

Virtual Seminars for MennoCon21

May 14, 2021

Adult Seminars are for open to all interested persons; Youth Seminars are designed specifically for youth.

Adult Seminar	Betty Pries, CEO, Credence & Co.	Tackling Tough & Polarized Conversations	Dealing with differences can be challenging. It is especially difficult in congregational settings where we are motivated by values of kindness and care. It is even more complex when our differences become polarized. Can we be caring while also addressing the differences between us? This workshop proposes strategies for tackling tough conversations in a manner that is effective, builds community and enhances a spirit of joy and grace in the congregation.
Adult Seminar	Malinda Elizabeth Berry, associate professor of theology & ethics, AMBS	The Kindom is Like a Child with a Bucket, Dipper & Lid	Social emotional development is more than a trendy topic. It's bringing to light important information educators, counselors, and psychologists have known for a long time: faith formation includes naming how our feelings help us participate in God's mission in the world.
Adult Seminar	Osheta Moore, author and pastor at Woodland Hills Church, St. Paul, Minn.	Dear White Peacemakers	Osheta Moore invites White Christians to come to the table and join the hard work and holy calling of the work of anti-racism. Written in the wake of George Floyd's death, Osheta's new book, <i>Dear White Peacemakers</i> draws on the Sermon on the Mount, Spirituals, and personal stories from author's work as a pastor in St. Paul, Minnesota.
Adult Seminar	Chad Horning, chief investment officer, and Stella Tai, manager of stewardship investing, Everence	How your financial decisions can create social change	Bringing about social change requires more than just passion for a cause—it requires the ability to integrate the desired change into the way our world works. Economics have become the new focus for many seeking to increase justice and peace in our world. The financial tools you use every day can be part of that change and impact the future. Join us for an exploration of the many ways we can make a difference for others today, while managing our financial resources for the future.
Adult Seminar	Michael Danner, associate executive director for church vitality, MC USA	Practicing Revitalization	Many congregations and leaders want to revitalize their church. They write vision statements, start programs, and write strategic plans! Yet, nothing changes. Why? This seminar explores how planning and decision-making processes impact revitalization. If these fundamental practices do not change, a church will keep getting the same results. This seminar will teach you to listen, explore, experiment and examine your way to new health.
Adult Seminar	Jennifer Halteman Schrock, director of MCCN, and Doug Graber Neufeld, director of CSCS	Faith and Climate Change: Questions We're Asking	Hear from a diverse mix of Anabaptists as they grapple with the questions that climate change raises for their faith and the contexts they are part of. A joint project of the Center for Sustainable Climate Solutions and Mennonite Creation Care Network.
Adult Seminar	Bishop L.W. Francisco, III, Dr. Lesley Francisco McClendon, Nicole Francisco Bailey, C3 Hampton Leaders	Leadership for Adaptive Change	Leadership can be tough, but leading with flexibility in today's current social, economic and pandemic-sensitive climate can be even tougher. Join this session to learn about leadership for ADAPTIVE change. We will cover the basics for how to evaluate your ministry, set prioritized goals, and stay relevant within your specific context to keep your current congregants engaged and reach new people where they are.
Adult Seminar	Joe Sawatzky and panel Joe is a church relations rep for Mennonite Mission Network	Breaking a Mission Mold in Africa	Listen in as Joe Sawatzky interviews James Krabill, Jonathan Larson, and Thomas Oduro, editors of a new book of testimonies on the more than 60-year relationship between North American Mennonites and African-initiated churches. Learn firsthand from participants in this fascinating and path-breaking chapter in the story of Christian cross-cultural engagement.
Adult Seminar	Benjamin Bergey and Katie Graber, Voices Together committee	Voices Together: A Closer Look	In this seminar, <i>Voices Together</i> committee members provide an introduction of the new hymnal, as well as brief discussions on intercultural worship, expansive language, and the accompaniment edition.

Seminar in Spanish	Maribel Ramírez Hinojosa, Ph.D., clinical psychologist	Cuidando de sí mismo y de otros durante la pandemia de COVID-19	Acompáñenos para aprender sobre la importancia del cuidado personal de los pastores, con el asesoramiento experto de la Psicóloga Clínica Maribel Ramírez Hinojosa, PhD. Presentada en español, descubrirá cosas tangibles que puede hacer cada día para cuidarse y así dar lo mejor de sí mismo al servir a su congregación. También aprenderá formas de responder al estrés y el trauma que las personas están experimentando debido a la pandemia COVID-19, mientras se protege de la fatiga por compasión y el agotamiento.
Seminar in Spanish	Marco Güete, director of Hispanic Ministries, Mennonite Education Agency	Sanarse y avanzar hacia la transformación en el COVID-19	Es común que los pastores, líderes y miembros de la iglesia hispana experimenten un aumento en los niveles de angustia y ansiedad, particularmente como resultado del aislamiento social. Los pastores y otros líderes de la iglesia son particularmente vulnerables a los efectos negativos en la salud mental y espiritual mientras se esfuerzan por equilibrar el servicio y el ministerio de cuidar a sus miembros con preocupaciones sobre su propio bienestar y el de sus familiares y amigos.
Seminar in Spanish	Martin Navarro, stewardship consultant, Everence	Finanzas en tiempos de crisis	Durante la pandemia el desafío de finanzas nos ha impactado. En este seminario se hablará en cómo preparar sus finanzas para poder proteger a su familia y su dinero. Se hablará de estrategias de ahorrar y asegurar para evitar un caos.
Seminar in Spanish	Sandra Montes Martinez, associate conference minister, Western District Conference	Re-imaginar Revitalizar y ser Relevantes	Cuando pensamos en la iglesia, generalmente tenemos un marco de ideas que se derivan de nuestras experiencias con las estructuras eclesiales. Las prácticas y ritos de nuestra comunidad de fe nos dan identidad y nos ayudan a enfocar la misión de la iglesia. Con esta conversación comunitaria reflexionaremos en como la iglesia asertivamente puede evaluar su trabajo para Revitalizar la comunidad de fe y ser Relevantes en el ministerio de la iglesia en los tiempos que vivimos.
Youth Seminar	Rustin Nyce, head coach, track & field, Goshen College	Being a Competitive Athlete AND Mennonite	This seminar explores the value of competition and how competition can share Mennonite history and values. Consider how we find value in winning and in losing in athletic competition without feeling superior or inferior, reflect on Jesus' modeling of strength and power as a guide for athletic mental and physical strength and evaluate access for everyone to experience growth through competition, regardless of ability.
Youth Seminar	Mitch Stutzman, Everence stewardship consultant, and youth from Hesston Mennonite Church	How much is enough?	Do you have enough money? To buy what you need.... want.... and need? These are the questions that we think about as we shop and decide what to do with your money. It is a difficult question to ask and an even more difficult question to answer. Watch this virtual seminar where you'll hear from financial experts about what to think about when it comes to personal finance.
Youth Seminar	Jes Stoltzfus Buller and Saulo Padilla, program coordinators, Mennonite Central Committee	Jesus, Violence and Peace	We might all agree that Jesus calls us to be peacemakers, but we don't necessarily agree on what that means. Can we engage in protest? Have guns? How do we decide if or when to call the police? What if we remain silent while others are harmed? These questions, like many scenarios in our lives, ask us to define our understanding of violence and nonviolence and they challenge how we live out a peace theology. Join this seminar to reflect on and identify what peace means to you in your daily life.
Youth Seminar	Vikki Pruitte-Sorrells, high school administrator and pastor of Lee Heights Community Church, Cleveland, Ohio	Allowed to BE ME	As a child you may have been asked, what do you want to be when you grow up? You may have wondered what does "life" have in store for me. God has a purpose for all of our lives. Growing in our relationship with God and Jesus Christ gives us the opportunity to discover ourselves and to explore the goodness of God. This seminar will give some simple things to consider as you grow in your relationship with God and Jesus Christ while learning to love the person that God is creating you to BE!

Youth Seminar	Brooke Martin, Danilo Sanchez, Hendy Stevan Matahelemual, Jaye Lindo, of the youth formation team for Mosaic Mennonite Conference	Living for Jesus & Racial Justice	What does my faith have to say about racial justice? Join Mosaic Conference's youth formation team as we share from our experiences and perspectives about having and engaging in conversations about race and racism in the USA. Continue the conversation: This past year we created several free study guides for youth groups available on the resources tab at https://mosaicmennonites.org/youth/
Youth Seminar	Eric Frey Martin, recruiter and church relations, Mennonite Mission Network	Shaping our stories; sharing our stories	During this seminar we will look at how we tell stories, not just the verbal ones that we relay to our friends, but the narratives we are shaping around who we are and how we want to project ourselves to others. We will take a look at how these stories that we are telling and projecting shape who we are becoming and how our stories can impact others. We will look at sharing our stories as a way of sharing God with others.
Youth Seminar	Jerrell Williams, pastor of Salem Mennonite Church, Salem, Ore.	Growing Deeper Roots	In this seminar, Jerrell Williams, pastor of Salem (OR) Mennonite Church, discusses ways for youth to grow deeper in their faith. He will also give tips for youth leaders and congregations on how to create an environment for nurturing spiritual life in young people.
Youth Seminar	Rachel Swartzendruber Miller, VP for Admissions, Hesston College	Quarterback, Class Clown, and Homecoming Queen -- but who's the leader?	So many assume that being a leader requires a position, status, or popularity. In reality, none of these are ingredients of true leadership. Come learn a new definition of leadership through stories and examples, one that flips the term "leadership position" on its head. Similar to how Jesus showed us an "upside-down Kingdom," we can offer the world an upside down way of leading. This kind of leadership is something you can do, anytime, anywhere.
Youth Seminar	Marathana Prothro, assistant professor, Bluffton University	Using ancient wisdom to stop destructive communication	From broken relationships to deep political and theological divides, destructive communication pervades much of our experience today. Drawing from ancient wisdom and contemporary psychology, this seminar provides youth a practical way to recognize these patterns of communication and offers a path to healing and hope in their personal relationships.