

Cultivating, calling and developing leaders



Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference supports and nurtures your leaders by offering pastoral leadership training events, helping your congregation in the pastoral search process, and

providing leadership development programs.

- The three-year **Journey** program develops Christ-centered leaders with an Anabaptist Christian perspective through mentoring relationships, a core curriculum and weekend retreats.

- **ReFocusing networks** are supportive learning environments for pastors who want to learn how to lead vibrant, missional churches. The two-year revitalization process helps pastors to focus their ministries and to work with their congregations to develop a plan for the next five years.

- The **Lead Now** program mentors high school youth in the development of Christlike leadership.

"The **Journey** program has helped clarify the direction I have sensed the Lord leading me. I highly recommend this program to anyone who senses even a possibility of a call into some type of ministry."

—Virginia Leichty, Burr Oak Mennonite Church, Rensselaer, Indiana

"I wouldn't want to be at a church that has not gone through the **ReFocusing** process."

—Tim Miller, Rexton Mennonite Church and Naubinway Christian Fellowship, Naubinway, Michigan

Celebrating God's generosity and our life together

Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference is celebrating God's generosity through 150 years of ministry. Your area conference is committed to providing you and your congregation with the resources and support you need to follow Jesus faithfully and joyfully.

We invite you to give freely and join in the work of God's kingdom through Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference of Mennonite Church USA. We rely on both congregational and individual gifts to help with shared ministries and initiatives among congregations as well as daily operations.



"Conference leaders have taken an active interest in our congregation. We are pleased with the sense of care and support we receive from Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference."

—J.D. Miller, Harlan Mennonite Fellowship, Harlan, Kentucky

For more information

For information about Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference, visit www.im.mennonite.net

For information about Mennonite Church USA, visit www.MennoniteUSA.org

For a more detailed description of Mennonite beliefs and practices, visit Third Way Café at www.thirdway.com



Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference

An area conference of Mennonite Church USA

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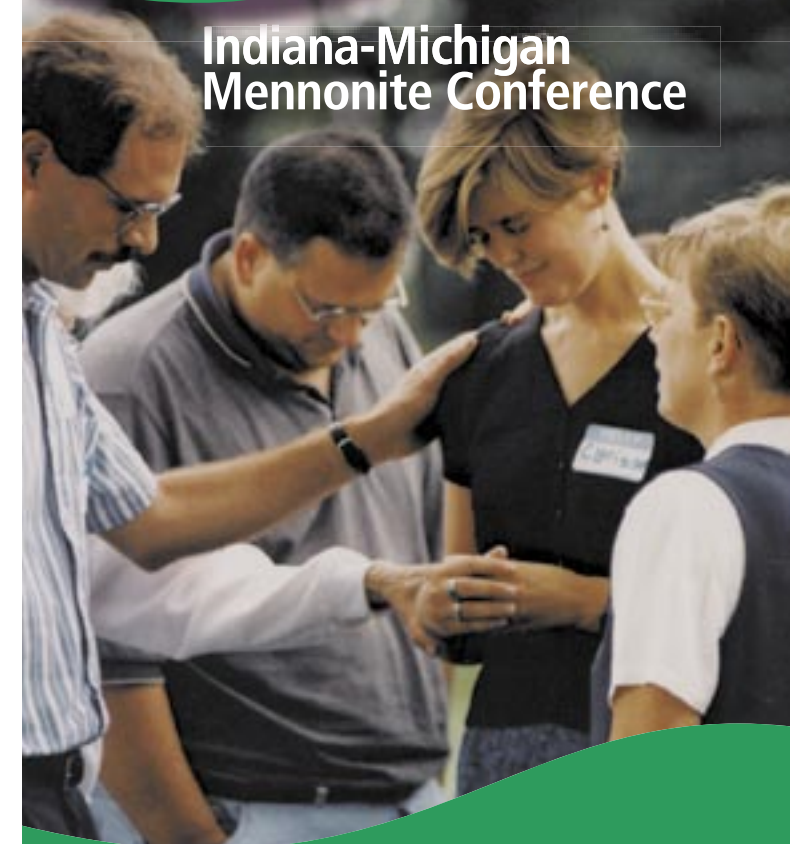
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Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference



A community of congregations

Joyfully following Jesus

Sharing a vision of healing and hope

Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference—a community of 85 congregations and about 10,200 members—connects your congregation with others in Indiana, Michigan, Kentucky and Tennessee. You, your congregation and your area conference are each a vital part of Mennonite Church USA.

We are called together in a common vision of healing and hope: *God calls us to be followers of Jesus Christ, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, to grow as communities of grace, joy and peace, so that God's healing and hope flow through us to the world.*

“With the help of the conference, our congregation networks with numerous other churches in outreach ministries. We help people who need food, clothing and household goods. We teach basic life skills, such as cooking and managing money. God gives us the strength to help those in need at our very back door.”
—Cora Brown, Church Without Walls, Elkhart, Indiana



Doing together what we could not do alone

With our faith communities knit together, we are able to do what we could not do as single congregations. Committed, caring communities of faith are the bases from which Christ is proclaimed in word and deed. Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference undergirds and connects your congregation with others as we center our spiritual development in Jesus Christ.

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Philippians 2:1-2



Connecting hearts and minds, sharing resources

Working together, we are getting more done for the sake of God's kingdom.

- partnering together, whether in re-roofing projects, multi-church Vacation Bible Schools or youth activities
- sharing resources for Christian nurture and worship, pastoral and lay leadership, witness and evangelism, justice-making, peace-building and church planting
- providing ministries such as Bethany Christian Schools and Amigo Centre and offering a place for beginning new ministries
- meeting together locally and regionally to fellowship, network and discern together our congregations' callings
- holding each other accountable through mutual care and discipline
- providing a direct link to larger denominational ministries such as Executive Leadership and the churchwide agencies: Mennonite Mission Network, Mennonite Education Agency, Mennonite Publishing Network and Mennonite Mutual Aid.

Together, joyfully following Jesus



“The **Lead Now** program is a great way for young people like me to get involved with church organizations such as the youth ministry program and the Mennonite camps. The conference is a great focal point by which young people can get the sense that we are part of a larger group of Mennonites who share our ideals and commitments.”
—Nathan Graber, Elkhart, Indiana

“Our congregation was touched by and deeply thankful for the help the conference extended to us during the difficult time after our pastor was killed in an accident. How this situation would have worked out without the care, prayer and love of our conference personnel and congregations, I cannot imagine.”
—Ruby Bontrager, Bonneyville Mennonite Church, Bristol, Indiana

“The **ReFocusing** process was instrumental in moving our congregation into a posture to be missionally focused. We came away with a purpose and a vision that is guiding our congregation in everything we do.”
—Randy Detweiler, Howard-Miami Mennonite Church, Kokomo, Indiana

“As chair of the pastoral search committee in my local church, I found the help of the conference minister invaluable in the search process.”
—Dana Sommers, Locust Grove Mennonite Church, Burr Oak, Michigan

