



Convention is now just months away and registration opens in just a few weeks!

In this edition of the Convention Newsletter you'll find important info about registration and tips for making the process as seamless as possible, hotel information, a glimpse at some exciting convention activities and peek at the convention schedule. Mark your calendars for the opening of online registration on Feb. 6!

**Wondering about registration
for MennoCon19?**

**This MennoCon19 registration guide will
walk you through the process.**

**Find registration rates at
Convention.MennoniteUSA.org/registration.**

**The link to the registration form will be
available here beginning Wednesday,
February 6 at 10am EST.**



**CALLING ALL
VOLUNTEERS!**

**If you're interested in
volunteering at MennoCon19,
please indicate that on your
registration! We've got lots of
great opportunities —
for as little as a couple hours
a day to as much time as
you want to offer! We need
help with ushering, childcare,
seminars, and more!**

Meals

At MennoCon19, lunch is included with your convention registration Wednesday-Friday for all who register before May 1. These will be catered meals in the dining hall. Dinner tickets will be available for purchase for individuals and groups for \$20 per person per dinner.

Breakfast is on your own. There are numerous restaurants and a grocery stores located within blocks from the convention center that provide very affordable options.

In addition Kansas City also has a new, [free streetcar](#), allowing you to experience even more food options in the surrounding area.



Scholarship Fund



Please consider contributing to help others attend convention. Individuals and congregations are invited to help raise funds for delegates, adults and youth of all ages who otherwise might be unable to attend. If you value the convention experience and have a larger financial base to pull from, we invite you to donate to help other participants. Checks for the scholarship fund may also be sent to the Mennonite Church USA office. We don't want cost to prohibit anyone who wants to attend!

Registration Recommendations

As you register for yourself and anyone you're bringing, here are some tips to keep in mind:

- Enter all registrations with accurate and correct information. Please take time to review each registration and ensure that all personal information and choices are accurate.
- Be sure to click "Save" after each registration in order to save that individual's registration.
- Please make sure your account is paid in full before June 1. This will ensure a smooth registration process when you arrive in Kansas City.



Medical Release Forms

With our new registration system, we have the ability to upload the medical release forms straight to each individual's registration and we strongly encourage all youth groups to do so. Find medical release forms Convention.MennoniteUSA.org/registration and complete it for each youth/child under the age of 18 who is attending. **It is the responsibility of sponsors to keep a copy of all forms while attending convention.**

Hotel Reservations



Housing reservation will open on Feb. 13 at 10:00 a.m. EST. Your registration confirmation email will include a link to the housing reservation system. There are four hotel options. When making reservations, please ensure your arrival and departure dates are accurate. Take your time and get it right the first time. There is no need to make your reservations in a rush.

You have until May 31 to make your hotel reservations at convention rates. Prior to May 31, lodging reservations must be made online via the link in your registration confirmation email. Beginning June 1, you will need to contact the hotel directly to reserve rooms. The hotels will honor our convention rate for up to three days before and after convention.



Please note: You can always call for assistance (at reasonable hours, of course). Contact Sarah by phone (1-866-866-2872, ext. 23025) or email (sarahc@mennoniteusa.org). We don't want the registration process to be frustrating, but rather a process that goes smoothly and quickly.

Delegates



The Delegate Assembly is your opportunity to not only speak to the establishment of general policies and the development of programs to carry out those policies, but it is also your opportunity to connect with and listen to the various members in our great and diverse denomination. Come, see and hear what is next for MC USA. Join in helping our denomination live into its call. Meet Mennonites from all over the United States and learn how they are living into the commitments of the Journey Forward process.

Select your delegates now! Refer to the [Information for Delegates](#) to learn about the delegate selection process and registration.

Other materials for the delegate assembly will be posted on this [web page](#) as they become available.

In addition to delegate business, the delegate session at MennoCon19 will be featuring teaching sessions each day with Tom Yoder Neufeld. Tom is Professor Emeritus from the University of Waterloo. He is the author of the commentary on Ephesians from The Believers Church Bible Commentary series.

STEP UP 2019: YOUTH INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN KANSAS CITY DELEGATE ASSEMBLY

We're excited to again invite youth, ages 16-21, to join the delegate sessions at MennoCon19. Delegate sessions early in the week will seek to approve these youth representatives as official voting delegates for the remaining sessions. Step Up is the program to help youth reps connect with each other and prepare for their delegate role. There will be a place on the registration form to indicate youth will be part of Step Up. Congregations may nominate one youth rep and conferences and constituency groups may nominate two youth reps for delegate sessions in sessions in Kansas City.

We have a variety of trainings available to add to your convention experience! Plan to arrive a day early and be enriched by the following training options. Visit our website for more information about these trainings.

■ Faithful Presence: Seven Disciplines that Shape the Church for Mission

Presenter: David Fitch

Cost: \$45

If you resonate with the idea of joining God in the neighborhood but have struggled to know what that means in real life, this is the seminar for you. Dr. Fitch will equip you with a framework that helps you learn to join God as a way of life by exploring the importance of presence, place and practices.

■ Healthy Boundaries 101 Fundamentals

Presenters: To Be Determined

Cost: \$30

Healthy Boundaries 101 equips pastors with the skills necessary to navigate pastoral relationships in a healthy way that benefits others. This training fulfills the requirement for boundaries training within MC USA. (Check with your conference to ensure this meets your conference requirements.) HB 101 provides participants with a broad framework for understanding the complexities of maintaining healthy boundaries in contemporary ministry settings. Participants will explore various boundary contexts; e.g., gift giving, dual relationships, preaching and pastoral care, interpersonal relationships, technology in ministry, etc.

■ Límites Saludables 101 Fundamentos

Presentador: Byron Pellecer

Costo: \$30

Esta capacitación para el clero es crucial para un ministerio cristiano eficaz y saludable. Esta capacitación incluye conversaciones en plenarios del grupo y de grupos pequeños, ver clips de DVD y escuchar varias presentaciones. También se espera una interacción por parte de los asistentes. Cónyuges también son bienvenidos (as).

■ Welcoming immigrants in 2019: Tangible ways to put your faith into action

Presenter: Tammy Alexander

Cost: \$30

Participants will hear from panels of experts, tangible ways that individuals and churches can walk with immigrant communities to help meet needs and advocate for greater justice. Topics will include sanctuary and accompaniment, detention visitation and hospitality, legal services and asylum, and advocacy. Time will be provided for activities such as small group discussions, role plays, research to connect with local organizations and planning for next steps.

■ Laboring Together Toward Wholeness

Presenters: Jenny Castro, Linda Gehman Peachey, Regina Shands Stoltzfus

Cost: \$35

Do you remember the moment when you realized that you were created in the image of God? For some of us, this has been a truth we've grown up knowing. For others, it's been a lifelong process of discovery. Shaped first by familial and cultural norms and then by peers, community and society, we each have developed an understanding of who we are created to be and how we are to be in the world. Patriarchy is a social structure in which men hold power and domination over all others. It is not God's intention for humanity and creation. We offer an alternative vision. Note: Anti-racism training is a prerequisite for this training.

■ Revelation 7:9 Journey Towards Cultural Competency (Half Day Training)

Presenters: Karin Kaufman Wall, Michelle Armster

Cost: \$20

Mennonite Church USA offers many wonderful and faithful resources. One of these offerings is the Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI). This half day training will introduce you to intercultural competency and the IDI. Through exercises, small group discussions and role plays, we will explore why cultural competency should be important to you and the church.

This is a quick visual reminder of when convention begins and ends. Delegate sessions are also labeled. See our website for a more specific information as it becomes available.

MennoCon19								
Tentative Block Schedule (subject to change)								
Tuesday, July 2, 2019	Wednesday, July 3, 2019		Thursday, July 4, 2019		Friday, July 5, 2019		Saturday, July 6, 2019	
	7:30 Morning Exercise		7:30 Morning Exercise		7:30 Morning Exercise		7:30 Morning Exercise	
11:00 am - 6:30 pm Registration	9:00 - 10:00 Equipping Seminars for youth and adults	8:30 - 10:00 Delegate Equipping	9:00 - 10:00 Equipping Seminars for youth and adults	8:30 - 10:00 Delegate Equipping	9:00 - 10:00 Equipping Seminars for youth and adults	8:30 - 10:00 Delegate Equipping	9:00 - 10:00 Equipping Seminars for youth and adults	8:30-10:30 Delegate Assembly
	10:30 - 11:30 Worship		10:30 - 11:30 Worship		10:30 - 11:30 Worship		Worship 10:45-12:00	
	11:30 - 12:15 Small Groups		11:30 - 12:15 Small Groups		11:30 - 12:15 Small Groups			
	11:30 - 1:30 Lunch		11:30 - 1:30 Lunch		11:30 - 1:30 Lunch			
12:45-5:00 Servant Projects	12:45-5:00 Servant Projects		12:45-5:00 Servant Projects		12:45-5:00 Servant Projects			
Pre-Convention Trainings	1:30 - 2:30 Squads	1:30 - 3:45 Delegate Assembly	1:30 - 2:30 Squads	1:30 - 3:45 Delegate Assembly	1:30 - 2:30 Squads	1:30 - 3:45 Delegate Assembly	Total Delegate Time 13.25 hours	
	1:30 - 2:30 Equipping Seminars for adults		1:30 - 2:30 Equipping Seminars for adults		1:30 - 2:30 Equipping Seminars for adults			
	2:45 - 3:45 Equipping Seminars for youth and adults		2:45 - 3:45 Equipping Seminars for youth and adults		2:45 - 3:45 Equipping Seminars for youth and adults			
	4:00 - 5:00 Equipping Seminars for youth and adults		4:00 - 5:00 Equipping Seminars for youth and adults		4:00 - 5:00 Equipping Seminars for youth and adults			
	5:30 - 7:30 Dinner		5:30 - 7:30 Dinner		5:30 - 7:30 Dinner			
7:30 - 9:00 Worship	7:30 - 9:00 Worship		Special events and receptions No worship service		7:30 - 9:00 Worship		Safe Travels!	
9:00 - 10:30 Receptions & Special Events	9:00 - 10:30 Receptions & Special Events				9:00 - 10:30 Receptions & Special Events			



Mennonite Church USA Convention Planning is excited to share a fundraising opportunity for youth groups. We have partnered with One Village Coffee to bring back Menno's Best Coffee. A portion of the proceeds from every bag of coffee you sell comes back to your youth group and the peace and justice work of MC USA.

One Village Coffee is roasting up three specialty coffee options: Menno's Best Dark Roast, Menno's Best Medium Roast and Menno's Best Decaf. They are available for purchase in 12 oz. packages for \$15. For each package sold, youth groups will receive \$6 (40%) and \$1 will go toward MC USA peace and justice work. Your youth group will receive free shipping and two Menno's Best T-shirts for all orders over 70 bags of coffee! Orders under 70 bags will be charged a discounted shipping rate based on weight.

We have tried to make it as simple as possible for you to take advantage of this great fundraiser. Visit the [Menno's Best](#) section on our website for FAQs and ordering instructions.

