



SPRING SUMMITS

— DELEGATE SESSIONS —

2026

March 14 - North Goshen
Mennonite Church

March 21 - virtual gathering
on Zoom

- ❖ March 14, 2026 – In-Person Delegate Meeting at North Goshen Mennonite Church (Goshen, IN)
- ❖ March 21, 2026 – Virtual Delegate Meeting (Zoom)

March 14 (In-Person)	Agenda	March 21 (Virtual)
9:30 am	Welcome and Worship	9:00 am
10:45 am	Break	10:15 am
11:00 am	Sermon Response Conversation	10:25 am
11:40 am	Presentations from Board and GDT	11:00 am
11:50 am	Recommendation of New Congregation	11:10 am
12:00 pm	Lunch / Break	11:20 am
1:00 pm	Spending Plan Discussion	11:30 am
2:00 pm	Dismissal	12:30 pm

Nominate someone for an IMMC leadership team:

Gifts Development Team would greatly appreciate your suggestions of people you think could serve on one of the teams. For more information and to fill out the form, use the QR Code to the right or visit <https://im.mennonite.net/gifts>



International Bethel Church
Membership Recommendation
from the IMMC Board and Ministry Credentialing Team
March 2026

Process

International Bethel City Church (IBCC) is a multicultural church that started in 2004 in Portland, Oregon. They became a member congregation of the Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference where Simon was ordained in 2012. Simon and his wife, Lucy, and their family moved to the Northwest after living in VA for three years. Their move to the USA in 1999 from the Democratic Republic of Congo was rooted in a call to service in the USA. In 2021, again following God's call, they moved to Detroit to begin a church plant there. In Detroit, Sharon, IMMC CM was in conversations with them connecting them with MMN's SENT training program. IBCC worships each week at Gateway Church, where they have a warm and supporting relationship with the pastor and congregation, that includes regular times for the congregations to worship together.

Sharon has had regular conversations with Lucy and Simon. In 2023 we/MCT began planning a time to visit and worship with them and their congregation. Between time passing and health issues, that visit didn't happen until November 1, 2025. Sharon Yoder, Dave Janzen, and Suella Gerber were moved by Simon and Lucy's personal stories, the stories of God's calling and leading them, and their faithfulness to God's call.

Simon and Lucy attended IMMC's annual meetings (now SummerFest) in 2022, 2023, and 2025, where they've had a chance to tell some of their story and meet some of our conference's members and pastors.

Membership

The Muange's ministry with International Bethel City Church began in the DRC. They have served in a number of African and North American settings, primarily with immigrant and refugee families, and some European and Americans. In Portland they met and found a theological home with Mennonites from the Pacific NW Conference.

Recommendation

The IMMC Board and Ministry Credentialing Team are delighted and honored to recommend International Bethel City Church as a member congregation of Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference.

Proposed Spending Plan for Fiscal Year 2025-26

Income and Expenses Summary					
(IMMC's fiscal year is July 1 – June 30.)	2024-25 Actual	2025-26 Spending Plan	2025-26 First Half Actual*	<i>Proposed</i> 2026-27 Spending Plan	% Change
INCOME					
Congregational Support for Conference	\$196,611	\$200,000	\$95,706	\$200,000	0%
Individual Gifts and Other Expected Income	\$59,915	\$112,783	\$59,301	\$116,793	+4%
TOTAL INCOME	\$256,526	\$312,783	\$155,007	\$316,793	+1%
EXPENSES					
Care of Pastors and Congregations	\$1,167	\$3,650	\$583	\$2,500	-32%
Communications <i>(No longer includes Gospel Evangel)</i>	\$2,300	\$3,900	\$195	\$1,000	-74%
Conference Initiatives	\$0	\$2,000	\$733	\$2,300	15%
Conference Leadership Teams Expenditures	\$578	\$3,400	\$1,357	\$2,550	-25%
Leadership Development	\$3,750	\$3,500	\$0	\$3,500	0%
Mennonite Church USA Connections	\$34,105	\$39,050	\$18,958	\$39,410	+1%
Office Expenditures <i>(Now includes Gospel Evangel)</i>	\$17,381	\$21,750	\$8,401	\$24,050	+11%
Conference Staffing	\$207,052	\$235,226	\$116,636	\$241,442	+3%
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$266,333	\$312,476	\$146,863	\$316,752	+1%
BALANCE	\$(9,808)	\$307	\$8,144	\$41	

* First Half Actual includes 7/1/2025 – 12/31/2025.

What do the Expense Categories Include?

Pastors and Congregations

- Congregational Coach Expenses
- Pastor/Congregation Crisis Expenses
- Pastoral Family Assistance Program (WellSpan)

Communications

- Printing Other Publications
- Website & Digital Media

Conference Initiatives

- Intercultural Transformation
- Special Projects Fund

Conference Leadership Teams' Expenditures

- All-Teams Retreat
- Teams Meeting Expenses
- Teams Travel

Leadership Development

- Pastor Gathering
- Leadership Training Grants
- Ministry Inquiry

Mennonite Church USA Connections

- Denominational Database
- Prevention and Accountability
- Firstfruits to Mennonite Church USA
- General Assembly Travel
- Mutual Aid – Corinthian Plan

Office Expenditures

- Equipment, supplies, and maintenance
- Gospel Evangel *(Moved from Communications)*
- Postage
- Space Sharing/Utilities
- Taxes, Insurance, Fees
- Archive Storage
- Office Staff Team Building
- Fundraising

Conference Staffing

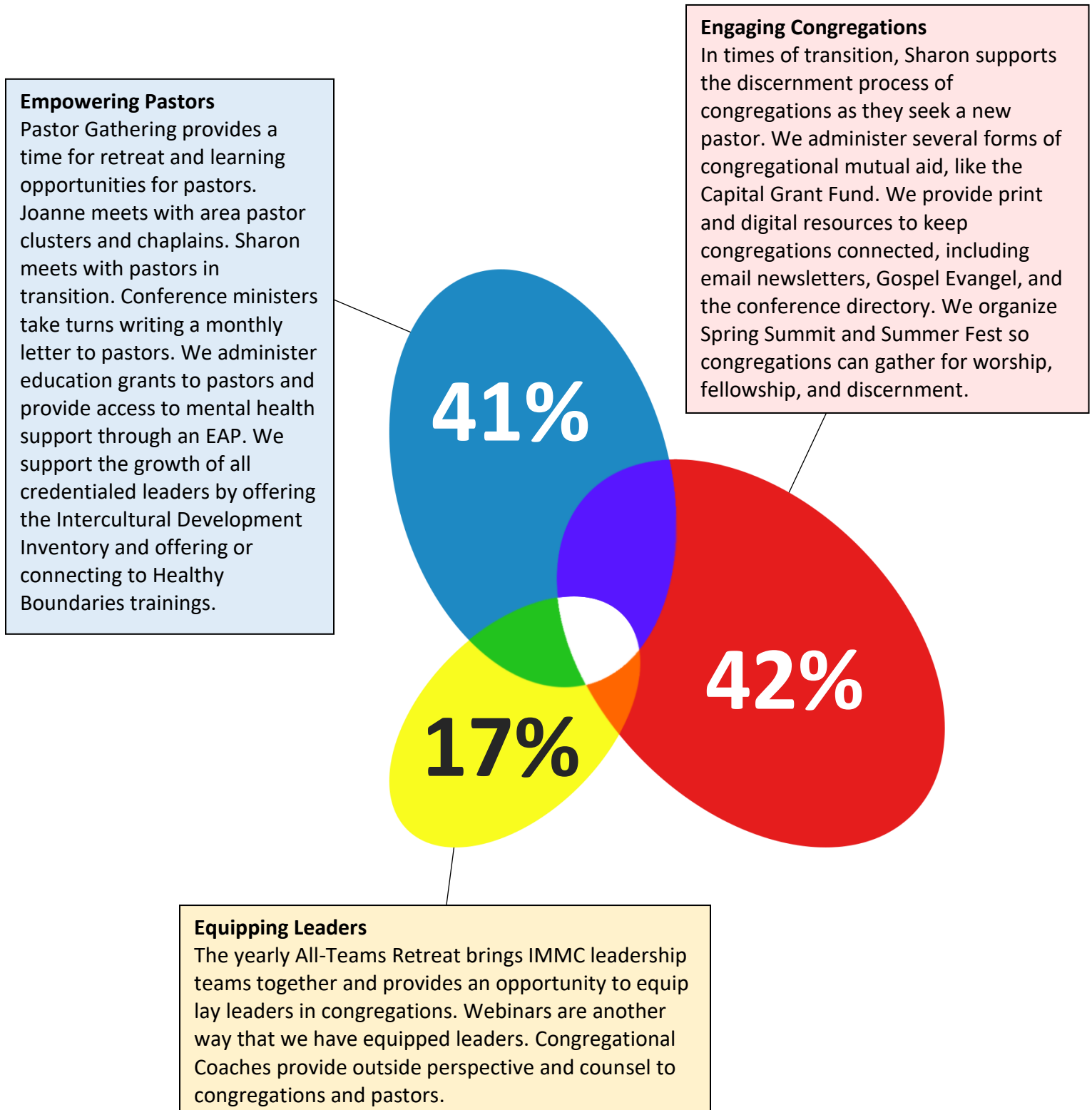
- Salaries, Wages, Benefits
- Continuing Education and Consultants

How do these funds help us live into our vision, values, and purpose?

To give another way of understanding the proposed spending plan, we have put together this chart and narrative that focus on how the budgeted funds will enable IMMC to pursue its mission.

As with other service organizations and many congregations, IMMC's expenses are mostly related to staffing. The staff help to carry out the work of the organization by providing services directly to congregations and pastors as well as coordination for our volunteer leadership teams and board.

The descriptions below cover much but not all of IMMC's work—and there is much overlap between these categories.



IMMC Leadership Teams 2025-26

Board (formerly Missional Leadership Team): functions as the “big picture” group, responsible for vision and setting direction along with the Conference Ministers.

Helmuth, Becky, moderator North Goshen
Ramer, Derrick, moderator-elect Benton
Franklin, Jeshua, secretary Kern Road
Weaver, Jeffery, treasurer College
Miller, David East Goshen
Slagel, Steve, post-moderator Maple River
Sommers, Meredith Wildwood
Sosa Granados, Rolando Antonio Piedra Viva

Gifts Development Team (GDT): identifies and calls out gifts of people to serve on leadership teams and in other roles.

Hostetler, Merle, co-chair College (interim)
Srof, Brenda, co-chair Kalamazoo
Hershberger, Anna Ruth Prairie Street
Miller, Leighton Sunnyside
Norton, Sharon Walnut Hill

Leadership Enhancement Team (LET): tends to the well-being and growth of pastors and congregational leaders through Pastor Gathering, pastor training grants, congregational coaches, and sister churches.

Slagel, Barbara, chair Maple River
Ilonga, Micheline First, Indy
Oury, Craig Shalom
Sefu, Ndunge First, Indy
Tan, Shin Yee Walnut Hill

Ministry Credentialing Team (MCT): oversees credentialing and congregational membership processes and attends to the well-being of pastor-congregation relationships.

Gerber, Suella, chair Fellowship of Hope
Devereaux, Barbara Kern Road
Janzen, David Fellowship of Hope
Thomas, Linda Walnut Hill
Waite, Phil Willow Springs (transitional)

Personnel Resourcing Team (PRT): on behalf of the Board, gives oversight to personnel agenda and issues related to conference staffing.

Hunsberger, Ray, chair Belmont
Nofziger Yeakey, Kathy North Goshen
Ramseyer, Sue Bloomington

Stewardship Team (ST): Attends to stewardship education with congregations and the management of conference finances.

Alvarez, Jim, chair
Byler, Janine Kalamazoo
Hochstetler, Justin Shalom
Kroeker, Marlene Belmont
Weaver, Jeffery, board treasurer College

Renewing a Vision

As IMMC congregations live into this vision, we hope for and anticipate the following:

- Congregations will strengthen their relationships with each other to foster greater affection, understanding, and mutual sharing.
- Conference activities will equip congregations to be spiritually and biblically grounded, led by Spirit-filled leaders, and telling stories and celebrating God-with-us.
- Each congregation and its members will grow in capacity for God-centered worship, Christ-like love, and reaching out to their neighbors in Spirit-led witness and service.

Centering conference life around Jesus

Jesus Christ is Lord and Savior. This simple confession unites the church across cultural, national, racial, denominational and every other human-made boundary that separates people from each other. As one, the church proclaims faith in Jesus for salvation from sin and service to God.

Jesus is a person, the fullest expression we have of our Creator and the original intent for the salvation of the world. We follow this Jesus whom God sent into the world (Colossians 2:6). Jesus is not a theology or belief construct. While Jesus is not bound by Anabaptist traditions, we believe the Anabaptist stream of faith contributes to a deeper understanding of what it means to follow Jesus here and now.

Shared spiritual practices

We are shaped over time by what we pay attention to and the habits we form. Thus we want to pay attention to and enact several spiritual practices that will continually bend us toward Christ, and form us over time as Christ followers. These practices help us stay centered on Jesus even in the midst of differences. This vision proposes we agree to be accountable to one another for implementing the following set of common spiritual practices. These practices are currently embedded within our Confession of Faith (related COF article numbers listed after each).

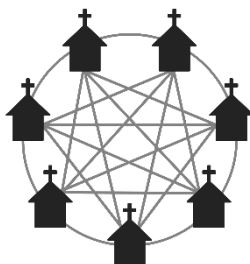
1. We will worship God as the central act of our common life whenever gathered (COF 1, 9).
2. We will practice prayer, fasting and generous giving (COF 18, 21).
3. We will prayerfully study the Bible together whenever we gather to increase our competence in reading, interpreting, and applying the scriptures in an Anabaptist perspective to our everyday lives and to issues we face in the world (COF 3, 4, 15, 17, 18).
4. We will accept and offer hospitality, believing it creates the context for God's kingdom to appear in our midst (COF 10, 18).
5. We will study the Bible with neighbors and strangers, inviting them to become disciples of Jesus (COF 10, 8).
6. We will practice peacemaking by extending loving-kindness and forgiveness (COF 17, 22).

We believe that by committing ourselves, together, to work at these spiritual practices, God will bring transformation toward Christ-likeness and renewal by the Holy Spirit.

Conclusion

Jesus sent his disciples out in his name and they returned to report all they had done. Our hope is that when we gather as a community of congregations it will be a time to share all that we have done in Jesus' name, and a time to support and equip one another in how the Spirit is leading.

As a conference, we want to live in such a way that when we stand before our Lord and humbly ask, "When did we see you hungry and thirsty?" that we will hear the words, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me" (Matthew 25:40).



Mission Statement

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.