

Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference

Report Book for Annual Sessions 2022

**DIOS ES AMOR DIOS NOS AMA EL AMOR ECHA FUERA EL MIEDO
GOD IS LOVE GOD LOVES US LOVE CASTS OUT FEAR**

ဘုရားသခင်သည်ချစ်ခြင်းမေတ္တာဖြစ် ဘုရားသခင်သည် ဝါတိုကို ချစ်တော်မူ၏။ အချစ်သည် အကြောက်တရားကို ဖယ်ထုတ်သည်။



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Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary

3003 Benham Ave, Elkhart, IN 46517

June 17-18, 2022

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Schedule for 2022 Annual Sessions

Let Us Love

June 17-18, 2022

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, IN

FRIDAY, June 18

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 4:30-5:30 | Registration (Lambright Center) |
| 5:30-6:15 | Dinner (Lambright Center) |
| 6:30-7:15 | Delegate Orientation (Chapel of the Sermon on the Mount) |
| 7:30-9:00 | Worship (Chapel of the Sermon on the Mount) |
| 9:00-9:30 | Ice Cream Social (Courtyard) |

SATURDAY, June 19

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 8:30-9:00 | Registration (Chapel of the Sermon on the Mount) |
| 9:00-10:30 | Worship (Chapel of the Sermon on the Mount) |
| 10:45-12:15 | Discerning in Community (Chapel of the Sermon on the Mount) |
| 12:30-1:15 | Lunch (Lambright Center) |
| 1:30-2:45 | Seminars Options 1 (See page 5 in Report Book) |
| 3:00-4:15 | Seminars Options 2 (See page 5 in Report Book) |
| 4:30-6:00 | Worship (Chapel of the Sermon on the Mount) |

Color code:

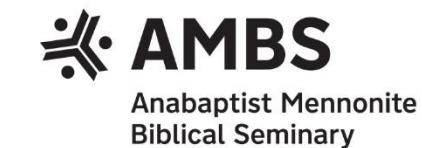
Worship services are in red

Meals are in orange

Seminars are in blue

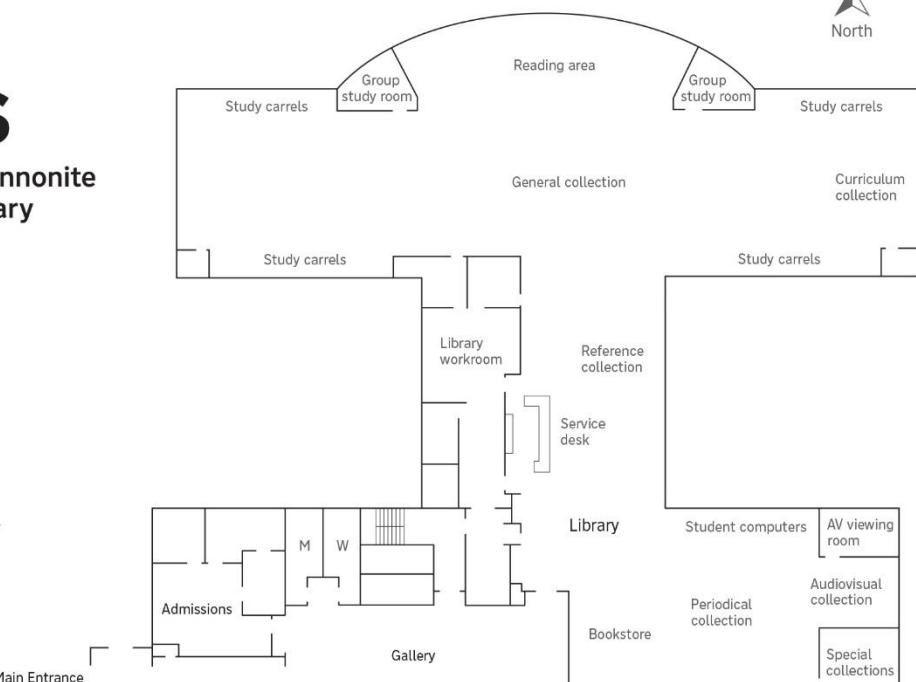
Discerning in Community Sessions are in green

Map of Venue



Lambright Center ←

Main Entrance



116 B Classrooms

116 A Classrooms

116 C Classrooms

W GN

118 120 122 124 126 128 130 132 GN

119 Classroom

121 Classroom

123 127 129 Wadsworth Room

Chapel of the Word

South Entrance

4



Legend
GN Gender-neutral restrooms
► Flashboards for announcements
█ Public telephone



Chapel of the Sermon on the Mount



North

03-2022

Seminar Descriptions

Seminar Options 1 – 1:30 - 2:45

“Cultivating a Radical Love through Prophetic Imagination, Truth - Telling and Restorative Justice” – Melody Pannell

Participants will explore stories, concepts and pathways to transforming communities and cultivating a culture of radical love that encourages restorative healing and positive human flourishing. Participants will be empowered to engage in a prophetic imagination that envisions inclusive communities within the church.

Location: Room 116 (Seminar A on map)

“Holding Stories of Sexualized Violence: Scripture’s and Our Congregations” – Susanna Larry

This presentation will introduce social scientific and biblical models for understanding sexualized violence, survey some examples of its appearance in the Bible, and explain how biblical texts frequently subvert our stereotypes about “victims.” If time allows, I will offer a model for encountering traumatic texts in Scripture.

Location: Wadsworth Lounge, Room 129 (Seminar B on map)

Seminar Options 2 – 3:00 - 4:15

“Presentation on *Been in the Struggle*” – Regina Shands Stoltzfus

From the publisher: *Been in the Struggle* nurtures, challenges, and fosters the work and witness of dismantling racism for the long haul. Filled with wisdom and insight from nearly three decades of partnering across racial lines in this work, authors Regina Shands Stoltzfus and Tobin Miller Shearer offer a powerful mix of practical direction and poignant reflection to empower and sustain those working to dismantle racism, regardless of their stage on the journey.

Location: Room 116 (Seminar A on map)

“Holding Stories of Sexualized Violence: Scripture’s and Our Congregations” – Susanna Larry

This presentation will introduce social scientific and biblical models for understanding sexualized violence, survey some examples of its appearance in the Bible, and explain how biblical texts frequently subvert our stereotypes about “victims.” If time allows, I will offer a model for encountering traumatic texts in Scripture.

Location: Wadsworth Lounge, Room 129 (Seminar B on map)

Procedural Rules for Delegates

Adapted from the special rules approved at the beginning of the 2007 Mennonite Church USA Delegate Assembly held in San José, California.

Indiana-Michigan constitutional provisions for decision making at Annual Sessions:

- The conference shall seek consensus or broad affirmation in all decisions. Where available time does not allow for consensus or where circumstances are not deemed to require broad affirmation, the conference may proceed by majority vote.
- A majority of votes cast shall determine any matter, except when the delegates agree otherwise or when otherwise provided in the constitution or bylaws.
- A quorum shall consist of all properly recognized delegates present at a duly called assembly meeting.

Delegates representing INDIANA-MICHIGAN Conference congregations need to attend to the church's business in a timely manner that allows for due consideration. Balancing these goals is typically difficult, especially in decision-making bodies as large as ours.

Parliamentary procedure is used to help groups, especially large ones, balance the goals of timely action and due consideration. It does so by standardizing procedures through a system of rules that establish who may speak, about what, when, and for how long. Most people are not familiar with these rules and as a result tend to experience parliamentary procedures as cumbersome. So far no one has developed a less cumbersome and yet fair way to balance these competing goals. This document is adapted from the Procedural Rules for Delegates successfully followed at Mennonite Church USA Charlotte 2005 Delegate Assembly, and is an effort to make parliamentary procedure feel a bit more user friendly.

Basic rules

In an effort to allow as many persons as possible to be heard, please follow these basic rules:

- Only delegates may make motions or vote on them.
- Do not address the assembly more than twice in a day on any one topic.
- Before you speak a second time on one topic, make sure that no one else who has not yet spoken on that topic wishes to do so.
- When you go to the microphone to address the assembly, wait to be recognized by the moderator. Once recognized, state your name and (if appropriate) the group you represent before making your remarks.
- Only speak on behalf of a group if you have been specifically commissioned to do so.
- In order to keep the discussion from becoming personal, always address the moderator rather than a previous speaker or someone else in the meeting.
- Always speak respectfully. If you disagree with another person who has spoken, please describe that point of view with respect.
- So that the group can put your remarks in context, always indicate whether you are speaking in favor of or against the proposal that is being discussed.

Parliamentary procedures commonly used

During the delegate session, if you want to introduce a motion, raise a question, or extend discussion, please follow these procedures:

- If you want to amend a main motion, limit or extend debate on a motion, or lay a motion on the table, you need to make a motion to that effect while the main motion is still under consideration. To do so, seek recognition from the moderator and then make the motion.
(Simply say, "I wish to amend the motion," and then, when recognized, say, "I move that the motion be amended to say . . .")
- To object to the consideration of a motion, call for a more precise vote, ask a question about parliamentary procedure or offer information on a question, first seek recognition of the moderator and then state your

business. (*You might say, "Point of information." Then, if recognized, you might say, "In relation to the current motion, delegates may find it helpful to know that..."*)

- To call for a recess, adjournment, or a question of privilege (to rectify some problem that is distracting the assembly, for instance), seek the recognition of the moderator and after recognition make the motion. (*You might say, "I rise to a question of privilege." The moderator will ask you what the question of privilege is.*)
- Many motions require a second. This guarantees that at least one other person is interested in the proposal. (*To second a motion, rise and say "I second that motion."*)
- Any motion that comes from a committee does not need a second since the support of a committee already indicates that the body is interested in the motion.
- Finally, if you think that it is time to end discussion you can "call for the question." However, if there is any objection to ending discussion, then the delegate body will need to take a vote on your proposal to end discussion.

New motions and/or amendments to motions that are on the agenda

We will conduct our business according to the following rules which are commonly used in large assemblies that must get their work done in a relatively short period of time.

- Any motion that brings substantive business to the body must be taken to the moderator or moderator-elect before it can be brought to the floor. The purpose of this is to make sure that the assembly only takes time to consider clear and appropriate motions.
- Likewise, amendments to resolutions that appear on the agenda must be presented to the moderator or moderator-elect before they can be brought to the floor for discussion. The purpose for this rule is the same as above.

For more specific information on the kinds of motions you can make and the rules that apply to them, see *Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised (10th edition)*. If you have questions about parliamentary procedure during the delegate sessions, we invite you to ask the designated parliamentarian about appropriate procedures during a break.

We hope that the procedures described above will enable Annual Sessions to be times of discernment together. Come prepared to hear God's voice as we worshipfully work together.

Chapter 1: Conference Program

Delegates to Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference, June 2022

Interpretive Key

1-OM = Ordained Minister
2-LM = Licensed Minister
3-DE = Deacon
4-CC = Congregational Chair

5-CE = Chair of Elders
6-E = Elder
7-F = Financial rep
8-D = Delegate

Belmont Mennonite Church

1-OM Phil Schmidt
8-D Ruth Schrock

First Mennonite Church, Indianapolis

2-LM Monica Miller

Belmont Neighborhood Fellowship

1-OM Kevin Yoder

Holdeman Mennonite Church

5-CE James Gerber

Benton Mennonite Church

1-OM Brenda Hostetler Meyer
1-OM Douglas Kaufman
6-E John Buschert
7-F Pat Baer
8-D Glo Showalter

Hudson Lake Mennonite Church

4-CC Barbara Funnel
6-E Marcella Hershberger
8-D Diane Kuhl

Berkey Avenue Mennonite Fellowship

1-OM Mark Schlonger
8-D Jenny L. Hooley
8-D Richard A Kauffman

Kalamazoo Mennonite Fellowship

4-CC CarolSue H Borkholder

College Mennonite Church

1-OM Pamela Yoder
1-OM Phil Waite
6-E Higinio Luna Lauzurique
8-D Bob Yoder
8-D Maggie Harmon
8-D Tim Lichti

Mara Christian Church of America, Indiana

1-OM Ang Rem

Maple River Mennonite Church

2-LM Michelle Merchant
5-CE Heidi Burkhart
8-D Jane Neill
8-D Stan Kauffman

East Goshen Mennonite Church

1-OM Naomi Yoder
4-CC Tim Yoder
8-D Susan Hanna
8-D Joe Yoder

New Foundation United in Christ

1-OM Shawn Lange Sr.
2-LM Leandrea Lange

North Goshen Mennonite Church

1-OM Izaete Nafziger
2-LM Nathan Graber-McCrae
4-CC Marcos Stoltzfus
7-F Tim Nafziger

Fairhaven Mennonite Church

4-CC Rachel Yoder
8-D Christine Bailey
7-F Duane Yoder

Peace Community Mennonite Church

7-F Bonita Childs

Fellowship of Hope

5-CE Mary H. Schertz
6-E David Janzen

Piedra Viva Mennonite Church

1-OM Rolando A. Sosa Granados
2-LM Naun Cerrato

Prairie Street Mennonite Church

2-LM Quinn Brenneke
8-D Alton Longenecker

Shalom Mennonite Church

1-OM Brian Bither
1-OM Craig Oury
8-D Jeanne Smucker

Sunnyside Mennonite Church

1-OM Terri Geiser

Walnut Hill Mennonite Church

1-OM Ben Bouwman
8-D Shin Yee Tan

Waterford Mennonite Church

1-OM Frances Ringenberg
8-D John G. Kaufman
8-D Karsten Hess
8-D Rose Shetler

Wildwood Mennonite Church

7-F Suetta Hollinger
8-D Janice Wagner

Conference Personnel — 2021-2022

Missional Leadership Team

Brenda Meyer, moderator, Benton (19/2019-23 affm)
Steve Slagel, moderator-elect Maple River (20/2020-23 affm)
Bob Yoder, post-moderator, College (14/2017-21 affm)
Duane Yoder, treasurer, Fairhaven (19/2019-22 affm)
Naomi Yoder, secretary, East Goshen (19/2019-22 affm)
Shawn Lang, New Foundation United in Christ (21/2021-2024 affm)
Rolando Sosa Granados, Piedra Viva (21/2021-2024 affm)

Conference Staff

Joanne Gallardo, conference co-minister (07/2021-Present)
Sharon Yoder, conference co-minister, Belmont Neighborhood Fellowship (19/2019-Present)
Clayton Gladish, administrative coordinator (08/2021-Present)
Jim Norton, bookkeeper, Walnut Hill (2015-07/2022)
Michelle Cabanaw, bookkeeper and administrative assistant (05/2022-Present)

Gifts Development Team

Addie Leaman, College (17/2018-20 affm)
Jewel Gingerich Longenecker, Kern Road (21/2021-24 affm)
Marj Rush Hovde, First Mennonite (19/2019-22 affm)
Janice Wagner, Wildwood (17/2018-20 affm)

Leadership Enhancement Team (LET)

Ben Bouwman, chair, Walnut Hill (17/2020-23 appt)
Andrea Grotenhuis (20/2020-23 appt)
Christine Kauffman, East Goshen (19/2021-24 appt)
Kent Miller, College (16/2019-22 affm)
Dave Sutter, Kern Road (18/2021-24 affm)

Ministry Credentialing Team (MCT)

Suellen Gerber, chair, Fellowship of Hope (19/2019-22 appt)
Ruben Chupp, Sunnyside (16/2019-22 affm)
Angy Moore, Kern Road (13/2021-24 affm)
Phil Waite, College, (19/2019-22 affm)

Personnel Committee

Ray Hunsberger, chair, Belmont (20/2020-23 appt)
Kathy Nofziger Yeaky, North Goshen (21-2021-24 appt)

Stewardship Team

James Gerber, Holdeman (20/2020-23, appt)
Patty Graber, First Mennonite (20/2021-23 affm)
Ron Ringenberg, Prairie Street (20/2020-22 appt)
Angela Swartzendruber, North Goshen (20/2020-22 affm)
Duane Yoder, Fairhaven (19/2019-22 appt)

Intercultural Working Group

Jes Stoltzfus Buller, chair, Walnut Hill
Zenebe Abebe, Shalom
Carol Bixler, Shalom
Bonita Childs, Peace Community
Marissa Smucker, Belmont

Congregational Coaches

Brian Bither serves Emmanuel Living Christian Church & Mara Christian Church of America, Indiana; pastors Shalom
Ruben Chupp serves Hudson Lake; attends Sunnyside
Ron Guengerich serves College; attends Eighth Street
Russel Jensen serves Parkview; pastors Maplewood
Lois Kaufmann serves Fellowship of Hope; attends Assembly
Keith Kingsey serves New Foundation United in Christ; attends Fellowship of Hope
Marty Lehman serves Waterford and East Goshen; attends College
Tim Lichti serves Holdeman; attends College
John Powell serves Ninth Street; attends Shalom Community, MI
Bob Schloneger serves First Mennonite (Indianapolis); attends Berkey Avenue
Janice Yordy Sutter serves Walnut Hill; pastors Kern Road
Phil Waite serves Kern Road; pastors College
Mary Lehman Yoder serves Berkey Avenue Mennonite Fellowship; attends Assembly

Search Guides

*denotes activity during 2021-2022

* Ruben Chupp serving Berkey Avenue and Hudson Lake, attends Sunnyside
* Suella Gerber served Maple River; attends Fellowship of Hope
* Rebecca Horst served Waterford; attends College
* Frank Kandel serving Fairhaven; attends Shalom
Richard Kauffman attends College
John Kaufman attends Waterford
* Bob Schloneger serving First, attends North Goshen

MCC Great Lakes Rep

George Thompson, Waterford (19/2019-22 appt)

Geographic Locations of Congregations

Northern (13 congregations)

Upper Peninsula

Cedar Grove
Grand Marais
Wildwood

Northern MI

Maple River
Grace Chapel
New Hope Community Church of Midland
Ninth Street

Southern MI

Ann Arbor
Community Christian
Good News
Kalamazoo
Liberty Christian Fellowship
Peace Community

Michiana (20 congregations)

Swanee Lake (Plus)

Holdeman
Hopewell
Hudson Lake
Kern Road

Elkhart

Belmont
Belmont Neighborhood
Bonneyville
Church Without Walls
Fellowship of Hope
New Foundation United in Christ Fellowship
Piedra Viva
Prairie Street
Sunnyside

Goshen

Benton
Berkey Avenue
College
East Goshen
North Goshen
Walnut Hill
Waterford

Southern (8 congregations)

Camfell

Mennonite Fellowship of Bloomington
Emmanuel Living Christian
Fairhaven
First, Indianapolis
Mara Christian Church
Morning Star
Parkview
Shalom

Missional Seeds Giving Club Members

The Missional Seeds Club is an opportunity for individuals to share in cultivating leadership growth and connections between congregations that inspire discovering and joining in God's surprises. Proceeds will be used directly in the overall ministry of the conference.

The following are the Missional Seeds Giving Club Members, as of May, 2022:

Patricia Brubacher
Kelly Carson
Karl Cender
Sherrill Glick
Alvin & Dolores Graber
Virgil & Ruth Hershberger
Suetta Hollinger
Frank and Linda Kandel
J. Stanley Kauffman
Paula Killough
Eleanor Kreider
Doug & Joy Landis
Dean & Bek Linsenmeyer
Rod & Martha Yoder Maust
D Richard Miller
Kent Miller
Laverne Nafziger
Esther Shaum
Juanita Shenk
Jacob Snider
Daniel & Cindy Steiner
Vic & Marie Stoltzfus
Johanna Sutter
David & Janice Sutter
Juan Vega
Duane and Rachel Yoder
Roberta Yoder
Sharon & Kevin Yoder

Chapter 2 Items for Discussion and/or Action

Annual Sessions 2021 Minutes and Proceedings

"Becoming One"

Friday, June 18, 2021, 3:00 pm-5:00 pm

Opening Worship Service, 3:00 pm

1. Izaete Nafziger served as emcee this session. A pre-recorded gathering song played while a Worshipful Work PowerPoint was shown of conference member churches. Elements of the service include the following
 - Izaete offered the opening prayer and welcomed attendees. She introduced the sessions' theme "Becoming One" and provided the visual of a large candle dripping with colors that represented the church conference unified by the different colors of our 43 congregations. She lit the candle and prayed with a reminder that the Holy Spirit was with us in the conference and in our churches.
 - Leandrea Lange (New Foundation) read Ephesians 4:1-6 as Susan Sommers (North Goshen Mennonite Church) signed.
 - Pastor Shawn Lange, New Foundation United in Christ, introduced the music video "Way Maker," by Mandisa.
 - Pastor Lange introduced a congregational story by Rachel Yoder of Fairhaven Mennonite Church. She spoke about caring relationships and finding God at work at Fairhaven.
 - Izaete offered prayer thanking God for unity, differences, and the bond of peace as one.
 - Anna Board closed the time and released attendees for a five-minute break.

Worshipful Work, 3:30 pm

2. Bob Yoder, Moderator for Indiana-Michigan Conference (IMMC) and member of the Missional Leadership Team (MLT), welcomed participants. He reflected on the theme "Becoming One" as we become one with our various stories and experiences during Covid. Becoming one is an on-going process being led by the Holy Spirit in all we do.
3. Bob introduced the congregational story from Community Christian Fellowship, Detroit. Thomas Hill shared his experience of the church making annual trips to Goshen and Shipshewana. To be embraced by people of a different ethnicity was an enriching and powerful experience for Thomas, changing his perspective of relationships. Thomas referred to

scriptures in Genesis 11 and Acts II, as examples of becoming one, with and without God, respectively. Thomas thanked and praised God and everyone, encouraging all to become one with each other and God.

4. Breakout Rooms - Brenda Meyer, incoming moderator, explained to attendees that they would be put into Zoom breakout rooms for 10 minutes. During this time, they were to tell one another their name, congregation, and how they felt fractured or experienced broken relationships, in their church and/or personally.
5. IMMC Staff: Bob recognized and thanked members Dan Miller (Conference Pastor), Sharon Yoder (Conference Pastor for Leadership Transitions), Anna Board (Administrator Coordinator), Jim Norton (Bookkeeper). He also recognized and thanked Mennonite Church USA Executive Board Staff.
6. Missional Leadership Team - Bob recognized and thanked members Bob Yoder, moderator; Brenda Hostetler Meyer, moderator-elect; Steve Slagel; Duane Yoder; Naomi Yoder, and noted two positions to fill.
7. Leadership Enhancement Team – Bob invited Chris Kauffman and Kent Miller to introduce the new pastors to IMMC: video introductions by Nathan Gruber-McCrae (lead pastor, North Goshen Mennonite Church), and Phil Schmidt (Belmont Mennonite Church). Kent introduced Naun Cerrato and Rolando Sosa from Piedra Viva Mennonite Church. He also acknowledged and shared the written words of credential leaders Sharon Brugger Norton (for work with Mennonite Mission Network) and Carmen Horst (Walnut Hill Mennonite Church).
8. Brenda called for a motion to accept by vote the Annual Sessions Minutes 2020. Motion to accept was given by Glenn Leinbach and Carol Sue Burkholder seconded the motion. Attendees were instructed to fill out and submit the minute's ballot via the Zoom Chat.
9. Brenda introduced a recommendation from the MLT to accept/receive Piedra Viva Mennonite Church as a member congregation of Indiana-Michigan Conference.
10. She introduced Charlie Geiser, pastor at Sunnyside Mennonite Church, and Phil Waite, pastor at College Mennonite Church and interim chair of the Ministry

Credentialing Team. Charlie shared about Naun's dream to develop Spanish-speaking Anabaptist churches in this community. When Naun was ready, Sunnyside invited him and Rolando to begin the development of the Spanish-speaking church at Sunnyside. Phil Waite offered a prayer of blessing, encouraging attendees to join him in thanking and blessing the work being done at Piedra Viva. Brenda instructed attendees to fill out and submit the ballot via the Zoom Chat, to accept Piedra Viva Mennonite Church into Conference membership.

11. Gifts Discernment Team (GDT) Report – Addie Leaman introduced the inventory form for nominations of people who have gifts and an interest and ability to serve on teams. She encouraged attendees to complete the form in the virtual packet during the sessions.
12. Stewardship Team Report - Dan Miller invited Cindy Steiner, Stewardship Team chair, to give a report. Cindy thanked 13 churches that increased their giving this fiscal year-to-date. At the end of May, income was higher than expenses by \$39,519. She presented the proposed 2021-2022 fiscal year spending plan and encouraged attendees to review pages 24 and 25 of the Annual Sessions Report book. The proposed plan is based on the total expected income and expenses of \$255,175. An increase of 6.9% expected income includes a potential draw on reserves of \$16,425. This is the first year since 2015 that reductions to the spending plan have not had to be made. Cindy gave thanks for the stability given by the churches. Projected expenses are expected to increase 0.8%. Two categories with changes for this year are 1. MCUSA Connections has a 3.3% increase to cover health insurance costs (10% of congregational giving is to MCUSA) and 2. Conference staffing has a 0.4% increase from the current fiscal year. Cindy offered thanks of the Stewardship Team to each congregation and individuals for their support. Cindy personally noted that she has been honored to serve on the Stewardship team for the past nine years. Bob thanked Cindy for her work, passion, and commitment. He then invited attendees to vote to approve the 2021-2022 fiscal year spending plan via the Zoom Chat room.

Worshipful Work, 4:30 pm

13. Growing Our Intercultural Witness - Brenda reviewed the Growing Our Intercultural Witness document recommended by the MLT and invited attendees to vote today to accept the direction on pages one and

two; page one - commitment to work together as a conference, and page two - commitment to specific goals and tasks. Specifics can be read in the document. The document will remain fluid so that we can learn and grow into it. The vote, therefore, pertains to the commitment to work together as a conference, not the specific wording. Brenda and Bob answered questions/comments, after which, Brenda invited attendees to vote via the Zoom Chat room and noted that the next day's session would give time for discussion and written feedback.

14. Conference Co-Ministry Team Model - Bob reviewed the process to fill Dan Miller's position as Conference Pastor, noting that the co-ministry model and Sharon Yoder had been previously affirmed. He reminded delegates that the vote via virtual packet to add Joanne Gallardo as a co-conference minister alongside Sharon would close at 6:00 p.m.
15. Announcements – Anna Board gave the following announcements:
Pastor Gathering, Nov 8-10, 2021, Amigo Center
Recognized translators for these sessions:
SiSi Nao, Mara Christian Church of America
(English to Mara)
Belen Robledo, North Goshen Mennonite Church
(English to Spanish)
Session closed with the song "God of The Bible" (SJ 27)

Worship Session 7:00 pm

16. Izaete welcomed attendees, gathering together in one spirit to share stories and to celebrate our diversities as a faith community. As the candle was lit, she asked attendees to remember the annual sessions for this year to become one. The candle symbolizes our conference as one comprised of different colors, culture, backgrounds, occupations, etc. Izaete invited attendees to prayer.
17. Song of worship video – "Give Us Clean Hands," by Charlie Hall
18. Congregational story – Pastor Muthoni Maina brought greetings from Morning Star Church, Muncie, Indiana, and gave thanks for assistance in order to help those in need during last year's pandemic. Muthoni requested prayer for the building update and thanked all for being one.
19. Ephesians 4:1-6 was read in Spanish by Robert Morillo of North Goshen Mennonite Church.
20. Izaete introduced Elder Wanda Bradford of Community Christian Fellowship Ministry, Detroit, Michigan. Wanda's sermon "Invocation to Becoming

One" based on Ephesians 4:1-16 tells us how we can reach our goal of becoming one:

Step 1 (verse 1): We must know what our position is, who we are, and what role we play. We must all grow to a level of confidence in Christ so that our lifestyle reflects and affects others who want to know about salvation.

Step 2 (verses 2 and 3): We must know our posture, consisting of our attitude, behavior, character, and how we act. We must strive to be humble, harmonious, and patient with one another.

Step 3 (verse 3): We must remember our precept of Pentecost by remaining consciously aware of the directions or instructions on how and why the church became one spirit on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2). Ephesians 4:4-6 reminds us that we are one in Body, Spirit, Hope, Lord, Faith, Baptism, God, and Father. Step 4 (verses 7-12): We must participate, doing the work that we are called to do in the body.

Step 5 (verse 13): We must know the purpose. We continue to perform these steps until we reach a level of spiritual maturity. Wanda closed with Revelations 7:9 and a blessing.

21. Journey Program - Dan Miller gave an overview of the three-year Journey program. He introduced Jewel Gingerich Longenecker, Dean of Lifelong Learning, AMBS, Elkhart, who stated that it was a pleasure to partner with IMMC to offer this program. Dan introduced Ellen Morey, Prairie Street Mennonite Church, Elkhart, who completed the Journey Program. Ellen thanked her mentors and others involved in her growth and development. She shared that the program gave her a comforting sense of belonging to a family that is rich in time, geography, and history, a solid sense of close community in the congregation and body of Christ. Jewel introduced Eleanor Krieder who was Ellen's mentor, as well as mentor of many participants before. She expressed her pleasure to have mentored Ellen and encouraged pastors to identify those with gifts for potential for leadership. Dan expressed appreciation to Eleanor and to Nina Lanctot, who has been a board member and a mentor and who also played a significant role in Ellen's journey. Ellen received a certificate of completion and a clay lamp as a Journey graduate. In appreciation for Dan's work, AMBS also presented him with a pre-registration for AMBS Pastors and Leaders 2022 and a one-year subscription to "Vision." Dan offered a prayer of blessing for Ellen.
22. Announcements – Anna gave announcements about attending the next day at Amigo Center and virtually.

23. Benediction – In closing, Izaete gave the benediction followed by the sending song, "God Bless You," a video by churches around the UK.

**Saturday, June 19th, "Juneteenth," 11:00 am- 4:30 pm
(hybrid - Zoom and Amigo Centre Pavilion)**

Morning Worship, 11:00 am

24. The morning session opened with the gathering song "How Great Is Our God?"
25. Song – "We Are One in the Spirit"
26. "Juneteenth" – Pastor Shawn Lange spoke about the history of "Juneteenth." Pastor Shawn gave a land acknowledgement, thanking God for the Amigo grounds that are significant to all of us and the people who stewarded them in the past.
27. Scripture Reading – Chhaki Khaimi read Ephesians 4:1-6 in Mara and Wanda Bradford in English.
28. Sermon – Pastor Shawn introduced Dan Miller. Dan began his sermon by reflecting on his tenure as conference pastor and thanking the conference leadership teams, volunteers, and delegates. Dan said that the first three chapters of Ephesians are the summation of what God has done for us in Jesus, how he has blessed us, the expression of the gifts he's given us. We continue to need conversion to be able to walk in the Gospel. We don't always agree, but the point is if we disagree, we act like Jesus with humility, gentleness, patience, and love. "Who we are in relationship is who we are." Dan gave the example of breathing as a polarity (inhaling and exhaling). The variety of gifts helps us not get stuck in uniformity but live in the polarity of being one, yet individuals. We meet God in the present and as we move forward into the future, we will need new kinds of leadership. Dan blessed all in the walk into the future.
29. Blessing the pastors – Andrea Grotenhuis of the Leadership Enhancement Team led in a prayer of blessing for pastors and invited them to receive anointing blessings at three stations.
30. Communion – Jeremiah Chuiha invited all to communion and led in prayer. Muthoni Maina instructed attendees in the partaking of communion and gave the blessing prayer. Ushers assisted with the communion elements and offering. Jeremiah led in closing prayer.
31. Anna Board recognized the planners for Annual Sessions: Wanda Bradford, Jeremiah Chuiha, Shawn Lange, Muthoni Maina, Izaete Nofziger.
32. Live Sending Song - "Tú eres todopoderoso" (in Spanish) / Because You're Holy, VT 89
33. Break for Lunch

Seminars, 1:15 pm

- “Missional Discipleship Initiative” (hybrid), Karla Minter and Marvin Lorenzana – Pavilion
- “Insights into Grief” (in-person), Dr. Dorothy Foster – Pavilion meeting room
- “Intercultural Competency – Planning for Change” (in-person), Nekeisha Alayna Alexis – Lower level dining hall

Break, 2:30 pm**Worshipful Work, 2:45 pm (hybrid) - Pavilion**

- 34. Gathering - Live music played as attendees were gathering and all were invited to sing along.
- 35. Session opening - Bob Yoder opened the session noting that the lamp, representing the Spirit's life among us, arrived late and the session could not open without it. The lamp has been passed on from moderator to moderator, and lighted often at MLT meetings as a reminder of God's Holy Spirit among us. Bob lit the lamp as a visible reminder of God's presence and Spirit with us at IMMC. Bob welcomed all and introduced a congregational story from Emmanuel Living Christian Church.
- 36. Congregational story - Pastor Jeremiah Chuiha related that Emmanuel Living Christian Church was established in 2008 and has grown from 130 to 310 members. He asked for prayer for more Sunday school teachers and materials, an assistant pastor, for parents and children struggling due to communication difficulties, and support from conference members. He said the church was blessed and grateful that during the pandemic no one was ill or hospitalized. Pastor Jeremiah thanked conference members for their prayers and support.
- 37. Gifts Inventory forms - Bob instructed attendees to remember to fill out the Gifts Inventory forms to identify people with gifts and experience that would benefit all congregations of IMMC.
- 38. Ballot results - Bob gave the results of the previous day's voting: Piedra Viva Mennonite Church 100% affirmed to join; 2020 minutes approved 100%; spending plan approved 100%; GDT slate 98% and above; intercultural document 97% affirmed.
- 39. IMMC Co-minister - Bob congratulated Joanne Gallardo on joining as a conference co-minister, 97% affirmed. Bob thanked attendees for their prayers and comments.
- 40. Bob offered prayer for Joanne and Sharon in their leadership of MLT, giving thanks to God.

- 41. Capital Grant - Cindy Steiner presented information about the IMMC capital fund that is replenished by each congregation's contributions. Matching grants are available from this fund for capital needs such as property, buildings, renovations, technology, and renewable energy initiatives. John Buschert, Benton Mennonite Church, explained how the grant from IMMC helped to renovate their church to make the facilities more accessible. John thanked IMMC for helping Benton Mennonite Church become more welcoming and accessible to its congregation. Other attendees from Benton were recognized with applause. Cindy awarded John with a check for \$50,000 toward construction costs.
- 42. Leadership Enhancement Team (LET) - Brenda Meyer introduced Ben Bouwman, pastor at Walnut Hill Mennonite Church and chair of the LET. Two items the team has been working on are job descriptions for congregational coaches, formerly overseers. Coaches are to focus on two things: 1. Helping congregations to be mission oriented and 2. To have healthy pastor-congregation relationships. Coaches are now being paired with churches and can be requested. Ben reminded pastors about completing the framework for pastoral growth questionnaire.
- 43. Remembering those we've lost – Bob invited Sharon Yoder to present the pastors who have died during the last year: David R. Helmuth (85), Claude R. Beachy (93), Terry D. Zehr (62), Kelly Bates-Oglesby (58), Dorothy A. Kratz (90), and Eldon Roy Stoltzfus (72). Sharon also mentioned three congregations who have chosen to leave the conference: Talcum Mennonite Church, Wattles Park Faith Fellowship (formerly Pine Grove Mennonite), and Wawasee Lakeside Chapel.
- 44. Growing Our Intercultural Witness – Brenda reviewed the goals of the four focus areas. For the first focus area, Ongoing Listening and Learning, the goal is to have a cultural audit to listen to people of color to identify barriers to participation. For the second focus area, Restructuring for Change, the goal is to form an intercultural working group and to provide translations. For the third focus area, Education for Transformation, the Intercultural Development Inventory is an assessment tool that leadership teams will use with a follow-up plan. The fourth focus area is being left open for future concerns. Brenda invited attendees to form groups of five for breakout discussions and completion of the table wisdom sheet for feedback.
- 45. Congregational story – Brenda introduced pastors Shawn and Leandrea Lange from New Foundation

United in Christ. The New Foundation ministry team has committed to and completed the Journey program and will complete the Missional Discipleship Initiative (MDI) program in three years. New Foundation has received many blessings from prayers answered within the community. The church began many years ago as Locust Grove Mennonite Church, pastored by Leonard Swartley. Shawn thanked those in the conference who helped him be the person and pastor he's become.

46. Completion of Terms – Bob recognized and thanked those who are ending their terms of service: Rachel Stoltzfus and Marge Schrag, Personnel Committee; Cindy Steiner, Stewardship Team chair; and Bruce Nofziger, Gifts Development Team chair.
47. Recognition of Staff – Dan recognized and thanked the current staff: Jim Norton, Bookkeeper; Sharon Yoder, Conference Pastor for Leadership Transitions; and Anna Board, Administrative Coordinator. Dan gave a parting gift to Anna, as she accepted a position as Director of Worship Arts at a church in Naperville,

Illinois. Anna thanked the attendees and appreciated their blessings. Dan asked attendees to think about someone who might fill Anna's position. Cindy Steiner is temporarily acting as administrative coordinator.

48. Transfer of MLT Moderator – Bob verbally transferred his position as moderator to Brenda Meyer, symbolically giving her the moderator lamp, and wishing her blessings in her new role.
49. Announcements – Anna thanked the attendees for making the trip to the annual sessions. Due to the weather forecast, the farewell party for Dan Miller was moved indoors to the dining hall. Anna reminded attendees to fill out the voting ballots and to provide feedback.
50. Closing Blessing – given by Brenda Meyer.

Farewell Celebration for Dan Miller, 4:30 pm

Minutes recorded by Marie Clement

For Appointment by the Missional Leadership Team

GIFTS DEVELOPMENT TEAM



Jewel Gingerich Longenecker (21/2021-24)

- **Home Congregation:** Kern Road Mennonite Church
- **Current Occupation:** Dean of Lifelong Learning, Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE



Kathy Nofziger Yeakey (21/2021-24)

- **Home Congregation:** North Goshen Mennonite Church
- **Current Occupation:** Gift Receipting and Report Manager, Goshen College

For Affirmation by the IMMC Delegates

MISSIONAL LEADERSHIP TEAM

Naomi Yoder, East Goshen (19/2022-25)*

Duane Yoder, Fairhaven (12/2022-25)*

LEADERSHIP ENHANCEMENT TEAM

Kent Miller, College (16/2022-25)*

MINISTRY CREDENTIALING TEAM

Suellen Gerber, Fellowship of Hope (18/2022-25)*

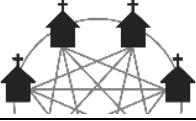
Ruben Chupp, Sunnyside (16/2022-25)*

MCC GREAT LAKES REPRESENTATIVE

George Thompson, Waterford (19/2022-25)*

* Indicates affirmation of an additional term.

2022-2023 Spending Plan

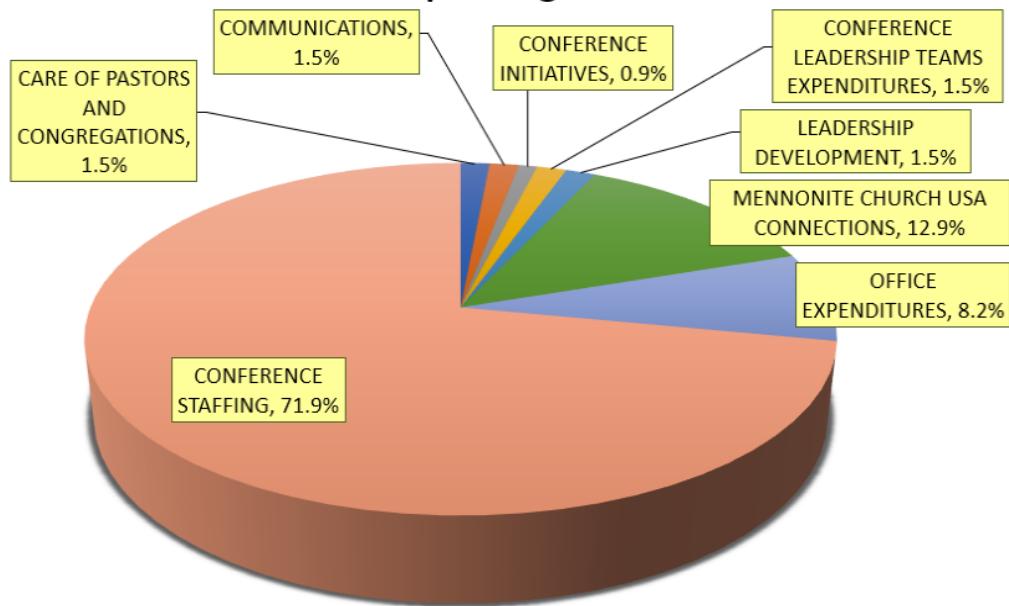
<h3 style="text-align: center;">Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference 2022-2023 Proposed Spending Plan</h3>			
<p style="background-color: #f0e6e6; padding: 5px;"><i>Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference is a community of congregations centered on Jesus and guided by the Holy Spirit. Acting through grace, love and peace we are engaging the world God loves.</i></p>			
CARE OF PASTORS AND CONGREGATIONS	Expenses related to the things conference does together that congregations cannot do alone: Congregational Coaches, Pastor/Congregation in Crisis, Pastoral Family Assistance Program.	1.5%	
COMMUNICATIONS	Gospel Evangel, printing and distribution. Website development and maintenance.	1.5%	
CONFERENCE INITIATIVES	Initiatives related to priorities and new ventures: Intercultural Transformation Special projects	0.9%	
CONFERENCE LEADERSHIP TEAMS EXPENDITURES	Travel and miscellaneous expenses: Leadership Teams Retreat Missional Leadership Team Ministry Credentialing Team Leadership Enhancement Team Stewardship Team Gifts Development Team	1.5%	
LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT	Leadership Training Ministry Inquiry Program (college students) Seminary Student Assistance	1.5%	
MENNONITE CHURCH USA CONNECTIONS	Conference first fruits: A 10% tithe of congregational contributions to conference goes to support denominational work. Denominational Ministerial Database Mutual Aid-Corinthian Plan General Assembly Del. Travel	12.9%	
OFFICE EXPENDITURES	Office Space cost sharing Office Equipment and maintenance Office Supplies, Resource Library, Liability Insurance	8.2%	
CONFERENCE STAFFING	Salaries, benefits and networking expenses for all staff: Conference Ministers provide leadership development, administration and vision. Oversee and participate with teams, maintains relationships with pastors and congregations, leadership transitions, credentialing, and connects with MC USA. Administrative Coordinator manages office responsibilities, event coordination, communication, writes for and edits Gospel Evangel, manages electronic media. Bookkeeper maintains financial records and transactions. Leadership consultant Sabbatical fund	71.9%	

Proposed 2022-2023 Spending Plan
 Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference

Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference is a community of congregations centered on Jesus and guided by the Holy Spirit. Acting through grace, love and peace we are engaging the world God loves.

	2021-2022 Spending Plan	Actual Through 12/31/2021	Proposed 2023	\$ Change from 2021-2022	% Change
INCOME					
CONGREGATIONAL SUPPORT FOR CONFERENCE	\$ 210,000	\$ 85,801	\$ 210,000	\$ -	0.0%
INDIVIDUAL GIFTS & OTHER EXPECTED INCOME	\$ 45,175	\$ 10,043	\$ 54,644	\$ 9,469	21.0%
TOTAL EXPECTED INCOME	\$ 255,175	\$ 95,844	\$ 264,644	\$ 9,469	3.7%
EXPENSE					
CARE OF PASTORS AND CONGREGATIONS	\$ 3,300	\$ 569	\$ 3,900	\$ 600	18.2%
COMMUNICATIONS	\$ 5,400	\$ 1,580	\$ 3,950	\$ (1,450)	- 26.9%
CONFERENCE INITIATIVES	\$ 2,000	\$ 394	\$ 2,500	\$ 500	25.0%
CONF. LEADERSHIP TEAMS EXPENDITURES	\$ 5,000	\$ 927	\$ 4,000	\$ (1,000)	- 20.0%
LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT	\$ 4,500	\$ 1,349	\$ 4,000	\$ (500)	- 11.1%
MENNONITE CHURCH USA CONNECTIONS	\$ 34,700	\$ 9,794	\$ 34,075	\$ (625)	- 1.8%
OFFICE EXPENDITURES	\$ 19,500	\$ 5,912	\$ 21,725	\$ 2,225	11.4%
CONFERENCE STAFFING	\$ 180,775	\$ 84,733	\$ 190,186	\$ 9,411	5.2%
TOTAL EXPECTED EXPENSE	\$ 255,175	\$ 105,258	\$ 264,336	\$ 9,161	3.6%
BALANCE	\$ -	\$ (9,414)	\$ 308		

2022-2023 Spending Plan Allocations



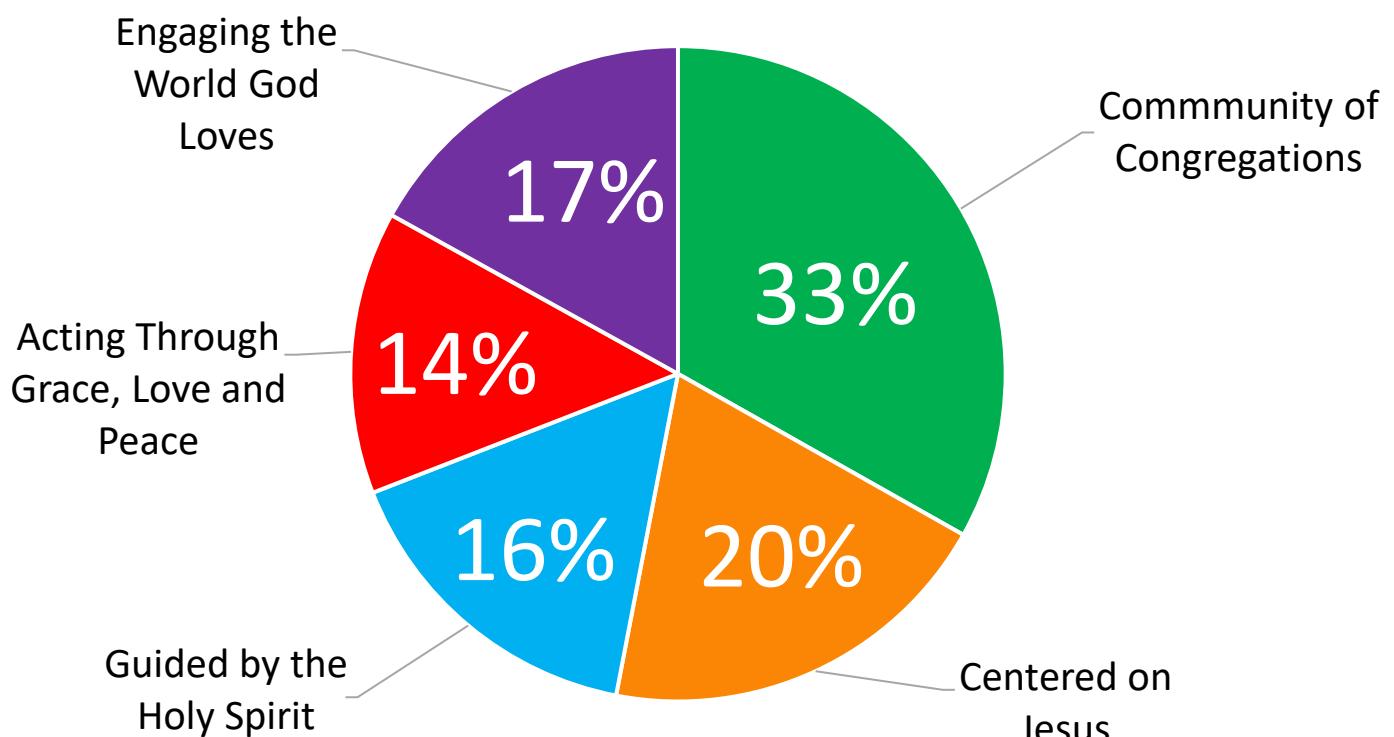
Prepared for 2022 March delegate meetings (Spring Summit)
 Spending plan draft approved by Stewardship Team 2/9/2022
 Approved to delegates by Missional Leadership Team 2/16/2022

2022-2023 Narrative Spending Plan

Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference developed a vision statement (to the right) to describe our calling and identity in the world. In this statement we desire to express both who we are and who we want to become. One of the ways we embody this vision is through the financial commitments we make. Below is a way of making an explicit connection between our vision and our spending plan in a narrative form.

We are a community of congregations
Centered on Jesus
Guided by the Holy Spirit
Acting through grace, love and peace
Engaging the world God loves.

How to read this document: the pie chart below represents a visual story of how finances are used to contribute to and support each part of our vision. On the reverse, you will find this story told using familiar line-item titles (highlighted in bold) along with additional insights and anecdotes highlighting how we see God working in each corresponding area of our vision. We believe that this way of telling our financial story encourages us to not only consider what we are spending but why we are stewarding our finances.



Category from Vision Statement	Dollars	Percentage
Community of Congregations	\$87,778.40	33%
Centered on Jesus	\$52,527.20	20%
Guided by the Holy Spirit	\$42,488.60	16%
Acting through grace, love and peace	\$36,952.40	14%
Engaging the world God loves	\$44,839.40	17%

Note: all percentages are approximated based on IMMC conference staff estimates on time and energy spent in each area.

Community of Congregations

A significant portion of the work of the **Conference Staff** is focused here, in equipping and supporting the community of congregations. The work of the **Leadership Enhancement Team** and the **Ministry Credentialing Team** provides support to pastors so that they can lead effectively within their congregations and connect with other leaders in the conference. Additionally, the conference makes **leadership training** opportunities and the **care of pastors & congregations** priorities as part of our community of congregations.

The **Missional Leadership Team** is committed to ensuring that the institutional elements of our conference are serving the needs of our entire community as well as individual congregations. Our connection to **Mennonite Church USA** is a mutually beneficial relationship in which we can learn from each other.

We use the **Gospel Evangel** and our **website** as means of telling our stories and communicating to and within the community. Our **archive storage** allows us move forward as we can remember how we got here.

Other support for our community comes through **Congregational Coaches** and the **Ministry Inquiry Program**.

Centered on Jesus

A fair amount of the **Conference Staff's** work is dedicated to making space to putting Jesus at the center of our faith and practices. This comes in the form of personal connections and discernment with congregations and in making space for spiritual retreats. The **Leadership Enhancement Team** and **Ministerial Credentialing Team** contribute to the above as well as providing insight and opportunity for pastors to reflect on past experience and future goals. The **leadership training** that is provided by IMMC strives to put Jesus as a model for the practicing of our faith.

The **Missional Leadership Team** helps us to envision ways we can remain faithful to Jesus' call in an ever-changing world. Our relationship with **Mennonite Church USA** also provides us with a broader perspective on how we might follow Jesus in our own contexts and provides us with resources for engaging in Jesus-centered living.

Guided by the Holy Spirit

The **Conference Ministers** help congregations and individuals to discern the leading of the Holy Spirit in their lives. Likewise, the **Ministerial Leadership Team** plays an important role in discerning and facilitating discernment within the conference. The conference also participates in discernment within the community of **Mennonite Church USA**, giving and receiving council as we adapt and follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit continues to challenge and equip us to engage in the work of **intercultural transformation**. We have sensed the need to identify and address our own part in the injustices of the world and are following the leading of the Holy Spirit. We also have a **Special Projects Fund** that allows for Spirit-driven initiatives to receive support.

Acting Through Grace, Love and Peace

So much of what has already been mentioned requires us to act through grace, love, and peace. This is especially true as we attend to the **care of pastors and congregations** and as we seek **intercultural transformation**. The **Conference Staff** and the **Missional Leadership Team** help to facilitate this posture of grace, love, and peace as they discern ways to make our services and resources available to an increasingly diversifying conference.

Mennonite Church USA continues to invest in ways to "Be the Peace" in our respective contexts, encouraging us to take the call to be peacemakers into every aspect of our lives.

Engaging the World God Loves

As we continue to work on "Growing our Intercultural Witness," conference resources are being used to further the work of **intercultural transformation**. **Conference staff** and the **Missional Leadership Team** are working to evaluate their own need for growth in intercultural competency as well as equipping and calling others to do this work. This includes anti-racism training, the formation of an Intercultural Work Group, and utilization of the Intercultural Development Inventory. **Mennonite Church USA** helps us to broaden our perspectives and connects us with opportunities to work and serve outside of IMMC.

Our work in engaging the world also includes the ways we support those near and far through the **Ministry Inquiry Program**, **Mutual Aid**, and resources provided through our **website**.

Chapter 3 Reports to Delegates

Missional Leadership Team Report 2021-2022

By Brenda Hostetler Meyer, moderator

We met for a retreat at Amigo Centre in August 2021, glad to be able to meet in person, but still using caution with masks and distancing. We joyfully welcomed Sharon Yoder and Joanne Gallardo, still in the first months of their new roles as Co-Conference Ministers, signifying the successful completion of one of our top goals from the previous year.

Goals for the coming year were identified in the areas of Intercultural Competence, supporting onboarding of new conference ministers, expanding the conference's base of leadership for the future, a plan for listening to marginalized congregations, and monitoring the progress on conference -wide job descriptions.

We decided that this year we would try meeting more often for shorter meetings, with at least half by zoom. We want to increase accessibility for MLT members who are not employed full-time by a congregation or agency, and also respond to staff needs in a more timely way. Four of our six meetings this year have been two-hour zoom meetings.

Thanks to the good work of the Gifts Development Team, in December 2021 we welcomed two new MLT members, Rolando Sosa (Piedra Viva) and Shawn Lange (New Foundation United in Christ). We are grateful to now have a full team, and for the lively way that both these members have engaged the work and contributed their perspectives.

At our June 2022 final meeting of the year, we celebrated a good first year for Sharon and Joanne, and the completion of many of our goals, including the formation of an Intercultural Working Group and the near completion of the Intercultural Development Inventory for all MLT and staff. We noted that there has been an unusual amount of transition work as we come out of the pandemic, and that it has been challenging to find people to fill our leadership teams, which puts more strain on our Conference Ministers.

We are grateful for the way the Spirit has been leading and inspiring the work of our conference through our congregations, teams and delegates, and we commit ourselves as a Missional Leadership Team to continue seeking and listening for God's good news and faithful leading in the work we do on your behalf, and for the sake of the world God loves.

Conference Minister & Staff Report 2021-2022

By Sharon Yoder and Joanne Gallardo, conference co-ministers

Staff transitions have been an ongoing theme in the conference office this year. Joanne Gallardo and Sharon Yoder began serving as conference co-ministers in July 2021. Cindy Steiner served as interim administrative coordinator until Clayton Gladish started in August 2021. Clayton's eventual reduction in hours, due to resuming pastoral ministry, coincided with Jim Norton's resignation. Jim concluded 7 years as bookkeeper in May, just as Michelle Cabanaw was hired as bookkeeper and administrative assistant.

As conference staff, we're grateful to build on the legacy of many who have gone before us. We continue to live into the mission and vision of IN-MI Mennonite Conference (IMMC). *We are a community of congregations, centered on Jesus, guided by the Holy Spirit, acting through Grace, Love, and Peace, engaging the world God loves.* Appreciating this vision begins with our relationships in the office. Thus, we've been intentional about building community through regular check-ins at weekly staff meetings, over coffee with East Goshen Mennonite Church staff, and in our monthly staff lunches. The vision continues through our ongoing focus to encourage and support pastors and congregations in leadership development and transitions and as they engage in and around their communities.

Growing Our Intercultural Witness (GIW). Discernment around the IMMC vision and mission statement in recent years led to the development of GIW. In June 2021, IMMC delegates affirmed the GIW plan. As we focus on listening and learning, an Intercultural Working Group (IWG), which commenced in June 2022, will help to evaluate systems and practices within IMMC, utilizing the Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI) along with the expertise among those a part of the IWG. Joanne serves as a qualified administrator for the IDI, and in the past year, she met with IMMC staff and Missional Leadership Team members to review IDI reports and educational plans. Joanne met with the IWG in early June 2022.

Co-minister roles. In addition to work with GIW, Joanne supports the work of Gifts Development Team, as they call out new persons to serve on conference leadership teams, and Leadership Enhancement Team, as they attend to growth and development of pastors, lay leaders, and congregational coaches. Joanne also maintains regular contact with Indiana area pastoral councils, supports Journey Learning Events, and communicates conference vision through ongoing preaching and writing engagements.

Sharon continues her work with supporting congregations in pastoral leadership transitions, walking with new pastoral applicants, working with Search Guides to support pastoral search processes, and coordinating interim and/or transitional leadership as needed. She supports the Ministry Credentialing Team in their work and facilitates credentialing and installation services for new pastors. Sharon also carries the administrative and financial oversight for the conference office and, in that role, meets monthly with Stewardship Team.

Conference events coordinated by IMMC staff with Clayton's leadership in the past year include:

- All Teams retreat (virtual) September 17-18, for all IMMC leadership teams
- Pastors Gathering November 8-10, including a webinar on *Compassion Fatigue* and in-person worship, fellowship, and a session on *Congregational Conflict during Covid* at Amigo Centre
- Spring Summit (formerly Regional Meetings), which included an input session from Ben Tapper, challenging us to reflect on Decentering Whiteness, in person at Fairhaven in Fort Wayne on March 19 and virtually on March 26
- Annual Sessions 2022, planned by Elkhart pastoral cluster group and held at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary June 17-18, 2022.

Communication from our office continues through our monthly letters to pastors, *we-Link* newsletter, and *Prayer Memo*; and quarterly *Gospel Evangel* and *Missional Seeds* letters. Clayton also keeps our website current and shares occasional news and updates via Facebook.

As we center on Jesus and listen to the Spirit, we, as conference staff, will continue to encourage and support our congregations and their leaders as they engage the world God loves.

Gifts Development Team Report 2021-2022

By Addie Lehman, Chair

The Gifts Development Team (GDT) finds new members for the various Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference (IMMC) Leadership Team positions. We help fill vacancies on these teams as they arise.

GDT has identified three main goals for this year:

- To broaden representation on IMMC Leadership teams. We strive to be intentional at inviting people who represent diversity, from age, gender, profession, and ethnicity, along with our diverse congregational settings.
- To perform exit interviews with IMMC Team members who have completed a term or are stepping away from a term. These interviews help us gain perspective on the way IMMC team members work together, and why people choose to join the work of the Conference or not.

- To have updated IMMC Leadership Team job descriptions.

GDT started the year with seven open positions. We inquired about 24 individuals to consider a position in the Conference during the 2021-2022 year. 12 were male, 12 were female, 8 would represent a person of color. We have been able to fill three positions.

Though it has been a challenging year to fill positions, we celebrate the ways we see God at work in IMMC, and trust that God will continue to lead Conference pastors, staff and our Leadership Teams.

Leadership Enhancement Team Report 2021-2022

By Kent Miller, temporary chair

This year Leadership Enhancement Team (LET) focused on several areas. We've been building up and expanding the Congregational Coach program; offered a Pastor Gathering Retreat at Amigo Center; encouraged pastor development through the Framework for Pastoral Growth; met jointly with Ministry Credentialing Team to coordinate work as needed; provide leadership grants; and we were able to get to know Joanne Gallardo, one of our Conference Ministers, relating to LET.

Congregational Coaches – We provided 2 virtual training opportunities for current and interested congregational coaches. In the fall, David Boshart from AMBS led the training on ‘Cultivating a Culture of Mission-Oriented Congregations.’ In the Spring, Marty Lehman led a presentation and discussion on “Working with Congregational Boards.” We were able to place six (6) new coaches this past year, who will work with eight (8) congregations.

Pastor Gathering Retreat – was held at Amigo Centre over Nov. 8-10. We provided opportunity to engage in worship, guided discussions, especially around their leading and learning through a global pandemic, along with the opportunity to retreat and relax in nature. In addition we offered a time to help Amigo with ongoing clean up from the storm damage of the previous August.

Framework for Pastoral Growth – we once again offered this opportunity for pastors to intentionally engage their growth and development. Each year we've seen a few more pastors engage this program. However, we are also working at finding a way to align the program to meet the guidelines of health and wellness from the Corinthian Plan Wellness Initiative, and potentially allow pastors to receive discounts on their health coverage.

Joint Ministry Credentialing Team meeting – we met on January 26 of this year and discussed areas where our teams work intersects and/or comes along side each other. It was a good time to brainstorm how we might better serve conference in the work that each team engages.

Leadership Grants – we processed and approved four (4) grants to individuals within our conference to enhance their leadership skills and abilities.

Engaging Joanne Gallardo – It's been a wonderful year of getting to know Joanne better through our meetings, emails and conversations. Our team, consisting of Ben Bouwman (chair), Chris Holsopple Kauffman, Kent Miller, Dave Sutter, and Andrea Grotenhuis, and our recorder, Dan Haarer, have been thrilled to have Joanne join us with her energy and vision for working with leaders in our conference.

Ministry Credentialing Team Report 2021-2022

By Suella Gerber, chair

The Ministry Credentialing Team seeks to center a culture that encourages our credentialed leaders to grow and thrive in their ministries. To that end, at our monthly meetings during the past year, we have been:

1. Updating our policy manual. We began this process last year. The process of combing through the policies—updating, revising, removing—is complete.
2. Supporting credentialed persons.
 - a. Placing newly credentialed persons into peer-mentor relationship;
 - b. Encouraging all pastors to have their own pastor;
 - c. Making sure there are Healthy Boundaries trainings available for everyone to be able to participate every three years;
 - d. Wrote guidelines and considerations for credentialed leaders when using social media.
 - e. Growing awareness of how our credentialing processes and requirements preference certain persons and/or disadvantage persons. And making changes accordingly.
3. Credentialing. We have the honor and holy opportunity to interview candidates for licensing and ordination.

Stewardship Team Report 2020-2021

By the Stewardship Team

The Stewardship Team (ST) has been meeting monthly over the past year. Team members are James Gerber, Holdeman; Patty Graber, First Mennonite; Ron Ringenberg, Prairie Street; Angela Swartzendruber, North Goshen; and Duane Yoder, Fairhaven. Sharon Yoder, Conference Minister, and Jim Norton, bookkeeper also attended the meetings.

In the absence of a chairperson since June 30, 2021, chairperson tasks were delegated to various persons on ST. Patty Graber served as liaison to the conference office and chaired ST meetings; Angela Swartzendruber served as minute taker and monitored monthly financial reports; Ron Ringenberg and Duane Yoder monitored congregational giving and its impact on the spending plan; and Jim Gerber and Duane monitored investments and equity funds. In addition to these agenda items in the past year, ST also reviewed the Missional Seeds program and evaluated and revised how investment income feeds into our spending plan.

ST is pleased to report that congregational giving continues to be steady and spending has remained within budgeted projections. These realities, along with careful investment management over the past years, leaves the conference in a healthy financial state. We are deeply grateful for generous financial support from congregations and individuals; this allows our staff to continue equipping and supporting our community of congregations as they engage the world God loves.

Leadership Report of Credentialed Persons

June 1, 2021 – May 31, 2022

Ordained

Jan 02	'22	Mariah Martin, Bonneyville Mennonite, Bristol, IN
May 22	'22	Grant Miller, Kalamazoo Mennonite Fellowship, Kalamazoo, MI

Reinstatement of Ordination Credential with MC USA/IN-MI Mennonite Conference

July 19	'21	Craig Oury, Shalom Mennonite, Indianapolis, IN
Dec 19	'21	Rolando Sosa, Piedra Viva, Elkhart, IN

License for Specific Ministry

May 15 '22 Michelle Merchant, licensed for ministry at Maple River Mennonite, Brutus, MI

License Toward Ordination

Aug 8 '21	Sophie Lapp Jost, College Mennonite for appointment with Mennonite Mission Network: pastoral ministry at Bammental Heidelberg Mennonite Church, Bammental, Germany
Nov 7 '21	Monica Miller, First Mennonite Church, Indianapolis

License Extension

Nov 10, '21	Grant Miller, Kalamazoo Mennonite Fellowship, Kalamazoo, MI (until Nov 10, 2023)
Mar 01, '22	Quinn Brenneke, Prairie Street Mennonite Church, Elkhart, IN (until March 1, 2024)

New Pastoral Leaders

<u>Beginning Date</u>	<u>Installation Date</u>
July 01 '21	Frances Ringenberg (interim pastor), First Mennonite, Indianapolis, IN
July 19 '21	Craig Oury, Shalom Mennonite, Indianapolis, IN Sept 26, 2021
Aug 30 '21	Deron Brill Bergstresser, Waterford Mennonite, Goshen IN Sept 19, 2021
Nov 01 '21	Monica Miller, First Mennonite, Indianapolis, IN Nov 7, 2021
Feb 01 '21	Rolando Sosa, Piedra Viva, Elkhart, IN Dec 19, 2021
Mar 01 '22	Frances Ringenberg (interim pastor), Waterford Mennonite, Goshen, IN
Apr 18 '22	Cindy Voth (lead pastor), Waterford Mennonite, Goshen, IN Apr 24, 2022
May 15 '22	Michelle Merchant, Maple River Mennonite, Brutus, MI May 15, 2022

Credential Transfer

July 27 '21	Larry Rohrer <i>to</i> Ohio Mennonite Conference
Aug 25 '21	Clayton Gladish <i>from</i> South Central Mennonite Conference
Dec 14 '21	Peter Janzen <i>to</i> Central District Conference
Apr 26 '22	Clayton Gladish <i>to</i> Central District Conference

Completion of Ministerial Assignment

June 30 '21	Mag & Bob Richer Smith (bridge pastors), First Mennonite, Indianapolis, IN
July 24 '21	Amy Kratzer, Sunnyside Mennonite, Elkhart, IN
Aug 22 '21	Joanne Gallardo, Berkey Avenue Mennonite, Goshen, IN
Oct 31 '21	Frances Ringenberg (interim pastor), First Mennonite, Indianapolis, IN
Feb 02 '22	Neal Amstutz, Waterford Mennonite, Goshen, IN
Apr 24 '22	Jennifer Helmuth Shenk, Kern Road Mennonite, South Bend, IN
May 31 '22	Esther Lanting, Hudson Lake Mennonite, New Carlisle, IN

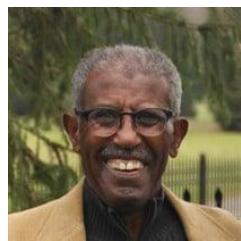
Deceased Pastors



Harold L. Mast, 86, passed away July 6, 2021. He is survived by his wife Edna, and three daughters, Joan Ebert, LaJane Shaw, and Charlene Mast. A son, Galen, preceded him in death. Harold grew up as a member of Locust Grove Mennonite Church, Burr Oak, MI. After 1-W service at Michigan State University, he was called to ministry at South Colon Mennonite Church. Sensing the need for more biblical training, he attended Ontario Mennonite Bible Institute and served as interim pastor at Preston Mennonite Church in Ontario. In 1964 he was called to pastor at Howard-Miami Mennonite Church in Kokomo, IN for six years, and served for many years on the pastoral team at Parkview Mennonite Church, Kokomo, IN. For the past 30 years, Harold and Edna attended Howard-Miami Mennonite Church where he served as an elder and on various committees, and was very much involved in his lifelong passion of prayer ministry.



Wilbert R. Shenk, 86, died Tuesday, July 13, 2021. He is survived by his wife, Juanita, three children, Suzanne Morris, Marie Shenk and Thomas Shenk, five granddaughters and six great-grandchildren. He worked for the Mennonite Church in various capacities, first as a Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) worker in Indonesia from 1955 to 1959. Following this he worked as an administrator for MCC from 1963 to 1965. From 1965 to 1990 he worked as an administrator for the Mennonite Board of Missions (now MMN, Mennonite Mission Network). During this time, he obtained a doctoral degree from the University of Aberdeen, Scotland, in 1978. Following his time at MBM, Wilbert taught at AMBS in Elkhart from 1990 to 1995 and Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, California, from 1995 to 2005. Even in his retirement he stayed active by continuing teaching short courses, mentoring doctoral students, and writing.



Dagne Assefa, 71, died September 9, 2021. He is survived by his wife, Carol (Weaver); daughters, Lydette (Tyler Falk) and Menan (Isaac Lederach); and granddaughter, Yesi Lederach. Dagne earned a master of divinity degree at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary and a master's degree in applied linguistics from Indiana University. He received a doctor of ministry degree from Christian Theological Seminary. Dagne was the founding pastor of Shalom Mennonite Church in Indianapolis and faithfully served the congregation for 24 years. As a young adult in Ethiopia, Dagne worked for the budding Meserete Kristos Church as an evangelist and pastor. He was a passionate activist and community organizer. In Ethiopia, he successfully organized fellow factory workers for fairer wages. He later participated in anti-war marches in Indianapolis. His commitment to community also led him to found the Ethiopian Community Association of Central Indiana.



Homer E. Yutzy, 95, died December 12, 2021. Homer is survived by his wife Elizabeth (Williams), three children - Joy (Ike), Rhoda (Pat) and Keith (Linda), daughter-in-law Kathy Yutzy Nabitz; eight grandchildren and five great grandchildren. Homer received a master of divinity from Goshen Biblical Seminary. He worked in church planting in Gay, MI and pastored churches in Petoskey, MI; Tavistock, Ontario; and Wauseon, OH. In his retirement, Homer volunteered for multiple agencies including David's House, Red Cross, Shalom Restorative Justice Ministries and Hands of Grace. Homer was a hard and dedicated worker who was always willing to lend a helping hand. He supplemented his income as a pastor by working as a carpenter and selling insurance.



William A. Wickey, 92, passed away March 6, 2022. He is survived by his wife, Florence Wickey of Centreville, MI; children, Nathan (Bill) Wickey of Indian River, MI; Faith Wickey of Centreville; and Pauline Wickey of Seattle, Washington; and a granddaughter. William owned and operated his contracting company "Bill the Builder" and built homes for 40 years. When he wasn't building houses, Bill pastored at South Colon Mennonite Church and Maple River Mennonite Church in Brutus, Michigan. William was known as a loving father and a skilled carpenter.



John Driver, 97, died on March 17, 2022. He was predeceased by his wife, Bonita Landis (Bonny) and is survived by his children, Cynthia (James Rempel); Fred (Joyce Meyer); Jonathan; and two grandsons. In 1945, he began nearly 18 years of service in Puerto Rico, serving in community development, church planting, pastoral care, and leadership formation in the church. In 1967, he began as academic dean and professor of church history and New Testament in the Inter-Mennonite Seminary in Montevideo, Uruguay. John's pilgrimage in the Spanish-speaking world for more than six decades shaped his vision of the world, his ideology and his understanding of the Gospel and mission. During retirement, he continued to author many books and taught throughout Latin America and Spain. He saw the Gospel of Jesus Christ become good news for the poor, a gospel of peace and justice in their full biblical senses and a gospel of grace communicated most authentically by a reconciled and reconciling community.



Robert Lee Shreiner, 79, died April 1, 2022 of complications from Lewy Body Dementia in Goshen, Indiana. He is survived by his wife Mary Ann (Hershey), and five children, Robert Shreiner II (Katharine), Timothy Shreiner (Cheryl), Lori Shreiner (Jude), William Shreiner (JoAnn) and Cheryl Shreiner (Wendel). They have 12 grandchildren and one great-granddaughter. Bob studied Bible and religion as an undergraduate at Messiah College and received a graduate degree in religion from Eastern Mennonite University. He was licensed and ordained in pastoral ministry in 1969. He served at churches in Pennsylvania, Maryland and Indiana. He finished his 45-year career in pastoral ministry as a chaplain at Oaklawn Psychiatric Center in Goshen, Indiana. Bob volunteered in many leadership positions including Board of Directors for Brook Lane Psychiatric Hospital, Mennonite Central Committee, and Goshen College. He also served as Executive Secretary for Atlantic Coast Conference of the Mennonite Church.

Church Closures

Bethel Mennonite Church (Ashley, MI), founded in 1919, gathered for their last official service on Easter Sunday, April 17, 2022. With a handful of active people and Pastor Joe Pendleton's health in decline the group prayerfully decided to end.

The church started with Sunday School which was held in the home of Sam and Barbara Slagell. Their son, Harold Slagell, now 92, was the oldest remaining member at Bethel's close.

Through the grief of this loss, we celebrate the many blessings of God expressed in the Bethel Mennonite Church:

We celebrate the generations of believers who were faithfully nurtured through Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, Youth Group, Bible Study, and worship.

We celebrate Bethel Mennonite Church's contributions to the life of the IN-MI Mennonite Conference.

We celebrate their financial generosity and participation with community organizations to help their neighbors.

We celebrate the nearly 30 years of pastoral ministry of Joe Pendleton with the congregation.

We celebrate that in their ending, the *Redeeming Love Christian Fellowship* (a new congregation of former Amish people) have been blessed with a building in which to meet.

Congregational Elder and another lifetime member, Wally Yordy, spoke of many good memories such as long-ago revival meetings and VBS weeks packed with children. He said, "After only ever being a part of Bethel, it was hard to see things end, and equally hard to consider looking for another church." When asked if there was anything he wanted to share with the congregations of IMMC, Wally said, "When times are hard, keep the faith."

O God, thank you for the ministry of the Bethel Mennonite Church over these past 103 years.

*For the many gifts you planted in the hearts and hands of the people,
for the acts of love service which were extended,
for the songs of praise offered to you from the depths of a grateful heart,
for every prayer spoken which gave you honor and glory,
for all the ways in which you have led this congregation,
for more than a century of your blessing,
we give you thanks and praise! AMEN.*

Respectfully submitted by Steve Slagel,
IMMC Moderator Elect and a child of the Bethel Mennonite Church

Chapter 4 Annual Reports from Ministry Partners

These reports can be found on our website by using the links below (digital version) or by visiting <https://www.im.mennonite.net/events/annualsessions/>.

English

[Anabaptist Disabilities Network](#)

[Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary](#)

[Bethel College](#)

[Eastern Mennonite Seminary](#)

[Eastern Mennonite University](#)

[Everence](#)

[Goshen College](#)

[Hesston College](#)

[The Journey Program](#)

[Mennonite Central Committee](#)

[Mennonite Church USA](#)

[Mennonite Education Agency](#)

[Mennonite Health Services](#)

[Mennonite Mission Network](#)

[Oaklawn](#)

Español

[Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary](#)

[Bethel College](#)

[Eastern Mennonite Seminary](#)

[Eastern Mennonite University](#)

[Everence](#)

[Goshen College](#)

[Mennonite Central Committee](#)

[Mennonite Church USA](#)

[Mennonite Mission Network](#)

[Oaklawn](#)

Chapter 5 Announcements

Annual Sessions 2022 Evaluation

Please take a moment to reflect and give feedback on Annual Sessions 2022 using this Google Form:

<https://forms.gle/A88F7yxRMs9Xm5Jh8>

Thank you!

Conference Sunday Materials

We have provided materials for congregations to engage in a Conference Sunday that connects with our Annual Sessions. To view or download these materials, visit the Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference website or with this link: <https://www.im.mennonite.net/events/annualsessions/#conference-sunday>.

Annual Sessions 2023

**SAVE THE DATE for Annual Sessions 2023:
June 9 & 10 at Amigo Centre (Sturgis, MI).**