

# #MENNO CON19

July 2 - 6, 2019

Kansas City,  
Missouri



## PROGRAM

- Seminar Speakers
- Workshops
- Convention Maps
- Children, Youth & Adult Schedules
- Delegate Assembly Schedule
- Resources
- Sponsors

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The Convention Planning staff — Scott Hartman, Sarah Chase and Shana Peachey Boshart — want to welcome you to Kansas City! We are excited to worship, learn and fellowship together this week. We have tried to plan an event that will

inspire and equip you for your part in God's ongoing story. We ask for God's grace when things don't go as planned. This week we are a family that has come together from various parts of Mennonite Church USA to worship, to reunite, to pray and to equip each other. We, the convention staff, encourage you to have fun this week, meet new friends and let the grace of God reign supreme in your thoughts and actions.

# Welcome to Kansas City for #MennoCon19



I hope you are ready for an exciting week of worship, equipping and connecting with friends and family.

This week, I challenge you to be mindful of these words found in Hebrews 10:23-25 (NLT), “Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for God can be trusted to keep God’s promise. Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.” I pray that this will be a time of encouragement, healing, and, most of all, joy for you as we gather as a church.

How will you live into our commitments this week as we seek to follow Jesus, witness to God’s peace and experience the transformation of the Spirit?

I am thankful for our staff, volunteers and participants who are gathering this week. I pray that you will be blessed by this gathering. May the Spirit of God rest, rule and abide with us this week. The convention has always been my favorite part of MC USA since I attended my first convention held in Wichita in 1995. The biennial convention is probably one of the reasons I am still connected to MC USA. I believe the event is that powerful and wonderful. It is one place to get a full Mennonite experience. I used to tell my youth group that it is time to “Go Menno” as we prepared for our time at the convention. Are you ready to “Go Menno?”

Once again, we are changing how we come together in the Delegate Assembly. The majority of our time will be spent in Bible study with Tom Yoder Neufeld called “Gathered into One.” Through the lens of Ephesians, we will explore the unity of the Spirit, the “wind of God” that blows together those who are often at odds, even hostile to each other, transforming them through the self-giving and recreating Christ into the one body of Christ. During our business sessions, we will have the opportunity to update our bylaws and vote on making youth an official part of the delegate body. This agenda will provide an experience quite different from any previous convention.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Glen Guyton".

Glen Guyton, executive director,  
Mennonite Church USA

**The purpose of the biennial Mennonite Church USA Convention is to empower the church to achieve its vision, purpose and mission.**

## **Key Objectives**

1. To gather representatives of the whole church for worship, fellowship, learning, discernment and decision-making.
2. To build Mennonite Church USA vision, identity and capacity to join God's mission in the world.
3. To worship Jesus as the center of our faith; to embody community as the center of our lives; to embrace reconciliation as the center of our work.
4. To share the biblical story through an Anabaptist lens.
5. To provide resources to help all participants carry out God's mission.
6. To serve as a witness to the host community.
7. To create an opportunity for all parts of Mennonite Church USA to gather regardless of race, ethnicity or socioeconomic status.

## **Key Components**

### **The adult gathering and Delegate Assembly will:**

1. Encourage congregations to call, empower and bless their delegates to participate in the churchwide process of discernment and ministry.
2. Provide a forum for the members of Mennonite Church USA to hear from and give counsel to Mennonite Church USA agencies and ministries.
3. Create an environment for the Delegate Assembly to function effectively and efficiently on behalf of the church.
4. Welcome and interact with representatives of sister churches.
5. Provide opportunities for discipleship and spiritual growth by nurturing a strong Mennonite identity through an understanding of what it means to live out our faith as Mennonite Anabaptists.

### **The junior youth and youth gatherings will:**

1. Invite youth to make and strengthen their commitments to Christ.
2. Nurture a strong Mennonite identity through an understanding of what it means to live out our faith as Mennonite Anabaptists.

### **Young adult gatherings will:**

1. Provide opportunities for young adults to gather together and resource one another.
2. Provide opportunities for Mennonite Church USA leaders to learn from and hear the voices of young adults that will help the church in its mission.
3. Provide opportunities for young adults to learn about the ministry opportunities and governance structures in Mennonite Church USA.

### **The children's gathering will:**

Foster safe and age-appropriate activities that encourage spiritual and relational growth while allowing their parents to fully engage in the Mennonite Church USA convention.

# Shared Expectations for Convention Attendees

As planners, we want convention to be safe and enjoyable for all our attendees, and we are counting on everyone who comes to convention to help make this possible. While we may not always agree with one another, we should always treat each other with respect. Have a question but aren't near the Info Booth? Send a text to 816-226-7254 or an email to [MennoInfoBooth@gmail.com](mailto:MennoInfoBooth@gmail.com) and someone from the Info Booth will respond.

In order to make convention as positive of an experience as possible for everyone, here are some of our expectations for all convention attendees:

- Convention attendees should not engage in language or behavior that threatens the safety or personhood of another convention attendee. This includes racist speech, hate speech, threats, sexual harassment and any other behaviors that could be understood as threatening. We will not tolerate hate speech or harassment based on sexual or gender identity or directed at LGBTQ participants. If you are a victim of language or behaviors like this at convention, please report the offense to the convention office.
- Blocking of hallways, fire exits and points of egress is prohibited at all times. Gatherings that in any way violate fire code regulations will be dispersed.
- No literature (fliers, brochures, handouts, books, etc.) may be passed out beyond the Exhibit Hall area. Seminar and workshop leaders can distribute handouts as necessary during their session.
- No promotional materials may be hung on convention center walls without the written approval of Mennonite Church USA Convention Planning staff. This includes posters, postcards, pictures, etc.
- Disagreements should be resolved peacefully. In any and all disagreements, we ask that you treat your conversation partners with the respect they deserve as beloved children of God.
- Respect the instructions of Convention Planning staff and volunteers on-site. We are here to serve you and to help make convention a good experience for everyone in attendance. If you have a disagreement or complaint about the behavior of staff or a volunteer, please come to the Convention Planning office to report it.



Information is listed by topic in alphabetical order.

## Accessibility Services

Anabaptist Disabilities Network is helping to offer accessibility options to make all attendees feel welcome and able to participate in a variety of activities. Volunteers are available to assist with accessibility service requests. Visit the Accessibility Coordinator in the Information Booth located in the main hallway just off the 2200 Lobby.

## App

For schedules, maps, speaker information and much more, download our convention app. Search for “AttendeeHub” in the App Store or Google Play. Once you have the app, search for MennoCon. This is the best way to stay up-to-date with any room and schedule changes.

## Audio and Video Recording

Please be aware that by entering the Kansas City Convention Center, by registering for the Mennonite Church USA convention or by participating in Mennonite Church USA convention activities (also known as MennoCon19), you consent to your voice, name and/or likeness being used, without compensation, in films and tapes for use in any and all media, whether now known or hereafter devised, for eternity, and you release Mennonite Church USA, its successors, assigns and licensees from any liability whatsoever of any nature. Also note that as parents or guardians you are also consenting to the filming and recording of your minor children who participate in MennoCon19 activities or who enter contracted property. Do not enter MennoCon19 event areas and contracted properties if you do not wish to be subject to the foregoing. You may want to leave areas during video and audio recording if you do not wish to be filmed.

## Children’s Programming

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 will be filled with the many ways we can and are walking with Jesus. Programming will take place from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. with a break in between from 11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. for lunch. Parents are responsible to pick up their children and take them to lunch.

**Daily Check-in** will be located on the first level (1501) and will start at 8:00 a.m. For security reasons, children will need to be checked in and checked out each session.

**Preschool-Grade 5 Activities** will take place on the first level in room 1501 A&B.

**Infant/Toddler Care** will take place in room 1501 C.

**Evening childcare** is available for infant/toddlers in the children’s area. Evening sessions: 7:15 to 9:00 p.m., Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

**Family Bouncin’ Dance Party** will give families an opportunity to spend time together. There will be a number of fun options including bounce house fun on Wednesday evening, July 3, from 4:00 to 7:30 p.m. in the children’s area.

**In case of emergency or evacuation**, children should be picked up in the main lobby of the Crowne Plaza, located a block away from the convention center.

## Nursing room

We have designated Show Office 2501B (just outside the worship hall) as a space for nursing mothers. This room is available from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. Use a light knock to alert anyone already in the room that you are entering.

## Emergency and Medical Information

**First Aid:** The first aid room is located just outside Exhibit Hall D. KC Medical has been contracted during normal daytime/evening hours. For a medical emergency, summon help by phoning the security operations center at 816-513-5111 or contacting event security. Report the emergency, giving location, if possible, and other details. House security will call 911. Stay with the injured/ill person until house security arrives. House security will coordinate the arrival of the Kansas City Fire Department and will also guide emergency medical staff to the location of the injured person. The Kansas City Convention Center is equipped with a sufficient number of first aid stations. Event and house security guards are trained and equipped as first responders to medical emergencies and can provide minor first aid. House security guards are certified in administering the automatic external defibrillator.



### Nearest Hospital & Urgent Care Facilities

Truman Medical Center, 2301 Holmes St., Kansas City, Mo. 816-556-3000

University of Kansas Medical Center, 3901 Rainbow Blvd., Kansas City, Kan. 816-588-5000

Children's Mercy Hospital (for ages 0–21), 2401 Gillham Rd, Kansas City, Mo. 816-234-3000

### Pharmacies

CVS, 10th and Main, 816-842-2514

Crown Center Apothecary, 2405 Grand, 816-471-2027

Walgreens, 3845 Broadway, 816-561-6980

### Emergency Number

**In an emergency call 816-513-5111 (Convention Center Security Operations)**

### Equipping Seminars

The purpose of the equipping seminars is to equip youth and adults of Mennonite Church USA for witness, formation, discernment and leadership. Dozens of people across the church have proposed seminars, and convention planners have selected and invited seminars that we trust will serve this purpose. Even so, please understand that not all the content of these seminars will necessarily reflect the views of Mennonite Church USA, its staff or its board. There are five categories of seminars: Adult, Youth, Intergenerational, Youth Sponsors and Young Adults. This is just a guide; you may

attend any seminar that interests you. Parents are especially invited to attend any seminar, as many seminars will be relevant to parenting.

### Exhibit Hall

Visit the exhibits of Mennonite Church USA agencies, schools and other Mennonite-related organizations. The Exhibit Hall will be the place to gather with your friends and check out what's happening with all our church-wide organizations. A list of exhibitors and the floor plan will be posted inside the entrance to Hall D.

MennoMedia will carry books by several of our featured speakers: Crystal Joseph, Jen Guerra Aldana, Osheta Moore, Josh Packard and Crystal Washington.

### Exhibit Hall Hours:

- Tuesday, 9 to 11 p.m.
- Wednesday, 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., 4 to 7 p.m. and 9 to 11 p.m.
- Thursday, 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 4 to 11 p.m.
- Friday, 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 4 to 7 p.m.

### Hotel Phone Numbers

Crowne Plaza – 816-474-6664

Marriott – 816-421-6800

Sheraton – 816-841-1000

Westin – 816-474-4400

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## Information Booth

The information booth is located in the main hallway next to the 2200 Lobby. Stop by with all your questions about convention. Our volunteers will be happy to help you find your way or answer your questions. Have a question but you're not near the Info Booth? Send a text to 816-226-7254 or an email to MennoInfoBooth@gmail.com and someone from the Info Booth will respond. Also watch for announcements and social media feeds on the monitors.

## Junior Youth

Junior youth activities will take place in 2215C at the convention center. Junior youth can be dropped off on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 8:00 a.m. Programming ends at 5:30 p.m. each evening. Parents and youth sponsors will pick up their junior youth at 5:30 p.m. Junior youth will eat together for lunch every day, so it is not necessary for sponsors or parents to pick them up for lunch.

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 great opportunities to spend time with other junior youth from across the denomination and grow closer in their walk with Christ.

In case of **emergency or evacuation**, the junior youth can be picked up in the lobby area of the Crowne Plaza hotel.

## Lost and Found

The lost and found is located at the Information Booth.

## Meals

Meals will be served in the dining hall (Exhibit Hall C). Lunch is included for everyone who registered under the early or regular registration rate. To help with traffic flow, we are asking adults to proceed to lunch right after worship while youth groups spend time in their small groups.

For those who purchased dinners, you will find meal tickets in your registration packet. There is a separate meal ticket for each meal purchased. Please treat your meal tickets like cash. They cannot be replaced if lost or stolen. To get new tickets, you must pay for the cost of the meals. You must show your meal ticket to be admitted into the dining hall (Exhibit Hall C). Hours for lunch are 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Hours for dinner are 5:30-7:00 p.m.

## Menno Commons

Are you looking for a comfortable space to relax, fellowship or catch up with friends? Come visit Menno Commons. This

area will be available for anyone to come take a break, meet with a friend or enjoy some music amidst a busy convention week. The stage will feature the Menno Nite of Music, Menno-It-All and several musical dramas. This area is located in the 2300 Lobby of the convention center.

## Morning Activities

Several activities have been planned to help start your day right!

- Gather for Zumba, a fast-paced, dance-inspired workout led by Jill Schlabach, certified instructor. Meet in the Recreation Hall at 7:00 a.m. to start your day by getting your blood flowing.
- Join others from your hotel for a morning run. Meet in the lobby at 6:30 a.m. and head out in small groups depending on the distance you want to cover that day.
- Stop by the Prayer Tent each morning for a time of prayer. Morning Prayers for Peace take place at 8:00-8:20 a.m. Prayers will be led by the prayer team and various volunteers. The tent is located in the Grand Ballroom Lobby.

## Offerings

We will have two worship services where offerings will be received to support Peace Academic Center and peace church planting within MC USA.

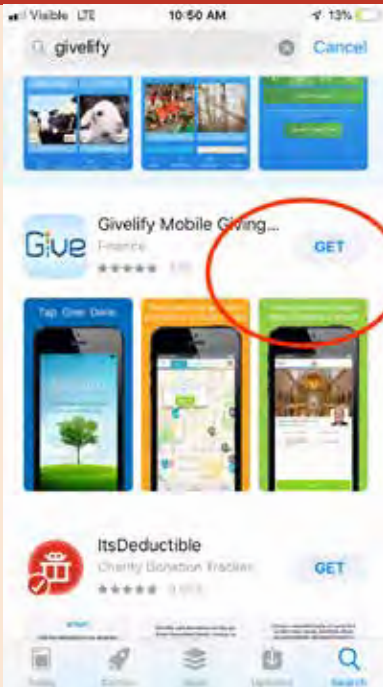
- **Peace Academic Center**

The Peace Academic Center, formally known as the Hopi Mission School, has reopened with a new vision in partnership with the Hopi churches and community. The center is currently offering a GED program and plans to open a preschool in the near future. The new name of the academic center reflects the desire of the churches on the reservation to engage more with our peace theology, which speaks to the Hopi's long-standing peace position. As Mennonites, we have been engaged with the Hopi since the 1920s, and we are asking you to once again support this vital educational work with prayer, volunteers and financial resources.

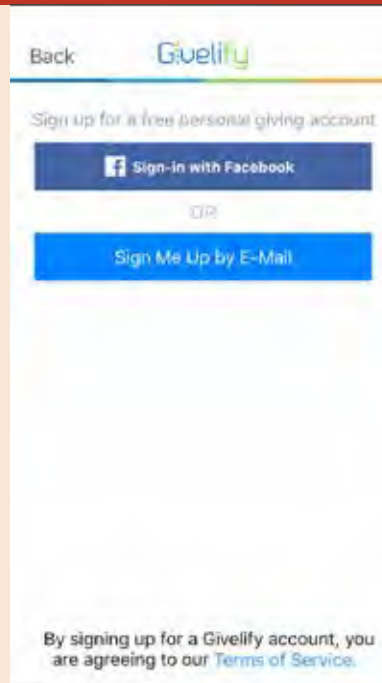
- **Peace Church Planting**

The church was born at Pentecost and spread throughout the world through what we might call church planting today. Apostolic leaders, with a vision to spread the good news of Jesus, launched faith communities near and far (you can read their story in Acts). There is still a need for leaders to launch new faith communities today. MC USA supports people who are called to such work in the United States. One form that takes is tangible support for church planters as they seek training for their work. This offering will go towards helping church planters in MC USA access training, like the Sent Network developed by Mennonite Mission Network, and church planting grants.

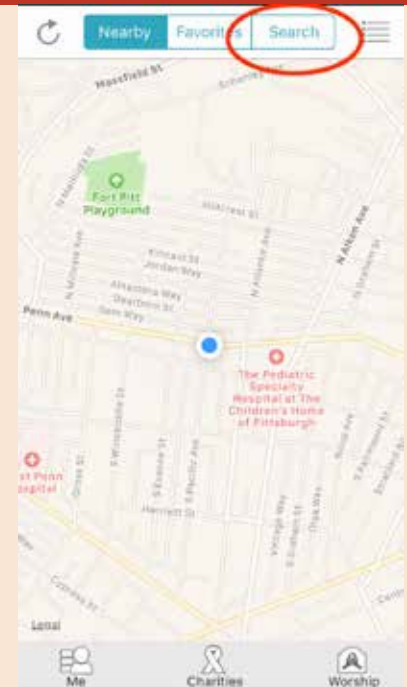
Make checks payable to "Mennonite Church USA." Use the memo line if you would like to designate your offering toward a specific project.  
**Another option for giving is the app Givelify. How to access the app:**



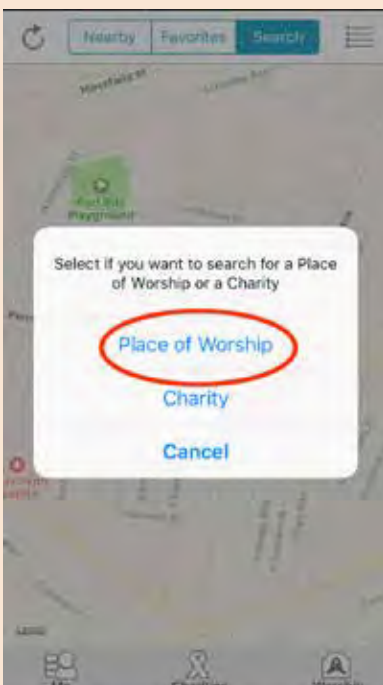
1. The Givelify app can be found in the App Store and Google Play by searching for "Givelify."



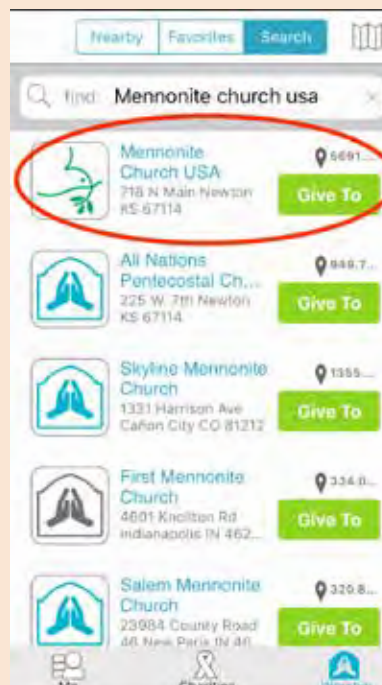
2. You must create an account to use Givelify. You can use your Facebook account or email address. Givelify will not share any information or send you any unwanted emails.



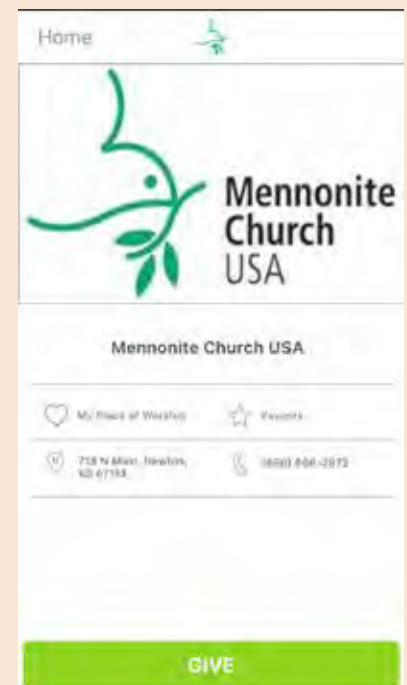
3. To find Mennonite Church USA, you can tap "Search."



4. Tap "Place of Worship."



5. Search for Mennonite Church USA and tap to select.



6. This is our Givelify page. Tap "GIVE" and follow the prompts.

## Prayer Ministry

Visit the MennoCon19 Prayer Tent located in the lobby of the 2500 Ballroom. It will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. each day.

Tents in the biblical narrative represent many things: a temporary home, a place of hospitality, a place to encounter God. As we gather in Kansas City for this week set apart for our denomination, the prayer ministry team welcomes you to visit the Prayer Tent as a place of hospitality where you are invited to encounter God. Come to pray alone, bring others to accompany you in prayer or receive prayer from a Prayer Team member. Structured activities are available for you to commune with God in prayer, as well as spaces for unstructured prayer.

The prayer team intends for the Prayer Tent to be a safe and accessible space that honors the dignity and worth of all convention attendees.

Structured times for prayer in the Prayer Tent are planned as follows:

**Morning Prayers for Peace, led by Rod Stafford – 8:00-8:20 a.m.** A liturgy of Scripture, sharing, prayers and music will focus on the following daily themes:

- Wednesday: Prayers for peace in the wake of violence against Jews, Muslims, and Christians in their sacred places of worship around the world
- Thursday: Prayers for peace on behalf of Mennonite Central Committee peace workers in Palestine and Israel
- Friday: Prayers for peace as cries for dignity and displays of loving kindness arise in Gaza amidst suffering and endless warfare
- Saturday: Prayers for peace in Jerusalem following Jesus' lament in Luke 13

**Midday Prayers, led by Prayer Team members – 1:00-1:20 p.m.** Come as individuals or groups to bring your joys and burdens to God alongside members of the prayer team. Anointing is also available during this time.

**Evening Prayers for Our Church, led by Sarah Bixler and Hendy Stevan Matahelemual – 7:00-7:20 p.m.** A liturgy of scripture, sharing, prayers and music will focus on the following daily themes:

- Tuesday: Anticipating God's movement among us
- Wednesday: Follow Jesus
- Thursday: Witness to God's peace
- Friday: Experience transformation

The prayer team consists of adult and youth members. Members of the Prayer Team are wearing black and white

polka dot ribbons on their name tags so you can identify them. Prayer coordinators:

- Sarah Ann Bixler, instructor in formation and practical theology at Eastern Mennonite Seminary and PhD candidate in practical theology at Princeton Theological Seminary
- Hendy Stevan Matahelemual, pastor of Indonesian Light Mennonite Church in Philadelphia

## Recreation Hall

The Rec Hall is located in Hall B. Pickleball, Cornhole and Gaga Ball are offered. There will also be volleyball and basketball, Ping-Pong, four square, soccer games, badminton, table games and an area for younger children. For a complete listing of activities and specific times of events, go to the recreation info table (in the Recreation Hall).

- When you check out a ball, Ping-Pong paddle or other equipment, be prepared to leave an item as a deposit until you return the equipment – for example, your cell phone, ID or watch.
- We will hold Rec Hall lost and found items at the info table for the day. At closing each night, we will take all items to lost and found at the convention Information Booth.

### Rec Hours:

- Tuesday, 9:00 to 11 p.m.
- Wednesday, noon to 7 p.m. and 9 to 11 p.m.
- Thursday, noon to 11 p.m.
- Friday, noon to 7 p.m.

## Servant Projects

When you arrive at convention, you will need to check in at the servant project office, located in room 2211. There you will receive information about any changes that may have occurred since you received your confirmation email and the location for servant project orientation. If your servant project is on Tuesday morning, check in at the servant project office between 1:00 and 5:00 p.m. on Monday and be in your orientation room by 8:15 a.m. If your servant project is on Tuesday afternoon, check in at the servant project office between 9:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. and be in your orientation room by 12:25 p.m. If you are scheduled to serve Wednesday or Friday, check in at the servant project office no later than the day before you are scheduled to serve. On the day of your servant project, be in your orientation room by 12:20 p.m.

Servant project orientations are an important time to set the tone for your service experience. You will also meet your group leader there. Your group leader will get you on the right bus, to the right agency and connected with your local hosts when you arrive at your service location. The group leader will also make sure you get back to the convention center on time.



If you are a sponsor whose children will be part of the children's activities, you may need to find alternative child care for lunch on the day of your servant project. The children's program takes a break for lunch, and your servant project orientation will overlap with this break. Please be sure that you identify someone to pick up and care for your children during this time and let the children's convention staff know about this change.

## Social Media

Stay informed, stay connected and stay social during MennoCon19! Make sure to tag your photos and posts with #MennoCon19. Stop by the Information Booth to check out the monitors with highlights from social media. Take part in all the action and share what you are loving and learning about in Kansas City. Check out our Snapchat filter and connect with @MCUSAConvention on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat.

## Squads

Squads are large group time designed to build community between youth from different parts of MC USA. Of course we also want to have a little fun! Individual squads will meet each morning to organize themselves for the day. Each afternoon, squads will gather in the worship hall for some group activities and a chance to interact with the morning worship speaker. Squad leaders are provided by Bethel College, Bluffton University, Eastern Mennonite University, Goshen College and Hesston College.

## Translation & Interpretation

**Translation:** Mennonites across the United States speak and worship in many languages. Other than English, the most predominant language in our congregations is Spanish, so we are offering a version of this program book translated into Spanish. If you would like a copy, please pick one up at the Information Booth or view/download it on our website ([mennoniteusa.org/resource/materiales-de-los-delegados](http://mennoniteusa.org/resource/materiales-de-los-delegados)).

**Interpretation:** MennoCon19 planners want to make information as accessible as possible and have arranged for volunteers to provide Spanish and Spoken-Sign (ASL) interpretation services. Spanish interpretation will be provided during worship services and delegate sessions, and ASL interpretation and/or English-based signed transliteration will be available upon request. If you did not indicate the need for interpretation when you registered, we will do our best to accommodate last-minute requests, but we cannot guarantee that volunteers will be available at any given time. Visit the Information Booth to make your request.

## Volunteers

Thank you for your willingness to volunteer at MennoCon19! Your help is invaluable. We can still use more volunteers. Please check in with the volunteer coordinator in front of the convention office (Room 2213) whether you signed up in advance or if you're willing to help out now that you're at convention.

## Worship

### Worship Band

Seth Crissman - Harrisonburg, Virginia  
Onan Alvarez - Houston, Texas  
Jermaine Figueroa - Houston, Texas  
Emily Grimes - Souderton, Pennsylvania  
Hillary Harder - Goshen, Indiana  
Dona Park - Vancouver, British Columbia  
Bruce Rosario - Newton, Kansas  
Greg Yoder - Penn Laird, Virginia

### Worship Leaders

Chris Cox - Hampton, Virginia  
Madalyn Metzger - Goshen, Indiana  
Rev. Vikki Pruitte-Sorrells - Cleveland, Ohio

**Mennonite Church USA would like to thank the following sponsors for their generous donations to MennoCon19:**

### App

Everence, Goshen, Indiana



### Pens for Youth Journals

Mennonite Camping Association, various camps located throughout the United States



### Registration Bags

Mennonite Central Committee, Akron, Pennsylvania



### Volunteers

Special thanks to our many full-time coordinators and volunteers who gave of their time and talents to help make this event possible. We appreciate your service and couldn't have pulled together MennoCon19 without you!



**Jillian**  
| Faculty of Science |  
1 Energetic, outgoing, cheerful.  
2 Athletics enthusiast.

**Owen**  
| Faculty of Math |  
1 Adventurous, inquisitive, dynamic.  
2 Ukulele aficionado.

**Simon**  
| Faculty of Environment |  
1 Balanced, friendly, easy-going.  
2 International student from Vietnam.

**Rachel**  
| Faculty of Arts |  
1 Organized, kind, thoughtful.  
2 World travel buff.

# GREBEL

| proper noun | grā • bəl |

Short for **Conrad Grebel University College**:

1 a. A place to grow, learn, and challenge yourself in an enthusiastic residence and academic community.  
b. Home of the Music, Mennonite Studies, and Peace and Conflict Studies programs at the University of Waterloo in Ontario, plus faculty experts in religious studies, history, and sociology.

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### **Osheta Moore**

Wednesday, July 3, 4:00-5:30 p.m.

#### **Shalom Sistas: Everyday Peacemaking for Ordinary Women**

We love God's dream of shalom — for a world that is whole, vibrant and flourishing. But honestly, who's got the time? In this session, women of all ages will explore the "Shalom Sistas Manifesto," 12 points of the practices of everyday peacemaking that invite us to live fully the radical peace of Jesus in our ordinary lives. Come and learn how you too can be a "Shalom Sista," a woman who loves people, follows the Prince of Peace and never gives up her sass.

*Osheta Moore is the author of **Shalom Sistas** (Herald Press 2017). She is a podcaster, mother and wife in Saint Paul, Minnesota. She is the outreach and teaching pastor at Woodland Hills Church.*



### **Josh Packard**

Wednesday, July 3, 4:00-5:30 p.m.

#### **Here Is the Church, Here Is the Steeple ... But Where Are All the People? Understanding the Shifting Religious Landscape**

We have all seen the numbers about religious disengagement. They're alarming and concerning. Too often, however, we don't approach these numbers with the appropriate context. In this presentation, Dr. Josh Packard, director of The Dechurched Project, combines original research from his book, *Church Refugees*, to help shift perspectives to understand religious disengagement accurately so we can craft solutions that work.

*Josh Packard, PhD, is a sociologist, professor and researcher at the University of Northern Colorado, where he serves as the executive director of the Social Research Lab.*



### **Jen Guerra Aldana**

Thursday, July 4, 4:00-5:30 p.m.

#### **Iglesias que Rejuvenecen: 6 Claves para trabajar con los jóvenes Latinos (en Español)**

En Fuller Youth Institute, creemos en la iglesia y creemos en los jóvenes. Las estadísticas nos dicen que la mayoría de jóvenes dejan la iglesia después de la edad de 18 años. Como no estábamos conformes con esa realidad, emprendimos una jornada de investigación que nos llevó 4 años para identificar las iglesias que están rejuveneciendo al ministrar a jóvenes entre los 19-30 años. Lo que descubrimos en nuestro estudio fue publicado en el libro *Growing Young*. Te invitamos a que vengas a aprender las estrategias que toda iglesia Latina necesita considerar para alcanzar la siguiente generación de jóvenes.

Friday, July 5, 2:45 p.m.

#### **Growing Young: Six Core Commitments Needed to Engage With Young People**

Churches are losing both members and vitality as increasing numbers of young people disengage. Based on groundbreaking research with over 250 of the nation's leading congregations, *Growing Young* provides a strategy any church can use to involve and retain teenagers and young adults. It profiles innovative churches that are engaging 15 to 29-year-olds and as a result, are growing — spiritually, emotionally, missionally and numerically. Packed with both research and practical ideas, *Growing Young* shows pastors and ministry leaders how to position their churches to engage younger generations in a way that breathes vitality, life and energy into the whole church.

*Jen Guerra Aldana is the director of multicultural initiatives at Fuller Youth Institute and a pastor of La Fuente Ministries, a bilingual, intercultural ministry of Pasadena First Church of the Nazarene.*



**Tom Yoder Neufeld**

Thursday, July 4, 4:00-5:30 p.m.

**Forbearance: Suffering, Patient and Hopeful Love**

Some are suspicious that forbearance is a fancy term for tolerating what is indefensible, while others see its value precisely in relation to inclusion and tolerance. Others suspect it as buying time or delaying making hard decisions. But there are those who see forbearance as core to relationships within the body of Christ. In this seminar we will explore forbearance biblically, and we will discover that it requires of us every ounce of faith, hope and love. It demands a radical commitment to peace, only now within the family of faith. Forbearance is nothing other than suffering each other in hope, the exercise of patient love.

*Tom Yoder Neufeld* Tom is professor emeritus of Religious Studies (New Testament), at Conrad Grebel University College at the University of Waterloo in Ontario, Canada.

**Crystal Joseph**

Thursday, July 4, 4:00-5:30 p.m.

**The ABCs of RST — Assessing Behaviors of the Church as It Relates to Recovery, Sexual Abuse and Trauma**

This interactive seminar will examine the role of the church and its congregants in relation to recovery and healing from sexual abuse and traumas. Exploration of trauma categories, appropriate interventions and assessment of symptoms will be provided in a didactic fashion. Participants will be able to define abuse and trauma, give examples of the developmental impact of sexual abuse and traumas and recognize referral sources in the community. PsycYourMind Consulting, LLC is responsible for programmatic content. Disclaimer: This seminar may address triggering topics.

*Crystal Joseph* is a Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor in the State of Maryland and the Commonwealth of Virginia. She is a Board-Certified Case Manager and an Approved Clinical Supervisor in both Maryland and Virginia.

**Crystal Washington**

Friday, July 5, 4:00-5:30pm

**Master Fun Digital Tools**

Social media, smartphones and the web have made connecting with humans all over the world easier than ever before. In this hands-on session, technology strategist and futurist Crystal Washington will show you how to leverage technology tools create deeper connections, build bridges and be of service.

*Crystal Washington* is a technology strategist and certified futurist who works with organizations that want to leverage technology to increase profits and productivity.

## Tuesday, July 2

### ■ Hymn Sing

4:00-5:00 p.m.

3501

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 Opening

9:00-11:00 p.m.

Hall D

Come join the opening of the Exhibit Hall that features exhibits of Mennonite Church USA agencies, schools and other Mennonite-related organizations.

## Wednesday, July 3

### ■ Family Bouncin' Dance Party

4:00-7:30 p.m.

1501

Convention guests of all ages can bounce, race and do the Cupid Shuffle! This family-friendly event will feature an inflatable bounce house for the little ones and a two-lane inflatable obstacle course for older children and teens. There will be a few surprises as well, all set to tunes the whole family can enjoy!

### ■ Musical Drama: Mary Magdalene's Journey – a Blues Gospel

4:00-5:00 p.m.

Menno Commons Stage (2300 Lobby)

Mary Magdalene moves from tormented outsider to chosen teacher in this 45-minute theatrical piece of good news blues. Unlike pop culture portrayals of a repentant prostitute, this script and song present a woman discovering her voice and calling. Mary Sprunger-Froese, artist-in-residence with RAWtools, is joined by blues musicians Bryan Miller and Vern Rempel.

### ■ Menno Nite of Music

9:15-11:00 p.m.

Menno Commons Stage (2300 Lobby)

Come join us for an evening featuring performances by diverse styles of music. The Walking Roots Band will be performing along with several other groups.

## Thursday, July 4

### ■ Youth Team Trivia Night

7:00-8:30 p.m.

Mennonite Higher Education booth in Exhibit Hall

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 Mennonite Colleges and Universities booth throughout the week. But sign up early, because space is limited. You just might know more than you think!

### ■ Menno-It-All

7:00-8:30 p.m.

Menno Commons Stage (2300 Lobby)

This fast-paced trivia game geared towards adults and college students will test your knowledge of both the biblical and the secular. There's even a prize for the Biggest Menno-It-All of Convention, so line up your team and get ready to put your brains to the test!

### ■ Mennonite Concerto

7:15-9:15 p.m.

3501

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.

Practices, open to anyone who would like to participate in the performance, will be held Wednesday 6-7:30 p.m. and Thursday 6-7:00 p.m. in 3501.

### ■ Hymn Sing

9:15-10:15 p.m.

3501

Sponsored by the Voices Together Hymnal Project and MennoMedia. Join us to sing hymns together during convention.

## Friday, July 5

### ■ Musical Drama: Mary Magdalene's Journey – a Blues Gospel

**4:00-5:00 p.m.**

Menno Commons Stage (2300 Lobby)

Mary Magdalene moves from tormented outsider to chosen teacher in this 45-minute theatrical piece of good news blues. Unlike pop culture portrayals of a repentant prostitute, this script and song present a woman discovering her voice and calling. Mary Sprunger-Froese, artist-in-residence with RAWtools, is joined by blues musicians Bryan Miller and Vern Rempel.

### ■ Improverbs 17:22

**9:15-10:45 p.m.**

3501

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.

### ■ Original Acoustic Music: Heather Kropf

**9:15-10:30 p.m.**

Menno Commons Stage (2300 Lobby)

Heather Kropf is a touring singer/songwriter based in Pittsburgh who creates spacious, subtle indie folk-pop that explores the complex beauty of modern life and romance, and the awakened soul.

## Young Adult Programming

Programming for young adults includes a combination of opportunities to network/hang out as well as equipping seminars specifically for young adults.

### Tuesday, July 2

#### Young Adult Gathering

**9:15-10:45 p.m.**

2206

A gathering for young adults to get to know each other and get an overview of activities planned for this week.

### Wednesday, July 3

#### Conversation with the Executive Board

**9:15-10:30 p.m.**

2203

Young adults are invited to meet Executive Director Glen Guyton and members of the Executive Board for conversation about our church's future. Come get to know our leaders.

### Thursday, July 4

#### Young Adult Networking for Creation Care

**7:15-8:45 p.m.**

2206

The Center for Sustainable Climate Solutions and Mennonite Creation Care Network invite young adults to gather for an open discussion about issues in creation care. Come hear about efforts at sustainability by students at college campuses and by recent college graduates. This is an opportunity to network with young adults who care about our impact on the planet and who are interested in the church actively engaging in solutions.

#### Young Adult Outing

**9:00-11:00 p.m.**

2206

Join other young adults for a social outing! More details available during convention.



# Choose Service



Find a purpose as unique as you are!

**ChooseService.org**



Pop into our booth for a little snack!



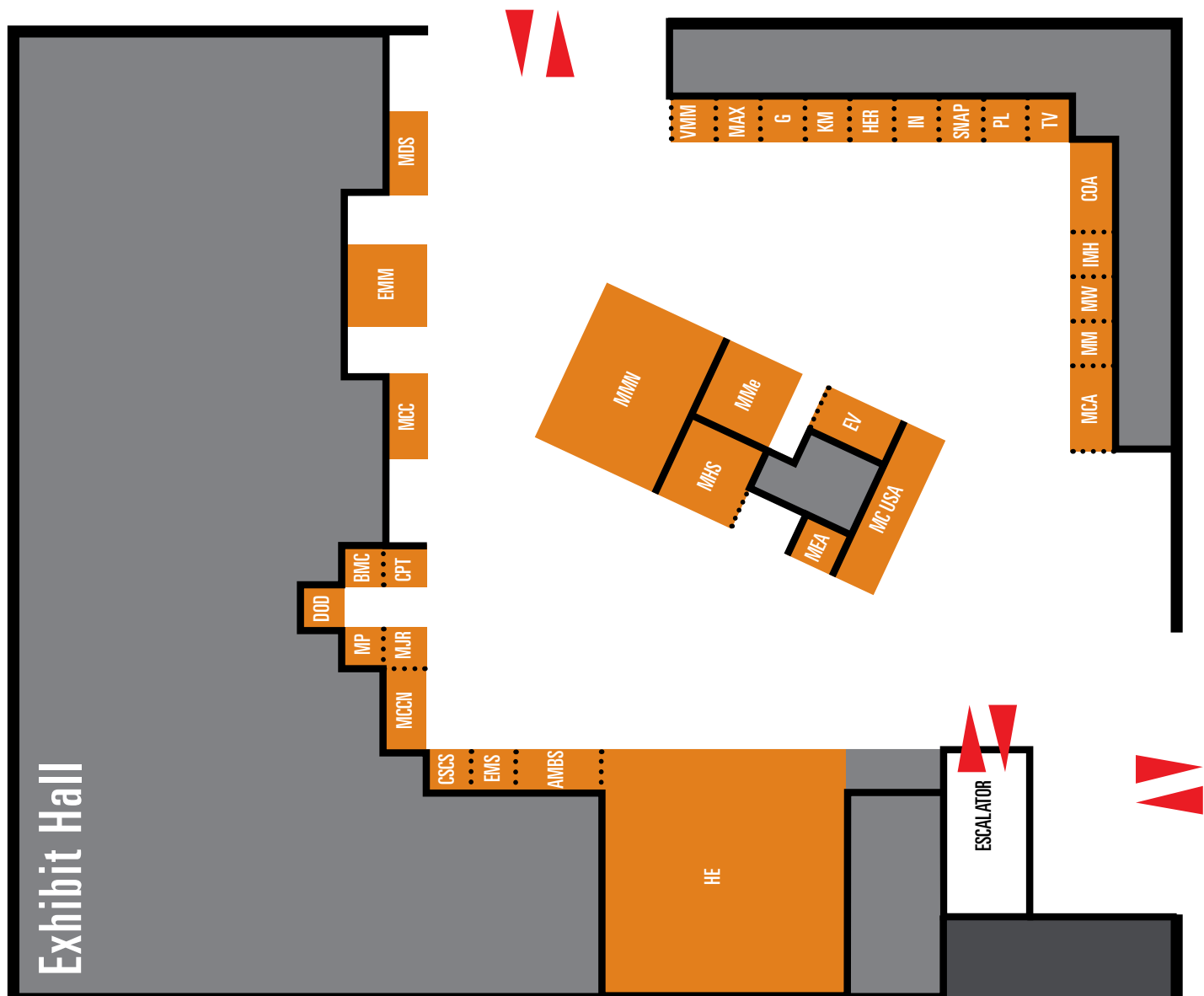
Mennonite  
Mission  
Network

MennoCon19									
Tuesday, July 2, 2019		Wednesday, July 3, 2019		Thursday, July 4, 2019		Friday, July 5, 2019		Saturday, July 6, 2019	
8:00 - 12 noon Servant Projects		7:00 Morning Exercise		7:00 Morning Exercise		7:00 Morning Exercise		7:00 Morning Exercise	
9:00 - 5:30 Pre-Convention Trainings	8:15 am - 6:30 pm Registration	8:15 - 8:45 Squad Pep Rally 9:00 - 10:00 Equipping Seminars for youth and adults	8:15 - 10:00 Delegate Equipping	8:15 - 8:45 Squad Pep Rally 9:00 - 10:00 Equipping Seminars for youth and adults	8:15 - 10:00 Delegate Equipping	8:15 - 8:45 Squad Pep Rally 9:00 - 10:00 Equipping Seminars for youth and adults	8:15 - 10:00 Delegate Equipping	9:00 - 10:00 Equipping Seminars for youth and adults	8:15 - 10:30 Delegate Equipping
		10:30 - 11:30 Worship Dustin Galyon	10:30 - 11:30 Worship Storytellers	10:30 - 11:30 Worship Storytellers	10:30 - 11:30 Worship Meghan Good	10:30 - 11:30 Worship Meghan Good	10:30 - 11:30 Worship Meghan Good		
12:30-5:00 Servant Projects		11:30 - 12:15 Youth Small Groups 11:30 - 1:30 Lunch	11:30 - 12:15 Youth Small Groups 11:30 - 1:30 Lunch	11:30 - 12:15 Youth Small Groups 11:30 - 1:30 Lunch	11:30 - 12:15 Youth Small Groups 11:30 - 1:30 Lunch	11:30 - 12:15 Youth Small Groups 11:30 - 1:30 Lunch	11:30 - 12:15 Youth Small Groups 11:30 - 1:30 Lunch	Worship 10:45-12:00 Glen Guyton	
9:00 - 5:30 Pre-Convention Trainings	8:15 am - 6:30 pm Registration	1:30 - 2:30 Squads 1:30 - 2:30 Equipping Seminars for adults 2:45 - 3:45 Equipping Seminars for youth and adults	1:30 - 3:45 Delegate Assembly	1:30 - 2:30 Squads 1:30 - 2:30 Equipping Seminars for adults 2:45 - 3:45 Equipping Seminars for youth and adults	1:30 - 3:45 Delegate Assembly	1:30 - 2:30 Squads 1:30 - 2:30 Equipping Seminars for adults 2:45 - 3:45 Equipping Seminars for youth and adults	1:30 - 3:45 Delegate Assembly		
	4:00 - 5:00 Hymn Sing	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	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	Safe Travels!	
Dinner on your own		4:00 - 5:30 Featured Speaker(s) 5:30 - 7:30 Dinner	4:00 - 5:30 Featured Speaker(s) 5:30 - 7:30 Dinner	4:00 - 5:30 Featured Speaker(s) 5:30 - 7:30 Dinner	4:00 - 5:30 Featured Speaker(s) 5:30 - 7:30 Dinner	4:00 - 5:30 Featured Speaker(s) 5:30 - 7:30 Dinner	4:00 - 5:30 Featured Speaker(s) 5:30 - 7:30 Dinner		
7:30 - 9:00 Worship Worship Leaders		7:30 - 9:00 Worship Sue Park-Hur		7:30 - 9:00 Worship Leonard Dow		7:30 - 9:00 Worship Leonard Dow			
9:00 - 10:30 Receptions & Special Events		9:00 - 10:30 Receptions & Special Events	9:00 - 10:30 Receptions & Special Events	Special events and receptions No worship service	9:00 - 10:30 Receptions & Special Events	9:00 - 10:30 Receptions & Special Events	9:00 - 10:30 Receptions & Special Events		







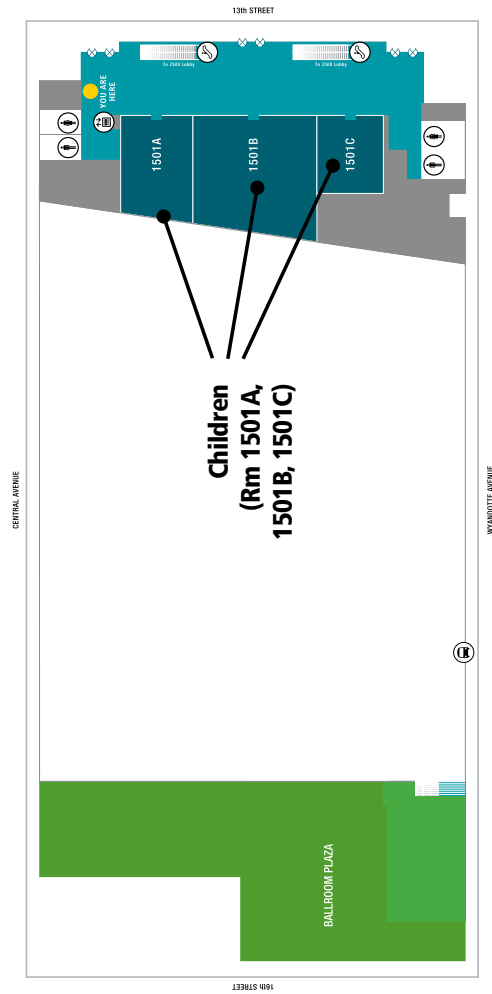




## KANSAS CITY CONVENTION CENTER

# LEVEL 1 1500 LOBBY

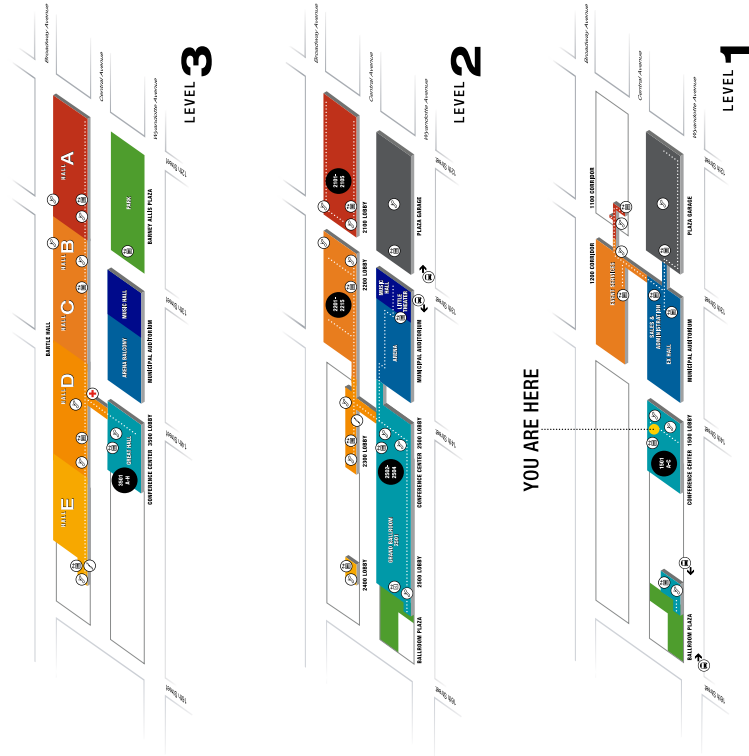
### GRAND BALLROOM LOBBY and 1500 LOBBY



**Children**  
(Rm 1501A,  
1501B, 1501C)



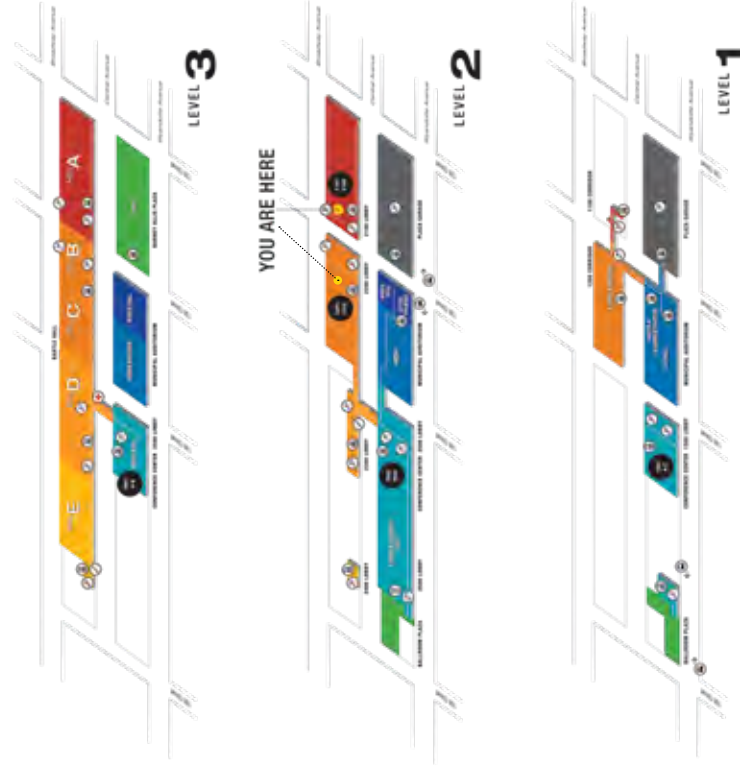
- Women's Restroom
- Men's Restroom
- Family Restroom
- First Aid
- Elevator
- Escalator
- Vending
- Meeting Rooms
- Stairs
- MAX Station



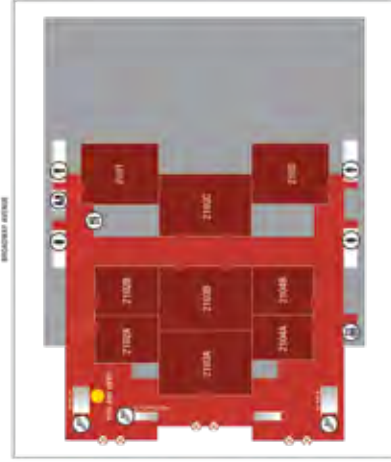


# KANSAS CITY CONVENTION CENTER

## LEVEL 2 2100 LOBBY

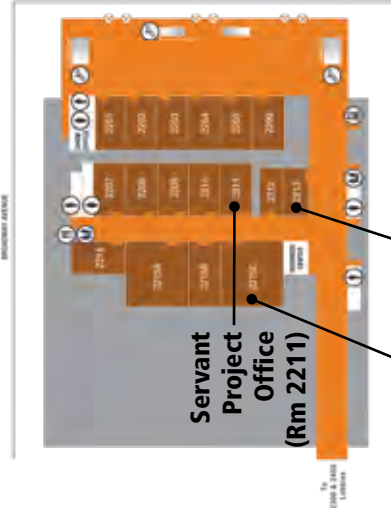


2100 LOBBY



Seminars: All rooms

2200 LOBBY



Seminars: All rooms

Convention Office  
(Rm 2213)

- North
- Women's Restroom
- Men's Restroom
- Family Restroom
- Elevator
- Escalator
- Stairs
- First Aid
- Vending
- Meeting Rooms
- MAX Station





## KANSAS CITY CONVENTION CENTER

# LEVEL 2 2500 SOUTH LOBBY

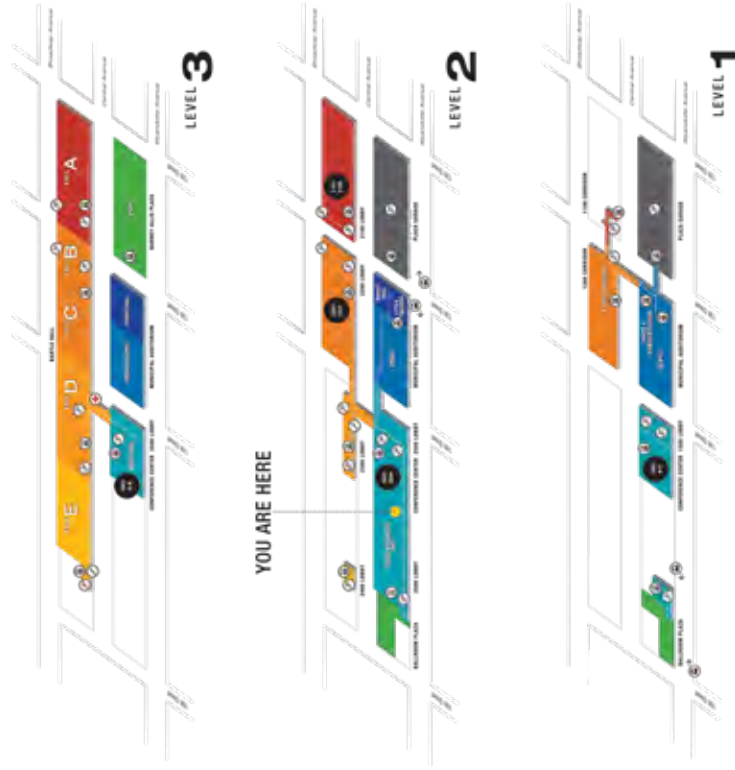
### 2500 SOUTH LOBBY



**Worship**

**Seminars: All rooms**

- NORTH
- Elevator
- Escalator
- Men's Restroom
- Women's Restroom
- Family Restroom
- First Aid
- Vending
- Meeting Rooms
- Stairs
- MAX Station



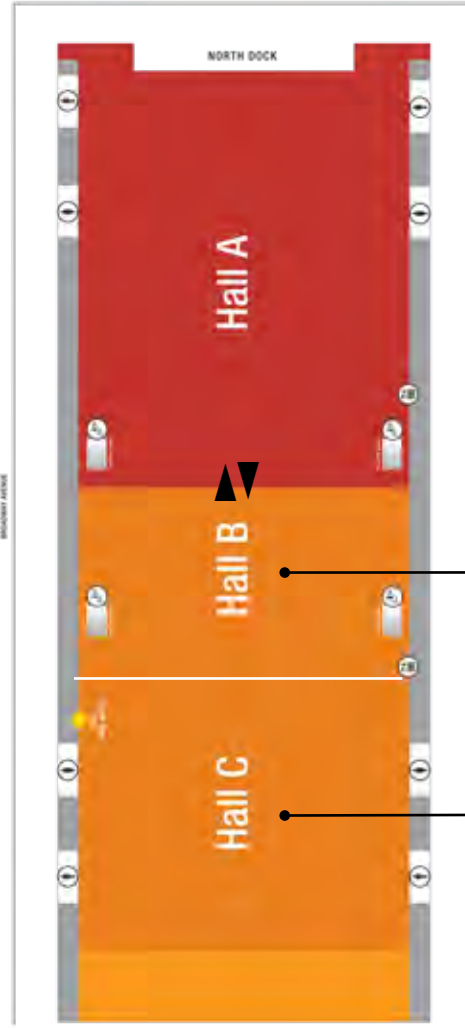
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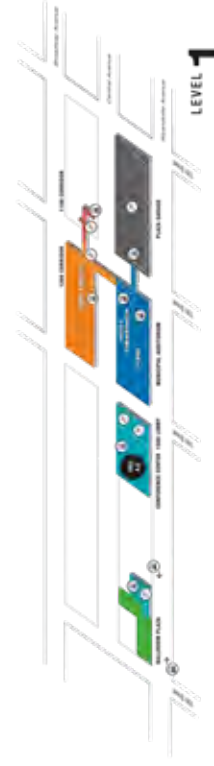
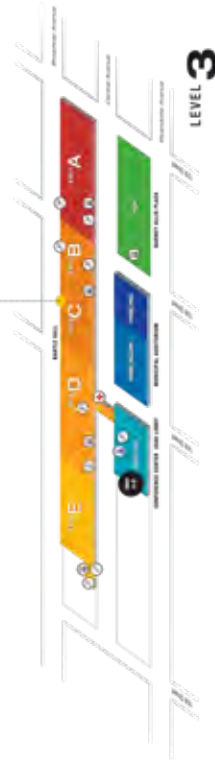
# KANSAS CITY CONVENTION CENTER

## LEVEL 3 HALL C

### EXHIBIT HALLS A, B and C



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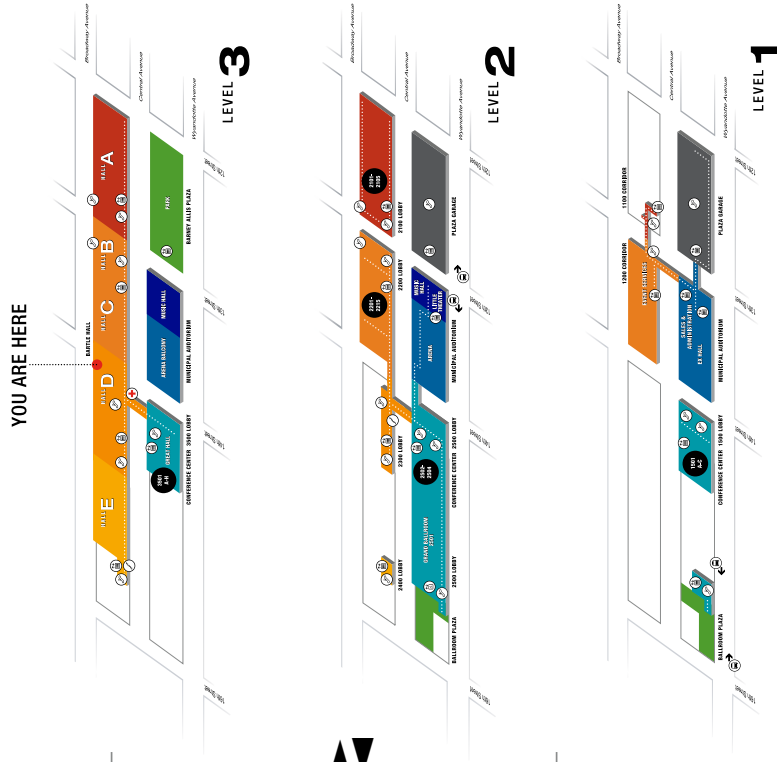
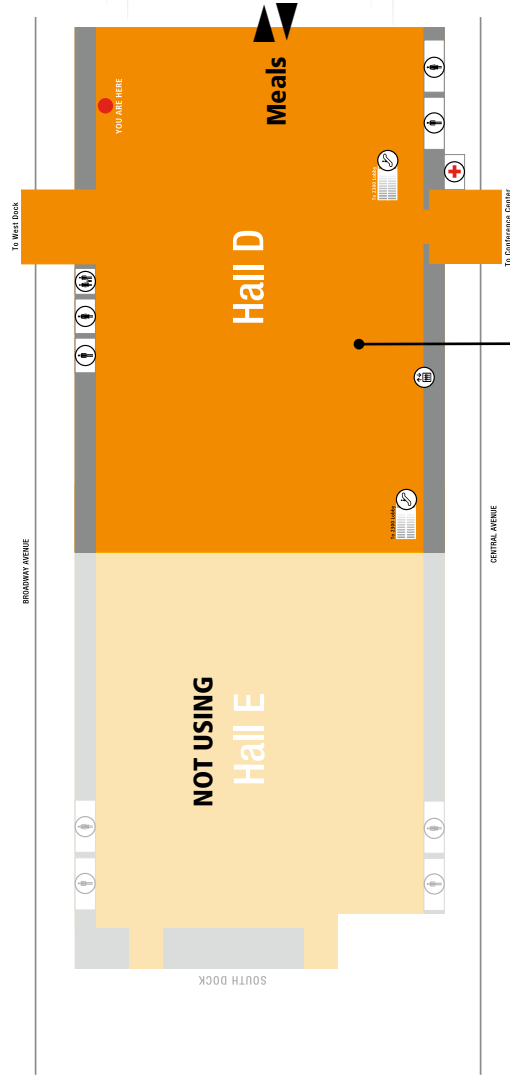




KANSAS CITY CONVENTION CENTER

# LEVEL 3 HALL D

## EXHIBIT HALLS D and E





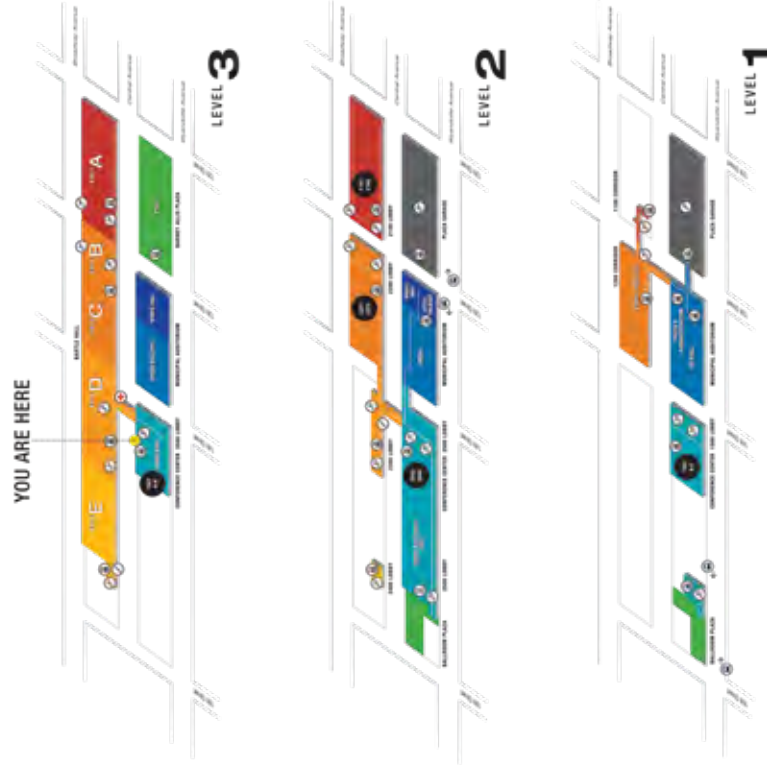


KANSAS CITY CONVENTION CENTER

# LEVEL 3 3500 LOBBY

3500 LOBBY

Delegate  
Sessions



# MENNONITE *Arts* WEEKEND 2020



*Pennsylvania (mixed media on canvas, 48x48 inches) by Freiman Stoltzfus*

[www.mennoniteartsweekend.org](http://www.mennoniteartsweekend.org)



## THE WAY HOME

**February 7-9, 2020 • Pleasant Ridge Presbyterian Church Cincinnati**

### FEATURING

**DaCapo Chamber Choir** directed by Leonard Enns • **Freiman Stoltzfus** (visual artist)  
**Ted Yoder** (musician/hammered dulcimer) • **Julie Swarstad Johnson** (writer/poet)  
**Benjamin Bergey** (conductor) • **Sandra Birdsell** (writer/novelist)  
**Dennis Maust** (visual artist/ceramics) • **Evie Yoder Miller** (writer/novelist)  
**Lora Jost** (visual artist) • **Ingrid De Sanctis** (actor) • **Kat Luginbuhl** (jewelry artist)  
**Brooke Rothshank** (visual artist) and **Justin Rothshank** (visual artist/ceramics)  
**Marilyn Houser Hamm** (pianist) • **Jeremy South** (visual artist/ceramics)



# Join the call!

## ¡Únete a la llamada!



Joia McManus (SALT participant) and Maria Elena Zurita Garcias in Montero, Bolivia.  
Joia McManus (participante de SALT) y Maria Elena Zurita Garcias en Montero, Bolivia.



MCC Bolivia Seed team, 2017 Equipo Semilla del CCM de Bolivia, 2017

**Serve** Sirve | **Give** Da  
**Advocate** Defiende | **Pray** Ora



*Relief, development and peace in the name of Christ*

*Ayuda, desarrollo y paz en el nombre de Cristo*





**TUESDAY, JULY 2, 2019**

**Morning Servant Projects**

8:15 - 9:00 a.m.	Servant Project Orientation	2103A
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Servant Projects	Kansas City

**Pre-Convention Trainings (Pre-registration required)**

9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Faithful Presence: Seven Disciplines That Shape the Church for Mission	2201
9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Welcoming Immigrants in 2019: Tangible Ways To Put Your Faith Into Action	2205
9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.	Healthy Boundaries 101 Fundamentals	2204
9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.	Limites Saludables 101 Fundamentos	2505B
11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Journey Forward: Peacemaking	2503AB
1:30 - 4:30 p.m.	Revelation 7:9 Journey Toward Cultural Competency	2504A

**Afternoon Activities**

12:30 - 1:00 p.m.	Servant Project Orientation	2103A, 2103C
1:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Servant Projects	Kansas City
4:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Hymn Sing	3501

**Evening Activities**

7:15 - 9:00 p.m.	Infant/Toddler Care	1501C
7:30 - 9:00 p.m.	<b>Worship - God Invites Us</b>	Ballroom
9:00 - 11:00 p.m.	Recreation Hall Open Exhibit Hall Open	Ex Hall B Ex Hall D
9:15 - 10:15 p.m.	Denominational Leader Meet and Greet Step Up Orientation	2208 2204
9:15 - 10:45 p.m.	Young Adult Gathering	2206

Tuesday, July 2

### Hymn Sing

4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

3501

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.

### Worship

#### God Invites Us

7:30 - 9:00 p.m.

Ballroom

Speaker: Glen Guyton and worship leaders

### Evening Activities

#### Denominational Leader Meet and Greet

9:15 - 10:15 p.m.

2208

Meet our Mennonite Church USA Executive Director and moderators. Join us for fellowship and light snacks. Everyone is welcome.

### Step Up Orientation

9:15 - 10:15 p.m.

2204

This one-hour session will engage and prepare youth for the upcoming delegate sessions and for effective future service with the broader church. Participation will be limited to those nominated and pre-registered as Step Up representatives.

### Young Adult Gathering

9:15 - 10:45 p.m.

2206

A gathering for young adults to get to know each other and get an overview of activities planned for this week.



**!Explore: A Theological Program for High School Youth** provides a space for young people to strengthen their leadership skills and deepen their faith.

#### Congregational Experience

Work alongside your pastor in a mentoring relationship (100 hours).

#### Group Experience

Join peers and AMBS faculty and students for 17 days of worship, study and service.

**VISIT:** [ambs.edu/explore](http://ambs.edu/explore)



 **AMBS**

A program of Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary



## Ready to find the path to your IDEAL life?

Following your divine call will not guarantee happiness, but that call to your IDEAL life is like a song that you can't get out of your head. Once the call has been heard, there is no satisfaction for those who choose not to answer.

With this book you will learn how to discover  
and cultivate your gifts in a way that  
won't betray who you truly are.



**GLENGUYTON**

Speaker, Author, Advocate for Cultural Competency

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# VOICES TOGETHER



Visit our booth and learn about  
what's coming in the new hymnal.  
*Don't miss our prelaunch incentives.*



**HERALD PRESS**



**MennoMedia**



**WEDNESDAY, JULY 3, 2019**

### **Morning Activities**

6:30 - 7:30 a.m.	Morning Run	Hotel Lobby
7:00 - 7:30 a.m.	Zumba	ExHall B
8:00 - 8:45 a.m.	Squad Pep Rally - Green	2101
	Squad Pep Rally - Blue	2105
	Squad Pep Rally - Orange	2215A
	Squad Pep Rally - Red	2501D
	Squad Pep Rally - White	2505A
8:00 - 11:45 a.m.	Infant/Toddler Care	1501C
	Children's Programming	1501
8:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.	Junior Youth Programming	2215C
8:15 - 10:00 a.m.	Delegate Equipping	3501

### **Adult Seminars**

9:00 - 10:00 a.m.	Calling All Protectors of Children	2201
	Can the Church Be Good News to LGBTQIA+ Youth?	2204
	Cultural Humility	2206
	Encounter: An Anabaptist Faith Formation Curriculum	2102B
	Holy Land: Biblical Reflections on the Israeli/Palestinian Conflict	2202
	Planning for Senior Life Transitions	2205
	Sent Network	2505B
	Strength Out of Crisis	2503AB

### **Intergenerational Seminars**

9:00 - 10:00 a.m.	Making Sense of the Bible Today	2505A
	Speaking to the Systems and Walking With Indigenous People	2104A

### **Youth Seminars**

9:00 - 10:00 a.m.	A Course in Flourishing: Calling, Vocation and Righteousness	2105
	Am I Ready To Face a Military Recruiter?	2502AB
	Big Questions 1	2209
	Dramatic Transformation: Using Theatre Techniques To Challenge Injustice	2501D
	Experiencing God Through the Dramatic Arts	2504A
	I Finally Wanna Be Alive: Teen Suicide and Support	2103C
	Making Sense of the Bible	2102A
	My Digital Life	2103B
	Praying All Ways and Always	2215B
	Relationships That Empower...	2101
	You Do You: Building Your Personal Brand	2103A



## Wednesday, July 3

### Youth Sponsor Seminar

9:00 - 10:00 a.m. Anxiety and Depression: Understand, Support, Renew 2203

### Afternoon Activities

10:30 - 11:30 a.m. **Worship - They Were Afraid** Ballroom

11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Lunch Ex Hall C

11:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m. Mennonite Men Luncheon 2503AB

11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Exhibit Hall Open Ex Hall D

11:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. Recreation Hall Open Ex Hall B

12:30 - 1:00 p.m. Servant Project Orientation 2103A, 2103C

1:00 - 5:00 p.m. Servant Projects Kansas City

1:15 - 5:30 p.m. Infant/Toddler Care 1501C

Children's Programming 1501

1:30 - 2:30 p.m. Squads Ballroom

1:30 - 3:45 p.m. Delegate Session 3501

### Adult Seminars

1:30 - 2:30 p.m. Board Members as "Faith Fiduciaries" 2204

Church Risk Management: Keeping Your Church a Safe Space 2201

Emancipatory Hope in Action: Strategies for Awareness, 2505B

Assessment and Social Justice Advocacy

Faithful Presence: An Incarnational Approach to 2205

Engaging Your Neighborhood

Life-Giving Prayer Meetings 2203

Moving Toward Missional: A Cultural Shift Process 2202

Stop Hating Poor People Because They Get Free Phones 2206

Trauma, Resilience and Leadership 2505A

### Adult Seminars

2:45 - 3:45 p.m. Business 101 for the Urban Church 2201

Good News in God's Country: Rural Mission and Evangelism 2505B

Immigration Advocacy 101 2204

Incarnational Church Planting: An Introduction to 2205

Place-Based Church Planting

Post-paralysis Prophecy: Working for Justice 2209

and Not Paternalism

Russian Mennonites: Who? Where? Why? 2505A

### Intergenerational Seminars

2:45 - 3:45 p.m. Creating Music — Affecting Lives 2101

Developing a Financial Plan to Pay for College 2104A

Guns: A Loaded Conversation 2102B

### Young Adult Seminar

2:45 - 3:45 p.m. Is God Calling Me to Leadership? 2203

### Youth Seminars

2:45 - 3:45 p.m. Anxious or Worried/Depressed or Bummed: 2502AB  
Understand and Change  
Big Questions 1 2215A  
Dramatic Transformation: Using Theatre Techniques to 2501D  
Challenge Injustice  
Experiencing God Through the Dramatic Arts 2504A  
It's Not All About the Money 2103C  
My Digital Life 2103B  
Relationships That Empower... 2103A  
Spiritual Disciplines in Real Life 2105  
Taking Faith to the Streets Through Nonviolent 2215B  
Public Witness Action  
Who Are You When the Game is Over? 2104B

### Youth Sponsor Seminar

2:45 - 3:45 p.m. I Finally Wanna Be Alive: Teen Suicide and Support 2206

### Adult Seminars

4:00 - 5:00 p.m. Fire by Night 2203  
Inside *Voices Together*: Aspirations, Joys and Challenges 2505A  
Millennials in Ministry 2206  
Parenting for Prevention 2201  
The Perservering Church: 2205  
Belonging May Not Be Most Important  
Plantadores de Iglesias de Paz (en Español) 2104A  
4:00 - 5:30 p.m. Improv for Peacemakers 2102B  
Tools for Communal Biblical Discernment 2204

### Intergenerational Seminars

4:00 - 5:00 p.m. Unraveling the Aftermath of Suicide 2215A  
4:00 - 5:30 p.m. Contemplative Art for the Soul 2215B

### Young Adult Seminar

4:00 - 5:00 p.m. Still Reading the Bible? 2202

### Youth Seminars

4:00 - 5:00 p.m. A Course in Flourishing: Calling, Vocation and Righteousness 2105  
Am I Ready to Face a Military Recruiter? 2502AB  
Four Practices, Eight Words: A Practice-Based Approach 2103B  
to Anabaptist Living  
Making Sense of the Bible 2104B  
Science and Faith: How Do They Inform Each Other? 2505B  
Soul Care — How Do We Tap Into God? 2103A  
What's Your Relationship Made Of? 2103C  
Who Am I? Finding Our Identity in Christ 2101  
You Got Booked 2501D

## Wednesday, July 3

### Featured Seminars

4:00 - 5:30 p.m.	Here is the Church, Here is the Steeple ... But Where Are All the People?	3501
	Shalom Sistas: Everyday Peacemaking for Ordinary Women	2504A

### Evening Activities

4:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Musical Drama: Mary Magdalene's Journey - a Blues Gospel	2300 Lobby
4:00 - 5:30 p.m.	Center for Sustainable Climate Solutions Meeting MCC Friends Gathering	2209 2503AB
4:00 - 7:00 p.m.	Exhibit Hall Open	Ex Hall D
4:00 - 7:30 p.m.	Family Bouncin' Dance Party	1501
5:30 - 7:00 p.m.	Dinner	Ex Hall C
6:15 - 7:15 p.m.	MEA Mission, Vision and Strategic Plan – We invite you to provide your feedback!	2208
6:00 - 7:30 p.m.	Mennonite Concerto practice	3501
7:15 - 9:00 p.m.	Infant/Toddler Care	1501C
7:30 - 9:00 p.m.	<b>Worship - Peace Be With You</b>	Ballroom
9:00 - 11:00 p.m.	Recreation Hall Exhibit Hall	Ex Hall B Ex Hall D
9:15 - 10:30 p.m.	Faith Formation Gathering Young Adults Conversing with MC USA Leadership	2204 2203
9:15 - 10:45 p.m.	AMBS Alumni and Friends Hesston College Alumni and Friends Gathering Menno Nite of Music	2505B 2502AB 2300 Lobby



## Wednesday, July 3

### **Morning Run**

**6:30 - 7:30 a.m.**

Meet in the lobby of your hotel and join others for a run to start your day.

### **Zumba**

**7:00 - 7:30 a.m.**

ExHall B

Join others in the Rec Hall to start your day by getting your blood flowing. Zumba will be led by Jill Schlabach, certified instructor.

### **Squad Pep Rally**

**8:00 - 8:45 a.m.**

**Blue** - 2105

**Green** - 2101

**Orange** - 2215A

**Red** - 2501D

**White** - 2505A

Join your Squad for a time to connect and prepare for the day.

## Adult Seminars

**9:00 – 10:00 a.m.**

### **Calling All Protectors of Children**

Jeanette Harder and Anna Groff

2201

Are you a member of your church's child protection committee or tasked with taking the lead on child protection in your faith community? Or do you believe that someone should take initiative? This seminar will encourage, equip and further inform you about how to keep kids safe through Dove's Nest's offerings. We will go over the basics of how to plan, fund and schedule a training at your church and how to get your church on board with screening and training adult volunteers. You don't have to do this work alone; come find out how we can help.

### **Can the Church Be Good News to LGBTQIA+ Youth?**

Chris Schaffner

2204

The church should be a safe and supportive space for LGBTQIA+ youth, families and friends. Unfortunately, this is not always the case. This workshop will focus on helping us be Jesus in the midst of family acceptance/rejection, coming out, stressors, intersections, trauma, bullying, social alienation/acceptance, substance abuse, mental health issues, suicidality and faith experiences. Young, queer students

need love more than ever before. Learn how the church can reclaim being Good News to these beloved children.

### **Cultural Humility**

Andrea Sawyer-Kirksey

2206

Learn how to enter into an ever increasing world of diversity and inclusion with humility, so that we can value all humans with mutuality and love.

### **Encounter: An Anabaptist Faith Formation Curriculum**

J. Richard Thomas and Elaine Moyer

2102B

Encounter is a dynamic curriculum where students encounter God, each other and all of creation. Teacher resources are provided for ages 5-18. Through Encounter, students will know at a deep level that they are known, loved and valued by God. Knowing God's love and the transformational presence of the Spirit calls students to join with God in bringing healing and hope to the world. Developed by and for classroom teachers in Mennonite schools, Encounter is available to anyone engaged in Anabaptist/Christian faith formation.

### **Holy Land: Biblical Reflections on the Israeli/Palestinian Conflict**

Dorothy Jean Weaver

2202

This workshop will engage and respond to the questions raised by "Christian Zionism" through a survey of New Testament perspectives on the people of God and their relationship to land. Workshop participants will then engage in group reflection on the implications of these New Testament perspectives for the ongoing and urgent challenges of the Israeli/Palestinian conflict. Please bring your Bibles and come prepared to participate.

### **Planning for Senior Life Transitions**

Evon Bergey, James Krehbiel, Bill Hartman, Karen Lehman, Mim Shirk

2205

This session will equip pastors, lay leaders and other attendees to proactively consider and plan for the life transitions that occur in the aging process. Participants will learn from MHS member organizations and Everence the various offerings and program options that can be considered as one plans for the future in terms of retirement and senior services. The panel of presenters will provide information on the options available today and in the future,

as well as discuss the costs associated with these programs and services and how an individual, pastor or congregation can consider the choices and proactively prepare and plan for the future.

### **Sent Network**

Mauricio Chenlo  
2505B

Consider what is needed to explore, equip and send peace church planters.

### **Strength Out of Crisis**

Betsy Headrick McCrae and Bruce McCrae, Rod Hollinger-Janzen, Mulanda Juma, John F. Lapp, Steve Wiebe-Johnson  
2503AB

How does the church respond when the world around it descends into chaos? Come hear the story of how the Mennonite and Mennonite Brethren churches of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Africa, worked together to feed, house and care for those whose lives and families were torn apart by violence and how this has strengthened and encouraged them and their witness. Learn from the experience of Africa Inter-Mennonite Mission, MCC and Mennonite Mission Network how we who are far away can best provide support for our brothers and sisters in ways that allow all our churches to grow in capacity and respect.

## **Intergenerational Seminars**

9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

### **Making Sense of the Bible Today**

Meghan Larissa Good  
2505A

Many Christians know they are supposed to read the Bible but struggle to do so, because they find it boring, outdated or irrelevant to their daily lives. In this seminar we'll talk about what the Bible is and answer the question of why we still engage it, even thousands of years after it was written. We'll explore practical strategies for reading and engaging with the Bible so that its stories come alive and so that we can hear the voice of God speaking to us from within it.

### **Speaking to the Systems and Walking With Indigenous People**

Jerrell and Jane Ross Richer and Sarah Augustine  
2104A

Indigenous people around the world are often the most affected by the North American systems that, in the name of "international development," fund mining and deforestation. This seminar will explore what it looks like to walk with and support indigenous communities that are affected by these systems. Additionally, we ask what it looks like to work for change from North America, so that indigenous communities can remain, reclaim or revive their land, communities and

resources. This is a joint seminar led by Jane and Jerrell Ross Richer who work with the Cofán people of eastern Ecuador and Sarah Augustine, co-founder of the Suriname Indigenous Health Fund and the Coalition to Dismantle the Doctrine of Discovery.

## **Youth Seminars**

9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

### **A Course in Flourishing: Calling, Vocation and Righteousness**

Melody M. Pannell  
2105

Discover engaging exercises that empower young women to FLOURISH through finding their calling and exploring vocation as an act of personal agency and righteous resistance.

### **Am I Ready to Face a Military Recruiter?**

Jason Boone  
2502AB

Bring questions you have about your faith, military enlistment and your path ahead. Learn what's really in military enlistment contracts. Explore the tension between a call to serve your country and your call to serve God.

### **Big Questions 1**

David Cramer  
2209

Who is God and how can I know him/her/them? Each Big Questions equipping seminar starts with a short, TED Talk-style mini-lecture with the rest of the time spent in interactive discussion. Take each equipping seminar in sequence or join for the particular one(s) of interest. The facilitator, David Cramer, has his PhD in theology and teaches at AMBS in addition to serving as teaching pastor at Keller Park Church in South Bend, Indiana.

### **Dramatic Transformation: Using Theatre Techniques to Challenge Injustice**

Melissa Friesen  
2501D

In this participatory workshop, we will playfully explore ways to challenge discrimination and injustice through theatre games and activities. No theatre experience needed — simply bring your willingness to creatively engage with body, mind and spirit.

### **Experiencing God Through the Dramatic Arts**

Rachel Jantzi and Michele Hershberger  
2504A

Join Rachel Jantzi and Michele Hershberger in an interactive seminar using theater principles and techniques for both stage AND everyday partnerships. We will begin with a

series of warmups and exercises that demonstrate how to see others in a very real, honest and selfless way. This is a practice that is not only beneficial to good actors, but to all who want to reflect God's love. The experience will conclude with real world application as we reflect how the church can be a support and partner to those they serve.

### **I Finally Wanna Be Alive: Teen Suicide and Support**

JE Misz

2103C

Suicide is the second leading cause of death for teenagers in the U.S., and this is affecting our schools, churches and youth groups. This seminar will use music, poetry and clinical insights to address common mental health myths, the unique strengths and challenges of today's adolescents and tools for youth and youth sponsors to address adolescent anxiety, depression and suicide.

### **Making Sense of the Bible**

Aaron Yoder

2102A

The Bible is very different from any other book you'll read. Plus, it can be really confusing to understand how it's put together. In this workshop, you'll learn how the sections and books connect together, why we can trust the Bible, how to choose a translation that fits you and what tools to use if you want to go deeper.

### **My Digital Life**

Scott Roth

2103B

Technology is a way of life. We can't hide from it. Can't avoid it. Let's talk how to embrace it and make it a positive thing!

### **Praying All Ways and Always**

Rachel Miller Jacobs

2215B

Prayer is one important way we speak to God and hear from God. In this seminar, we will experiment with a variety of prayer practices including "short-attention-span prayers," praying Bible words, praying for others (and ourselves), and listening prayer. We will also think together about how to grow our practice of prayer. You don't need to be an experienced pray-er or someone who's convinced of the "power of prayer" to attend; all that's required is curiosity and the willingness to start where you are and go a little deeper.

### **Relationships That Empower**

Eric and Kelly Frey Martin

2101

The one about dating! This seminar will focus on our perspectives towards dating and romantic relationships. We will emphasize the need for healthy relationships to be

empowering to each participant, as well as the importance of our personal identity formation within and outside of romantic relationships. We intend this time to be interactive and conversational as we seek to navigate this subject and how it relates to our faith.

### **You Do You: Building Your Personal Brand**

Rachel Swartzendruber Miller

2103A

Maybe you are the smart kid, starting point guard, smelly kid, valedictorian or the kid who always hands in homework late. Whoever you are, you are known for something. Is that something the thing you want to be known for? Whether we realize it or not, we start building our personal brand during the high school years, and it may follow us throughout our whole lives. This seminar will explore what a brand is and how people have brands similar to the way products have brands. You will be challenged to think intentionally about the brand you are building, the message your actions and words communicate, the story that gets told about you, and how you might make your personal brand a bit more intentional. Faith, hobbies, academics, friends, family relationships, dating relationships, personality, habits, priorities, values, social media, even your Snap story ... we will address it all and discuss how it links back to your personal brand.

## **Youth Sponsor Seminars**

9:00 - 10:00 a.m.

### **Anxiety and Depression: Understand, Support, Renew**

Karla Roth

2203

Jesus' disciples were tasked with building a community of believers and a large part of their ministry was encouraging oppressed people to change to new ways of thinking and living. How do we encourage youth who are overwhelmed by worries, failures and hopelessness? In this seminar we will gain insight and understanding about anxiety and depression as experienced by youth. We will identify changes in behaviors, what to listen to and what to look for indicating anxiety and depression. We'll learn ways to coach, encourage, support and help youth to transform fear and despair into truth by renewing the mind. For sponsors, pastors and parents.



## Worship



### **They Were Afraid**

**10:30 - 11:30 a.m.**

Ballroom

Speaker: Dustin Galyon

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.

## Mennonite Men Luncheon

**11:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.**

2503AB

Hear about new work with Mennonite Men, discuss how to promote healthy male formation and see our new book *Peaceful at Heart: Anabaptist Reflections on Healthy Masculinity* from Institute of Mennonite Studies.

\*Pre-registration required

## Adult Seminars

**1:30 – 2:30 p.m.**

### **Board Members as “Faith Fiduciaries”**

Chad Horning

2204

Board members of congregations and nonprofits serve because they hold dear the mission of the organization. But soon after joining, new board members quickly become exposed to the financial duty they've accepted. This seminar will explore the concept of board members as faith fiduciaries — both responsible for the stewardship of the organization's resources to further its mission and for investing resources in a way that complements the mission. Hear from investment managers, financial advisors and board members as they navigate this challenge and opportunity for nonprofits to expand their impact in the world.

### **Church Risk Management: Keeping Your Church a Safe Space**

Phil Blount and Brad Shrum

2201

Come learn how to adopt easy and practical processes to keep churches and youth ministries safe spaces for all.

### **Emancipatory Hope in Action: Strategies for Awareness, Assessment and Social Justice Advocacy**

Melody M. Pannell

2505B

Together we will learn how to develop the capacity for creating a community that embraces an emancipatory hope that liberates those that are marginalized and leads us all on the journey of becoming more self-aware, socially conscientious and willing to engage as social justice advocates. Liberating theologies and frameworks will be utilized to discuss concepts of intersectionality, internalized oppression and privilege to develop relevant strategies for personal and systemic change.

### **Faithful Presence: An Incarnational Approach to Engaging Your Neighborhood**

David Fitch

2205

In this seminar, Dr. Fitch will talk about how to engage your neighborhood through practices, presence and posture. This is an excellent introduction to the practices in his book, *Faithful Presence: Seven Disciplines that Shape the Church for Mission*.

### **Life-Giving Prayer Meetings**

Aaron Yoder

2203

Church prayer meetings are often the least attended events in our congregations. Let's change that! Learn a simple way to turn prayer meetings into an interactive, Scripture-fed, worship-led prayer experience for everyone.

### **Moving Toward Missional: A Cultural Shift Process**

Jessica Schrock-Ringenberg

2202

Planning a culture shift is difficult but doable. It takes honest self-reflection and diligent planning. We will walk through the process of identifying the current culture to planting a culture built on God's mission.

### **Stop Hating Poor People Because They Get Free Phones**

Andrea Sawyer-Kirksey

2206

This seminar is about dismantling racism and dealing with systemic and structural barriers facing economically challenged communities of color.

## **Trauma, Resilience and Leadership**

Annette Lantz-Simmons

2505A

We are learning more about the effects of trauma every day. Everyone experiences trauma. At the end of this seminar participants will understand types of trauma; learn how trauma affects the body, mind and spirit; explore ways to interact with others that are sensitive to trauma; build resilience in self and others

## **Adult Seminars**

2:45 - 3:45 p.m.

### **Business 101 for the Urban Church**

Bishop Leslie Francisco III and Nicole Francisco Bailey

2201

There's a business side to church that we often overlook. Come explore principles of business management for the urban, multi-generational church. Join this interactive discussion on how to build a sustainable church model for your community.

### **Good News in God's Country: Rural Mission and Evangelism**

Brad Roth

2505B

In some people's minds, rural towns are sleepy and spent, relics fast disappearing as the kids move away to the cities and suburbs. However, the reality is more complex. Many rural communities — especially near vibrant cities and gorgeous natural amenities — are growing. And regardless of whether a community is growing, plateaued or shrinking, all people need the good news of Jesus. Join the conversation and discover how rural congregations can reach out!

### **Immigration Advocacy 101**

Tammy Alexander and panel

2204

Responding to the call to “advocate for just and humane immigration policies for immigrants and refugees” in the Churchwide Statement on Immigration, a panel of experts will discuss various local and national advocacy activities aimed at achieving these goals. Participants will be equipped with concrete examples of how Mennonites are stepping out in bold ways to embody a “contrast society” and will gain key skills such as how to set up visits in local Congressional offices, how to engage with policymakers on social media and tips for submitting letters-to-the-editor.

## **Incarnational Church Planting: An Introduction to Place-Based Church Planting**

David Fitch

2205

Church planting is on the hearts and minds of many within MC USA. There are also a variety of ways to plant a church — some are consistent with Anabaptism, others are not. Come explore a place-based, incarnational approach to church planting. Dr. Fitch has planted two congregations (Life on the Vine, Long Grove, Illinois; Peace of Christ, Westmont, Illinois).

### **Post-paralysis Prophecy: Working for Justice and Not Paternalism**

Sheri Hostetler, Sarah Augustine and Dani Klotz

2209

Many woke white people find themselves mired in paralysis and even shame around how to engage with racial and economic justice work. They don't want to be paternalistic and fear being perceived as such. The prevailing narrative that people of color should lead justice movements can lead to fear of getting involved, and that can result in a context where people of color end up doing all the work. How can we embark on a new narrative that rejects paternalism and also releases prophetic purpose within the whole Body of Christ? Led by a multi-racial team of Sarah Augustine, Dani Klotz and Sheri Hostetler of the Anabaptist Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery Coalition.

### **Russian Mennonites: Who? Where? Why?**

John D. Thiesen

2505A

In the 1870s some 17,000 Mennonites from Russia emigrated to North America. The vast majority had 16th-century Anabaptist roots in the Netherlands. When the first wave of these Russian Mennonites came to North America, the largest number joined the General Conference Mennonite Church. They played a critical role in shaping the vision and ethos of the General Conference, and — by extension — Mennonite Church USA. This seminar will attempt to increase familiarity with and appreciation for the impact of Russian Mennonites on the Mennonite Church USA. John D. Thiesen, as director of the Mennonite Library and Archives at Bethel College, is curator of the largest collection of Russian Mennonite documents in the United States. A published historian, John is well-versed in virtually all aspects of the Russian Mennonite experience.

## Intergenerational Seminars

2:45 - 3:45 p.m.

### Creating Music — Affecting Lives

Marcia Yost

2101

This seminar will look at the ways we can use music to affect the quality of life and build bridges within a community and beyond. Aspects of various types of music programming will be explored, and participants will make music together in fun ways as a part of the presentation. In this seminar, attention will be given to creating music programs that are cross-cultural and available to all regardless of socio-economic backgrounds.

### Developing a Financial Plan to Pay for College

Beryl Jantzi and Mitch Stutzman

2104A

The expense of a college education can be daunting. This seminar will provide financial guidance for perspective students, current students and graduates. What you know and do in advance makes all the difference.

### Guns: A Loaded Conversation

Krista Dutt, Jes Stoltzfus Buller, Mike Martin

2102B

Guns are a touchy subject — on the news and in the pews! Using the resource “A Loaded Conversation” created by RAWtools and MCC, this seminar offers you a space to have respectful conversation about violence related to guns, welcoming all perspectives on the issue. Furthermore, it will give you tools to broach this subject in your worship, conversation and action back home, helping your congregation be accountable to reducing gun violence both inside the church walls and into your community. Come join us to unpack this loaded conversation and be empowered to witness to God’s peace in the world!

## Young Adult Seminar

2:45 - 3:45 p.m.

### Is God Calling Me to Leadership?

Janeen Bertsche Johnson

2203

Has someone suggested that you would be a good church leader? Do you have a passion for peace and justice? Have you sensed within yourself a nudging to minister to God’s people? We will explore a variety of ways God calls people to leadership in the church, and what our response might look like. We’ll also look at ways we can test our sense of call and develop it through experiences, education and formation.

## Youth Seminars

2:45 - 3:45 p.m.

### Anxious or Worried/Depressed or Bummed: Understand and Change

Karla Roth

2502AB

In this seminar, you will be able to recognize that normal, expected worries, stress or blues can turn into anxiety and depression. Anxiety and depression change the way we think, feel and act. Based on our calling to transform, we’ll learn ways to cope, manage and alleviate the impact of anxiety and depression, equipping us to help ourselves as well as others.

### Big Questions 1

David Cramer

2215A

Who is God and how can I know him/her/them? Each Big Questions equipping seminar starts with a short, TED Talk-style mini-lecture with the rest of the time spent in interactive discussion. Take each equipping seminar in sequence or join for the particular one(s) of interest. The facilitator, David Cramer, has his Ph.D. in theology and teaches at AMBS in addition to serving as teaching pastor at Keller Park Church in South Bend, Indiana.

### Dramatic Transformation: Using Theatre Techniques to Challenge Injustice

Melissa Friesen

2501D

In this participatory workshop, we will playfully explore ways to challenge discrimination and injustice through theatre games and activities. No theatre experience needed — simply bring your willingness to creatively engage with body, mind and spirit.

### Experiencing God Through the Dramatic Arts

Rachel Jantzi and Michele Hershberger

2504A

Join Rachel Jantzi and Michele Hershberger in an interactive seminar using theater principles and techniques for both stage AND everyday partnerships. We will begin with a series of warmups and exercises that demonstrate how to see others in a very real, honest and selfless way. This is a practice that is not only beneficial to good actors, but to all who want to reflect God’s love. The experience will conclude with real world application as we reflect how the church can be a support and partner to those they serve.

## **It's Not All About the Money**

Kent Miller

2103C

Generosity isn't just about money. Explore what the Bible says about generosity and practical ways you can be generous in all aspects of your life, no matter how much money you have.

## **My Digital Life**

Scott Roth

2103B

Technology is a way of life. We can't hide from it. Can't avoid it. Let's talk how to embrace it and make it a positive thing!

## **Relationships That Empower**

Eric and Kelly Frey Martin

2103A

The one about dating! This seminar will focus on our perspectives towards dating and romantic relationships. We will emphasize the need for healthy relationships to be empowering to each participant, as well as the importance of our personal identity formation within and outside of romantic relationships. We intend this time to be interactive and conversational as we seek to navigate this subject and how it relates to our faith.

## **Spiritual Disciplines in Real Life**

Jaime Horst

2105

Spiritual disciplines may feel like a list of requirements to be a "good Christian," but they are simply ways to draw closer to God. In this seminar we'll explore spiritual disciplines such as prayer, silence, Scripture reading, confession and worship, and we'll talk about ways to integrate spiritual habits into our real, everyday lives, without the guilt.

## **Taking Faith to the Streets Through Nonviolent Public Witness Action**

Sarah and Jonathan Nahar

2215B

Rooted in biblical mandates, learn how to put your peacemaking beliefs into practice for these difficult spiritual and political times. Learn how to discern points of intervention, creative tactics, and how to show up as an ally to those who are hurting.

## **Who Are You When the Game is Over?**

Melissa Danner

2104B

I was at the top of my sport. The previous track season, I earned the honor of being a Division I All-American. I missed the Olympic trials by .03 seconds. And I was only a college sophomore. Little did I know, the sport I love would become impossible for me. My body broke. It was then that

I realized how much of my self-identity was wrapped up in being a great athlete. This seminar will explore Christian identity in the midst of athletic success. How do you keep grounded so that when the game is over, you know who you are?

## **Youth Sponsor Seminar**

2:45 - 3:45 p.m.

## **I Finally Wanna Be Alive: Teen Suicide and Support**

JE Misz

2206

Suicide is the second leading cause of death for teenagers in the US, and this is affecting our schools, churches and youth groups. This seminar will use music, poetry and clinical insights to address common mental health myths, the unique strengths and challenges of today's adolescents and tools for youth and youth sponsors to address adolescent anxiety, depression and suicide.

## **Adult Seminars**

4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

## **Fire by Night**

Melissa Florer-Bixler

2203

What do we do with the Old Testament? How do we read words written in a world so different from ours, stories so ruthless and so filled with grace? Page after page, in stories and poems and prophecies, the Hebrew Scripture introduces us to a God who is unwieldy and uncontrollable, common and extraordinary, and who brings both life and death. Using stories from Scripture and from her ministry, Melissa Florer-Bixler will braid together the text with the sometimes ordinary, sometimes radical grace of God. The same passages that confuse and horrify and baffle us can, if we are paying attention, lure us closer toward God. This God has traveled with people through cloud and fire, by day and by night, since the beginning of time.

## **Inside *Voices Together*: Aspirations, Joys and Challenges**

Bradley Kauffman and Benjamin Bergey

2505A

How do we collect songs and worship resources for 21st century Anabaptist Mennonites? What are the ways *Voices Together* will be a hymnal like, and unlike, those that have come before? Come learn about the aspirations, joys and challenges surrounding the work of the Mennonite Worship and Song Committee. General editor Bradley Kauffman and music editor Benjamin Bergey will unpack some of the prayers and process involved in hymnal revision.



## Millennials in Ministry

Josh Meyer

2206

The Millennial Generation, a group of young people born between approximately 1981 and 2004, is currently the largest generation in America's history. However, in many segments of the American church, including Mennonite Church USA, there is a shortage of millennials serving in pastoral ministry. This seminar — based on recent doctoral dissertation research — identifies factors that cultivate calling and confirm calling among millennial leaders currently serving in Mennonite Church USA. In other words, what *leads* our young people into ministry and what *keeps* our young people in ministry?

## Parenting for Prevention

Samuel Voth Schrag and Anna Groff

2201

Parents are children's best teachers. So, how do we teach our children healthy boundaries, such as empowering them to say no, helping them understand body safety basics or teaching them to identify trusted adults? Come and learn age-appropriate, concrete ways to demonstrate to your children that God loves their entire beings and wants them to be safe. You'll receive tips to help build a solid foundation for Circle of Grace concepts at home (whether or not your church has introduced that curriculum). Parents of children of all ages are welcome!

## The Persevering Church: Belonging May Not Be Most Important

Craig Morton

2205

Sharing results of research on what holds MC USA together when fragmentation, decline and separation take our attention. What are the practices, temperaments and beliefs that draw us together? Over the summer of 2017, I conducted a survey open to all MC USA conferences. The results will be shared and learnings from ongoing research will be discussed.

## Plantadores de Iglesias de Paz (en Español)

Mauricio Chenlo

2104A

En este seminario tendremos la oportunidad de repasar las características los plantadores de Iglesias de Paz con una clara identidad anabautista

## Improv for Peacemakers

4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

Andrea Wetherald

2102B

This 90-minute seminar will empower you with the core improv skills that help immensely in conflict resolution,

bridging the political divide and facilitating more productive dialogue in the midst of disagreement.

## Tools for Communal Biblical Discernment

4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

Matt Troyer-Miller, Nathan Ramer, Nick Detweiler-Stoddard  
2204

A hallmark of Mennonite identity is making decisions together as a church guided by Scripture and the Holy Spirit. What are the tools and practices that help us actually do this? Come learn about a study called Seeking God's Will Together, that gives congregations some tools and opportunities to practice communal biblical discernment.

## Intergenerational Seminars

4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

## Unraveling the Aftermath of Suicide

Jayne Byler

2215A

This seminar will give a family and pastoral perspective on victims of suicide and its impact on those who loved them from a first person account. Jayne is a pastor whose daughter died in 2015 at age 22. She will share some of this journey and how she has sought to find healing over the past four years, including several letters she wrote to her daughter following her death. She will also offer ways to relate to those struggling with suicidal thoughts as well as how to walk with their friends and family.

## Contemplative Art for the Soul

4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

Susan Gascho-Cooke

2215B

A brief introduction to the practice of SoulCollage — a contemplative arts process calling on intuition, creativity and play. You will create one small collage during this workshop. You do NOT need to be an "artist" to enjoy this practice.

## Youth Adult Seminar

4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

## Still Reading the Bible?

Peter Goerzen

2202

What's the role of the Bible in an age of instant information, pluralist communities and growing awareness of social ills?

## Youth Seminars

4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

### **A Course in Flourishing: Calling, Vocation and Righteousness**

Melody M. Pannell

2105

Discover engaging exercises that empower young women to FLOURISH through finding their calling and exploring vocation as an act of personal agency and righteous resistance.

### **Am I Ready to Face a Military Recruiter?**

Jason Boone

2502AB

Bring questions you have about your faith, military enlistment and your path ahead. Learn what's really in military enlistment contracts. Explore the tension between a call to serve your country and your call to serve God.

### **Four Practices. Eight Words: A Practice-Based Approach to Anabaptist Living**

Michael Danner

2103B

Do you want your faith to inform your every day life? Do you desire to move your faith from your head to your hands and feet? That's where I found myself. I knew what I believed. I knew how I wanted to live. Yet often, in the midst of everyday life, my faith was not the first thing on my mind. In response, I sought to develop some handles that would help me carry my faith with me everyday. The result is what I call four practices in eight words. Come check out one way to take your faith with you.

### **Making Sense of the Bible**

Aaron Yoder

2104B

The Bible is very different from any other book you'll read. Plus, it can be really confusing to understand how it's put together. In this workshop, you'll learn how the sections and books connect together, why we can trust the Bible, how to choose a translation which fits you and what tools to use if you want to go deeper.

### **Science and Faith: How Do They Inform Each Other?**

Wesley Horst

2505B

Belief in God and belief in science have been flaunted as being in opposition to each other or, in the very least, incompatible. Explore your understanding of the universe and how that exploration can deepen your understanding of

God. Find out how some important (and sometimes wacky) beliefs became common in Western Christian thought, so we can better understand and empathize with people we might disagree with. Hosted by Wes Horst, an elementary school teacher who's been seeking God through the Mennonite lens since he was born and has done so at Pittsburgh Mennonite Church since 2000.

### **Soul Care — How Do We Tap into God?**

Dawn Graber

2103A

Do you ever feel like this: I believe in God, but I don't know real, practical ways to grow in my relationship with God besides going to church or youth group. I know in my head I believe in God, but my heart doesn't feel like I'm an "on-fire" Christian. How can I develop my relationship with God? This workshop will have hands-on experiences that one might use to meet God through writing, silence, prayer, music, Bible reading and visuals. Come and see what may click for you and adopt a spiritual practice that can help you meet God in a new and refreshed way.

### **What's Your Relationship Made Of?**

Hillary Watson

2103C

High school relationships: Do they have to be full of drama? Why are they so hard? Will I ever get better at dating? If you've ever asked these questions, this seminar is for you. Here, no one will give you a roadmap for dating. You won't get 10 perfect tips for saving your relationship. But you will be challenged. You will have to think. We'll work together to explore what makes a relationship easier or harder, and how to make the relationship of your dreams a little less dreamy and a little more real.

### **Who Am I? Finding Our Identity in Christ**

Josh Lundberg

2101

We often find our identity in our abilities, grades, talents, appearance or even what others say about us. But should we? We'll explore what it means to find our identity in Christ.

### **You Got Booked**

Krista Dutt, Hyacinth Stevens, Karin Kaufman Wall

2501D

"You Got Booked" is a life-sized board game that highlights racial disparities in the U.S. criminal justice system. Players are assigned to character roles with resources that will ultimately determine their paths in the game. The session ends with group conversation on how participants can continue to work after convention on issues raised here. The exercise and debrief conversation will last 90 minutes.

## Featured Seminars

4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

### **Here is the Church, Here is the Steeple ... But Where Are All the People?**

Josh Packard  
3501

We have all seen the numbers about religious disengagement. They're alarming and concerning. Too often, however, we don't approach these numbers with the appropriate context. In this presentation, Dr. Josh Packard, director of The Dechurching Project, combines original research from his book, *Church Refugees*, to help shift perspectives to understand religious disengagement accurately so we can craft solutions that work.

### **Shalom Sistas: Everyday Peacemaking for Ordinary Women**

Osheta Moore  
2504A

We love God's dream of shalom — for a world that is whole, vibrant and flourishing. But honestly, who's got the time? In this session, women of all ages will explore the "Shalom Sistas Manifesto," 12 points of the practices of everyday peacemaking that invite us to live fully the radical peace of Jesus in our ordinary lives. Come and learn how you too can be a "Shalom Sista," a woman who loves people, follows the Prince of Peace and never gives up her sass.

## Afternoon Activities

### **Musical Drama: Mary Magdalene's Journey - a Blues Gospel**

4:00 - 5:00 p.m.  
2300 Lobby

Mary Magdalene moves from tormented outsider to chosen teacher in this 45-minute theatrical piece of good news blues. Unlike pop culture portrayals of a repentant prostitute, this script and song present a woman discovering her voice and calling. Mary Sprunger-Froese, artist-in-residence with RAWtools, is joined by blues musicians Bryan Miller and Vern Rempel.

### **Center for Sustainable Climate Solutions Meeting**

4:00 - 5:30 p.m.  
2209

The Center for Sustainable Climate Solutions (CSCS) invites the attendance of any interested in learning about CSCS activities in the Mennonite church and community. We extend a special invitation to those interested in pastoral workshops on climate change as we discuss the ways that congregations can engage with climate issues.

### **MCC Friends Gathering**

4:00 - 5:30 p.m.  
2503AB

Come, all who have ever volunteered in an MCC Thrift Shop, at a relief sale, when the mobile cannery comes to your area or in any other way. Come, all who have served in an MCC assignment, whether for many years, for one year, for a few months — whether far away or in your home town. Come, all who have prayed for or supported MCC. Come if you just want to learn more about MCC! Drop in at the MCC Friends Gathering for refreshments and conversation.

### **Family Bouncin' Dance Party**

4:00 - 7:30 p.m.  
1501

Convention guests of all ages can bounce, race and do the Cupid Shuffle! This family-friendly event will feature an inflatable bounce house for the little ones and a two-lane inflatable obstacle course for older children and teens. There will be a few surprises as well, all set to tunes the whole family can enjoy!

### **MEA Mission, Vision and Strategic Plan – We invite you to provide your feedback!**

6:15 - 7:15 p.m.  
2208

The Mennonite Education Agency (MEA) has been going through a period of re-defining itself, endeavoring to serve the church and its partner schools most effectively. MEA, Mennonite Higher Education Association (MHEA), the Mennonite Schools Council (MSC) and Hispanic Ministries have been working to develop a new mission, vision statement and strategic plan that more clearly focuses and guides their work together. A new document will be presented that outlines a new, more dynamic relationship between the church and the schools. We are inviting anyone interested to come and join us in a time of dialogue. We want to listen and receive your feedback on the new directions.

## Worship



### **Peace Be With You**

7:30 - 9:00 p.m.

Ballroom

Speaker: Sue Park-Hur

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.

## Evening Activities

### Faith Formation Gathering

9:15 - 10:30 p.m.

2204

Faith formation pastors and leaders, come meet your peers and hear about the exciting things planned to equip you in the coming year! Connect with other faith formation leaders around what's going well, what's challenging and what you need. Hosted by Denominational Minister Shana Peachey Boshart and the MC USA Faith Formation Leadership Team.

### Young Adults Conversing with MC USA Leadership

9:15 - 10:30 p.m.

2203

Young adults are invited to meet Executive Director Glen Guyton and members of the Executive Board for conversation about our church's future. Come get to know our top leaders.

### AMBS Alumni and Friends

9:15 - 10:45 p.m.

2505B

All alumni and friends of Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary are warmly invited to connect with each other and seminary employees at this gathering!

### Hesston College Alumni and Friends Gathering

9:15 - 10:45 p.m.

2502AB

All Hesston alumni and friends are invited to a reception for conversation and renewing of friendships. Hear President Joe Manickam share about Hesston's Global Engagement efforts, as well as other new initiatives. Enjoy an opportunity to visit with President Manickam and college representatives.

### Menno Nite of Music

9:15 - 10:45 p.m.

2300 Lobby

Come join us for an evening featuring performances of diverse styles of music. The Walking Roots Band will be performing along with several other groups.



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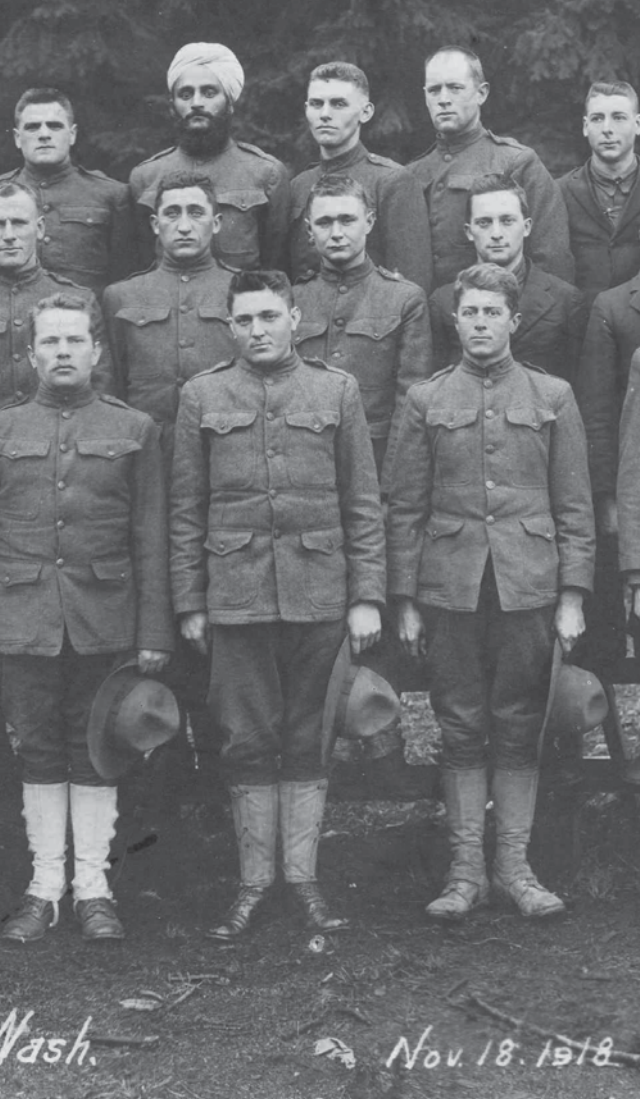


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## The Mennonite Church USA Archives seeks to inspire people worldwide to follow Jesus Christ by engaging them with the historical record of Mennonite Christian discipleship.

As the official repository for the historical records of MC USA, we are one of many organizations working to preserve the collective heritage of the Anabaptist and Mennonite community in North America.

### *Ways to get involved:*

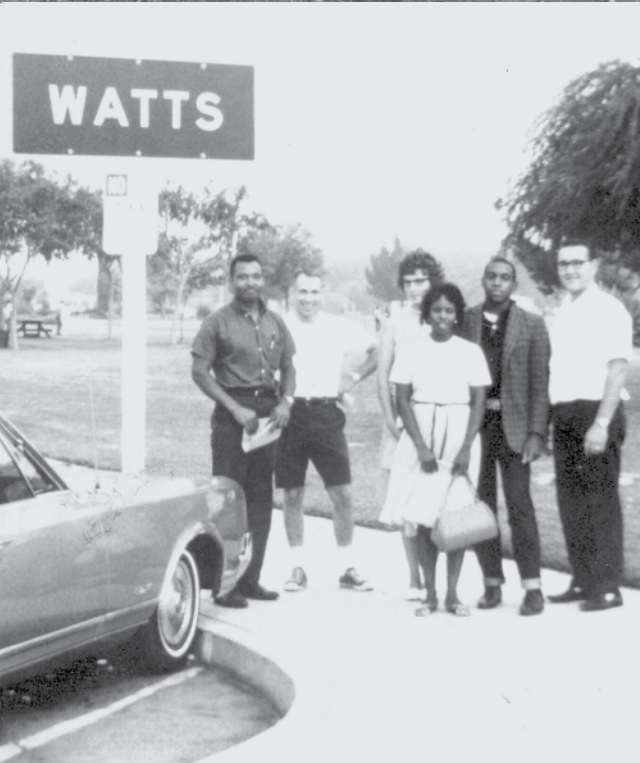
- Explore our collection of over 10,000 historical photographs (and counting) and help us identify those pictured at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/mennonitechurchusa-archives>
- Donate materials – We are available to consult with you about you or your congregation's historical records. If we cannot accept them, we will connect you with a more appropriate repository.
- Volunteer – through SOOP or on your own – to help the archives organize collections and digitize photographs and documents for broader access.
- Give! Your financial contributions enable us to make our collections available to the public and support our efforts to preserve at-risk materials such as audio and film recordings.

### **Get in touch!**

If you care about Mennonite history and the preservation of our shared story, send us an email or give us a call. We would love to hear your ideas about how we can best serve the denomination as we journey forward together.

Contact Jason Kauffman at 574-523-3059 or by email at [JasonK@MennoniteUSA.org](mailto:JasonK@MennoniteUSA.org) or [Archives@MennoniteUSA.org](mailto:Archives@MennoniteUSA.org)

Check out the resources available on our website: [mennoniteusa.org/what-we-do/archives/](http://mennoniteusa.org/what-we-do/archives/)



**Mennonite Church USA Archives**







## THURSDAY, JULY 4, 2019

### Morning Activities

6:30 - 7:30 a.m.	Morning Run	Hotel Lobby
7:00 - 7:30 a.m.	Zumba	ExHall B
8:00 - 8:45 a.m.	Squad Pep Rally - Green	2101
	Squad Pep Rally - Blue	2105
	Squad Pep Rally - Orange	2215A
	Squad Pep Rally - Red	2501D
	Squad Pep Rally - White	2505A
8:00 - 11:45 a.m.	Infant/Toddler Care	1501C
	Children's Programming	1501
8:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.	Junior Youth Programming	2215C
8:15 - 10:00 a.m.	Delegate Equipping	3501

### Adult Seminars

9:00 - 10:00 a.m.	Alternatives to Military Service Network	2205
	Beyond Sunday School — Nurturing Faith in Our Children	2503AB
	From Zurich to Addis Ababa: Why the Global Church Matters	2201
	Israel-Palestine 101	2215B
	Restorative Justice Practices in Mennonite PreK-12 Schools: An Everyday Practice	2202
	Seeing Power as God Sees It: A Matthean Case Study	2203
	Talking About the 90 Percent	2104A
	Ten Things I Learned as a Church Leader	2206

### Intergenerational Seminars

9:00 - 10:00 a.m.	Four Practices. Eight Words:	2102B
	A Practice-Based Approach to Anabaptist Living	
	Listening for God's Voice at Every Age and Stage	2504A

### Youth Seminars

9:00 - 10:00 a.m.	Big Questions 2	2209
	A Different Kind of Leader	2502AB
	I Finally Wanna Be Alive: Teen Suicide and Support	2105
	Experiencing God	2102A
	Learning to Love Our Places	2505B
	Making Peace With Conflict	2104B
	Science and Faith	2101
	Stop Being Christianish: Fighting the MTD God Through the Biblical Narrative	2103B



What Does it Mean To Be a Disciple of Christ?: Talking About the Great Commission	2103C
Who Am I? Finding Our Identity in Christ	2505A
Your Movie in the Making: 10 Things That Can Ruin Your College Experience (It's Not What You Think)	2103A

## Youth Sponsor Seminar

9:00 - 10:00 a.m.	R-Rated Scripture and Youth Ministry	2204
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## Afternoon Activities

10:30 - 11:30 a.m.	<b>Worship - Glad They Saw the Lord</b>	Ballroom
11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.	Lunch	Ex Hall C
11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.	Exhibit Hall Open	Ex Hall D
11:30 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.	Recreation Hall Open	Ex Hall B
1:15 - 5:30 p.m.	Infant/Toddler Care Children's Programming	1501C 1501
1:30 - 2:30 p.m.	Squads	Ballroom
1:30 - 3:45 p.m.	Delegate Session	3501

## Adult Seminars

1:30 - 2:30 p.m.	Declaration of Solidarity With Indigenous Peoples: Hearing the Stories	2204
	Mystics, Misfits, and Mennonites	2505A
	Postmodern Worship That Crosses Barriers	2206
	Preserving Mennonite Stories Through Oral History	3501D
	Ready, Set, Go — Churches Planting Churches	2504B
	(Re)Vitalize: Leadership Practices That Nurture New Life	2201
	Teaching Peace to Children: Learning From African Peace Clubs	2205
	UnCovering Meanings of Our Practices	2505B
	Women Discovering Abundance: Let Go To Give More	2502AB

## Adult Seminars

2:45 - 3:45 p.m.	Leading the Church Today: Transferable Concepts in Church Leadership	2206
	Preaching and Politics: Proclamation in a Polarized Time	2202
	Prepare the Way: Anticipating the Arrival of <i>Voices Together</i>	2209
	What To Do about Gaza	2203
	Who is Under Your Carbon Footprint?	2205

## Intergenerational Seminars

2:45 - 3:45 p.m.	Anger and Forgiveness: Gifts To Share	2104A
	Reading the Bible's Toughest Texts	2101
	Why Did Jesus Die and What Difference Does It Make?	2105
	You Got Booked	2501D

### **Young Adult Seminar**

2:45 - 3:45 p.m.      The Enneagram as a Tool for Personal Growth      2201

### **Youth Seminar**

2:45 - 3:45 p.m.      Big Questions 2      2215B  
A Different Kind of Leader      2502AB  
Do You See What I See?      2103A  
Experiencing God      2104B  
Finding Your Voice      2103B  
Making Peace With Conflict      2102A  
Praying All Ways and Always      2505A  
Science and Faith: How Do They Inform Each Other?      2505B  
What Does It Mean to Be a Disciple of Christ?:  
Talking About the Great Commission      2103C

### **Youth Sponsor Seminar**

2:45 - 3:45 p.m.      The Impact of Pornography on the Developing  
Adolescent Brain      2102B

### **Adult Seminars**

4:00 - 5:00 p.m.      Christian Community Development: Equipping Your  
Congregation to Minister to the World Around You      2502AB  
The Fire in Our Words: Blessing and Cursing in a  
Culture of Violence      2205  
Invitation to a Discipleship Learning Community      2206  
MWC Assembly 2021: Learning to Know the  
Mennonite Churches of Indonesia      2201  
Scriptural Roots of Justice-Making in the 21st Century      2215B  
Soul Tending: Journey Into the Heart of Sabbath      2102B  
Ya Llegamos — We Have Arrived      2203  
4:00 - 5:30 p.m.      Creating a Church Peace Tax Fund      2204

### **Intergenerational Seminars**

4:00 - 5:00 p.m.      RAWPower Nonviolence Workshop      2501D  
Who is My Neighbor? Peacemaking Through  
Community Engagement      2505B  
4:00 - 5:30 p.m.      Putting Jesus on the Ballot      2101

### **Young Adult Seminar**

4:00 - 5:00 p.m.      Sharing Your Faith in a Pluralist Society      2104A

### **Youth Seminars**

4:00 - 5:00 p.m.      Being a Christian Athlete      2215A  
Juvenile Probation Officer by Day and  
Unashamedly Rap Artist by Night      2104B  
Pathways of Encountering God      2103B  
Stop Being Christianish: Fighting the MTD God Through the  
Biblical Narrative      2103A  
Suicide's Impact: More Than One Life      2209

## Thursday, July 4

4:00 - 5:30 p.m.	Walking in Someone Else's Shoes	2505A
	Undo, Redo and Make New: Living Out the Design and Call of God Through the Power of Habits	2103C

### Featured Seminars

4:00 - 5:30 p.m.	The ABCs of RST — Assessing Behaviors of the Church as it Relates to Recovery, Sexual Abuse and Trauma	2105
	Iglesias que Rejuvenecen: 6 Claves para trabajar con los jóvenes Latinos (en Español)	3501D
	Forbearance — Suffering, Patient, and Hopeful Love	3501

### Evening Activities

4:00 - 5:30 p.m.	Missional Discipleship Initiative Gathering	2202
	Mennonite Spiritual Directors Network Gathering	2208
4:00 - 11:00 p.m.	Exhibit Hall Open	Ex Hall D
5:30 - 7:00 p.m.	Dinner	Ex Hall C
	People of Color Dinner	2503AB
6:00-7:00 p.m.	Mennonite Concerto Practice	3501
7:00 - 8:30 p.m.	Menno-It-All	2300 Lobby
	Team Trivia Night	Higher Ed Booth
7:15 - 8:45 p.m.	Mennonite World Conference: a growing global community	2209
	MVS 75th Birthday Celebration/Reunion	2204
	Young Adult Networking for Creation Care	2206
7:15 - 9:15 p.m.	Mennonite Concerto	3501
7:30 - 8:30 p.m.	MEA Mission, Vision and Strategic Plan – We invite you to provide your feedback!	2208
8:45 - 10:00 p.m.	MEA Executive Director Carlos Romero Farewell Open House	2208
9:15 - 10:00 p.m.	Hymn Sing	3501
9:15 - 10:45 p.m.	Mennonite Palestine-Israel Network (Menno-PIN) Reception	2203
9:15 - 11:00 p.m.	Young Adult Outing	2206

## Thursday, July 4

### Morning Run

**6:30 - 7:30 a.m.**

Meet in the lobby of your hotel and join others for a run to start your day.

### Zumba

**7:00 - 7:30 a.m.**

ExHall B

Join others in the Rec Hall to start your day by getting your blood flowing. Zumba will be led by Jill Schlabach, certified instructor.

### Squad Pep Rally

**8:00 - 8:45 a.m.**

**Blue** - 2105

**Green** - 2101

**Orange** - 2215A

**Red** - 2501D

**White** - 2505A

Join your Squad for a time to connect and prepare for the day.

## Adult Seminars

**9:00 - 10:00 a.m.**

### Alternatives to Military Service Network

Jason Boone

2205

Come learn about the new Alternatives to Military Service network and how you can volunteer to keep young adults out of the military.

### Beyond Sunday School — Nurturing Faith in Our Children

Joyce Peachey Lind

2503AB

In this interactive seminar participants will consider faith formation practices for children from an Anabaptist-Mennonite perspective. What faith practices will enable children to flourish in the congregational setting — not just in age level classes on Sunday morning, but also in worship and throughout the life of the congregation? Come prepared to share ideas and learn from other participants.

### From Zurich to Addis Ababa: Why the Global Church Matters

John D. Roth

2201

During the past 40 years, membership in the global Anabaptist-Mennonite fellowship has more than tripled, with the overwhelming majority of this growth occurring in

churches in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Yet often when we hear these reports, we don't know what this new reality means for our local congregations or conferences. This seminar addresses the question: why does the global church matter? It will also suggest ways in which the vitality of the global church might be an inspiration to renewal for the Mennonite churches in North America.

### Israel-Palestine 101

Jonathan Kuttub

2215B

Confused about the complicated situation in Israel-Palestine? Come learn from people with first-hand experience about the history and current events in the region, Mennonite involvement there, and ways you can act for peace.

### Restorative Justice Practices in Mennonite PreK-12 Schools: An Everyday Practice

Conrad Swartzentruber and Pam Tieszen

2202

Restorative justice serves Mennonite PreK-12 schools well during this particular time of increased polarization and individualism within our schools, churches and communities. Conrad Swartzentruber, Superintendent of Dock Mennonite Academy, and Pam Tieszen, superintendent of Lancaster Mennonite Schools, will share best practices, stories of success and a case study for participants to experience firsthand.

### Seeing Power as God Sees It: A Matthean Case Study

Dorothy Jean Weaver

2203

In this workshop participants will examine the upside-down character of power in the real world from the God's-eye view of Matthew's first-century Gospel. We will then reflect on the significance of this perspective on power for North American Christians living in the 21st-century world of 9/11, mega-powers, the global refugee crisis, and local/global violence. This workshop will be an interactive Bible study. Please bring your Bibles and prepare to participate.

### Talking About the 90 Percent

Beryl Jantzi

2104A

When we talk about money in church, it's usually about giving, but that's not the whole story. More attention needs to focus on the other 90 percent. There are 2,300 scriptures addressing money and possessions, while 40 percent of Americans spend more than they earn. Learn practical tools on how to teach others to faithfully manage money.



## **Ten Things I Learned as a Church Leader**

Dennis Gingerich  
2206

Church leadership is challenging. Dennis has 40 years of leadership experience. Leading a church of 50 or a church of 3,000 has similarities and differences. Dennis has pastored both, and every size in between. He will share ten key things he has learned that will help pastors, board members and potential church leaders grow their leadership skills and understandings. Dennis and Linda Gingerich founded Cape Christian in Cape Coral, Florida, in 1986 with two other couples. Dennis developed a leadership succession plan that he implemented 10 years ago. Now 3,000 people attend one of five services every weekend.

## **Intergenerational Seminars**

**9:00 – 10:00 a.m.**

### **Four Practices. Eight Words: A Practice-Based Approach to Anabaptist Living**

Michael Danner  
2102B

Do you want your faith to inform your every day life? Do you desire to move your faith from your head to your hands and feet? That's where I found myself. I knew what I believed. I knew how I wanted to live. Yet often, in the midst of everyday life, my faith was not the first thing on my mind. In response, I sought to develop some handles that would help me carry my faith with me every day. The result is what I call four practices in eight words. Come check out one way to take your faith with you.

### **Listening for God's Voice at Every Age and Stage**

Karla Minter  
2504A

Become equipped to notice and respond to God's call in your life using the biblical story, your story and contemplative prayer practices.

## **Youth Seminars**

**9:00 – 10:00 a.m.**

### **Big Questions 2**

David Cramer  
2209

What is God's word and how can I hear it? Each Big Questions equipping seminar starts with a short, TED Talk-style mini-lecture with the rest of the time spent in interactive discussion. Take each equipping seminar in sequence or join for the particular one(s) of interest. The facilitator, David Cramer, has his Ph.D. in theology and teaches at AMBS in addition to serving as teaching pastor at Keller Park Church in South Bend, Indiana.

## **A Different Kind of Leader**

Eric Frey Martin, Kelly Frey Martin, and Oscar Suarez  
2502AB

In our world today, it is easy to look at those in leadership or governing positions and think that being a leader means being arrogant, rich, selfish, imposing your will on others and being the loudest voice in the room. However, in Jesus, we see a different kind of leadership. Jesus teaches us that to be a leader means that we seek first to serve and empower others. In this interactive seminar, we will look at what it means to be a leader in the style of Jesus, and how this can impact the world around us.

## **I Finally Wanna Be Alive: Teen Suicide and Support**

JE Misz  
2105

Suicide is the second leading cause of death for teenagers in the U.S., and this is affecting our schools, churches and youth groups. This seminar will use music, poetry and clinical insights to address common mental health myths, the unique strengths and challenges of today's adolescents, and tools for youth and youth sponsors to address adolescent anxiety, depression and suicide.

## **Experiencing God**

Aaron Yoder  
2102A

God's written word is available and his Spirit wants to speak to you. However, it can be so difficult to quiet our minds and listen for God's voice. Come and learn the practice of biblical meditation (sometimes called Lectio Divina) so you can grow deeper with your heavenly father.

## **Learning to Love Our Places**

Jennifer Schrock  
2505B

How can people in a mobile society develop an intimate knowledge of their local ecosystems, church property and the flora and fauna that God created and blessed? Drawing on practices from the field of environmental education, we'll experiment with ideas for worship, Bible study, landscaping and ecological justice. Learning to love what God loves is fun!

## **Making Peace With Conflict**

Jes Stoltzfus Buller and Steve Thomas  
2104B

When faced with difficult conflicts or aggression, how shall we respond? This seminar will teach basic skills from the Peacemakers program for communication, problem solving, and control of fear, anger and aggression. Some of this is based on martial arts training for respecting people and defense skills that seek to stop violence without harming anyone. Come join this equipping seminar and learn to make peace with conflict by practicing these skills!

## Science and Faith

Peter Goerzen

2101

Are science and faith contradictory, or can they be mutually enriching? Come and raise questions and discuss possibilities of a spirituality for the analytical mind.

## Stop Being Christianish: Fighting the MTD God Through the Biblical Narrative

Michele Hershberger

2103B

In this seminar, we'll discuss one of the major problems facing our congregations — the MTD god and its cousin American Civil Religion — and learn strategies for defeating these imposters. How can the biblical narrative, told rightly and told well, both reveal the true God of the Bible and captivate everyone in the congregation? Join Michele Hershberger for this discussion.

## What Does It Mean To Be a Disciple of Christ?: Talking About the Great Commission

Scott Roth

2103C

Jesus said go and make disciples. So, what does it mean to be a disciple? How do I make them? Let's talk about what does it mean to follow and be like Christ in the world, yet not of it.

## Who Am I? Finding Our Identity in Christ

Josh Lundberg

2505A

We often find our identity in our abilities, grades, talents, appearance or even what others say about us. But should we? We'll explore what it means to find our identity in Christ.

## Your Movie in the Making: 10 Things That Can Ruin Your College Experience (It's Not What You Think)

Rachel Swartzendruber Miller

2103A

It is never too early to start planning for life after high school. As students embark on their post high school adventures they are typically well prepared for the obvious (academics, financials and dorm room essentials), but often overlook the pitfalls that are not so obvious (dad's texting habits, where to sit in the dining hall, your favorite video game or where your faith fits in). Through a "Name that Movie" game format, come discuss your next chapter of life in order to find out how well prepared you are for college life. All ages of high school students are welcome to attend.

## Youth Sponsor Seminar

9:00 - 10:00 a.m.

### R-Rated Scripture and Youth Ministry

Sarah and Benjamin Bixler

2204

You'd think twice about showing a rated-R movie to your Youth group, but would you think twice about encouraging them to read their Bible? Whether passages about violence against women, rejection of ethnic groups or explicit sexual material, there are texts the church may want to restrict for faith formation. But should it do so? This seminar will guide youth sponsors in wrestling with troubling texts that are often ignored in the church, yet they remain part of the biblical story. Sponsors will gain tools for understanding some of these passages in their original context, and consider how to respond when youth raise questions about them.

## Worship

### Glad They Saw the Lord

10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Ballroom

Speaker: Storytellers



Abby King lives in Lancaster, PA. She is a senior at Goshen College. She enjoys cooking, reading and gardening.



John Murray lives in Hesston, KS. He works for Hesston College as Dean of Global Engagement. He loves baseball and is the second of three generations of people named "John Murray" who are credentialed ministers in Mennonite Church USA.



Marisa Smucker lives in Goshen, IN. She works for Mennonite Mission Network and is studying part-time at AMBS. She enjoys dog and cat sitting since she doesn't have time or accommodations for any pets of her own.

## Adult Seminars

1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

### **Declaration of Solidarity With Indigenous Peoples: Hearing the Stories**

Jonathan Neufeld and Sarah Augustine  
2204

In April 2018, the Mennonite World Conference (MWC) General Council approved and adopted a “Declaration of Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples.” This workshop will share how this declaration came to be, including some of the struggle stories of indigenous groups, some of whom are members of MWC. But, with its adoption, we also want to explore what it means for member churches to live into this document and commitment. What does it mean for Mennonite Church USA to adopt and embrace this declaration? How can the MWC Peace Commission further support our indigenous member churches as well as encourage other member churches to explore what this declaration means for them and their contexts?

### **Mystics, Misfits, and Mennonites**

Christiana Peterson  
2505A

How do Christian mystics like Francis of Assisi, Simone Weil, and Dorothy Day help us find sustenance for the everyday struggles of life? Join Christiana Peterson as she tells her story of discovering the writings of the mystics. With untested ideals and a thirst for adventure, Peterson and her family moved to an intentional Mennonite farming community in the rural Midwest. It sounded like a simple and faithful way to follow Jesus, not to mention a great place to raise kids. Peterson discovered that community life is never really simple and that she needed resources beyond her own to weather the anxiety and exhaustion of trying to save a dying farm and a floundering congregation. Come and encounter the God of the wild mystics and the weird misfits.

### **Post-Modern Worship That Crosses Barriers**

Joshua and Alisha Garber  
2206

An interactive mix of practical, technical and philosophical ways of approaching postmodern worship leading that should both encourage and challenge attendees. Focus will be primarily on musical worship but will also touch on several other liturgical practices and is open to all who are curious about what the future of modern worship may look like. The seminar will be facilitated by Joshua and Alisha Garber, who have served in a postmodern, post-Christendom European context for the past six years with Mennonite Mission Network.

### **Preserving Mennonite Stories Through Oral History**

Jean Kilheffer Hess and Jason Kauffman  
2504A

This seminar will introduce practical tools and skills for conducting oral histories that participants can take back to their congregations and communities. In line with the Journey Forward’s emphasis on storytelling from across the denomination, this seminar will equip participants to record and preserve the stories of Mennonites for future generations.

### **Ready, Set, Go — Churches Planting Churches**

Mauricio Chenlo  
3501D

What is a peace church plant and how is God calling you to be a church planter? Church planter discernment tools will be used in this session to help you discern.

### **(Re)Vitalize: Leadership Practices that Nurture New Life**

Michael Danner  
2201

The answer to solving many challenges is be more careful or try harder. But in some cases, trying harder and being more careful doesn’t make a difference; the challenge is the system not the effort. The premise of this seminar is that trying harder within the same system will get the same results (or worse). If the steering wheel in your car is off, driving faster won’t fix it. When it comes to church vitality — or revitalizing your church — perhaps new practices, which birth new systems, can lead to new life. Together we will explore church leadership practices and postures that can create space for new things to happen.

### **Teaching Peace to Children: Learning From African Peace Clubs**

Jes Stoltzfus Buller, Bruce and Betsy McCrae  
2205

Peace Clubs, the name of an initiative that began in Zambia, Africa, have been adopted by hundreds of schools, churches and community organizations in at least 13 African nations, Canada and the U.S. Peace Clubs use storytelling, role plays, discussion and other activities to help participants learn how to promote positive relationships. Participants learn strategies to reduce and prevent conflict, including listening to and respecting other points of view, sharing their own ideas respectfully, and seeing differences as strengths, not weaknesses. In the U.S. context where trauma, violence and division are being modeled to and experienced by children, there is huge opportunity for churches and communities to replicate Peace Clubs. Come hear stories from Peace Clubs in Africa and learn how to lead activities and access resources to implement Peace Clubs with the children in your communities and churches.

## UnCovering Meanings of Our Practices

Melody Pannell and Sarah Bixler

2505B

Mennonites have long been known for communal practices that set us apart as a contrast society. Taking the head covering in the 20th century as a case study, we will hear what it meant to women in different Mennonite communities such as Harlem, Lancaster, South Texas and Philadelphia. How and why did it fall out of practice? In considering this specific case, this interactive seminar will equip participants to discern deeper meanings of our current formative practices across the church today.

## Women Discovering Abundance: Let Go to Give More

Cyneatha Millsaps and Rhoda Blough

2502AB

Come and join other women who want to make a difference in the world. Together with Mennonite Women USA and Everence, we will learn how our money connects us to our faith and value systems and who we want to be.

## Adult Seminars

2:45 - 3:45 p.m.

### Leading the Church Today: Transferable Concepts in Church Leadership

Esdras Ferreras, Dennis Gingrich, Leslie Francisco III, Michael Danner

2206

This seminar will feature a panel discussion from three pastors who lead dynamic congregations within MC USA. What do they do? How do they do it? Are there things we can learn from their approach to church leadership? The discussion will center around transferable practices.

### Preaching and Politics: Proclamation in a Polarized Time

John Tyson

2202

It's been said that preachers should hold the Bible in one hand and the newspaper in the other when delivering a sermon. We now hold iPhones, but preachers are still following the news of the week as they discern how to proclaim the good news on Sunday. Our politically polarized time presents new challenges for the task of prophetic preaching. Many preachers are called to speak against injustice, yet also feel pressure to avoid being labeled "too political." Many preachers fear that their words will inevitably be received through the lens of party politics and sow division in the congregation. How do we preach with a prophetic voice in a highly polarized time? This seminar consists of a diverse panel of preachers who will share experiences and

insights related to preaching, politics and the challenge to remain prophetic.

### Prepare the Way: Anticipating the Arrival of *Voices Together*

Bradley Kauffman and Benjamin Bergey

2209

Learn about available formats slated for *Voices Together*, a new hymnal for Mennonite Church USA and Mennonite Church Canada. General editor Bradley Kauffman and music editor Benjamin Bergey will highlight the suite of products available to worship leaders, song leaders and audio/video workers in anticipation of a 2020 release.

### What To Do About Gaza

Jonathan Kuttub

2203

The humanitarian situation in Gaza is at an all time low. Our call to "the least of these" demands that we take action. Come hear from a Palestinian Christian on ways that we in Mennonite Church USA can stop being part of the problem, and start being part of the solution.

### Who is Under Your Carbon Footprint?

Sibonokuhle Ncube and Vurayayi Pugen

2205

Have you thought about who is under your carbon footprint? As the impacts of climate change become increasingly obvious, we need to hear from our sisters and brothers around the world who are feeling the greatest impact of climate change. This session will focus on firsthand accounts from the global south of the shifting climate and its effects on individual communities. Perspectives from the global south will be used to discuss what it means to faithfully respond as a church to this central challenge. Participants are invited to consider what this means in their daily life, ranging from individual lifestyle choices to opportunities for influencing institutional policies.

## Intergenerational Seminars

2:45 - 3:45 p.m.

### Anger and Forgiveness: Gifts To Share

Mark and Mary Hurst

2104A

Our Mennonite/Anabaptist peace tradition has something to offer people and congregations when they experience conflict. In Australia and New Zealand, Anabaptists are looked to for help when conflict confronts individuals and churches. What are the skills we should be using in our congregations as well as sharing with others — particularly around the issues of anger and forgiveness? In this workshop we explore anger: What is it? Are there appropriate times to be angry? Was Jesus



ever angry? What strategies can be used when you are angry? We will also look at forgiveness as a way to free up people from deep-seated anger. We are often told to forgive others but are not given the skills to do it. We will present a number of forgiveness “how-tos” so participants can begin their own forgiveness journey. Mark and Mary Hurst are long term mission workers in Australia and New Zealand. They lead workshops and teach courses on conflict transformation and consult with churches in conflict.

## **Reading the Bible's Toughest Texts**

Meghan Larissa Good

2101

Some stories in the Bible seem particularly dark — full of violence and curses and the threat of terrible judgment. In this seminar we'll explore why these sorts of texts are present in the Bible. We'll discuss what we make of God's apparent implication in scenes of horror and even genocide. Most of all, we'll look at how these texts are relevant to our lives today as 21st century Anabaptist Christians.

## **Why Did Jesus Die and What Difference Does It Make?**

Michele Hershberger

2105

The Jesus Way happens when God's will is done on earth as it is in heaven. But what does it mean to walk the Jesus Way? How can we who claim the name of Christ understand and reflect the image of God in the 21st century? Join Bible scholar Michele Hershberger as she unpacks various understandings about why Jesus died and what difference Jesus' death has on our lives today. Come away with fresh insights on the atonement (understanding why Jesus died), a deepened faith and an inspired witness.

## **You Got Booked**

Krista Dutt, Hyacinth Stevens, Karin Kaufman Wall

2501D

“You Got Booked” is a life-sized board game that highlights racial disparities in the U.S. criminal justice system. Players are assigned to character roles with resources that will ultimately determine their paths in the game. The session ends with group conversation on how participants can continue to work after convention on issues raised here.

## **Young Adult Seminar**

2:45 - 3:45 p.m.

## **The Enneagram as a Tool for Personal Growth**

Jaime Horst

2201

The Enneagram is a tool for understanding ourselves — our strengths and weaknesses, our underlying motivations and

fears. By working with the Enneagram, we can gain insight into why we act and react in certain ways, and thus learn to take responsibility for our own behaviors and growth. Understanding these personality types also provides a framework that can help us build healthier relationships out of a deeper understanding of other people. This seminar will offer a basic introduction to the Enneagram and will allow participants to begin to identify their personality type and the relevant areas of growth and weakness.

## **Youth Seminars**

2:45 - 3:45 p.m.

## **Big Questions 2**

David Cramer

2215B

What is God's word and how can I hear it? Each Big Questions equipping seminar starts with a short, TED Talk-style mini-lecture with the rest of the time spent in interactive discussion. Take each equipping seminar in sequence or join for the particular one(s) of interest. The facilitator, David Cramer, has his PhD in theology and teaches at AMBS in addition to serving as teaching pastor at Keller Park Church in South Bend, Indiana.

## **A Different Kind of Leader**

Eric Frey Martin, Kelly Frey Martin, Oscar Suarez

2502AB

In our world today, it is easy to look at those in leadership or governing positions and think that being a leader means being arrogant, rich, selfish, imposing your will on others and being the loudest voice in the room. However, in Jesus, we see a different kind of leadership. Jesus teaches us that to be a leader means that we seek first to serve and empower others. In this interactive seminar, we will look at what it means to be a leader in the style of Jesus, and how this can impact the world around us.

## **Do You See What I See?**

John C. Murray

2103A

The answer to the question in the seminar title is “No, I don't see what you see. Nor do you see what I see.” We each see through the lenses of our own experiences, assumptions and perspectives. No one sees the complete picture. By engaging in an exercise utilizing glasses with colored lenses and various slides on a screen, participants will explore the challenges of seeing things through different lenses and learn the attitudes and communication skills that enable us to see a more complete picture that is larger than the limitations of our own perceptions.

## **Experiencing God**

Aaron Yoder  
2104B

God's written word is available and his Spirit wants to speak to you. However, it can be so difficult to quiet our minds and listen for God's voice. Come and learn the practice of biblical mediation (sometimes called Lectio Divina) so you can grow deeper with your heavenly father.

## **Finding Your Voice**

Brenda L. Yoder  
2103B

Is it really okay to be assertive or to refuse to people-please? Can we be empowered to be clear about our individual needs? With Jesus as our model boundary-setter, come and learn ways to set healthy boundaries with friends and family members and at school, church and during extracurriculars. This training was presented at Dove's Nest and Mennonite Women USA's 2018 Empowering Women and Girls Conference.

## **Making Peace With Conflict**

Jes Stoltzfus Buller and Steve Thomas  
2102A

When faced with difficult conflicts or aggression, how shall we respond? This seminar will teach basic skills from the Peacemakers program for communication, problem solving and control of fear, anger and aggression. Some of this is based on martial arts training for respecting people and defense skills that seek to stop violence without harming anyone. Come join this equipping seminar and learn to make peace with conflict by practicing these skills!

## **Praying All Ways and Always**

Rachel Miller Jacobs  
2505A

Prayer is one important way we speak to God and hear from God. In this seminar, we will experiment with a variety of prayer practices including "short-attention-span prayers," praying Bible words, praying for others (and ourselves) and listening prayer. We will also think together about how to grow our practice of prayer. You don't need to be an experienced pray-er or someone who's convinced of the "power of prayer" to attend; all that's required is curiosity and the willingness to start where you are and go a little deeper.

## **Science and Faith: How Do They Inform Each Other?**

Wesley Horst  
2505B

Belief in God and belief in science have been flaunted as being as in opposition to each other or, in the very least,

incompatible. Explore your understanding of the universe and how that exploration can deepen your understanding of God. Find out how some important (and sometimes wacky) beliefs became common in Western Christian thought, so we can better understand and empathize with people we might disagree with. Hosted by Wes Horst, an elementary school teacher who's been seeking God through the Mennonite lens since he was born and has done so at Pittsburgh Mennonite Church since 2000.

## **What Does it Mean To Be a Disciple of Christ?: Talking About the Great Commission**

Scott Roth  
2103C

Jesus said go and make disciples. So, what does it mean to be a disciple? How do I make them? Let's talk about what does it mean to follow and be like Christ in the world, yet not of it.

## **Youth Sponsor Seminar**

2:45 - 3:45 p.m.

## **The Impact of Pornography on the Developing Adolescent Brain**

Chris Schaffner  
2102B

Exploring the impact that pornography has on culture and the individual. Pornography changes the brain and how we experience sex. Compulsive and obsessive consumption of pornography is wrecking the lives of young people everywhere and they are oblivious to it. This workshop provides details on how pornography impacts brain development and our ability to connect with people the way God intended. For pastors and parents too.

## **Adult Seminars**

4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

## **Christian Community Development: Equipping Your Congregation to Minister to the World Around You**

Leonard Dow and Dina Gonzalez-Piña  
2502AB

Discover the ways your congregation can deepen and expand its reach to the communities you serve through strategies and resources provided by Mennonite Central Committee U.S., Everence and the Christian Community Development Association (CCDA). Strengthen the biblical roots of your witness while enhancing your transformative presence to those in need around you. Join dozens of Anabaptist individuals, churches and organizations learning and engaging their local missions through the CCDA. What difference will you make in your community?

## **The Fire in Our Words: Blessing and Cursing in a Culture of Violence**

Gerald J. Mast

2205

Responding to our current culture of conflict and violence, this seminar offers a model for peaceable speech that includes confrontation as well as collaboration. Reconciling speech goes beyond the Greek model of civility rooted in rhetoric to incorporate a biblical vision of blessing grounded in wisdom. Such reconciling speech creates a path toward healing and hope by offering testimony, inviting repentance and accepting rejection.

## **Invitation to a Discipleship Learning Community**

Corben Weaver Boshart, Jessica Schrock-Ringenberg and Marvin Lorenzana

2206

Corben, Jessica and Marvin have been participating in a learning community through the missional discipleship organization Exponential. We envision a learning community of people across MC USA engaged in discipleship, leadership development and multiplication which supports one another through regular networking. We invite you to come to hear how you might join in!

## **MWC Assembly 2021: Learning to Know the Mennonite Churches of Indonesia**

John D. Roth

2201

In the summer of 2021, Anabaptist-Mennonites from around the world will be gathering in Semarang, Indonesia as part of the 17th Mennonite World Conference Assembly. This seminar will offer participants a glimpse into the emerging themes of that Assembly and provide a window into the three Mennonite groups who will be hosting the global gathering.

## **Scriptural Roots of Justice-Making in the 21st Century**

Sarah Augustine, Isaac Villegas, Luke Miller

2215B

We live in a fast-paced world that is interconnected, often violent and always changing. In such an environment, what are the scriptural resources that can sustain, equip and ground our commitments to justice-making in the 21st century? Representatives working in areas of racial, sexual, gender and environmental justice will explore the scriptural texts, stories and themes that give meaning to their work and offer an intersectional vision of healing and transformation.

## **Soul Tending: Journey Into the Heart of Sabbath**

Anita Amstutz

2102B

Soul Tending provides an accessible and engaging method to a shared understanding of Sabbath-keeping in the 21st century. Every chapter speaks to ways that people can unplug and return to the slower rhythms of Sabbath that provide reconnection with the Divine, the other and the self. Some themes are the sacrament of hospitality, the slow heartbeat of creation, simplicity, re-imagining work and recovering what makes your heart sing!

## **Ya Llegamos — We Have Arrived**

Margie Mejia-Caraballo

2203

This workshop will take participants through a historical journey of Hispanic Mennonites within the Mennonite church. It is through this journey that participants will be challenged to gain knowledge and skills from their Hispanic brothers and sisters to implement in their churches and communities.

## **Creating a Church Peace Tax Fund**

4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

H.A. Penner and John Stoner

2204

Desiring to teach one another the ways that make for peace in our congregations, this seminar proposes the creation of a Church Peace Tax Fund to resist the payment of federal taxes that underwrite killing, war and militarism. This seminar will encourage a faithful witness to the nonviolent life and ministry of Jesus who calls us to love God, the neighbor and the enemy. Churchwide inspiration and support of those who conscientiously object to the payment of war taxes while underwriting opportunities for active peacemaking will attract others to embrace the life-affirming and creation-saving grace of God.

## **Intergenerational Seminars**

4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

## **RAWPower Nonviolence Workshop**

Mary Sprunger-Froese

2501D

This seminar is for those seeking support and resources for becoming transformation agents in a verbally, emotionally, physically and institutionally violent culture. RAWtools' focus of "training for war no more" addresses the dismay and futility many feel about the pervasive violence in U.S. culture; the fears many have of stranger violence and mass shootings and gun violence; the inadequacy many feel at addressing sexist, ethnic, racial and LGBTQ harassment and verbal abuse. Beyond fight or flight, RAWPower offers tools for a third way. Mary Sprunger-Froese is Artist in Residence for RAWtools.

## **Who Is My Neighbor? Peacemaking Through Community Engagement**

Nathan Grieser, Lizzy Diaz, Andrew Mashas, Chris Landes  
2505B

Loving your neighbor starts with knowing your neighbor. As leaders of voluntary service organizations, we will share stories, insights and best practices related to active community engagement, with special attention to relational bridge-building. We will speak to how this happens in the United States and around the world, for people of all ages. This seminar will also invite participants to share stories and insights from their experience. Living as engaged neighbors is one way we serve others and seek peace according to the way of Jesus. This seminar will be facilitated by representatives from MCC, Mennonite Voluntary Service, Eastern Mennonite Missions and The Shalom Project.

## **Putting Jesus on the Ballot**

**4:00 - 5:30 p.m.**

Scott Peterson  
2101

The political tension in our country is growing at a rapid pace. As arguments rage and divisions widen, how should Christians respond? How can we form our political engagement with a perspective that reflects Christ's kingdom and not merely the political camps of our day? This seminar will explore how Anabaptist theology creates different paradigms for engaging government without capitulating to fallen systems or modern partisanship.

## **Youth Adult Seminar**

**4:00 - 5:00 p.m.**

## **Sharing Your Faith in a Pluralist Society**

Peter Goerzen  
2104A

What are the theological and ethical challenges — and possibilities — with witness in a plural society?

## **Youth Seminars**

**4:00 - 5:00 p.m.**

## **Being a Christian Athlete**

Isabelle Danner  
2215A

This seminar will explore how spiritual disciplines shape an athlete's posture and performance. Our presenter just completed her fourth season as a collegiate soccer player. She knows firsthand how you can grow in your faith as you improve on the field.

## **Juvenile Probation Officer by Day and Unashamedly Rap Artist by Night**

Al Motley, Jr.  
2104B

Iz-Real is a Christian rap artist who shares his testimony of God's faithfulness even in difficulty and brokenness.

## **Pathways of Encountering God**

Janeen Bertsche Johnson  
2103B

Based on Gary Thomas' book "Sacred Pathways: Discover Your Soul's Path to God," we will explore nine different ways Christians encounter God: thinking, contemplation, emotions, senses, nature, rituals, simplicity, caring for others and seeking justice. For each of the pathways, we will explore helpful tools and practices for continued growth. We will also ask how youth groups can provide meaningful opportunities for youth with a variety of approaches.

## **Stop Being Christianish: Fighting the MTD God Through the Biblical Narrative**

Michele Hershberger  
2103A

In this seminar, we'll discuss one of the major problems facing our congregations — the MTD god and its cousin American Civil Religion — and learn strategies for defeating these imposters. How can the biblical narrative, told rightly and told well, both reveal the true God of the Bible and captivate everyone in the congregation? Join Michele Hershberger for this discussion.

## **Suicide's Impact: More Than One Life**

Jayne Byler  
2209

This seminar will give a family and pastoral perspective on victims of suicide and its impact on those who loved them from a first person account. Jayne is a pastor whose daughter died in 2015 at age 22. She will share some of this journey and how she has sought to find healing over the past four years. She will also offer ways to relate to those struggling with suicidal thoughts as well as how to walk with their friends and family. This seminar will especially focus on giving youth the space and freedom to talk about this difficult topic.

## **Walking in Someone Else's Shoes**

Jonathan Nahar, Rachelle Lyndaker Schlabach  
2505A

If you like improv or just enjoy watching others do improv, join us for this simulation to see what happens when two teenagers — one Palestinian, one Israeli — are caught in the same act of throwing stones at a vehicle. We'll take some time after the simulation to debrief and talk about ways that youth and their leaders can be advocates to address the situation in Palestine and Israel.



## **Undo, Redo and Make New: Living Out the Design and Call of God through the Power of Habits**

4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

Josh Lundberg

2103C

We love the idea of change. We often try to change but change can be so incredibly hard. Why is that? Sometimes we really want to change, sometimes we really need to change and sometimes we know it would be wise to change. However, implementing and sustaining change towards the ideal, God-intended life is rarely easy. We are going to look at why it is so hard to change and how we can change to live out God's designed life for us.

## **Featured Seminars**

4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

### **The ABCs of RST — Assessing Behaviors of the Church as It Relates to Recovery, Sexual Abuse and Trauma**

Crystal Joseph

2105

This interactive seminar will examine the role of the church and its congregants in relation to recovery and healing from sexual abuse and traumas. Exploration of trauma categories, appropriate interventions and assessment of symptoms will be provided in a didactic fashion. Participants will be able to define abuse and trauma, give examples of the developmental impact of sexual abuse and traumas, and recognize referral sources in the community. Disclaimer: This seminar may address triggering topics.

### **Iglesias que Rejuvenecen: 6 Claves para trabajar con los jóvenes Latinos (en Español)**

Jennifer Guerra Aldana

3501D

En Fuller Youth Institute, creemos en la iglesia y creemos en los jóvenes. Las estadísticas nos dicen que la mayoría de jóvenes dejan la iglesia después de la edad de 18 años. Como no estábamos conformes con esa realidad, emprendimos una jornada de investigación que nos llevo 4 años para identificar las iglesias que están rejuveneciendo al ministrar a jóvenes entre los 19-30 años. Lo que descubrimos en nuestro estudio fue publicado en el libro Growing Young. Te invitamos a que vengas a aprender las estrategias que toda iglesia Latina necesita considerar para alcanzar la siguiente generación de jóvenes.

### **Forbearance — Suffering, Patient and Hopeful Love**

Tom Yoder Neufeld

3501

"Forbearance" has become almost exclusively associated with how we deal with differences over human sexuality. At other times in our faith family's life, it was church discipline, women

in church leadership, whether to participate in the military or whether to pay taxes going to the military, that tested our ability to walk together as the body of Christ. Some are suspicious that forbearance is a fancy term for tolerating what is indefensible, while others see its value precisely in relation to inclusion and tolerance. Others suspect it as buying time or delaying making hard decisions. But there are those who see forbearance as core to relationships within the body of Christ. In this seminar, we will explore forbearance biblically, and we will discover that it requires of us every ounce of faith, hope and love. It demands a radical commitment to peace, only now within the family of faith. While easily confused with a kind of cool tolerance and respect for individual autonomy, forbearance is nothing other than suffering each other in hope, the exercise of patient love. That is how we walk together as one body into the fullness of Christ.

## **Afternoon Activities**

4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

### **Mennonite Spiritual Directors Network Gathering**

2208

Come and join a circle of sharing how God is moving in and among Mennonite spiritual directors. If you are an active spiritual director, or interested in becoming one, you are welcomed to join the circle for sharing, connecting and networking.

### **Missional Discipleship Initiative Gathering**

2202

All past and present participants of the Missional Discipleship program are invited to join this gathering hosted by Marvin Lorenzana.

### **People of Color Dinner**

5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

2503AB

The Racial Ethnic Council invites all people of color to attend a special dinner to meet new people, network and hear about the Racial Ethnic Council and their work. The REC is sponsoring a youth/young adult gathering in 2020, and we'd like to hear your ideas.

\*Pre-registration required

## **Evening Activities**

### **Menno-It-All**

7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

2300 Lobby

This fast-paced trivia game geared towards adults and college students will test your knowledge of both the biblical and the secular. There's even a prize for the Biggest Menno-It-All of convention, so line up your team and get ready to put your brains to the test!

## **Team Trivia Night**

**7:00 - 8:30 p.m.**

Higher Ed Booth

You won't want to miss what has become a convention tradition! Join the Mennonite Colleges and Universities (MCU) 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 up your team at the MCU booth throughout the week. But sign up early, because space is limited. You just might know more than you think!

## **Mennonite World Conference: a Growing Global Community**

**7:15 - 8:45 p.m.**

2209

The global Anabaptist church is growing. Come hear stories of how the Holy Spirit is actively drawing people to Jesus Christ and transforming these people of God into communities of reconciliation and hope.

## **MVS 75th Birthday Celebration/Reunion**

**7:15 - 8:45 p.m.**

2204

Join us as we celebrate 75 years of Mennonite Voluntary Service. MVS alum are invited to gather and share their stories.

## **Young Adult Networking for Creation Care**

**7:15 - 8:45 p.m.**

2206

The Center for Sustainable Climate Solutions and Mennonite Creation Care Network invite young adults to gather for an open discussion about issues in creation care. Come hear about efforts at sustainability by students at college campuses and by recent college graduates. This is an opportunity to network with young adults who care about our impact on the planet and who are interested in the church actively engaging in solutions.

## **Mennonite Concerto**

**7:15 - 9:15 p.m.**

3501

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.

## **MEA Mission, Vision and Strategic Plan – We invite you to provide your feedback!**

**7:30 - 8:30 p.m.**

2208

The Mennonite Education Agency (MEA) has been going through a period of redefining itself, endeavoring to serve the church and its partner schools most effectively. MEA, Mennonite Higher Education Association (MHEA), the Mennonite Schools Council (MSC) and Hispanic Ministries have been working to develop a new mission, vision statement and strategic plan that more clearly focuses and guides their work together. A new document will be presented that outlines a new, more dynamic relationship between the church and the schools. We are inviting anyone interested to come and join us in a time of dialogue. We want to listen and receive your feedback on the new direction.

## **MEA Executive Director Carlos Romero Farewell Open House**

**8:45 - 10:00 p.m.**

2208

The Mennonite Board of Education cordially invites you to a farewell open house to honor Executive Director Carlos Romero who will be transitioning out of his role. Romero, who served as the first and only executive director for the agency, will be stepping down after 17 years following MennoCon19. Carlos' work and ministry has impacted many in his 25 years of denominational ministry in this role and other roles. The MEA Board is grateful for his leadership and invites you to say farewell to Carlos and wish him well in the next steps of his journey.

## **Hymn Sing**

**9:15 - 10:00 p.m.**

3501

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

## **Mennonite Palestine-Israel Network (Menno-PIN) Reception**

**9:15 - 10:45 p.m.**

2203

This reception will provide an opportunity for all people interested in the work of Menno-PIN to meet one another, learn more about the network and hear about recent developments in Israel-Palestine.

## **Young Adult Outing**

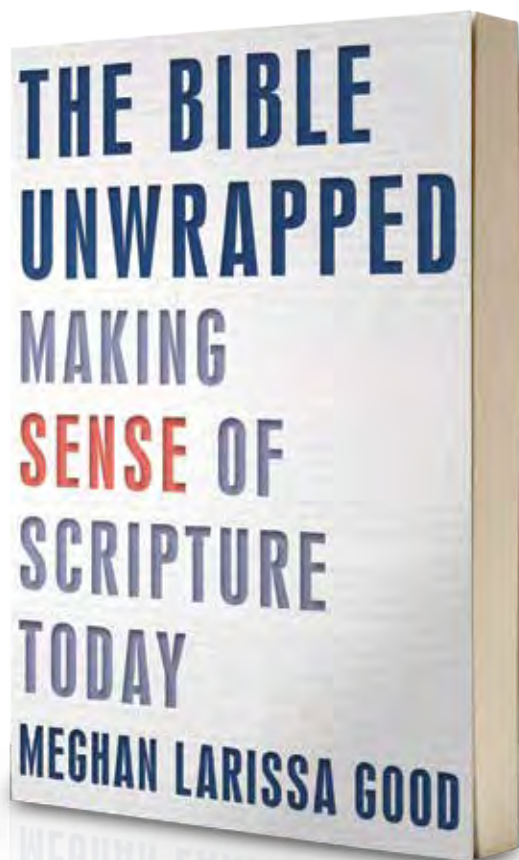
**9:15 - 11:00 p.m.**

2206

Join other young adults for a social outing! More details available during convention.



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**Meghan Larissa Good** is teaching pastor at Trinity Mennonite Church in Glendale, Arizona. She has degrees from Gordon College, Duke Divinity School, and Portland Seminary. In addition to being a passionate preacher and storyteller, she is in demand as a speaker on hermeneutics, Anabaptism, and millennials and the church.

**SPECIAL AUTHOR SIGNING WITH MEGHAN GOOD  
AFTER MORNING WORSHIP ON FRIDAY, JULY 5.**

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## FRIDAY, JULY 5, 2019

### Morning Activities

6:30 - 7:30 a.m.	Morning Run	Hotel Lobby
7:00 - 7:30 a.m.	Zumba	ExHall B
8:00 - 8:45 a.m.	Squad Pep Rally - Green	2101
	Squad Pep Rally - Blue	2105
	Squad Pep Rally - Orange	2215A
	Squad Pep Rally - Red	2501D
	Squad Pep Rally - White	2505A
8:00 - 11:45 a.m.	Infant/Toddler Care	1501C
	Children's Programming	1501
8:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.	Junior Youth Programming	2215C
8:15 - 10:00 a.m.	Delegate Equipping	3501

### Adult Seminars

9:00 - 10:00 a.m.	Anabaptist and Adaptive Leadership	2203
	Consequences For Your Congregation: Taking Victims and Survivors Seriously	2204
	Get ready, Get Set for Service!	2209
	Gleaning Resilience from the Good News, Then and Now	2202
	Missional Discipleship	2205
	Seminary May be More Affordable than You Think	2201

### Intergenerational Seminars

9:00 - 10:00 a.m.	Anabaptist Perspectives on Violence in Scripture	2505B
	Understanding Sex, Gender and Sexuality: Three Distinct Areas of Human Development	2505A

### Youth Seminars

9:00 - 10:00 a.m.	Bicultural Youth Ministry: Breaking Down Stereotypes and Building Bridges	2104A
	Big Questions 3	2215B
	Calling Youth to Radical Discipleship in a Changing Climate	2206
	Do You See What I See?	2101
	Finding Jesus in the Midst of My Busy World	2103B
	Gamesmanship in Sport	2103A
	Learning to Love Our Places	2105
	People on the Move: What Would You Choose?	2501D
	Reading the Bible for All It's Worth	2102A
	Responsibility, Resilience, and Relationships	2103C
	Walking in Someone Else's Shoes	2502AB

## Youth Sponsor Seminar

9:00 - 10:00 a.m. Reimagining Adolescence 2102B

## Afternoon Activities

10:30 - 11:30 a.m. **Worship - He Breathed on Them** Ballroom

11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Lunch Ex Hall C

11:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m. Mennonite History Luncheon 2503AB

11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Exhibit Hall Open Ex Hall D

11:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. Recreation Hall Open Ex Hall B

12:30 - 1:00 p.m. Servant Project Orientation 2103A, 2103C

1:00 - 5:00 p.m. Servant Projects Kansas City

1:15 - 5:30 p.m. Infant/Toddler Care 1501C

Children's Programming 1501

1:30 - 2:30 p.m. Squads Ballroom

1:30 - 3:45 p.m. Delegate Session 3501

## Adult Seminars

1:30 - 2:30 p.m. Are You an Apostle? Come, Find Out 2205  
 Building Relationships with Jewish Communities 2201  
 Financial Planning as Christian Discipleship 2204  
 Got Kids? 2502AB  
 Mennonite Women — Every Time I Feel the Spirit 2206  
 Service Is Not Just For Kids 2505B  
 Voices Together: Leading Congregational Song Across Styles 2209  
 Well-being in Ministry 3501D

## Adult Seminars

2:45 - 3:45 p.m. Always My Child: Parents of LGBTQ Children 2206  
 Seeds of Peace at Penn State: Reflections on the 2204  
 First Five Years of an Anabaptist Campus Ministry  
 at a Non-Mennonite College  
 Sexual Violence in the Congregation: Responding with 2201  
 Courage, Compassion and Transparency  
 What is Mission? Exploring Biblical Foundations 2203

## Intergenerational Seminars

2:45 - 3:45 p.m. Growing Young: Six Core Commitments Needed to Engage 2101  
 with Young People  
 Healthy Masculinity: On Being A Man 2102A  
 It Matters How We Disagree: Nonviolent Communication 2205  
 for a Peace Church  
 Shifting Climates: The People and Stories Behind 2505B  
 Climate Change

	Sketching the Story	2504A
	Taize Worship as a Resource for the Church	2209
<b>Youth Seminars</b>		
2:45 - 3:45 p.m.	Calling Youth to Radical Discipleship in a Changing Climate	2105
	Finding Your Voice	2502AB
	It's Not All About the Money	2102B
	Leadership is an Activity!	2103C
	Me, Myself and I: How to Have a Healthy Self Identity	2103A
	People on the Move: What Would You Choose?	2501D
	Responsibility, Resilience and Relationships	2104A
	Spiritual Disciplines in Real Life	2505A
	Taking Faith to the Streets Through Nonviolent Public Witness Action	2515A
	What's Your Relationship Made Of?	2103B
<b>Youth Sponsor Seminar</b>		
2:45 - 3:45 p.m.	Best Practices for Youth Leaders	2202
<b>Adult Seminars</b>		
4:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Conversations Across the Liberal-Conservative Divide	2502AB
	Iglesia Como Movimiento (en Español)	3501D
	Israel-Palestine Resolution Update	2205
	Mennonites and the Holocaust: What We Did, What We Didn't Do and Why	2102B
	Reimagining Bible Study in the Congregation	2505B
	Risking Mission	2204
	Sanctuary Churches, Sanctuary People: Solidarity with Immigrants	2206
4:00 - 5:30 p.m.	For Such a Time as This: How To Do Political Advocacy	2209
<b>Intergenerational Seminars</b>		
4:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Pathways of Encountering God	2103B
4:00 - 5:30 p.m.	Putting Jesus on the Ballot	2505A
<b>Young Adult Seminar</b>		
4:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Upside-Down Parenting	2201
<b>Youth Seminars</b>		
4:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Big Questions 3	2215B
	Finding Jesus in the Midst of My Busy World	2103C
	Juvenile Probation Officer by Day and Unashamedly Rap Artist by Night	2215A
	Listening for the Voice of God	2105
	My Parents Are Crazy: What To Do With Your Parental Frustrations	2103A
	Reading the Bible for All It's Worth	2102A
	Soul Care — How Do We Tap into God?	2101
	Suicide's Impact: More Than One Life	2504A



## Friday, July 5

	Who Are You When the Game is Over?	2104B
4:00 - 5:30 p.m.	Undo, Redo and Make New: Living Out the Design and Call of God Through the Power of Habits	2104A

### Featured Seminar

4:00 - 5:30 p.m.	Master Fun Digital Tools	3501
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### Evening Activities

4:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Musical Drama: Mary Magdalene's Journey - a Blues Gospel	2300 Lobby
4:00 - 7:00 p.m.	Exhibit Hall Open	Ex Hall D
5:30 - 7:00 p.m.	Dinner	Ex Hall C
7:15 - 9:00 p.m.	Infant/Toddler Care	1501C
7:30 - 9:00 p.m.	<b>Worship - Receive the Holy Spirit</b>	Ballroom
9:15 - 10:30 p.m.	Original Acoustic Music: Heather Kropf	2300 Lobby
9:15 - 10:45 p.m.	The Improverbs 17:22	3501
9:15 - 10:45 p.m.	Bethel College Alumni Reception	2105
	Bluffton Alumni Reception	2103C
	EMU Alumni and Parent Reception	2101
	Goshen College Alumni and Friends Reception	2103B

Friday, July 5

### **Morning Run**

**6:30 - 7:30 a.m.**

Meet in the lobby of your hotel and join others for a run to start your day.

### **Zumba**

**7:00 - 7:30 a.m.**

ExHall B

Join others in the Rec Hall to start your day by getting your blood flowing. Zumba will be led by Jill Schlabach, certified instructor.

### **Squad Pep Rally**

**8:00 - 8:45 a.m.**

**Blue** - 2105

**Green** - 2101

**Orange** - 2215A

**Red** - 2501D

**White** - 2505A

Join your Squad for a time to connect and prepare for the day.

## **Adult Seminars**

**9:00 – 10:00 a.m.**

### **Anabaptist and Adaptive Leadership**

Clayton Gladish and Phil Schmidt

2203

How can we live out our Anabaptist faith in the 21st century? Among other things, Anabaptist leadership is about decentralizing authority, centering on Jesus, emphasizing the priesthood of all believers and practicing community discernment guided by the Holy Spirit. Adaptive Leadership provides language, tools and skills that equip us to embody these behaviors in our collective journey forward. This interactive equipping seminar will help participants distinguish between technical and adaptive work, and identify the gap between where we are and where God is leading us and how we might begin to make progress on difficult challenges that our congregations face.

### **Consequences For Your Congregation: Taking Victims and Survivors Seriously**

Nancy Kauffmann and Anna Groff

2204

All churches have members who are survivors of abuse. We must also assume that there are offenders in our midst. Whether abuse occurred in a faith community many, many

years ago or has just been uncovered, the church needs to be prepared to support victims and help the congregation process the situation. Come learn what Scripture says about how to respond to past abuse, how to truly work toward victim-centeredness in prevention work and how to make it easier for survivors to come forward in the church with their stories and wisdom.

### **Get ready, Get Set for Service!**

Marlene Kroeker, Sherrie Ober, Sharon Norton and Jean Sensenig

2209

You want to go into service. Are you ready? Learn from a panel of international service volunteers (from all ages) about the questions they faced in deciding whether to go -- and in getting ready to go. There are challenges at different stages of life. Learn who helped them work through the family, career and financial challenges.

### **Gleaning Resilience From the Good News, Then and Now**

Dorothy Jean Weaver

2202

This workshop will focus on searching the Gospels for stories of resilience in the face of personal and societal brokenness in the first-century Mediterranean world. Through this search we will identify Gospel stories with which we as 21st-century North American followers of Jesus can discover resilience for the brokenness of our own time and place and the world beyond our national borders. Bring your Bible and come prepared to share your own stories of resilience gleaned from and nurtured by the good news.

### **Missional Discipleship**

Marvin Lorenzana

2205

How to create a culture of disciples making disciples. It isn't just the pastor's role to disciple new and existing believers.

### **Seminary May Be More Affordable Than You Think**

Daniel Grimes

2201

Do financial concerns get in the way of your love for ministry and theological education? Learn about the true cost of a seminary education, how programs are structured and how the financing actually works. Learn about current debt patterns and trends, and how churches, institutions and others are making it more affordable than what is commonly believed.

## Intergenerational Seminars

9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

### **Anabaptist Perspectives on Violence in Scripture**

Peter Goerzen

2505B

This seminar provides several ways in which Anabaptists have understood the presence of violence in the Bible.

### **Understanding Sex, Gender, and Sexuality: Three Distinct Areas of Human Development**

James Mast and Jane Mast

2505A

Today LGBTQ issues are discussed in almost every social forum in life. However, the language and concepts used by the scientific and LGBTQ communities evolved over the years and it can be hard to keep up with current usages. One of the goals of this seminar is to strengthen attendees understanding of gender (identity), sex (biology) and sexuality (attraction) — three distinct aspects of human development that are often misunderstood or used interchangeably. The presenters of this workshop (James, a licensed professional counselor from Penn Foundation, and Jane, chair of the Dock Mennonite Academy science department) strive to highlight the importance of talking about and understanding LGBTQ issues within an Anabaptist context. This session is meant to raise attendees' awareness of the complicated nature of gender, sex and sexuality. The session is also meant to help leaders in the Mennonite community be better equipped to respond to questions about sex, gender and sexuality.

## Youth Seminars

9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

### **Bicultural Youth Ministry: Breaking Down Stereotypes and Building Bridges**

Jennifer Guerra Aldana

2104A

Young people from different ethnocultural backgrounds have often been overlooked or lumped into stereotypes that have come to define a generation. This workshop will explore the complex realities that different ethnocultural young people inhabit, as well as practical suggestions to engage, listen and serve with diverse young people in the pursuit of God's reconciling justice among all communities.

### **Big Questions 3**

David Cramer

2215B

What is the gospel and how can I live it? What is God's word and how can I hear it? Each Big Questions equipping seminar starts with a short, TED Talk-style mini-lecture with

the rest of the time spent in interactive discussion. Take each equipping seminar in sequence or join for the particular one(s) of interest. The facilitator, David Cramer, has his PhD in theology and teaches at AMBS in addition to serving as teaching pastor at Keller Park Church in South Bend, Indiana.

### **Calling Youth to Radical Discipleship in a Changing Climate**

Sibonokuhle Ncube

2206

Climate change is a central challenge to all of humanity, but especially to the youth and to those in the global south, both of whom will face the greatest impacts of these changes. How then should the church, and in particular the youth, respond faithfully to this reality? Dr. Ncube (Sibo) of Compassionate and Development Services (Brethren in Christ), Zimbabwe, will engage and inspire youth to consider their climate impact on the world, combining her experience in development and her commitment to the global Anabaptist church. Sibos message of urgency and hope will call youth to a radical discipleship by seeing climate change as an issue of justice and faithfulness.

### **Do You See What I See?**

John C. Murray

2101

The answer to the question in the seminar title is "No, I don't see what you see. Nor do you see what I see." We each see through the lenses of our own experiences, assumptions and perspectives. No one sees the complete picture. By engaging in an exercise utilizing glasses with colored lenses and various slides on a screen, participants will explore the challenges of seeing things through different lenses and learn the attitudes and communication skills that enable us to see a more complete picture that is larger than the limitations of our own perceptions.

### **Finding Jesus in the Midst of My Busy World**

Philip L. Hostetter

2103B

Are you looking to meet God in new ways? Are you hungry to hear him speaking to you? We will review various prayer and Scripture practices that will help you slow down to hear that still small voice of God in the midst of your busy life. We will touch on some of the following practices: lectio divina with Bible, music and nature, examen, art as prayer, breath prayer, prayer of imagination, prayer beads, the Jesus prayer. We will review "spiritual friends" and "spiritual direction" relationships.

## Gamesmanship in Sport

Bryan Kehr  
2103A

This seminar will focus on the role of “gamesmanship” in sport and our attitudes toward sport. What role does your faith play in how you play your sport? Participants will be encouraged to participate in small group discussions related to the choices we make when we play.

## Learning to Love Our Places

Jennifer Schrock  
2105

How can people in a mobile society develop an intimate knowledge of their local ecosystems, church property and the flora and fauna that God created and blessed? Drawing on practices from the field of environmental education, we'll experiment with ideas for worship, Bible study, landscaping and ecological justice. Learning to love what God loves is fun!

## People on the Move: What Would You Choose?

Tammy Alexander  
2501D

Get up! Feel what it's like to be a person on the move. This interactive learning experience will help you develop a practical understanding of immigration issues through an exercise that will move you around the room and illustrate the consequences of your choices — using real-world examples. (Note: youth and youth leaders will be equipped to run the exercise in their home churches.)

## Reading the Bible for All It's Worth

Rachel Miller Jacobs  
2102A

Bible reading is one important way we enter a conversation between God and God's people that has been going on for millennia. In this seminar, we will practice several ways of reading that can be done alone or with others, and that are reliable ways to engage with God through the Bible. Consider attending this workshop with people from your own youth group to give you a head start in extending some of what you learned at convention into the rest of your life.

## Responsibility, Resilience, and Relationships

Tonia Martin, Eric Frey Martin, Kelly Frey Martin  
2103C

In the last year our society has seen the rise of important movements aimed at combating sexual harassment, abuse and violence such as the #metoo and #churchtoo movements. These movements have brought about conversations about personal responsibility in prevention of such events, our responses to victims and offenders and how power factors so importantly into these situations. These conversations are very important to the church as well, as

it has not been immune to such incidents. As followers of Jesus, how should we be adding our voices to this important conversation? This seminar would serve to equip youth with awareness and skills to prevent, report and/or recover from sexual misconduct (in all its many forms). We will talk about and practice methods of taking responsibility for ourselves and our bodies as well as looking at stories in the Bible to help us determine how we can improve our church culture in this area.

## Walking in Someone Else's Shoes

Jonathan Nahar, Rachelle Lyndaker Schlabach  
2502AB

If you like improv or just enjoy watching others do improv, join us for this simulation to see what happens when two teenagers — one Palestinian, one Israeli — are caught in the same act of throwing stones at a vehicle. We'll take some time after the simulation to debrief and talk about ways that youth and their leaders can be advocates to address the situation in Palestine and Israel.

## Youth Sponsor Seminar

9:00 - 10:00 a.m.

## Reimagining Adolescence

Chris Schaffner  
2102B

Kids growing up today are living in a world that is fundamentally different than the one their parents grew up in. This poses challenges to even the most adept adult. In this workshop you will discover the systemic cultural changes that are creating a whole new developmental experience for our kids as they attempt to find their true identity and place of belonging. Join us as we explore the developmental and spiritual challenges of raising adolescents in contemporary society. For parents and pastors too.

## Worship



## He Breathed on Them

10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Ballroom

Speaker: Meghan Good

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.



## Mennonite History Luncheon

11:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.

2503AB

Come join us for a time of food, fellowship and storytelling with friends from across the church who care about Mennonite history.

\*Pre-registration required

## Adult Seminars

1:30 - 2:30 p.m.

### Are You an Apostle? Come, Find Out

Sandy Miller and Jessica Schrock Ringenberg

2205

Every person has been gifted for the the work of the church. Understand how to apply “Ephesians 4 leadership” — apostle, prophet, evangelist, shepherd, teacher — to your life and calling.

### Building Relationships With Jewish Communities

Michael Crosby with Mennonite Jewish Relations Working Group

2201

Responding to MC USA's 2017 “Seeking Peace in Israel and Palestine” resolution, a coalition of Mennonite clergy, scholars and church leaders convened to explore how we might encourage the denomination in pursuit of the goals laid out in the second part of the Resolution, titled “Opposing Antisemitism and Seeking Right Relationship with Jewish Communities.” Learn about the work of the Mennonite Jewish Relations Working Group through several presenters whose Mennonite communities are partnered with local Jewish Communities, with reflection on the gifts and challenges of the work and opportunities for attendees to ask questions and share insights from their own experiences.

### Financial Planning as Christian Discipleship

Shawn Persing, Mark Regier and Chad Horning

2204

Holistic stewardship is central to an Anabaptist understanding of Christian discipleship. Join in this interactive exploration of the many ways intentional financial planning can impact the stewardship of our lives as well as our money. What we believe and how we serve the creator should be a guide to the integration of our faith and finances. Join Shawn Persing, director of Everence Financial Planning, Mark Regier, vice president of Stewardship Investing, and Chad Horning, Everence chief investment officer, to learn how these values can translate into practical steps for the future.

### Got Kids?

Brenda L. Yoder

2502AB

Just when you think you're getting this parenting thing down, your kids grow, things change and you face challenges you're unsure of. Raising kids and letting them go is not for the faint of heart. Moms and dads, join us for a parenting workshop that will equip you to raise strong, healthy kids in today's uncertain culture. Counselor, educator, author and parent Brenda L. Yoder, equips parents with practical, biblical tools to know when to hold on and how to let go as kids grow through the toddler, school age, teen, and young adult years — all while keeping your faith and family still intact.

### Mennonite Women — Every Time I Feel the Spirit

Shannon Dycus and Cyneatha Millsaps

2206

Shannon Dycus will share one of our upcoming women's Bible studies with attendees. During this workshop, women will also learn various ways to use the Bible study guide as well as give input into upcoming Bible studies for women.

### Service Is Not Just For Kids

Del Hershberger

2505B

This seminar will look at ways for adults of all ages to participate in service and mission opportunities. There are many opportunities for younger people to serve during gaps in education and life transitions, but there are also many ways that people with significant training, skills and life experience can benefit important ministries. Come receive inspiration and advice for exploring opportunities for baby boomers and others to use their gifts to benefit God's kingdom.

### Voices Together: Leading Congregational Song Across Styles

Bradley Kauffman and Benjamin Bergey

2209

What challenges and rewards come when we hold space for an abundance of stylistic approaches to congregational song? Come, learn and share techniques for leading blended worship where some combination of gospel, global song, contemporary worship music and traditional hymnody draw God's people together.

### Wellbeing in Ministry

Michael Danner and Duncan Smith

3501D

The church can be a hard place for pastors, often leading to stress and burnout. How can church leaders help create an environment where pastors can thrive? This seminar will focus on four to five tools available to congregations

that can help create an environment for pastoral wellbeing. We will focus on the wellbeing checklist, how to set up a support team for your pastor (PCRC), how to use the salary guidelines, the importance of good health insurance (the Corinthian plan) and pastoral evaluations that help, not hurt.

## Adult Seminars

2:45 - 3:45 p.m.

### **Always My Child: Parents of LGBTQ Children**

Parents and family of LGBTQ folks

2206

The coming out of a child can be a deeply spiritual journey for the whole family. Here is an opportunity for parents and family members to share experiences, make connections and learn from others about what it means to have an LGBTQ family member. This is also a opportunity for pastors to better understand the experiences and pastoral needs of these families.

### **Seeds of Peace at Penn State: Reflections on the First Five Years of an Anabaptist Campus Ministry at a Non-Mennonite College**

Ben Wideman

2204

Exploring the journey of creating the first Anabaptist campus ministry at a non-Mennonite school. In this seminar we will reflect on our decision to focus on faith-based peace and social justice, the challenge of starting from scratch on a campus that already has 60+ faith groups and uncovering how our “third way” tradition offers hope in a challenging campus ministry context. We will also talk about “ripples of change” on our campus and shifting from a programming-based ministry to a presence-based ministry.

### **Sexual Violence in the Congregation: Responding With Courage, Compassion and Transparency**

Stephanie Krehbiel, Hilary Scarsella, Kathy Wiens

2201

Sexual violence creates crises of pain and confusion, first, for immediate victims, and in a secondary way, for their communities. A sense of crisis can lead communities of faith to respond to survivors’ reports of harm out of a place of fear and prioritize concerns about liability over survivors’ needs. This seminar invites participants to reflect on the complex dynamics of congregational life that can get in the way of a community’s desire to act in faithful solidarity with survivors when crisis occurs. We talk about best practices for responding to sexual violence in communities of faith. We also discuss the resources available to support congregations in the midst of crisis: for responding well to reports of sexual violence, for navigating the fears attached to naming perpetrators, for supporting survivors, and for enacting practices of survivor-centered accountability for those who have caused harm.

## **What Is Mission? Exploring Biblical Foundations**

Joe Sawatzky

2203

This seminar explores the meaning of mission through key biblical texts in the story of Israel, Jesus Christ and the church. The facilitator will offer a biblical-theological framework for understanding mission before inviting participants to recognize characteristics of mission in the Bible through reading and reflection in small groups. The seminar will conclude with a time of gathering and summing up of the insights that emerge from the respective groups. Together we will gain appreciation for the unity-in-diversity of God’s mission throughout the Bible.

## Intergenerational Seminars

2:45 - 3:45 p.m.

### **Growing Young: Six Core Commitments Needed to Engage with Young People**

Jennifer Guerra Aldana

2101

Churches are losing both members and vitality as increasing numbers of young people disengage. Based on groundbreaking research with over 250 of the nation’s leading congregations, Growing Young provides a strategy any church can use to involve and retain teenagers and young adults. It profiles innovative churches that are engaging 15 to 29-year-olds and as a result, are growing — spiritually, emotionally, missionally and numerically. Packed with both research and practical ideas, Growing Young shows pastors and ministry leaders how to position their churches to engage younger generations in a way that breathes vitality, life and energy into the whole church.

### **Healthy Masculinity: On Being a Man**

Steve Thomas

2102A

Men and boys are sometimes told “Be a man.” But what does this mean? For many males, this means being invulnerable, acting tough and dominating others. Realizing how this toxic masculinity negatively impacts us, we need another way of being a man. In this workshop, we will explore healthy masculinity by looking at the roles and marks of good men living in the way of Jesus. Led by the director of Mennonite Men and co-editor of *Peaceful at Heart: Anabaptist Reflections on Healthy Masculinity*.

## **It Matters How We Disagree: Nonviolent Communication for a Peace Church**

Sarah Ann Bixler

2205

Nonviolence moves in two directions: outward, in a peace church's witness in the world; and inward, in life together among the body of believers. This seminar introduces nonviolent communication (NVC) as a practice that can help us live out a theology of nonviolence with integrity. Through interactive NVC exercises, participants will learn how to express and receive observations, feelings, needs and requests in a nonviolent way that honors God's presence in themselves and others.

## **Shifting Climates: The People and Stories Behind Climate Change**

Michaela Mast, Harrison Horst, Sarah Longenecker

2505B

After a year of travel, producers Harrison Horst, Sarah Longenecker, and Michaela Mast will share about their experience producing two seasons of the podcast, *Shifting Climates*. The podcast aims to "rehumanize the conversation on climate change" by sharing stories from impacted communities. Its primary question: How is a changing climate and the many layers of injustice that come with it transforming our church, our lifestyles, and ultimately, our responsibility as Christians? Join the producers for a discussion about faith, climate and justice — and learn how climate change went from being a paralyzing and intimidating topic to one that is energizing, inspiring and sometimes even hopeful.

## **Sketching the Story**

Nancy Heisey

2504A

Workshop participants will read short biblical stories, thinking together about how those stories point to broad biblical themes. Then, in small groups they will prepare a presentation helping the text to "come alive" for people who don't know the stories (e.g. pantomime, choral reading). We will talk together about what "worked" and what we could "try again."

## **Taize Worship as a Resource for the Church**

Janeen Bertsche Johnson and Benjamin Bergey

2209

Almost 20 songs from the contemplative Taize community are included in the three Mennonite hymnals. This seminar will give ideas for how Taize songs can be incorporated into regular worship services in creative ways, and provide a 45-minute experience of Taize-style worship.

## **Youth Seminars**

2:45 - 3:45 p.m.

## **Calling Youth to Radical Discipleship in a Changing Climate**

Sibonokuhle Ncube

2105

Climate change is a central challenge to all of humanity, but especially to the youth and to those in the global south, both of whom will face the greatest impacts of these changes. How then should the church, and in particular the youth, respond faithfully to this reality? Dr. Sibonokuhle Ncube of Compassionate and Development Services (Brethren in Christ), Zimbabwe, will engage and inspire youth to consider their climate impact on the world, combining her experience in development and her commitment to the global Anabaptist church. Sibonokuhle's message of urgency and hope will call youth to a radical discipleship by seeing climate change as an issue of justice and faithfulness.

## **Finding Your Voice**

Brenda L. Yoder

2502AB

Is it really okay to be assertive or to refuse to people-please? Can we be empowered to be clear about our individual needs? With Jesus as our model boundary-setter, come and learn ways to set healthy boundaries with friends and family members and at school, church and during extracurriculars. This training was presented at Dove's Nest and Mennonite Women USA's 2018 Empowering Women and Girls Conference.

## **It's Not All About the Money**

Kent Miller

2102B

Generosity isn't just about money. Explore what the Bible says about generosity and practical ways you can be generous in all aspects of your life, no matter how much money you have.

## **Leadership Is an Activity!**

Brent Yoder

2103C

This interactive seminar will equip leaders of all ages through a series of activities designed to explore the nature of both technical and adaptive challenges. By considering principles from the Kansas Leadership Center and Hesston College's Lifestyle of Leadership Training Program, participants will learn how they can engage others and lead — in school, at church, on the job, anywhere!

## **Me, Myself and I: How to Have a Healthy Self Identity**

Scott Roth  
2103A

Ever feel you are not good enough? Want to know how to deal with the thoughts of giving up? Tired of trying to live up to expectations that you can't meet? Stop on by and let's talk about what it means to be a child of God.

## **People on the Move: What Would You Choose?**

Tammy Alexander  
2501D

Get up! Feel what it's like to be a person on the move. This interactive learning experience will help you develop a practical understanding of immigration issues through an exercise that will move you around the room and illustrate the consequences of your choices — using real-world examples. (Note: Youth and youth leaders will be equipped to run the exercise in their home churches.)

## **Responsibility, Resilience and Relationships**

Tonia Martin, Eric Frey Martin, Kelly Frey Martin  
2104A

In the last year our society has seen the rise of important movements aimed at combating sexual harassment, abuse and violence such as the #metoo and #churchtoo movements. These movements have brought about conversations about personal responsibility in prevention of such events, our responses to victims and offenders, and how power factors so importantly into these situations. These conversations are very important to the church as well, as it has not been immune to such incidents. As followers of Jesus, how should we be adding our voices to this important conversation? This seminar would serve to equip youth with awareness and skills to prevent, report and/or recover from sexual misconduct (in all its many forms). We will talk about and practice methods of taking responsibility for ourselves and our bodies as well as looking at stories in the Bible to help us determine how we can improve our church culture in this area.

## **Spiritual Disciplines in Real Life**

Jaime Horst  
2505A

Spiritual disciplines may feel like a list of requirements to be a "good Christian" but they are simply ways to draw closer to God. In this seminar we'll explore spiritual disciplines such as prayer, silence, scripture reading, confession and worship, and we'll talk about ways to integrate spiritual habits into our real, everyday lives, without the guilt.

## **Taking Faith to the Streets through Nonviolent Public Witness Action**

Sarah and Jonathan Nahar  
2515A

Rooted in biblical mandates, learn how to put your peacemaking beliefs into practice for these difficult spiritual and political times. Learn how to discern points of intervention, creative tactics and how to show up as an ally to those who are hurting.

## **What's Your Relationship Made Of?**

Hillary Watson  
2103B

High school relationships: do they have to be full of drama? Why are they so hard? Will I ever get better at dating? If you've ever asked these questions, this seminar is for you. Here, no one will give you a roadmap for dating. You won't get ten perfect tips for sailing your relationship. But you will be challenged. You will have to think. We'll work together to explore what makes a relationship easier or harder, and how to make the relationship of your dreams a little less dreamy and a little more real.

## **Youth Sponsor Seminar**

2:45 - 3:45 p.m.

## **Best Practices for Youth Leaders**

Isaac Landis and Dwight Regier  
2202

Come to this seminar with your questions and suggestions on the best resources to share with other youth leaders. Dwight Regier and Isaac Landis will help facilitate a conversation and share their ideas and experiences. We anticipate covering a wide range of topics including curriculum, service projects, youth leadership initiatives, worship and more.

## **Adult Seminars**

4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

## **Conversations Across the Liberal-Conservative Divide**

Wes Bergen  
2502AB

Using the research presented in Jonathan Haidt's book *The Righteous Mind*, this session will outline the different moral foundations that people use to understand the world and explain their own actions. We will then put these ideas into practice, attempting to understand the positions of other people and learning to frame our own positions in ways that help us understand one another better.



## **Iglesia Como Movimiento (en español)**

Marvin Lorenzana

2504B

¿Cuál es el ADN del reino de Dios como un movimiento y cómo luce una iglesia que piensa y actúa como un movimiento?

## **Israel-Palestine Resolution Update**

Panel of agency and constituent group representatives

2205

Learn about the many ways the Seeking Peace Together in Israel-Palestine Resolution is being implemented across Mennonite Church USA.

## **Mennonites and the Holocaust: What We Did, What We Didn't Do and Why**

Helen Stoltzfus and Jim Lichti

2102B

A recent "Mennonites and the Holocaust" conference at Bethel College in March 2018 has brought to light important new scholarship on the breadth and depth of Mennonite participation in the Holocaust. Members of the Mennonite Jewish Relations Group will present highlights from recent research revealing specific ways that Mennonites were bystanders, helpers, beneficiaries and perpetrators of the Holocaust. As we together uncover this dark chapter in Mennonite history, we will also discuss the underlying reasons for Mennonites' wide-spread acceptance and even enthusiastic support of Nazi ideals of racial purity and German nationalism.

## **Reimagining Bible Study in the Congregation**

Sarah and Benjamin Bixler

2505B

Experience new approaches to teaching the Bible in the congregation. In this interactive seminar, two experienced teachers will lead the group through multiple ways to engage a biblical passage. Participants will gain skills in interpretive methods and creative approaches to teaching. They will evaluate their usefulness for different contexts and imagine how these approaches could enliven Bible study in their congregations.

## **Risking Mission**

Emily Ralph Servant

2204

Perhaps the most difficult risk of mission is the act of showing up and being seen. In mission, congregations are called to a radical closeness beyond programs and charity: continually giving of ourselves, investing in relationships, and enduring both the pain and joy of connection, while also risking rejection, disappointment, embarrassment,

broken relationships, being wrong, or even (especially?) being changed. If vulnerability is, indeed, the nature of risk, then risky mission calls for the courage and creativity of a community where failure is expected and accepted and where risk-taking is grounded in the story of a God who risked everything for the sake of love.

## **Sanctuary Churches, Sanctuary People: Solidarity with Immigrants**

Joel Miller, Isaac Villegas, Rachel Ringenberg Miller, John Garland

2206

This seminar will be led by several pastors whose congregations are involved in providing some form of sanctuary for immigrants, whether public or under the radar. We represent a variety of contexts and will tell our stories and include practical suggestions for ways congregations can become a part of local networks of solidarity with immigrants.

## **For Such a Time as This: How To Do Political Advocacy**

4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

Rachelle Lyndaker Schlabach

2209

Government policies affect all of our lives and yet often we feel powerless to speak to our governing officials. This 90-minute training will help you learn how to engage effectively with policymakers and to speak out for more just and peaceful policies. We'll start with a look at the biblical texts and why it is important for Christians to speak to government. Then we will talk about various ways to do advocacy — letter-writing, meetings, social media, letters to the editor, prayer vigils, etc. We will use U.S. policies on gun violence and Palestine and Israel as examples. Open to all — both new and seasoned advocates.

## **Intergenerational Seminars**

4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

## **Pathways of Encountering God**

Janeen Bertsche Johnson

2103B

Based on Gary Thomas' book *Sacred Pathways: Discover Your Soul's Path to God*, we will explore nine different ways Christians encounter God: thinking, contemplation, emotions, senses, nature, rituals, simplicity, caring for others and seeking justice. For each of the pathways, we will explore helpful tools and practices for continued growth. We will also ask how congregations and schools can provide meaningful opportunities for people with a variety of approaches.

## **Putting Jesus on the Ballot**

**4:00 - 5:30 p.m.**

Scott Peterson

2505A

The political tension in our country is growing at a rapid pace. As arguments rage and divisions widen, how should Christians respond? How can we form our political engagement with a perspective that reflects Christ's kingdom and not merely the political camps of our day? This seminar will explore how Anabaptist theology creates different paradigms for engaging government without capitulating to fallen systems or modern partisanship.

## **Youth Adult Seminar**

**4:00 - 5:00 p.m.**

### **Upside-Down Parenting**

Katherine and Peter Goerzen

2201

This seminar will offer a place for conversation and support for parents of children and youth. We will draw on some of the ideas we gathered for the MennoMedia resource *Upside-Down Living: Parenting*.

## **Youth Seminars**

**4:00 - 5:00 p.m.**

### **Big Questions 3**

David Cramer

2215B

What is the gospel and how can I live it? What is God's word and how can I hear it? Each Big Questions equipping seminar starts with a short, TED Talk-style mini-lecture with the rest of the time spent in interactive discussion. Take each equipping seminar in sequence or join for the particular one(s) of interest. The facilitator, David Cramer, has his PhD in theology and teaches at AMBS in addition to serving as teaching pastor at Keller Park Church in South Bend, Indiana.

### **Finding Jesus in the Midst of My Busy World**

Philip L. Hostetter

2103C

Are you looking for ways to meet God in new ways? Are you hungry to hear him speaking to you? We will review various prayer and Scripture practices that will help you slow down to hear that still small voice of God in the midst of your busy life. We will touch on some of the following practices: lectio divina with Bible, music and nature, examen, art as prayer, breath prayer, prayer of imagination, prayer beads, the Jesus prayer. We will review "spiritual friends" and "spiritual direction" relationships.

## **Juvenile Probation Officer by Day and Unashamedly Rap Artist by Night**

Al Motley, Jr.

2215A

Iz-Real is a Christian rap artist who shares his testimony of God's faithfulness even in difficulty and brokenness.

## **Listening for the Voice of God**

Meghan Larissa Good

2105

One of the most remarkable claims of Jesus is that God desires to speak with us and that, because of the Holy Spirit, ordinary people are able to hear directly from God. In this seminar we'll talk about what it sounds like when God talks to us and how we can learn to listen. We'll explore how we can learn to distinguish God's voice from the sound of our own thoughts and what to do if it turns out we were wrong about what we thought we heard.

## **My Parents Are Crazy: What To Do With Your Parental Frustrations**

Rachel Swartzendruber Miller and Michele Hershberger

2103A

Struggling to keep the peace with mom or dad? Through personal stories form a young adult panel and tips from Hesston College's Sociology of Families course, students will leave with ideas, examples and self-reflection assignments on how to better keep the peace at home.

## **Reading the Bible for All It's Worth**

Rachel Miller Jacobs

2102A

Bible reading is one important way we enter a conversation between God and God's people that has been going on for millennia. In this seminar, we will practice several ways of reading that can be done alone or with others, and that are reliable ways to engage with God through the Bible. Consider attending this workshop with people from your own youth group to give you a head start in extending some of what you learned at convention into the rest of your life.

## **Soul Care — How Do We Tap Into God?**

Dawn Graber

2101

Do you ever feel like this? I believe in God, but I don't know really practical ways to grow in my relationship with God besides going to church or Youth group. I know in my head I believe in God but my heart doesn't feel like I'm an "on-fire" Christian. How can I develop my relationship with God? This workshop will have hands-on experiences that one might use to meet God through writing, silence, prayer, music, Bible reading and visuals. Come and see what may click for you and adopt a spiritual practice that can help you meet God in a new and refreshed way.

## Suicide's Impact: More Than One Life

Jayne Byler

2504A

This seminar will give a family and pastoral perspective on victims of suicide and its impact on those who loved them from a first person account. Jayne is a pastor whose daughter died in 2015 at age 22. She will share some of this journey and how she has sought to find healing over the past four years. She will also offer ways to relate to those struggling with suicidal thoughts as well as how to walk with their friends and family. This seminar will especially focus on giving youth the space and freedom to talk about this difficult topic.

## Who Are You When the Game is Over?

Melissa Danner

2104B

I was at the top of my sport. The previous track season, I earned the honor of being a Division I All-American. I missed the Olympic trials by .03 seconds. And I was only a college sophomore. Little did I know, the sport I love would become impossible for me. My body broke. It was then that I realized how much of my self-identity was wrapped up in being a great athlete. This seminar will explore Christian identity in the midst of athletic success. How do you keep grounded so that when the game is over, you know who you are?

## Undo, Redo and Make New: Living Out the Design and Call of God through the Power of Habits

4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

Josh Lundberg

2104A

We love the idea of change. We often try to change but change can be so incredibly hard. Why is that? Sometimes we really want to change, sometimes we really need to change and sometimes we know it would be wise to change. However, implementing and sustaining change towards the ideal, God-intended life is rarely easy. We are going to look at why it is so hard to change and how to live out God's designed life for us.

## Featured Seminar

4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

### Master Fun Digital Tools

Crystal Washington

3501

Social media, smartphones and the web have made connecting with humans all over the world easier than ever before. In this hands-on session, technology strategist and futurist Crystal Washington will show you how to leverage technology tools, create deeper connections, build bridges and be of service.

## Afternoon Activity

4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

### Musical Drama: Mary Magdalene's Journey - a Blues Gospel

2300 Lobby

Mary Magdalene moves from tormented outsider to chosen teacher in this 45-minute theatrical piece of good news blues. Unlike pop culture portrayals of a repentant prostitute, this script and song present a woman discovering her voice and calling. Mary Sprunger-Froese, artist-in-residence with RAWtools, is joined by blues musicians Bryan Miller and Vern Rempel.

## Worship



### Receive the Holy Spirit

7:30 - 9:00 p.m.

Ballroom

Speaker: Leonard Dow

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.

## Evening Activities

### Original Acoustic Music: Heather Kropf

9:15 - 10:30 p.m.

2300 Lobby

Heather Kropf is a touring singer/songwriter based in Pittsburgh who creates spacious, subtle indie folk-pop that explores the complex beauty of modern life and romance, and the awakened soul.

### The Improverbs 17:22

9:15 - 10:45 p.m.

3501

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.

### Bethel College Alumni Reception

9:15 - 10:45 p.m.

2105

Bethel College alumni and friends are invited to gather with each other and other current faculty, staff and students.

### **Bluffton Alumni Reception**

**9:15 - 10:45 p.m.**

2103C

Bluffton's 10th president, Dr. Jane M. Wood, would like to meet you! Please stop by the Bluffton reception for fellowship and refreshment.

### **EMU Alumni and Parent Reception**

**9:15 - 10:45 p.m.**

2101

Network and engage with EMU alumni, parents and friends. EMU President, Susan Schultz Huxman, will provide a short university update. Hope you will join us!

### **Goshen College Alumni and Friends Reception**

**9:15 - 10:45 p.m.**

2103B

All Goshen College alumni and friends are invited for a time to mingle and hear a G.C. update. Door prizes will be given and light refreshments served.



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## SATURDAY, JULY 6, 2019

### Morning Activities

6:30 - 7:30 a.m.	Morning Run	Hotel Lobby
7:00 - 7:30 a.m.	Zumba	ExHall B
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Children's Programming	1501
	Infant/Toddler Care	1501C
	Junior Youth Programming	2215C
8:15 - 10:30 a.m.	Delegate Session	3501

### Adult Seminars

9:00 - 10:00 a.m.	Best Practices for Accessibility in Your Congregation	2204
	Gently Lead: Learning to Pray and Read the Bible With Our Children	2203
	Reconciling Conversations	2206
	Responding as a Church to Immigrants in Crisis	2205
	The Organ Lives! (Meet at the Info Booth at 8:30 for a ride)	Rainbow Mennonite Church

### Intergenerational Seminar

9:00 - 10:00 a.m.	Equipping Students, Parents and Allies to Resist Sexual Assault on College Campuses	2104A
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### Youth Seminars

9:00 - 10:00 a.m.	The Art of Bible Journaling	2101
	Being a Christian Athlete	2215A
	Big Questions 4	2209
	Gamesmanship in Sport	2103C
	Is God Calling Me to Leadership?	2215B
	Listening for the Voice of God	2105
	Me, Myself, and I: How To Have a Healthy Self Identity	2103B
	My Parents are Crazy: What To Do With Your Parental Frustrations	2103A
	Three Simple Rules to Start Your Financial Life Right	2102B

### Youth Sponsor Seminar

9:00 - 10:00 a.m.	Games that Matter	2208
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### Closing Worship

10:45 a.m. - 12 p.m.	<b>Worship - I Also Send You</b>	Ballroom
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Saturday, July 6

### **Morning Run**

**6:30 - 7:30 a.m.**

Meet in the lobby of your hotel and join others for a run to start your day.

### **Zumba**

**7:00 - 7:30 a.m.**

ExHall B

Join others in the Rec Hall to start your day by getting your blood flowing. Zumba will be led by Jill Schlabach, certified instructor.

## **Adult Seminars**

**9:00 - 10:00 a.m.**

### **Best Practices for Accessibility in Your Congregation**

Bonnie Miller

2204

Learn what congregations are doing to make their worship, education and fellowship spaces accessible to everyone. It is more than just physical accessibility.

### **Gently Lead: Learning to Pray and Read the Bible With Our Children**

Rachel Miller Jacobs

2203

Many adults have learned to pray in a "Scripture-saturated" way with *Take Our Moments and Our Days: An Anabaptist Prayerbook*. In this equipping seminar, you'll get a sneak peak at a companion project that's still in the works: an Anabaptist prayer book for families with young children, edited by Malinda Berry and Rachel Miller Jacobs. We'll talk a little about what it looks like to pray and read the Bible alongside our children, and the ways these practices shape an Anabaptist-colored imagination in people of all ages. Mostly, however, we'll pray and read the Bible together, using drafts of several services. This equipping seminar is especially planned for parents of young children, but is open to all Adult, with children ages three to nine warmly welcome!

### **Reconciling Conversations**

Jason Boone

2206

Looking for a way to talk about divisive political issues with your family, friends and brothers and sisters in the church? Come learn some techniques to detoxify difficult relationships starting with transforming one's inner self.

### **Responding as a Church to Immigrants in Crisis**

John Garland and Mitzi Moore

2205

Learn the principles of trauma-informed response San Antonio Mennonite Church uses to host and bless asylum-seeking refugees moving through our city from Central America and Central Africa. These populations are moving through and settling in the central states and both coasts.

### **The Organ Lives!**

Roseann Penner Kaufman

Rainbow Mennonite Church

While there can be a variety of instrumental leadership in worship, the organ remains a vital and inspiring foundation for healthy congregational singing. Rainbow Mennonite Church is home to an organ with a remarkable history and story. This seminar (held at Rainbow, with transportation provided by local volunteers) will demonstrate the flexibility and vibrant potential of the organ in Mennonite worship. Meet at the Info Booth at 8:30 for a ride to Rainbow.

## **Intergenerational Seminar**

**9:00 - 10:00 a.m.**

### **Equipping Students, Parents and Allies to Resist Sexual Assault on College Campuses**

Stephanie Krehbiel, Hilary Scarsella, Erin Bergen, Rebecca Schrag, Anneliese Baer

2104A

Sexual violence is pervasive on college campuses, including (unfortunately) Mennonite campuses. This seminar is for high school students, college students, parents, and others who want to be equipped to understand the realities of campus sexual violence in solidarity with survivors. We'll discuss specific issues that Into Account's student clients have encountered when they've reported sexual harassment and assaults. We'll cover reporting systems, the effects of lifestyle policies, the ongoing changes in Title IX enforcement, and the importance of centering the experiences of students of color, disabled students and LGBTQ students. Finally, we'll talk about resources available to students, parents and allies to help in the midst of a crisis.

## Youth Seminars

9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

### **The Art of Bible Journaling**

Andrea Wall and Jan Friesen

2101

Love to color? Enjoy being creative? Come and discover a fun, artistic and engaging way to study the Bible — Bible Journaling. Bible journaling is a way to meditate on Scripture while engaging it artistically through words, color, drawing and artwork. In this seminar we will have time to experiment, while we explore the different ways to Bible journal.

### **Being a Christian Athlete**

Isabelle Danner

2215A

This seminar will explore how spiritual disciplines shape an athlete's posture and performance. Our presenter just completed her fourth season as a collegiate soccer player. She knows firsthand how you can grow in your faith as you improve on the field.

### **Big Questions 4**

David Cramer

2209

What is the church and how can I join it? What is God's word and how can I hear it? Each Big Questions equipping seminar starts with a short, TED Talk-style mini-lecture with the rest of the time spent in interactive discussion. Take each equipping seminar in sequence or join for the particular one(s) of interest. The facilitator, David Cramer, has his PhD in theology and teaches at AMBS in addition to serving as teaching pastor at Keller Park Church in South Bend, Indiana.

### **Gamesmanship in Sport**

Bryan Kehr

2103C

This seminar will focus on the role of "gamesmanship" in sport and our attitudes toward sport. What role does your faith play in how you play your sport? Participants will be encouraged to participate in small group discussions related to the choices we make when we play.

### **Is God Calling Me to Leadership?**

Janeen Bertsche Johnson

2215B

Has someone suggested that you would be a good church leader? Do you have a passion for peace and justice? Have

you sensed within yourself a nudging to minister to God's people? We will explore a variety of ways God calls people to leadership in the church, and what our response might look like. We'll also look at ways we can test our sense of call and develop it through experiences, education and formation.

### **Listening for the Voice of God**

Meghan Larissa Good

2105

One of the most remarkable claims of Jesus is that God desires to speak with us and that, because of the Holy Spirit, ordinary people are able to hear directly from God. In this seminar we'll talk about what it sounds like when God talks to us and how we can learn to listen. We'll explore how we can learn to distinguish God's voice from the sound of our own thoughts, and what to do if it turns out we were wrong about what we thought we heard.

### **Me, Myself, and I: How To Have a Healthy Self Identity**

Scott Roth

2103B

Ever feel you are not good enough? Want to know how to deal with the thoughts of giving up? Tired of trying to live up to expectations that you can't meet? Stop on by and let's talk about what it means to be a child of God.

### **My Parents are Crazy: What To Do With Your Parental Frustrations**

Rachel Swartzendruber Miller and Michele Hershberger

2103A

Struggling to keep the peace with mom or dad? Through personal stories from a young adult panel and tips from Hesston College's Sociology of Families course, students will leave with ideas, examples, and self-reflection assignments on how to better keep the peace at home.

### **Three Simple Rules to Start Your Financial Life Right**

Lyle Miller

2102B

Avoid the common pitfalls that pull young people into dangerous levels of debt. How you make decisions early in life, including paying for college, makes a huge difference in what you are able to do once you're out on your own. Learn practical steps you can take in high school that reap life-long benefits.



## Youth Sponsor Seminar

9:00 - 10:00 a.m.

### Games That Matter

Eric Frey Martin, Kelly Frey Martin  
2208

Do you find it hard to come up with activities for youth group meetings? Are the only people having fun during your activities those who are outgoing or athletic? In this seminar, we will focus on creating games and activities that seek to include everyone despite level of extraversion and physical capabilities. We will look at some techniques and guiding principles to create fun and inclusive atmospheres and activities. However, we will also spend a majority of time playing and having fun as a way to learn activities and facilitation practices.

## Worship



### I Also Send You

10:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Ballroom

Speaker: Glen Guyton

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.

**MENNONITE WOMEN USA**

**"YES, WE WANT YOU!"**

—Cyneatha Millsaps  
Executive Director  
Mennonite Women USA

This space is for **YOU!**

Cyneatha



JOURNEY  
FORWARD



# Appendix A: Delegate Resources

Dear sisters and brothers,

Thank you for joining us in Kansas City for MennoCon19. The Executive Board staff has worked mightily to coordinate countless details and welcome you into rich worship, spiritual discernment, practical equipping and lively fellowship!

I am very excited about this gathering and particularly our time doing the business of the church in our delegate sessions. One of the things I most anticipate is studying the Bible together with teacher Dr. Tom Yoder Neufeld. Dr. Neufeld will lead us in a careful study of Ephesians 1-3, guiding us to think through what it means to be the people of God reconciled in the cross of Jesus. After experiencing his teaching at Mennonite World Conference 2018 meetings in Kenya, we decided that this study is needed in Mennonite Church USA for such a time as this!

In addition, we look forward to gathering testimonies and new understandings about the mission of our church as we focus on the Renewed Commitments that developed out of the Future Church Summit held in Orlando 2017. I am so curious to hear what our church has been learning in the past two years. As we study the Bible together, how is the Spirit calling us to follow Jesus, witness to peace and seek transformation on the Journey Forward?

So glad you chose to come and be part of the church doing this important work!

David Boshart, moderator





## Renewed Commitments for MC USA

*A Living Document for the Journey Forward Process<sup>1</sup>*

God invites us to experience and bear witness to the belovedness of all creation. We yearn to know and share in the mystery of God's unending love.

We confess that sin fragments our wholeness and strains our relationships with God, each other and the world. Confronted with the misuses of power in our lives, communities and institutions, we seek to tell the truth and repent.

The Holy Spirit beckons us toward the restoration of all things in Christ. God continually calls us beloved.<sup>2</sup> On this journey together, we commit to:

### **Follow Jesus**

As an Anabaptist community of the living Word, we listen for God's call as we read Scripture together, guided by the Spirit. Through baptism we commit ourselves to live faithfully as Jesus' disciples, no matter the cost.<sup>3</sup>

### **Witness to God's peace**

We are called to extend God's holistic peace, proclaiming Christ's redemption for the world with our lives. Through Christ, God frees the world from sin and offers reconciliation. We bear witness to this gift of peace by rejecting violence and resisting injustice in all forms, and in all places.<sup>4</sup>

### **Experience transformation**

The Holy Spirit dwells in and among us, transforming us to reflect God's love. Through worship the Spirit gathers the body of Christ, where our diversity reveals God's beauty. The Spirit empowers our communities to embody the grace, joy and peace of the gospel.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> *Journey Forward* refers to a two-year process of church-wide discernment growing out of the Future Church Summit held in Orlando in 2017. It has two primary documents for church use: this living document and an interactive study guide. The feedback gathered from congregations, conferences, constituency groups and church agencies will shape future improvements to this document in preparation for delegate engagement in Kansas City in 2019.

<sup>2</sup> Genesis 1; Psalm 24:1; Luke 15:11-31; John 3:16-17; Ephesians 3:19; Romans 5:8

<sup>3</sup> 2 Kings 23:1-3; Isaiah 61:1-2; Mark 8:34; Luke 4:17-19; Ephesians 4:1-6; Hebrews 1:1-4

<sup>4</sup> Isaiah 9:6; Micah 6:1-8; Matthew 5:38-48; 2 Corinthians 5:19; Ephesians 4:32

<sup>5</sup> Psalm 133:1; John 14:16; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20; Ephesians 3:10; Revelation 7:9

## Delegate Assembly Leaders



### **Moderator: David Boshart**

Wellman, Iowa

Wellman Mennonite Church, Central Plains Mennonite Conference. David is executive conference minister for Central Plains Conference and has served on the Executive Board for 12 years. Previously, David served as a pastor for more than 25 years.



### **Moderator-elect: Joy Sutter**

Harleysville, Pennsylvania

Salford Mennonite Church, Franconia Mennonite Conference. Joy is a hospital administrator at Penn Medicine in Philadelphia and works in the cancer service line. Joy has served on the Executive Board since July of 2013.



### **Assembly Secretary: Bill Zuercher**

Hesston, Kansas

Bill is a volunteer for Hesston College, Western District and South Central Conferences, serving as ministry coordinator for the latter. Bill has served as recording secretary for nine Delegate Assemblies and continues in the same capacity for the Constituency Leaders Council.



### **Executive Director: Glen Guyton**

San Antonio, Texas, San Antonio Mennonite Church.

Glen began his role as executive director of MC USA on May 1, 2018. Glen joined the staff in 2009 as director of Inter-cultural Relations and for the next five years held various staff roles related to finance and convention planning. In 2014, he became the chief operating officer and director of Convention Planning. He served as a member of the MC USA's Executive Board from 2007-2009.

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### **Resolutions Committee:**

Samuel Voth Schrag, Dallas, Texas, chairperson

Linda Dibble, Albany, Oregon

Kristin Jackson, Chicago, Illinois

Sonya Stauffer Kurtz, Souderton, Pennsylvania

Byron Pellecer, Grand Prairie, Texas

## MennoCon19 – Kansas City

Time	Delegate Sessions
<b>Wednesday, July 3, 2019</b>	
<b>Morning Session</b>	
8:15–10:00 am (105 mins)	<p>MC USA Agency video</p> <p>Welcome &amp; Prayer</p> <p>Overview of business for the week</p> <p>Getting to know your table</p> <p>Introduction of Tom Yoder Neufeld</p> <p>Delegate Equipping Time with Tom Yoder Neufeld</p> <p>Question and Answer Session</p>
<b>Wednesday, July 3, 2019</b>	
<b>Afternoon Session</b>	
1:30 – 2:50 pm (80 mins)	<p>Gathering song</p> <p>Introduction of MC USA leaders</p> <p>State of the Church</p> <p>Everence Journey Forward Story</p> <p>Introduction to youth delegate bylaw change</p> <p><i>What have we heard from the Journey Forward surveys?</i></p> <p>Radical Living Urban Youth Garden – Manhattan Mennonite Fellowship</p> <p>Question #1 – Follow Jesus (Table time)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Based on how you read scripture, if Jesus were to walk into your town today, where would he go, what would he say, what would he do?</i></li> </ul>
2:50 – 3:15pm	Break
3:15 – 3:45 pm	Hearing from the tables

Thursday, July 4, 2019	
Morning Session	
8:15 –10:00 am (105 mins)	<p>Welcome &amp; Prayer</p> <p>Ice breaker</p> <p>Worship through song</p> <p>Delegate Equipping with Tom Yoder Neufeld</p> <p>Table discussions</p> <p>Question and Answer Session</p>
Thursday, July 4, 2019	
Afternoon Session	
1:30 – 2:45 pm (75 mins)	<p>Gathering song &amp; Prayer</p> <p>Welcome &amp; Announcements</p> <p>Mennonite Mission Network Journey Forward Story</p> <p>Report on Israel-Palestine Resolution</p> <p>Peace &amp; Reconciliation – Eden Life Church</p> <p>Question #2 – Witness to God's Peace</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Identify one part of our shared peace witness we should work together for the next biennium?</i></li> </ul>
2:45 – 3:15 pm	Break
3:15 – 3:45 pm	Hearing from the tables
Friday, July 5, 2019	
Morning Session	
8:15 –10:00 am (105 mins)	<p>Welcome &amp; Prayer</p> <p>Ice breaker</p> <p>Worship through song</p> <p>Delegate Equipping with Tom Yoder Neufeld</p> <p>Question and Answer Session</p> <p>Introductions of committee members and special guests</p>



Friday, July 5, 2019	
Afternoon Session	
Main Business Session	
1:30 – 3:55 pm (140 mins)	<p>Gathering song &amp; Prayer</p> <p>Session instructions &amp; Youth Delegate Proposal vote</p> <p>Business Session I</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LDC Slate (10 mins)</li> <li>• Bylaw change review/Q&amp;A (30 mins)</li> <li>• Membership Guidelines Process Overview (10 mins)</li> </ul> <p>Break</p> <p>Business Session II</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bylaw change vote (10 mins)</li> <li>• Update on MC USA Communications/Q&amp;A (40 mins)</li> </ul>
Saturday, July 6, 2019	
Morning Session	
8:15 – 9:30 am (75 mins)	<p>Gathering song &amp; Prayer</p> <p>Announcements/Unfinished business</p> <p>Report from Youth Delegates</p> <p>MennoMedia Journey Forward Story</p> <p>Global Immersion – Albany Mennonite Church</p> <p>Questions #3 and #4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>How have you experienced the Holy Spirit during this week of the convention?</i></li> <li>• <i>What do you sense God's spirit calling us to be as the body of Christ?</i></li> </ul>
9:30 – 9:50 am	Break
9:50– 10:15 am	Hearing from the tables
10:15-10:25 am	MC USA EB Moderator Transition
	Closing litany

## "Gathered into One"

This is the title of delegate equipping times that will be lead by Tom Yoder Neufeld. Through the lens of Ephesians, we will explore the unity of the Spirit, the "wind of God" that blows together those who are often at odds, even hostile to each other, transforming them through the self-giving and recreating Christ into the one body of Christ. The creator of all is a collector, gatherer, reconciler, re-creator—a uniter of "all things," and thus of all and each of us in all our beautiful and also often flawed and conflict-laden diversity. Ephesians 1:10 refers to God's peacemaking in and through Christ as "gathering up all things in (and through) Christ." The implications of that for the church, and thus for us as an Anabaptist community, are nothing if not challenging. The church is truest to its calling when it reflects exactly that scandalously hospitable and radically transforming diversity. The peace of Christ is a perfectly messy peace, demanding of us who live this unity humility, mutual respect, patience, and forbearance – in short, love. To be a peace church starts at home, and is tested there as much as or more than anywhere else.



**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. He 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 (MWC), 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).

## Table Discussion Guidelines for Journey Forward Process

1. Each table should chose a facilitator, notetaker and table spokesperson. These assignments can be rotated for the three sessions.
2. Make sure everyone has an opportunity to speak at your table.
3. During mic time, the appointed spokesperson for your table can only come up to speak once. This is so as many tables as possible have a chance to speak. For example, if your table went up for the first session, they cannot come up during the second or third sessions.
4. Keep your response brief; there is a 2-minute limit. We should be able to hear back from 10-12 tables each session.
5. We welcome all to share in ways that are respectful and that value each other as part of the MC USA family of faith.

## Calling for table responses:

1. Be respectful of others.
2. Be mindful of the time limit (2 minutes).
3. Please announce your name and table number when you come forward to speak.
4. Remember each table can only come up once to speak.
5. Read the question(s) you are responding to.

# MC USA Executive Board Strategic Plan for 2019-2021

The Executive Board of Mennonite Church USA is organized to give leadership and to act on behalf of the denomination when the Delegate Assembly is not in session. The Executive Board strives to act in the best interests of Mennonite Church USA as a whole. The Executive Board strategic plan articulates the priorities of the Executive Director and the Executive Board staff as they provide leadership, spiritual oversight, and vision for the denomination.

**This plan defines the ends and strategies for the Executive Board and staff as both work with conferences and agencies. The board's primary task will be to monitor progress toward the ends as the staff implements the strategies and goals. The goals and strategies identify how the staff will work together and with our conferences and agencies to enable MC USA to succeed in meeting these ends.**

Based on feedback from the Journey Forward process and a review of our stated vision and core documents, this strategic plan will drive our coordination and evaluation of churchwide program agencies and committees, including program priorities, annual budgets, fundraising procedures, and major innovations and modifications of church programs.

## **Our Mission**

The mission of Mennonite Church USA Executive Board is to equip and empower leaders to share with others the gift of God's peace and transformative love.

## **Our Vision**

God calls us to be followers of Jesus Christ and, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to grow as communities of grace, joy and peace, so that God's healing and hope flow through us to the world.

## **Our Global Ends**

In partnership with the agencies, area conferences and constituent groups, the Executive Board leads all parts of Mennonite Church USA to the full embodiment of our Journey Forward values:

1. We will equip our members with resources to form them to follow Jesus faithfully regardless of the costs. (Luke 9:23-24; Luke 9:59-60)
2. We will empower our members to bear witness to God's holistic peace and proclaim Christ's redemption to the world. (Matthew 28:16-20)
3. We resource our members in the spiritual disciplines that can transform us, through the power of the Holy Spirit, into a reflection of God's unending love. (Romans 12:1-2)
4. We will practice intercultural competency, working in a manner that honors the gifts and the Imago Dei in all people. (Genesis 1:27; Revelation 7:9-10)

## **How we are organized**

- **Executive Director.** *Chief staff officer for the Executive Board. Organizes and mobilizes staff to fulfill the mission, vision and ends of the denomination. Collaborates and coordinates activities with denominational conferences, agencies and organizations, enabling MC USA to follow God's calling to grow as communities of grace, joy and peace, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit, God's healing and hope might flow through them to the world.*
- **Communication and Marketing.** *Facilitates our public witness and institutional engagement as we equip and empower our leaders to engage the world, through the sharing of stories and information.*
- **Leadership Development.** *Develop partnerships and connect with programs that will form diverse conference and congregational leaders from many cultures and contexts who are well equipped to lead the church toward vital and effective witness.*
- **Administration & Finance.** *Manages the denominational human and financial resources to ensure a healthy, responsive and cared-for staff who can prioritize the work of ministry in pursuit of denomination ends.*
- **Archives.** *Preserves and shares the history of MC USA and closely related individuals or institutions, bearing witness to the transformation work of our denomination.*
- **Convention Planning.** *Creates a welcoming experience that serves to empower and equip the diverse constituency of our denomination to go out into the world to bear witness to God's peace and Christ's redemption.*

### **Our work culture**

As Mennonite Church USA Executive Board staff, we commit to actively contribute to the life-giving atmosphere of our shared work environment.

#### *Our decision making is*

collaborative, transparent and informed. We give healthy, constructive and honest feedback with hope and expectation.

#### *We cultivate trust*

through relationships built on open communication and grace.

#### *We create roles and determine responsibilities*

based on clear, realistic expectation, the gifts of the employee and the needs of the church.

#### *We honor and celebrate one another*

recognizing work done well and the different ways we bring life to each other. We commit to speak well of one another.

**We will equip our members with the necessary resources to form them to follow Jesus faithfully regardless of the costs.**

### **Strategies**

- i. Establish, teach and promote the core values and beliefs of the church based on scripture as expressed in the Confession of Faith in a Mennonite Perspective.
- ii. Encourage teamwork and effective partnerships between all parts of the church in accordance with our bylaws and Anabaptist theology.
- iii. Call and train leaders who know how to share the Gospel in our time and for the future.
- iv. Combine resources to do together what we cannot achieve alone.

### **Measures**

- The type of seminars and other educational sessions at the national convention
- Participation in the MC USA national convention
- Efficacy of the MLI process
- Utilization of Everence sharing fund and grants
- Participation in events & utilization of resources developed by program agencies

### **Major Goals 2019 to 2021**

- Develop and host process to address role of Membership Guidelines in our system
- Create more user-friendly MLI process
- Update the MLI software
- Update online/electronic giving solutions
- Curate resources for faith formation leaders at [www.AnabaptistFaithFormation.org](http://www.AnabaptistFaithFormation.org)
- Network faith formation pastors and leaders through yearly conferences and digital networking

**We will empower our members to bear witness to God's holistic peace and proclaim Christ's redemption to the world.**

### **Strategies**

- i. Joining in God's activity in the world, we will partner with area conferences to develop and nurture missional Mennonite congregations of many cultures.
- ii. Confront the forces of our communities, our nation and the world which work against God's intent for all creation, e.g., discrimination, racism, sexism, violence, and war.
- iii. Share the good news of Jesus Christ through word and deed, calling people to salvation in Christ, to form Christian communities of love and service to others.
- iv. Tell the story of God's faithfulness in our journey as an Anabaptist people.



### **Measures**

- Retention of existing congregations
- Overall membership in MC USA
- Categories of news stories
- Social media engagement
- Conference participation rates in training recommended by MC USA
- Number of church plants
- Participation in events & utilization of resources developed by program agencies

### **Major Goals 2019 to 2021**

- Plant nine congregations each year
- Revamp the MC USA website
- Develop a churchwide communication platform
- Build an on oral history program to collect and preserve stories from across the denomination

**We will resource our members in the spiritual disciplines that can transform us, through the power of the Holy Spirit, into a reflection of God's unending love.**

### **Strategies**

- i. Encourage and equip congregations to actively engage in God's mission in their local context.
- ii. Provide a sense of larger community, creating a common identity for ourselves and recognized by those with whom we come in contact.
- iii. In partnership with our area conferences, we will develop, plant and nurture missional Mennonite congregations of many cultures.

### **Measures**

- Participation in Learn, Pray, Join events
- National survey data
- Membership in church plants
- Church grant information
- Participation in events & utilization of resources developed by program agencies

### **Major Goals 2019 to 2021**

- Revamp the MC USA website to make resources more available.
- Develop a churchwide education and reading programs.
- Create wellbeing in ministry guidebook.
- Host webinars to resource faith formation pastors and lay leaders through thegatheringplace.us.

**We will practice intercultural competency, working in a manner that honors the gifts and the Imago Dei in all people.**

### **Strategies**

- i. We will practice intercultural competency in hiring staff and in our volunteer appointments.
- ii. We will confront the forces of the world which work against God's intent for all creation, e.g., discrimination, racism, sexism, violence, and war.
- iii. We will organize a network of trainers and resource people to work at anti-racism, sexual abuse, women's issues and cultural competency.

### **Measures**

- Training participation rates
- Number of trainers
- Demographic data for appointments
- Participation in events & utilization of resources developed by program agencies

### **Major Goals 2019 to 2021**

- Host Racial/Ethnic youth and young adult conference.
- In the fall of 2019, Women in Leadership will train 15 trainers from across MC USA to lead the Dismantling Patriarchy training.
- Gather 12 IDI qualifying administrators to train and share resources to equip MC USA agencies and congregations.
- Convene peace trainers across the denomination to network and resource MC USA agencies and congregations.

@  
News

Find news articles and features from across MC USA online, or subscribe to our news service for regular email updates.

@  
Noticias

Entérese más de las noticias de la Iglesia Menonita de EE.UU. en nuestra página web.



Menno Snapshots

The official blog for MC USA. Find stories, reflections, ministry updates and more from across the country.

EQUIPPING

A monthly e-newsletter featuring resources, events and publications from Mennonite agencies and organizations.

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Daily #MennoCon19 News

June 2-6, 2019

Kansas City, MO

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- Daily blog reflections from convention attendees
- Updates and news from the Delegate Assembly

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