



**Are you registered yet?
WHY NOT?**

In this edition of the convention newsletter, we've got the 411 on worship and featured seminar speakers, children and youth programs, special events and activities. There is something for everyone at MennoCon19! And after reading this lineup, you'll be convinced – MennoCon19 is THE PLACE to be this summer.

Register today!

Worship Speakers



Dustin Galyon is the head coach of the Hesston College Men's Basketball team. He is an interactive storyteller who combines personal stories, photographs, and foundational steps to create positive change. Dustin and his wife, Marissa, live in Hesston, Kansas.



Sue Park-Hur is the denominational minister for leadership development and transformative peacemaking for MC USA and also the co-director of ReconciliAsian, a peace center in Los Angeles, specializing in conflict transformation and restorative justice for immigrant churches. With her husband, Hyun, Sue feels most humbled by their children who remind them that peace begins at home.



Meghan Good is teaching pastor at Trinity Mennonite Church in Glendale, Arizona, and author of *The Bible Unwrapped: Making Sense of Scripture Today*. Meghan recently completed a D.Min. at Portland Seminary and in her free time, she likes to write and travel around the country helping people rediscover the dazzling story of God.



Leonard Dow served as pastor of Oxford Circle Mennonite Church, Philadelphia, for almost 20 years and is currently a Stewardship and Development specialist for Everence. Leonard is married to Dr. Rosalie Rolon-Dow and they have three children.



Glen Guyton currently serves as the executive director for Mennonite Church USA, with over a quarter of a century of experience serving in the denomination at various levels. Glen is most passionate about giving back to the community and helping young people develop the skills they need to survive and thrive in a dynamic world. Glen and his wife Cyndi have two young adult children.

Worship Leaders



Chris Cox was born in Texas and raised in Alabama and currently serves as youth pastor at Calvary Community Church in Hampton, Virginia. He has devoted his life to mentoring, molding, and maintaining relationships with youth and young adults across the country. He desires to be where the people are — helping people discover who they are and who God is molding them into.



Madalyn Metzger is vice president of Marketing for Everence Financial. In her role, Madalyn is responsible for the strategic and operational vision of the organization's marketing efforts across the U.S. She leads a national team responsible for creative marketing, branding, digital, media relations and communications. Madalyn and her husband, Kris Brownlee, live in Bristol, Indiana, and attend the Goshen City Church of the Brethren.



Rev. Vikki Pruitte-Sorrells is a native of Cleveland, Ohio, and an ordained minister in Ohio Conference. Pastor Vikki has served on the leadership team for the Peace and Justice Support Network and the Ministry Development leadership team for the Ohio Conference. She is also a facilitator of the Damascus Road anti-racism process. As a part of her personal calling and ministry, Pastor Vikki serves as a bi-vocational pastor, serving also as an educational administrator. She is the wife of Mark Sorrells, the mother of Kamaal and Cynthia, the daughter of the late Robert and Fannie R. Pruitte and a friend and sister of Christ to many.

Featured Seminar Speakers



Crystal Joseph is a licensed clinical professional counselor in the State of Maryland, licensed professional counselor in the Commonwealth of Virginia, board-certified case manager, and an approved clinical supervisor in Maryland and Virginia. Holding a Master of Arts degree in Counseling Psychology from The Chicago School of Professional Psychology, Crystal's clinical training includes: Cognitive Behavior Therapy within individual, family and group therapy settings. Crystal specializes in anxiety, depression, racial identity formation, and cultural trauma in African-Americans. Her love for psychology began in high school after completing college-level psychology classes. She obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree in Developmental Psychology from the College of William and Mary with a secondary major in Black Studies.



Jen Guerra Aldana, originally from Guatemala, grew up in Southern California as the daughter of church planters. Jennifer received a B.A. in Social Work from Point Loma Nazarene University and an M.Div. from Fuller Theological Seminary. She has served as a youth pastor and social worker in San Diego county, and currently serves as a pastor of La Fuente Ministries — a bilingual, intercultural ministry of Pasadena First Church of the Nazarene. Her passions include leadership training, intercultural youth spiritual formation and bilingual ministries.



Osheta Moore is the author of *Shalom Sistas*. She is a podcaster, mother and wife in Saint Paul, Minnesota. She is also the Outreach and Teaching pastor at Woodland Hills. She's passionate about racial reconciliation, peacemaking and community development in the urban core. At the top of her bucket list is to dance in a flash mob, and she believes everything is better after a nap.



Josh Packard has done extensive research to understand the forces that are driving religious people to disengage with the church. He is a sociologist, professor and researcher at the University of Northern Colorado, where he also serves as the executive director of the Social Research Lab. Josh's research has appeared in numerous academic and trade publications. He earned his B.A. in English from Texas Lutheran University, and his M.A. and Ph.D. in Sociology from Vanderbilt University.



Crystal Washington works with organizations that want to leverage technology to increase profits and productivity. As a technology strategist and certified futurist, Crystal takes complex social media, app and web topics, and makes them easy to understand and accessible for everyday people. Crystal has appeared in numerous publications including Entrepreneur, Bloomberg Businessweek, and Forbes and is regularly called on by major television networks as a tech expert.

Delegate Resource Presenter



Tom Yoder Neufeld

Tom Yoder Neufeld is Professor Emeritus of Religious Studies (New Testament), having taught at Conrad Grebel University College at the University of Waterloo from 1983 to 2012. He and his spouse, Rebecca Yoder Neufeld, live in Waterloo, Ontario, Canada, where they are fully engaged in the life of their congregation, First Mennonite Church, in Kitchener, Ontario.

Tom grew up in Europe where his parents were missionaries. Tom graduated with a B.A. in History from the University of Manitoba, and a Master of Divinity and Doctor of Theology from Harvard Divinity School. He has served as a hospital and prison chaplain in Winnipeg, and a pastor in northern Manitoba Boston.

Tom has served the larger church on the Christian Formation Council of Mennonite Church Canada, and represented Mennonite Church Canada on the General Council of the Mennonite World Conference, serving also on MWC's Faith and Life Commission. He serves now as chair of that commission, as well as chair of the dialogue between the Mennonite World Conference and the World Communion of Reformed Churches. A frequent speaker in seminar and conference settings, his teaching has taken him beyond North America to Europe and Asia.

Tom's best known scholarly work is his commentary on Ephesians (BCBC, 2002), *Recovering Jesus: The Witness of the New Testament* (2007), and *Killing Enmity: Violence and the New Testament* (2011).

Programs



Children

The children's program at MennoCon19 is sure to be one that engages the mind and body as children will be active in their own convention experience. Children can expect to engage in biblical storytelling, music making, community building, creation making and partaking in recreation activities of all sorts. Children will also have an opportunity to do their own service project in Kansas City and take a special field trip around the city. The list can go on and on as the week is sure to be filled with the many ways we can and are walking with Jesus.

Junior Youth

The junior youth program will include a variety of activities. The group will meet each morning and spend the day together. Junior youth will worship with everyone each morning and evening. Between those times they will dig deeper into scripture, participate in a servant project, and spend time in both the rec. hall and exhibit hall. The junior youth participants will have a great opportunity to spend time with other junior youth from across the denomination as they grow closer in their walk with Christ.



Programs



Squads

This is a new element exclusively for the high school youth! Squads will take place after lunch each day and offer a wide variety of activities for youth to participate in. These will be exciting challenges ranging from group competitions, random acts of kindness, eating together and building relationships with others outside of their normal circle of friends. There will also be squad time dedicated to digging deeper and continuing discussion from the worship services, reflecting and praying together. Youth will not want to miss squads!

Young Adult Program

Programming for young adults will include a combination of opportunities to network/hang out as well as equipping seminars specifically for young adults. Wednesday evening will include an opportunity to share dreams and passions for MC USA with denominational leaders.



Special Events & Activities

In addition to Zumba, receptions and luncheons, here is a list of some special events and activities to enjoy while at MennoCon19 this summer!

Tuesday, July 2, 2019

Hymn Sing – Sponsored by the Voices Together Hymnal Project and MennoMedia. Join us for a time of singing hymns before the hustle and bustle of convention begins. This hymn sing will take place Tuesday afternoon in the convention center.

Exhibit Hall Grand Opening – The opening of the exhibit hall always brings a rush of excitement. Join Mennonite agencies and educational institutions as well as a variety of additional exhibitors this evening and throughout convention in the exhibit hall.

Wednesday, July 3, 2019

Family Fun Event – Families with smaller children are invited to this opportunity to have fun together! There will be a variety of activities available.



Special Events & Activities

Menno Night of Music – Come join us for an evening featuring performances by diverse styles of music. If you are interested in performing for this event, please contact sarahc@mennoniteusa.org.

Thursday, July 4, 2019

Team Trivia Night – You won't want to miss what has become a convention tradition! Join the Mennonite Colleges and Universities staff in their booth and put your random knowledge to the test for a night of Team Trivia. Youth are invited to form teams of six or fewer and come ready to compete. Prizes will be awarded to the top teams. Sign your team up at the MCU booth throughout the week. But sign up early, because space is limited. You just might know more than you think!

Mennonite Concerto – This delightful presentation touches on our Anabaptist history of suffering, joy and praise. The evening includes the concerto performance, preceded by choral and congregational singing of ten hymns, interspersed with illuminating narration. Mennonites' reliance on God throughout their difficult history is expressed in these hymns. Composer Victor Davies uses the ten hymns in striking, contemporary ways throughout the concerto. In this presentation, the concerto will be performed by world-renowned duo-pianists, Redekopp and Edwards.

Hymn Sing – Sponsored by the Voices Together Hymnal Project and MennoMedia. Join us for this time of singing in the middle of convention.

Friday, July 5, 2019

Improv Night – The Improverbs 17:22 is a group of four improvisers from Cincinnati, Ohio. Their fast-paced, side-splitting improv comedy show is made up on the spot, and features audience participation, original songs, and plenty of good, clean laughs! Appropriate for all ages.



Special Meals, Receptions and Other Meetings

Don't miss these exciting opportunities to network with friends and colleagues during convention. See website for descriptions.

Wednesday, July 3, 2019

- Mennonite Men Luncheon
- Center for Sustainable Climate Solutions Meeting
- MCC Friends Gathering
- AMBS Alumni & Friends Gathering
- Hesston College Alumni & Friends Gathering
- Faith Formation Gathering

Thursday, July 4, 2019

- Mennonite Spiritual Directors Network Gathering
- Missional Discipleship Initiative Gathering
- People of Color Dinner
- Young Adult Networking for Creation Care
- MVS' 75th Birthday Celebration/Reunion
- Mennonite World Conference: A Growing Global Community
- Mennonite Palestine-Israel Network (Menno-PIN) Reception

Friday, July 5, 2019

- Mennonite History Luncheon
- EMU Alumni & Parent Reception
- Bluffton University Alumni Reception
- Goshen College Alumni and Friends Reception
- Bethel College Alumni Reception

