-3396
- ✉ By E-mail fbep@fbep.org
- ✉ By Mail PO Box 127
Guys Mills, PA 16327

Visit us on the web
at www.fbep.org.

Applications, brochures,
and newsletters are available
for download from our website.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

"Western Civilization and
the Kingdom of God"
Part 2

Teacher Workshops 2006

Winter Term 2007

Student Complex-Phase II

FAITH BUILDERS EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

28500 Guys Mills Road
PO Box 127
Guys Mills, PA 16327

Address Service Requested



"Discipling the head, heart, and hands"

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE
PAID
NORTH EAST, PA
PERMIT #157