



Lancaster
Mennonite Conference

Celebration of Church Life

REPORT

**to Credentialed Leaders and
Congregational Representatives**

March 2017

Lancaster Mennonite Conference



In the Hands of an Archer

THE WORD AND PRAYER

2017 Dwelling in the Word Text
John 21

First Monday Prayer Group at LMC
office at 7 pm

Third Thursday Prayer Group at Landis
Homes at 7 pm

Prayer Focus

Unity and openness to what the
Spirit is saying to the Church

For wisdom for LMC staff, bishops,
pastors and all church leaders

That the LORD would strengthen families
throughout the conference

That the Dwelling in the Word text would
mold and shape us in 2017

Continued Church Multiplication

That we would take back any
ground that was surrendered to the
enemy

That we would stand firm against all
schemes of the enemy

For Bishop Board, Strategic Direction Task
Force and Conference Executive Council
meetings

For the new congregations that joined
LMC in 2017

For forgiveness where we have failed

That we would return to our First Love

For the past number of years, the Lancaster Mennonite Conference has chosen a Dwelling in the Word text. The practice has been to allow the text to form and shape us as individuals and as a conference. The Gospel of John, chapter 21 has been affirmed as the Dwelling in the Word text for 2017.

In reading John 21, we recognize that the disciples must have been feeling the tension of the past weeks. Their beloved leader, Jesus, had suffered a cruel death by crucifixion, had been in the grave for three days and then had risen from the dead! He had appeared twice to them following the resurrection and now suddenly, He appears a third time. Their emotions must have been raw. Tensions were high and their hearts in turmoil as they tried to reconcile all that was happening. Perhaps as a way of attempting to bring order back into their lives they returned to what was most familiar, fishing. And suddenly, Jesus appears!

For the past year, the conference has been living into the current tensions—political,

racial, national and local issues, transitioning from MC USA and many other changes.

Oswald Chambers in his devotional book, **My Utmost for His Highest**, makes the statement that our Loving Heavenly Father allows times of tension in our lives. He says, *"A saint's life is in the hands of God like a bow and arrow in the hands of an archer. God is aiming at something the saint cannot see, and He stretches and strains God goes on stretching until His purpose is in sight, then He lets fly. Trust yourself in God's hands."*

As the conference is being stretched, let's keep our eyes fixed on the One who allowed these tensions into our lives. He is aiming at something we may not yet be able to see, but we can trust that His aim is sure, His timing is perfect and His purpose is for our best good.

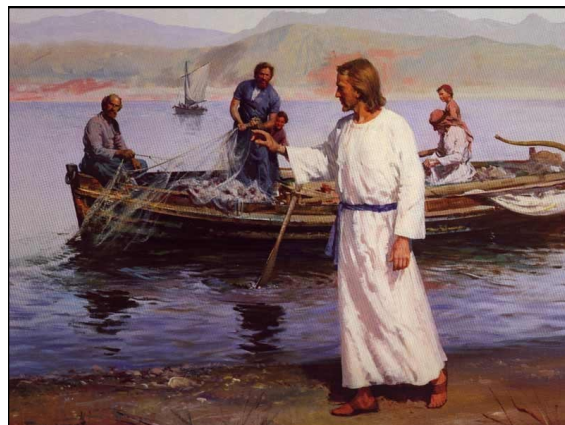
The text affirms that Jesus is more than able to fill empty nets. He reaffirms our call to feed His

lambs and care for His sheep. His call has always been to love and follow Him even when it may lead us where we don't want to go.

As we live into the current tensions, may we always be looking for Him to appear and may we be as the beloved disciple, John, able to recognize Him when He does appear in unexpected ways and places.

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

- 2 Corinthians 13:14



Lancaster Conference Working Groups

STRATEGIC DIRECTION TASK FORCE

Keith Blank,
Co-chair
Jeff McClain, *East Pe-
tersburg Mennonite*
Karl McKinney,
Erisman Mennonite
Akeia Haddox-Rossiter,
Capital Christian
Marita Scholtz,
Wilkens Avenue
Ann Weaver,
Co-Chair
Keith Weaver,
Moderator
Mark Wenger, *Eastern
Mennonite Seminary*
Liliana Vega,
Jesucristo es el Señor

CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

J. Carl Sensenig, *Treasurer*
Nelson Bowman, *Bishop*
Lloyd Hoover, *Secretary*
Samuel Lopez,
Spanish Council
Omar Guzman, *Pastor*
Sandra Gonzalez, *Spanish
Council*
Heather Johns, *Constituent
Member*
Richard Mininger, *Bishop*
David Pegarella, *Pastor*
Stephen Weaver, *Bishop*
Keith Weaver, *Moderator*
Dawn Winey, *Pastor*

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Robert Brubaker,
*Rossmere Mennonite
Church*
J. Carl Sensenig,
Conference Treasurer
C. Kenneth Martin,
*Weaverland Mennonite
Church*
Sheryl Mummau,
*Lost Creek Mennonite
Church*
Carl Hess,
LMC Financial Administrator
L. Keith Weaver,
LMC Moderator

CREDENTIALING COMMISSION

Paul Nisly, *Bishop
North Penn District*
Dale Stoltzfus,
Conference Minister
Tom Eshleman, *Pastor
Groffdale Mennonite Church*
Audrey Metzler, *Licensed for
Specific Ministry at Community
Mennonite Fellowship*
Carolyn Wakefield,
Erisman Mennonite Church
Adalberto Santiago,
Spanish Council Representative

CELEBRATION OF CHURCH LIFE PLANNING TEAM

Peter Cook, *Alive Church*
Tim Darling,
Norma Mennonite Church
Gerry Keener, *EMM*
Joe Hollinger, *EMM*
Karl McKinney,
Erisman Mennonite Church
Margie Peters,
Hernley Mennonite Church
Brinton Rutherford, *LMC Staff*
Joselyn Santiago,
LMC Administrative Assistant

CONFERENCE OFFICE STAFF

Tom Eshleman, *Global Delegate*
Carl Hess, *Financial Administrator*
Conrad Kanagy, *Resource Staff*
Marcia Mylin, *Resource Staff*
Brinton Rutherford, *Resource Staff*
Joselyn Santiago, *Administrative Assistant*
Dale Stoltzfus, *Conference Minister*
Keith Weaver, *Conference Moderator*

LMC Giving for 2016-2017 Fiscal Year

Financial Report

Church offerings	\$481,390
Individual Giving	\$38,335
Other Income	\$124,412
Total Revenue	\$644,137
Total Expenses	\$586,863
Year End Balance	\$57,273

First Fruits Giving

Mennonite World Conference (MWC)	14.25%
MWC Global Sharing Fund	4.09%
EVANA	6.10%
Spanish Council Mission Red	12.22%
Urban Education	12.22%
Leadership Education Grant	5.78%
Leadership Education Endowment	14.59%
Urban Ministry	10.18%
MCC Summer Service Workers	7.74%
MC USA	12.85%

Thank you!

*Your prayers and
financial support
have been a source
of encouragement
this past year.
Thank you for excel-
ling in the grace of
giving!*

Congregations Joining LMC

- Aurora Mennonite Church, Aurora OH
- Beaver Dam Mennonite Church, Corry PA
- Blough Mennonite Church, Hollsopple PA
- Carpenter Park Mennonite Church, Davidsville PA
- First Mennonite Church, Berne IN
- Glade Mennonite Church, Accident MD
- Immanuel Community Church, Flushing NY
- Mara Christian Church of America, Baltimore MD
- Meadow Mountain Mennonite Church, Accident MD
- Moorhead Mennonite Church, Holmesville OH
- North Lima Mennonite Church, North Lima OH
- Oak Grove Mennonite Church, Grantsville MD
- Pinto Mennonite Church, Cumberland MD

Leadership Resourcing Events

ORIENTATION FOR NEWLY OR RECENTLY CREDENTIALLED LEADERS

April 19, 2017 (7:00-9:30 p.m.) Lancaster Conference Office

All credentialed leaders who have not attended an Orientation are encouraged to attend this evening. Conference staff will address three main areas of focus: who is LMC, how LMC is organized, and what resources are available for leaders and congregations. This will also be an opportunity to ask questions you may have about your leadership role. RSVP by April 12 by calling 717.293.5246, ext. 100 or via email jsantiago@lancasterconference.org.

SPRING LEADERSHIP RESOURCING EVENT

May 26-27, 2017 East Petersburg Mennonite Church

Friday, 7 pm and Saturday, 9 am—3 pm

Lancaster Mennonite Conference and Church on the Other Side will co-sponsor the Spring Leadership Assembly. The focus of the event will be church multiplication. The Saturday portion of the event will include six different workshops.

FALL LEADERSHIP EVENT/INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS ASSOCIATION/HOLY SPIRIT IN MISSION CONFERENCE

September 19-26, 2017 Location to be determined

This event will be co-hosted by EMM and LMC.

CALLING

A guided retreat that creates space for everyone to move deeper in the lifelong discovery of who God has made them to be. Contact Jimm and Kaylene Derksen at emm.org to begin customizing your next church retreat, or to explore personally with them your own sense of God's calling in your life.

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Contact the
LMC Conference Office for
more information on these
leadership events.
717.293.5246
jsantiago@lancasterconference.org

Work of the Board of Bishops

January 2016 - February 2017

- Formed a Strategic Direction Task Force appointed to look at the bigger picture of LMC's future and who we are becoming
- Appointed a team to work with congregations seeking to become affiliated with LMC
- Approved River of Hope Ministries, a Christ-centered counseling ministry, as a fraternal organization of LMC
- Approved a motion to grant a remission of the censure of excommunication to Martin Boehm and the restoration of his bishop credential, emeritus. Boehm is considered a co-founder of all Methodist movements and 2016 was the 250th year anniversary of his estrangement from LMC.
- Approved a refresh of the LMC logo with color changes and the removal of the MC USA affiliation
- Formed three new LMC districts: Western Pennsylvania District, Western Maryland District and Eastern Ohio District.
- Formed a task force assigned to work with the five LMC agencies as they reconsider the nature of their relationship with LMC in this time of affiliation realignment.
- Developed a document that clarifies the nature of LMC's relationship to Evana Network.
- Celebrated missional movement in:
 - the reconfiguration of LMC's Spanish Mennonite Council (SMC) into Shalom Council of Evangelical Churches, an expanded network including church bodies from Central and South America as well as in other parts of the U.S.
 - congregational multiplication occurring in five LMC clusters: Garifuna Church, Vietnamese Community, Spanish Council, West End Fellowship, and Martindale District.
 - the appointment of Omar Guzman, pastor of Evangelical Garifuna Church of Manhattan, to give leadership to LMC multiplication work through Church on the Other Side (COTOS).
- Authorized the Conference Executive Council to continue their work for another year
- Affirmed John 21 as the Dwelling in the Word text for 2017.
- Approved the 2016-2017 Financial Plan of \$628,115.

Lancaster Mennonite Conference Office Transitions



Tom Eshleman

Lancaster Mennonite Conference (LMC) has named Pastor Tom Eshleman as LMC's Global Delegate. This new role was developed to help LMC strengthen its connections and relationships with our fraternal partners around the world. Although Tom will continue his pastoral ministry, he is eager to engage in a part-time basis to help us in this way. Tom serves as pastor at Groffdale Mennonite Church in Leola, PA where he has served since 2005. He and his wife Jennifer have three children, ages 16, 13 and 11. Tom has a strong interest in cross-cultural interaction going back to his days as a public school teacher in Harrisonburg, VA relating with immigrant students and their parents from around the world. Tom appreciates the growth and enrichment that happens when we as the North American church interact with the dynamic and growing churches of the Global South.



Omar Guzman

Omar is the pastor of the Evangelical Garifuna church of Manhattan, and church planter in the Garifuna community. He also serves as the director of Mennonite Garifuna Missions. As leader of Church On The Other Side (COTOS), he has a vision to strengthen and plant new congregations, with the goal to unite as congregations and bring new life in the LMC conference as one body in Christ. Omar has been married to Tania Melendez for 20 years, and they have three children.



Marcia Mylin

After serving with the Brethren in Christ denomination for over 30 years, my husband and I clearly sensed a call to return to the denomination in which we had grown up, that of the Mennonite Church. We are delighted to be a part of this faith community and look forward to partnering with each of you in Kingdom work.

Marcia's new role at the Conference will include assisting with event planning, learning the credentialing process and providing resourcing for the various seasons of life. When you stop by the conference office, you are welcome to stop by her office and introduce yourself.

Marcia is married to Dale and they have five children and four grandchildren.



LANCASTER MENNONITE CONFERENCE

2160 Lincoln Highway East, #5
Lancaster, PA 17602

717.293.5246

information@lancasterconference.org
www.lancasterconference.org



MINISTERIAL ACTIVITIES OF LANCASTER MENNONITE CONFERENCE

MARCH 2016 – FEBRUARY 2017

Licenses Granted	License Type - Assignment	Congregation	District	Date
Jonathen Bailey Jr. (<i>Jingfang Li</i>)	toward ordination - lead pastor	Peabody Street	Washington-Baltimore	10.30.16
Kenton Bontrager (<i>Deborah</i>)	specific ministry - pastor at Camp Deepark	King of Glory	New York City	09.10.16
Scott Breneman (<i>Lorena</i>)	toward ordination - associate pastor	Mechanic Grove	Willow Street-Strasburg	01.29.17
Kevin Dodge (<i>Carolina</i>)	toward ordination - associate pastor	Glade Mennonite	Western Maryland	02.05.17
David Roy Buch (<i>Lisa</i>)	toward ordination - associate pastor	Metzler Mennonite	Groffdale	01.29.17
Todd Carvell (<i>Heidi</i>)	toward ordination - associate pastor	Gehman Mennonite	Bowmansville-Reading	12.11.16
Thomas DelRocini (<i>Dawn</i>)	specific ministry - church planter	Willow Street	Willow Street-Strasburg	01.13.16
Jay M. Gandy (<i>Laura</i>)	specific ministry - pastor of youth and post-grad	Weaverland Mennonite	Weaverland-NE PA	07.06.16
Edson Omar Guzman (<i>Tania</i>)	specific ministry - church planter	Garifuna Ch of Manhattan	New York City	10.28.16
Akeia Haddox-Rossiter (<i>Paris</i>)	toward ordination - associate pastor	Capital Christian	Washington-Baltimore	10.16.16
Christopher Landes (<i>Dawn</i>)	toward ordination - co-lead pastor	Habecker Mennonite	Landisville-Manor	10.23.16
Dawn Landes (<i>Christopher</i>)	toward ordination - co-lead pastor	Habecker Mennonite	Landisville-Manor	10.23.16
Nolan Livengood (<i>Celeste</i>)	toward ordination - associate pastor	Mellinger Mennonite	Mellinger	03.06.16
Jonathan Martin (<i>Miranda</i>)	toward ordination - lead pastor	Glade Mennonite	Western Maryland	02.05.17
Merlin Maust (<i>Felicia</i>)	toward ordination - lead pastor	Oak Grove Mennonite	Western Maryland	12.18.16
James Anthony Newlen (<i>Keri</i>)	toward ordination - assistant pastor	New Life Mennonite	Washington-Baltimore	06.19.16
Bruce O'Neill (<i>Jenny</i>)	specific ministry - youth pastor	Blainsport Mennonite	Weaverland-NE PA	01.29.17
Travis Sauder (<i>Carolyn</i>)	toward ordination - associate pastor	Gehman Mennonite	Bowmansville-Reading	12.11.16
Brent Stoy (<i>Megan</i>)	toward ordination - lead pastor	Benders Mennonite	Weaverland-NE PA	10.16.16
David Torres-Oyola (<i>Sally</i>)	toward ordination - lead pastor	Rohrerstown Mennonite	Landisville-Manor	10.02.16
Lew Wagner (<i>Jean</i>)	toward ordination - lead pastor	Erb Mennonite	Manheim	04.24.16
Duane Weaver (<i>Donna</i>)	specific ministry - deacon	Bowmansville Mennonite	Bowmansville-Reading	07.24.16
Anthony Witmer (<i>Theresa</i>)	toward ordination - associate pastor	Bowmansville Mennonite	Bowmansville-Reading	02.12.17

Ordinations	Assignment	Congregation	District	Date
Neal Benedict (<i>Jean</i>)	associate pastor	Erisman Mennonite	Manheim	06.05.16
J. Calvin Bucher (<i>Rebecca</i>)	lead pastor	Kauffman Mennonite	Manheim	11.13.16
Peter Cook (<i>Glenda</i>)	associate pastor	Alive Church Ephrata	Weaverland-NE PA	01.15.17
Phillip Dayton (<i>Nancy</i>)	assistant pastor	Pinto Mennonite	Western Maryland	09.14.16
Darell Lee Dombach (<i>Carol</i>)	deacon	Strasburg Mennonite	Willow Street-Strasburg	05.22.16
Marc Hochstetler (<i>Edith</i>)	lead pastor	Moorhead Mennonite	Eastern Ohio	12.21.16
Eric Lasure (<i>Tammie</i>)	lead pastor	Blough Mennonite	Western Pennsylvania	02.08.17
Benjamin Martin (<i>Jolene</i>)	lead pastor	Green Terrace Mennonite	Bowmansville-Reading	11.06.16
Brent Lydell Martin (<i>Nadine</i>)	associate pastor	Churchtown Mennonite	Martindale	06.12.16

Dustin Martin (<i>Janelle</i>)	associate pastor	Hammer Creek Mennonite	Bishop Oversight	07.24.16
Hugo Portillo (<i>Silvia</i>)	lead pastor	Iglesia Menonita Puerta de Sion	Spanish	04.24.16
Cedric Smith (<i>Adrienne</i>)	lead pastor	Mennonite Bible Fellowship	New York City	08.21.16
James Sutton (<i>Debbie</i>)	transitional interim minister	Aurora Mennonite	Eastern Ohio	09.14.16
Robert Wengerd (<i>Dianne</i>)	lead pastor	North Lima Mennonite	Eastern Ohio	02.08.17
Earl A. Yoder (<i>Joanna</i>)	bishop	Glade Mennonite	Western Maryland	09.14.16

Installations	Assignment	Congregation	District	Date
J. Nelson Bechtold (<i>Connie</i>)	bishop of Elizabethtown and York Districts	Goods Mennonite	Elizabethtown	02.12.17
Richard Buckwalter (<i>Deborah</i>)	interim bishop of Lancaster District	New Providence Mennonite	Willow Street-Strasburg	01.01.17
Howard Garver (<i>Becky</i>)	interim lead pastor	Landisville Mennonite	Landisville-Manor	07.10.16
Nelson W. Martin (<i>Anna Mae</i>)	interim bishop of Lititz and Mellinger Districts	Millport Mennonite	Lititz	01.01.17
A. Willard Shertzer (<i>Ann</i>)	intentional interim pastor	Pinto Mennonite	Western Maryland	09.25.16
James Sutton (<i>Debbie</i>)	bishop	Aurora Mennonite	Eastern Ohio	12.08.16
R. Eugene Zimmerman (<i>Edie</i>)	interim associate pastor	Bowmansville Mennonite	Bowmansville-Reading	06.26.16

Retirements	Assignment	Congregation	District	Date
Maxine Bartholomew (<i>Richard</i>)		North Lima Mennonite	Eastern Ohio	02.08.17
Richard Bartholomew (<i>Maxine</i>)		North Lima Mennonite	Eastern Ohio	02.08.17
Nelson Bowman	co-bishop	Martindale Mennonite	Martindale	06.01.16
Kathryn Weaver Eby (<i>Harold</i>)	chaplain	Landis Valley Christian Fellowship	Lititz	02.29.16
Dennis Ernest (<i>Rosalind</i>)	lead pastor	Rohrerstown Mennonite	Landisville-Manor	04.01.16
James R. Fahnestock (<i>Nancy</i>)	lead pastor	Simple Church (church plant)	Church on the Other Side	11.01.16
Clyde Hollinger (<i>Elaine</i>)	active without charge	Millport Mennonite	Lititz	12.31.16
Larry Horning (<i>Joyce</i>)	deacon	Bowmansville Mennonite	Bowmansville-Reading	08.31.16
William J. Houser (<i>Judy</i>)	associate pastor	Lebanon Christian Fellowship	Lebanon	08.31.16
Ray Leaman (<i>Carol</i>)	deacon	Mellinger Mennonite	Mellinger	02.14.16
James R. Martin	minister	Gehman Mennonite	Bowmansville-Reading	01.27.17
Philip Shertzer (<i>Joyce</i>)	active without charge	Mountville Mennonite	Landisville-Manor	12.31.16
James L. Strite (<i>Norma</i>)	deacon	Manheim Mennonite	Manheim	10.31.16
Clair H. Weaver (<i>Betsy</i>)	executive director of Jubilee Ministries	Krall's Mennonite	Lebanon	03.31.16
Alice Whitman (<i>Vincent</i>)	deaconess	Crossroads Mennonite	Lancaster	03.17.16
George Zimmerman (<i>Lois</i>)	active without charge	Meckville Mennonite	Lebanon	12.31.16

Assignment Changes	From	To	Congregation	District	Date
Oleg Dik (<i>Lisa</i>)	license toward ordination as church planter	license for specific ministry as missionary	West End Mennonite Fellowship	Church on the Other Side	02.26.16
Jeffrey Grosh (<i>Christine</i>)	active without charge	inactive	Stony Brook Mennonite	York	02.26.16
Randall Shull (<i>Kristina</i>)	active without charge	inactive	Landisville Mennonite	Landisville-Manor	12.31.16

Transfers into LMC	Assignment	Congregation	District	Date
Curt Claassen	retired	First Mennonite, Berne	Eastern Ohio	12.14.16
Jerry Flueckiger	associate pastor	First Mennonite, Berne	Eastern Ohio	12.14.16
William Higgins (<i>Stacey</i>)	lead pastor	New Providence Mennonite	Willow Street-Strasburg	06.26.16
Timothy Kennell (<i>Bev</i>)	staff of church agency	West End Mennonite Fellowship	Lancaster	01.11.17
D. Wayne Lasure (<i>Katy</i>)	lead pastor	Carpenter Park Mennonite	Western Pennsylvania	12.14.16
James Laverty (<i>Wendy</i>)	lead pastor	Mountville Mennonite	Landisville-Manor	08.28.16
Jeffrey Linthicum (<i>Megan</i>)	lead pastor	First Mennonite, Berne	Eastern Ohio	12.14.16
Vandy Parks (<i>Lynn</i>)	active without charge	Oxford Circle Mennonite	Philadelphia	03.09.16
Assignments Ending	Assignment	Congregation	District	Date
Neal Benedict (<i>Jean</i>)	associate pastor	Erisman Mennonite	Manheim	08.31.16
Clair E. Good (<i>Beth</i>)	bishop	Vision Columbia	Landisville-Manor	02.26.16
Susan Horst	chaplain	Mount Joy Mennonite	Landisville-Manor	01.01.16
Glenn Hosler (<i>Judy</i>)	bishop	Delaware Mennonite Church	Juniata	06.30.16
Duane Ringler (<i>Diane</i>)	associate pastor	Bowmansville Mennonite	Bowmansville-Reading	03.23.16
Karen Sensenig (<i>Kenneth</i>)	lead pastor	Habecker Mennonite	Landisville-Manor	09.15.16
Kathy Shantz (<i>Stanley</i>)	associate pastor	James Street Mennonite	Lancaster	09.26.16
Donald Sharp (<i>Loretta</i>)	interim pastor	Sunnyside Mennonite	Lancaster	02.12.17
Assignments Ending (Active Without Charge)	Assignment	Congregation	District	Date
Jonathan Bowman (<i>Beth</i>)	lead pastor	Landisville Mennonite	Landisville-Manor	06.15.16
David Gehman (<i>Lois</i>)	lead pastor	Parkesburg Mennonite	LanChester	01.01.16
Dwight Groff	lead pastor	Kinzer Mennonite (now closed)	LanChester	12.01.16
Darrel Hostetter (<i>Sherill</i>)	co-director of Human Resources at Eastern Mennonite Missions	James Street Mennonite	Lancaster	01.01.16
Sherill Hostetter (<i>Darrel</i>)	co-director of Human Resources at Eastern Mennonite Missions	James Street Mennonite	Lancaster	01.01.16
Jason Kuniholm (<i>Joanne</i>)	bishop of Lancaster, Lititz and Mellinger Districts	Mellinger Mennonite	Mellinger	12.31.16
Leon Oberholtzer (<i>Leona</i>)	associate pastor	Mellinger Mennonite	Mellinger	05.02.16
A. Willard Shertzer (<i>Ann</i>)	interim pastor	Erb Mennonite	Manheim	02.29.16
Withdrawn Credential	Assignment	Congregation	District	Date
Gary Caber (<i>Jean</i>)	interim pastor	Calvary Mennonite Fellowship	North Penn	12.31.16
Miriam Cruz (<i>Jesus</i>)	chaplain	East Chestnut Street (now part of ACC)	Lancaster	10.22.16
Philip Freeman (<i>Kendra</i>)	deacon	King of Glory	New York City	12.31.16
Joshua Lamb (<i>Trista</i>)	active without charge	CONNECT	Lancaster	12.31.16
Darren Martin (<i>Jewel</i>)	associate pastor	Blainsport Mennonite	Weaverland-NE PA	12.31.16
Neal Martin (<i>Sarah</i>)	youth pastor	Weaverland Mennonite	Weaverland-NE PA	07.31.16
Mark Nyman (<i>Alice</i>)	leadership to district finances and administration	New Life Mennonite	Washington-Baltimore	06.30.16
Peter S. Petroski (<i>Brenda</i>)	pastor of prison and recovery ministries	Vision Columbia	Landisville-Manor	06.12.16

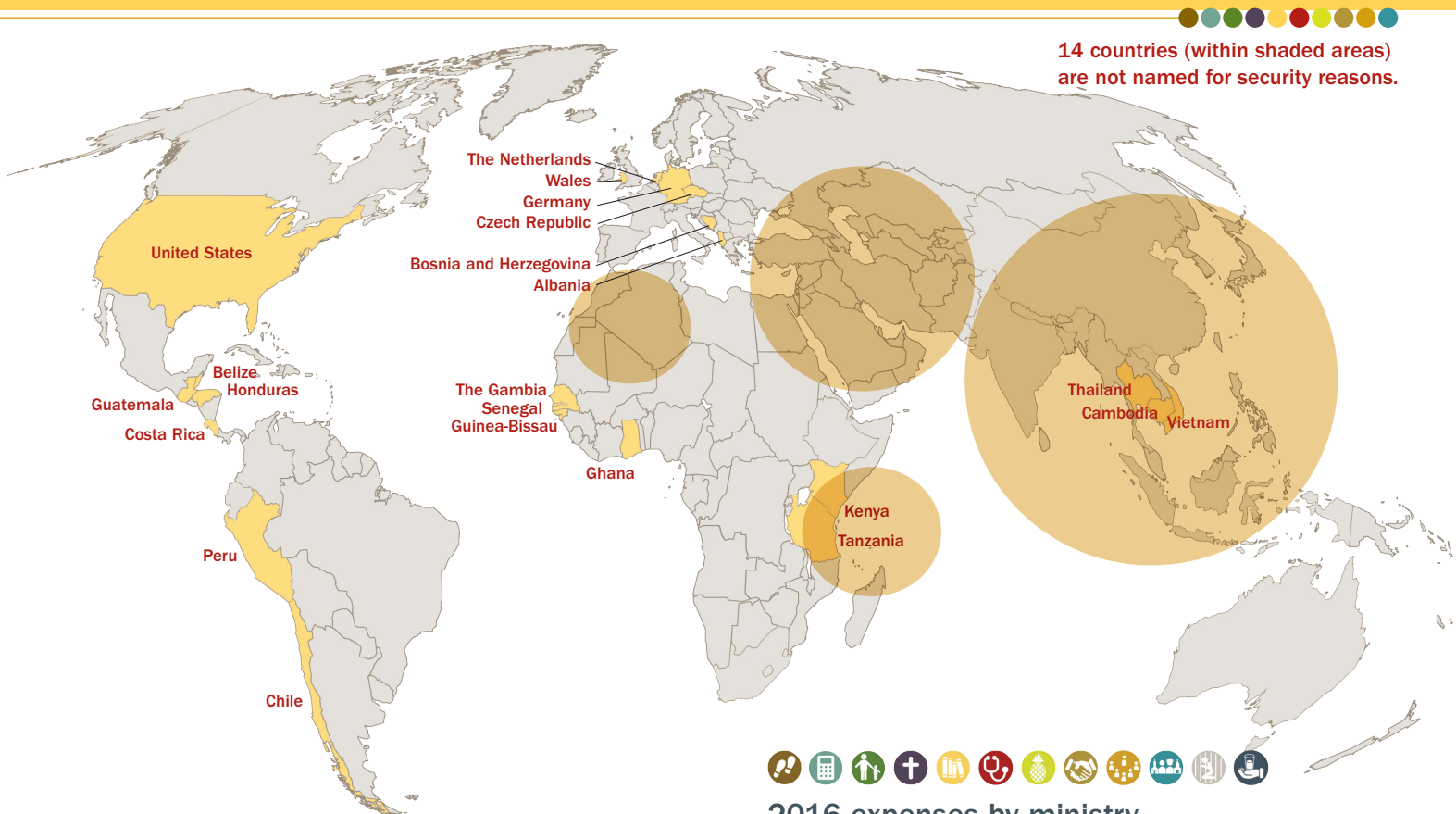
Randolph Smith (<i>Marianna</i>)	lead pastor	Parkesburg Mennonite	LanChester	08.21.16
Christopher Weaver (<i>Jennifer</i>)	associate pastor	Hammer Creek Mennonite	Bishop Oversight	07.31.16
Ruth Yoder Wenger (<i>David</i>)	lead pastor	North Bronx Mennonite	New York City	10.22.16
David Wise	associate pastor	Blainsport Mennonite	Weaverland-NE PA	12.31.16
Ming Yu (<i>Elizabeth</i>)	deacon	Kinzer Mennonite (now closed)	LanChester	12.01.16

Transfers out of LMC	Assignment	Congregation	District	Transfer To	Date
Michael Allgyer (<i>Debra</i>)	former associate pastor	Shiloh Mennonite	Martindale	Biblical Mennonite Alliance	03.09.16
Keith Espenshade (<i>Linda</i>)	chaplain	East Chestnut Street (now part of ACC)	Lancaster	Atlantic Coast Conference	11.09.16
Todd Friesen (<i>Dennette</i>)	lead pastor	East Chestnut Street (now part of ACC)	Lancaster	Atlantic Coast Conference	11.09.16
Beth A. Davis Good (<i>Clair</i>)	associate pastor and leadership at Mennonite Central Committee	Vision Columbia	Landisville-Manor	Atlantic Coast Conference	04.13.16
Clair E. Good (<i>Beth</i>)	lead pastor	Vision Columbia	Landisville-Manor	Atlantic Coast Conference	08.29.16
Ernest Hess (<i>Lois</i>)	retired	East Chestnut Street (now part of ACC)	Lancaster	Atlantic Coast Conference	12.14.16
Dawn Ranck Hower (<i>Bryan</i>)	lead pastor	New Holland (now part of ACC)	Groffdale	Atlantic Coast Conference	08.10.16
Sue Conrad Howes (<i>Michael</i>)	active without charge	East Chestnut Street (now part of ACC)	Lancaster	Atlantic Coast Conference	07.20.16
Linford King (<i>Mary Etta</i>)	active without charge	East Chestnut Street (now part of ACC)	Lancaster	Mountain States Mennonite Conference	09.14.16
Barry Kreider (<i>Erika</i>)	lead pastor	Pilgrims Mennonite (now part of ACC)	Mellinger	Atlantic Coast Conference	11.09.16
Robert A. Martin (<i>Sarah</i>)	retired	New Holland (now part of ACC)	Groffdale	Atlantic Coast Conference	08.10.16
Valentina Satvedi (<i>Tom</i>)	minister	East Chestnut Street (now part of ACC)	Lancaster	Atlantic Coast Conference	11.09.16
Elizabeth Soto (<i>Frank</i>)	chaplain	Laurel Street Mennonite	Lancaster	Atlantic Coast Conference	03.23.16
Calvin Yoder (<i>Lorie</i>)	retired	East Chestnut Street (now part of ACC)	Lancaster	Atlantic Coast Conference	12.14.16
Judith Zook (<i>Ronald</i>)	co-lead pastor	Laurel Street Mennonite	Lancaster	Atlantic Coast Conference	12.14.16
Ronald Zook (<i>Judith</i>)	co-lead pastor	Laurel Street Mennonite	Lancaster	Atlantic Coast Conference	12.14.16

Deaths	Assignment	Congregation	District	Date
Marlin S. Burkholder (<i>Katie</i>)	retired pastor	Benders Mennonite	Weaverland-NE PA	01.11.17
Adam Esbenshade (<i>Alta</i>)	retired pastor	Hinkletown Mennonite (no longer part of LMC)	Groffdale	06.06.16
J. Donald Martin, Sr. (<i>Mary Ann</i>)	retired pastor	Meckville Mennonite	Lebanon	11.11.16
Robert Rowe (<i>Naomi</i>)	retired pastor	Guildford Road Mennonite (now closed)	Washington-Baltimore	03.26.16
James Sauder (<i>Rhoda</i>)	retired associate pastor	Shiloh Mennonite	Martindale	07.22.16
Aaron Souders (<i>Mary</i>)	retired pastor	Living Light Mennonite	Landisville-Manor	03.23.16

had **146** workers serving in **36** countries in **2016**

had **146** workers serving in **36** countries in **2016**



146 serving

119 long-term workers

27 short-term workers

971 sending

759 Missionary Support Team members

155 Representative Council members

41 staff (27 full-time and 14 part-time)

16 Board members (who served at any point in 2016)

2016 expenses by ministry

19.1% Discipleship training

17.7% International partnerships

13.8% Leadership training

10.1% Muslim ministry

9.5% Business for transformation

7.8% Health and community development

7.5% Pioneer witness

6.7% Education

4.9% Children at risk

2.5% Relief

0.4% Persecuted church

A word from EMM President Nelson Okanya

When I look back at the work of EMM during 2016, I am inspired and hopeful despite the challenges our world faces. Our Christian/Muslim Relations Team traveled globally, working to bring peace among Muslims and Christians. The Mennonite Church in Vietnam elected a new leader and ordained a number of pastors. Scores of Muslim believers came to faith in Germany. Kingdom teams worked with young refugees in Lancaster, Pa., and plans continued for a youth missions training center in Central America. And all over the world, EMM workers — our brothers and sisters in Christ — continued to fulfill the Great Commission, often under difficult circumstances, loving others as themselves and showing the faithfulness and mercy of a great Lord.

Jesus announced and embodied God's good news to a broken world. That message remains the same. Jesus commissioned His disciples under His authority through the power of the Holy Spirit to go forth and make disciples of all peoples. EMM's founders were inspired by the same mission, and today, "Christ's transforming love compels us to cross cultures, engage the world, and make disciples of Jesus."

“For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations” (Isaiah 61:11, NRSV).



everyone moving in mission

53 W. Brandt Blvd • PO Box 458

Salunga, PA 17538-0458 USA

717 898-2251 • Fax 717 898-8092

emm.org • info@emm.org

regional ministry highlights in 2016 (read stories at emm.org/messenger)

East Africa: 11 long-term workers and 7 short-term workers served in 3 countries

The Confession of Faith in the Mennonite Perspective was translated into Dhuluo. • Kenya Mennonite Church invited EMM workers to equip churches for Christian-Muslim relations. • Two former YES participants, Eric Koigo and Naaman Agola, met with Mennonite youth from seven different church clusters for discipleship training.

West Africa: 6 long-term workers and 1 short-term worker served in 4 countries

EMM focused on discipleship training as church responsibilities shift from Western workers to local leadership. • EMM workers helped build a new clinic in Guinea-Bissau. • Former YES teammates partnered for evangelism in West Africa.

The Middle East: 4 long-term workers served in 3 countries

Pioneer witness took place in the Holy Land. • English teachers served at two major universities. • Workers reached out to Messianic Jews and Muslims.

West Europe: 15 long-term workers and 1 short-term worker served in 4 countries

EMM workers visited Spain to promote Christian-Muslim friendships. • Twenty-three Muslim refugees were baptized in Germany. • Refugee crisis spurred EMM ministries and involvement.

East/Central Europe: 6 long-term workers and 1 short-term worker served in 3 countries

Church-related outreaches like Rybičky, a family center for mothers and young children in Prague, continued in highly atheistic regions. • Transformational business continued at a milk processing plant in Korçë, Albania. • Workers taught English as a way to open doors.

North America: 9 long-term workers and 4 short-term workers served in 4 states

Ninety youth participated in the Kingdom team program, which partnered with the Refugee Center at Reynolds and the School District of Lancaster to run a language camp for refugee students. • In Chicago, the EMM Christian/Muslim Relations Team hosted the only Christian booth at the largest Islamic convention in North America. • EMM Global Consultant David Shenk was the keynote speaker at a gathering of Christian medical professionals in Canada.

Southeast Asia: 23 long-term workers and 1 short-term worker served in 4 countries

Thai Anabaptists held third annual gathering for encouragement on their faith journeys. • Children's character training program in Cambodia reached older people too. • Vietnam Mennonite Church transitioned leadership to a younger generation.

East Asia: 12 long-term workers served in 3 countries

Alpha course in a major city had over 100 attendees. • Twenty-four believers from over six countries were baptized in two international churches in different locations. • A Christian bakery business designed to support and mobilize workers grew in sharing faith and supporting missions.

West/Central/South Asia: 10 long-term workers and 6 short-term workers served in 5 countries

Workers continued engaging in a strong prayer ministry, praying at various locations and "strongholds." • Computer/English center outreach and work continued. • DVDs were translated into the local language for women's Bible study.

South America: 10 long-term workers and 4 short-term workers served in 2 countries

Children at risk ministry in Chile that aims to prevent the sexual abuse of children led trainings in Peru. • Noemi Teeter, evangelical religion teacher in Dalcachue, Chiloé, continued outreach to children. • PROMESA teachers impacted students' lives.

Central America: 13 long-term workers and 5 short-term workers served in 4 countries

Plans for a new Anabaptist mission and discipleship training center to serve Central American youth continued. • EMM workers made partnerships for coffee-farming education in Guatemala. • Discipleship training and education occurred in Honduras.

Eastern Mennonite Missions

regional ministry highlights in 2016 (read stories at emm.org/messenger)

East Africa: regional representative, **Aram and Debbi DiGennaro**

11 long-term workers and 7 short-term workers served in 3 countries

Kenya Mennonite Church invites EMM workers to equip churches for Christian-Muslim relations. New Bible courses are written for women in East Africa. Two former YES participants, Eric Koigo and Naaman Agola, meet with Mennonite youth from seven different church clusters for discipleship training.

West Africa: regional representatives, **Michael and Karen Baker**

6 long-term workers and 1 short-term worker served in 4 countries

Resourced the church in The Gambia. EMM workers helped build a new clinic in Guinea-Bissau. Former YES teammates partnered for evangelism in West Africa.

The Middle East: regional representative, **Steve Shank**

4 long-term workers served in 3 countries

Pioneer witness takes place in the Holy Land. English teachers serve at two major universities. Workers reach out to Messianic Jews and Muslims.

West Europe: regional representative, **Darrel Weaver**

15 long-term workers and 1 short-term worker served in 4 countries

EMM workers visit Spain to promote Christian-Muslim friendships. Twenty-three Muslim refugees are baptized in Germany. Refugee crisis spurs EMM ministries and involvement.

East/Central Europe: regional representative, **Stacy Nofziger**

6 long-term workers and 1 short-term worker served in 3 countries

Church-related outreaches continue in highly atheistic regions. Transformational business continues at a milk processing plant in Korce, Albania. Workers teach English as a way to open doors.

North America: regional representative, **Amos Stoltzfus**

9 long-term workers and 4 short-term workers and 90 Kingdom team participants served in 4 states

In Chicago, the EMM Christian/Muslim Relations Team hosts the only Christian booth at the largest Islamic convention in North America. The first Welcoming Refugees Youth Night takes place, co-sponsored by EMM and Church World Service Lancaster. David Shenk is keynote speaker at a national gathering of Christian medical professionals in Canada.

Southeast Asia: regional representative, **Ryan Umble**

23 long-term workers and 1 short-term worker served in 4 countries

Thai Anabaptists hold third annual gathering for encouragement on the journey. Isaan church hosts a multiple-couple wedding for unmarried couples in the church. Vietnam Mennonite Church transitions leadership to a younger generation.

East Asia: regional representative, **Ethan***

12 long-term workers served in 3 countries

Alpha course in a major city has over 100 attendees. 15 believers from over 6 countries are baptized in an international church. EMM worker reports an increased interest among locals to share Jesus.

West Asia: regional representatives, **Danae and Loren***

10 long-term workers and 6 short-term workers served in 5 countries

Computer/English center outreach and work continues. DVDs are translated into the local language for women's Bible study. Workers serve with the emerging church among Farsi speakers.

South America: regional representatives, **Michael and Nancy Hostetter**

10 long-term workers and 4 short-term workers served in 2 countries

Children at risk ministry in Chile with a program that aims at preventing the sexual abuse of children. Noemi Teeter, evangelical religion teacher in Dalcahue, Chiloé, continues outreach to children. PROMESA teachers impact students' lives.

Central America: regional representatives, **Phyllis and Galen Groff**

13 long-term workers and 5 short-term workers served in 4 countries

EMM workers make partnerships for coffee-farming education in Guatemala. Discipleship training and education outreach occur in Honduras. Deaf ministries continue in Belize.

*names

Impacting the World with Capabilities

1149 East Oregon Road, Lititz, PA 17543 | 717.656.2466
FriendshipCommunity.net | FriendshipART.net



Ralph Waldo Emerson said, "Enthusiasm is the mother of effort. Without it, nothing great was ever achieved."

In the midst of all that is occurring in the world of human services, we are so enthused to be able to build on what we have learned for the good of many Individuals and families in need of support. We have seen such positive outcomes in the over 70 Individuals involved at the Friendship Heart Gallery. As we analyzed our efforts and listened to numerous families asking for help for their son or daughter who didn't fit into the day offerings in this region, we realized that not all people are interested in art. All people do deserve to explore and discover their unique desires and gifts in order to experience meaningful days which supports the Vision of Friendship Community; Impacting the World with Capabilities.

The Meaningful Day Academy was thus birthed with all of these thoughts in mind. It is a place of discovery, exploration, innovation, achievement, relationship building, triumph, learning, success and journeying together. Individuals have the opportunity to attempt different things and they are supported to find ways to develop and integrate into community life and eventually the world of volunteering and employment. We have developed a broad curriculum such as kitchen skills, flower arranging, green thumb in the great outdoors and many more. It is all about offering choice. The Meaningful Day Academy has been rapidly expanding over the past year and we continue to think of new ways to expand and grow the program.

We are excited to partner with local businesses, organizations and educational institutions that want to support Individuals and Impact the World with Capabilities with us. Partners are discovering ways to include Individuals in their environments through volunteering and discovering the right match for meaningful employment. You cannot have a better employee than an Individual who desires to work and be involved.

We also are enduring new regulations that pose many challenges for the organization. We have a group of leaders and Team Members who were committed to praying for God's provision and wisdom throughout this process. We experienced repeated answers to prayer that enabled us to get through a most difficult time, which reinforced our faith. To the friends of Friendship Community, who partnered with us and provided gifts from their hearts, we are so grateful! Without you, we could not realize our Mission and Vision. Our load is quite heavy, but we have learned to carry it in a positive way with the assistance of people who truly care about the Individuals we support and our incredible Team that commits to supporting the Individuals and each other.

Gwen Schuit
Friendship Community, CEO



See how YOU are Helping Friendship Community Individuals Impact the World with Capabilities!



Thank You!

Enriching Lives The story of Landis Communities is filled with examples of reaching beyond the known and familiar to grasp important and new ways of serving. In addition to keeping Landis Homes strong and vital, Landis Communities is seeking to offer more communities for older adults with a wider range of financial resources as well as serving persons in their homes through a variety of in-home supports and community-based services.

At Landis Homes, 2016 was a year of preparation and planning to meet the needs of current residents and preparing for future generations. Now under construction, the new Learning & Wellness Center will bring to the heart of our community a place for continuous learning, overall wellness and vibrant interaction. It will provide a new front door for Landis Homes and will generate a welcoming atmosphere for residents, family, and visitors. Follow progress at <http://bit.ly/LearningandWellness>. At each important milestone in the history of Landis Homes, philanthropy has played a significant role in supporting growth and preparing for the future. Generous donors have gone above and beyond general giving to take on special projects and capital campaigns. For the first time since 2003, Landis Homes is conducting a capital campaign called *Connections: A Campaign for the Learning & Wellness Center*. Congregations and individuals with questions about how to give to this effort can contact Beth Trout at 717-381-3544.

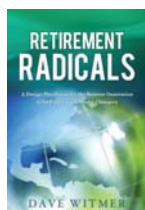
Landis Communities is working to grow community in locations beyond Landis Homes. Steeple View Lofts is developing a waiting list and those living there are excited about the sense of community that has developed in Downtown Lancaster. More about these apartments for those over age 55 can be found at www.steepleviewlofts.com or by contacting Michael Sprunger at (717) 413-0078. Welsh Mountain Home has provided residents with loving care for more than 90 years. Situated at the top of Welsh Mountain, it serves as a beacon of hope to many in the area. The staff care deeply for their residents, and this shows in the lives of those whom they serve. In addition, Mountain View Terrace, across the road, is now full with an extensive waiting list, providing 36 affordable apartments to those age 62 plus who have income lower than the average. <http://welshmountainhome.org/> Services to the wider community also continue to grow and thrive. In-home-services are available across most of Lancaster County through [Landis at Home](#). Two [Adult Day Services](#) locations on the campus of Landis Homes provide valuable services to families as well. Bright Horizons operates a Children's Learning Center at Landis Homes and [Pathways Institute for Lifelong Learning®](#) offers educational classes for anyone age 55 plus. Memory Loss and Parkinson's Support Groups also meet regularly at Landis Homes, and are open to the public.

If you have questions about this information, please feel free to contact members of the Landis Communities Leadership Team. They are: Larry Zook, Allen Heinly, Beth Trout, Eric Bender, Eva Bering, Evon Bergey, Larry Guengerich and Linford Good. The Landis Communities Annual Report is here: <http://bit.ly/LCAAnnualReport> Contact information: Larry Zook, President/CEO Landis Communities (717) 381-3561 or LZook@landiscommunities.org

Clergy Breakfast
Thursday, April 27, 2017
7:30-9:30 a.m.
Landis Homes



**The Church and "Post Career" Adults:
New Models for Changing Times**



Featuring author of
Retirement Radicals
**Dave Witmer and other
experienced leaders.**

Clergy/Lay Leaders are invited to RSVP
by April 21 to 717-381-3526
or LGuengerich@LandisCommunities.org



We have a special request for small group singing or individual instrumentalists: piano/organ, accordion, violin, guitar, Autoharp, harmonica or any combination!

Landis Homes seeks a variety of regular or occasional individual volunteers and also for groups seeking a service project. Please contact Volunteer Services at 717-509-5409 or check www.landishomes.org/volunteer/

Landis Homes

Services to the Lancaster Community

Adult Day Services at Landis Homes

Two centers are available weekdays from 7 am to 5 pm. Both offer a warm welcome and a caring, safe environment. In addition to support with health

concerns and medications there are fun, meaningful things to do. The Eden East center is uniquely designed for the needs of persons with memory loss. The centers are jointly sponsored by Landis Homes and the Lancaster County Office of Aging and are funded, in part, under a contract with the Lancaster County Office of Aging and the Pennsylvania Department of Aging.

adultday.landishomes.org or 717-581-3939.

Landis at Home

Landis At Home is a PA-licensed Home Care agency which offers life assistance, based on request, to individuals in their homes at Landis

Homes or within a 15 mile radius. Support can include personal care by a private duty aide including medication assistance, meal preparation, light housekeeping and laundry, companionship and transportation. Services are chosen with the assistance of a registered nurse and caregivers are available on a prescheduled basis 24 hours per day/7 days per week including holidays. We would be honored to serve you or your loved one in a way that enriches their lives by supporting them to remain in the home of their choice as long as possible.

landisathome.org or 717-509-5800.



The Pathways Institute for Lifelong Learning® is a program for persons age 55+ from Lancaster

County and surrounding areas to engage in high-quality lifelong learning opportunities including classes, cultural events and service learning. **You may contact the Pathways Institute at 717-381-3577** or visit their Web site <http://www.thepathwaysinstitute.org/lancaster-county/>

Support Groups Memory Loss Support Group meets the last Tuesday of each month. For more information contact Landis Homes at 717-581-3939. The Parkinson's Support Group meets the third Monday of each month from March through November. For more information call 717-509-5494.



Located at Landis Homes, they provide quality childcare, Monday through Friday, open to children ages 6 weeks to 5 years. The Center is NAEYC Accredited and is open from 6:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. **For more information, call 717-509-5400 or go to <http://bit.ly/lhclc>**



Speakers Resource Listing Provides resource persons available for church and community groups on a variety of topics. For information, please contact Larry Guengerich at 717-381-3526 or LGuengerich@landiscommunities.org. A list of speakers and topics is available by going to www.landiscommunities.org/speakers.html



September 9, 2017

**Benefit Live Auction
& Silent Auction
Market Place, Yard Sale,
Children's Area,
Food Court, BBQ Chicken**

Landis Homes
www.landishomes.org 717-569-3271



Landis Communities

1001 East Oregon Road, Lititz, PA 17543

Phone: 717-381-3500 Email: contact@landiscommunities.org

www.landiscommunities.org



Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society

2215 Millstream Road Lancaster, Pennsylvania 17602-1499

www.lmhs.org (717) 393-9745 lmhs@lmhs.org

History Overcomes Fear: Report to Lancaster Mennonite Conference Celebration of Church Life

There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear ... 1 John 4:18 a,b (NIV)

Organizers of educational events at the Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society (LMHS) were aware of the fears of LMHS's diverse constituencies in today's world. They planned educational activities to help people overcome fears about (1) the different cultural backgrounds of their neighbors, (2) the personal memories that haunt them, (3) and the destructive societal forces that threaten their way of life.

The 2017 Celebration of Church Life theme of Lancaster Mennonite Conference (LMC) promotes strong actions: "Enjoy God, Encourage Others, Equip Disciples, Engage the World." At LMHS, we are honored to partner with LMC to advance these four actions among families, churches and communities around us so that together we can overcome fear.

LMHS used specific educational strategies to help people overcome fear by (1) learning from the cultures of others, (2) sharing personal stories, and (3) confronting communal history.

Learning from other's cultures. Nelson Kraybill, Mennonite World Conference president, advocated a "spirit of mutuality, interdependence, and friendship" among Anabaptist churches across the globe during his keynote speech at the LMHS Annual Banquet on March 26, at Yoder's Restaurant in New Holland. On May 14, Jonathan Charles, member of LMHS's Field Trip Committee, organized a one-day tour in Lancaster County to explore views about the "end times" from the perspective of several different groups in the Abrahamic faith traditions including Christian Orthodox, Catholic, Evangelical, Anabaptist, Muslim and Jewish. Over a five-day trip from October 20 to October 24, I led a tour of 25 people to Puerto Rico to learn about the history of this Caribbean Island. The emphasis was on the 70-year history of Mennonites in Puerto Rico and on their role in establishing churches, schools, hospitals, and agricultural projects.



Sharing personal stories. Janet Breneman, teacher, writer and pastor, who spent many years in Honduras and Guatemala, and Charles Longenecker, beloved biology teacher retired from Lancaster Mennonite School, each told seven four-minute stories about their lives at the Annual Storytelling Night held on September 12 at Landisville Mennonite Church. Phyllis



Engaging history to inspire memory, faith and hope

Pellman Good, moderator of the event, commented that “stories touch us deeply. Listening to someone else’s stories reminds us powerfully that we are not alone.” On Friday evening, June 17, people gathered at James Street Mennonite Church to hear Freiman Stoltzfus, Leitita Weaver and Amy LeFever tell intimate stories of how their faith backgrounds influenced the visual arts that each of them practiced. In one of the events at the April-May Amish Educational Series at the Garden Spot Village Chapel, an Amish father who lost a young daughter during the Nickel Mines shooting ten years ago told about his steadfast commitment to forgive the perpetrator. The story had a significant impact on the audience of over 200.

Confronting communal history. Ben Goossen, a young Mennonite historian at Harvard University, reminded a large audience that convened on May 20 at Ridgeview Mennonite Church about the challenging history of Mennonites in Germany during the Nazi regime. He pointed out ways in which German Mennonites had absorbed nationalistic and racial supremacist values into their faith identity over several decades. On October 1, a group of local Anabaptists was invited to the “Stories from Northkill” event at the 1719 Herr House and at the Native American Longhouse to relive



the conflictual history between the Amish Hochstetler family and Native Americans during the French and Indian War. In this event, readers and panelists brought to life stories that Ervin Stutzman, novelist, had written in his Return to Northkill trilogy. In December 1-3, the Herr House and Longhouse hosted Christmas Candlelight Tours for over 300 guests who heard stories of how corn has sustained Native American communities, and many other communities, over centuries.

LMHS is grateful for the faithful support of many LMC congregations. In 2016, congregational offerings surpassed \$18,000, the third year in a row they have done so. LMHS is also appreciative of LMC-related individuals, businesses, and churches. They contribute through volunteerism and financial resources such as membership fees, annual fund donations, business support, event tickets, bequest, and more. LMHS is blessed by such strong support!

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Rolando L. Santiago".

Rolando L. Santiago
Executive Director
February 1, 2017



LANCASTER MENNONITE

Centered In Christ • Transforming Lives • Changing Our World



LANCASTER MENNONITE CONFERENCE REPORT 2017



NEW SUPERINTENDENT PAM TIESZEN

Pamela (Pam) Kay Tieszen became the school's eighth superintendent, effective January 1, 2017. Her appointment marks the end of a national search initiated when J. Richard Thomas

announced his retirement after 33.5 years of service.

Tieszen brings more than 20 years of combined educational and administrative leadership to LM, including two years in collegiate institutional advancement, six years in school administration and 13 years teaching in public and private high schools.

Formerly superintendent of Freeman Academy, a Mennonite school in Freeman, SD, she has served as a member-at-large for Mennonite Schools Executive Council, culminating with a position as the vice president of the Executive Board of Mennonite Secondary Schools Council.

Tieszen has demonstrated a lifelong devotion to Mennonite education. Along with her professional involvement in Anabaptist-related organizations, all three of her children have graduated from Mennonite schools and colleges.



LM CELEBRATES 75 YEARS

Lancaster Mennonite is celebrating its 75th anniversary from October 2016 through October, 2017, with events that review the school's character and contribution through the 75 years. A 180-page, full-color hardcover commemorative book, *Bridging Decades, Embracing the Future*, was published for the occasion and is available through the LM website and Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society.



A NEW LOOK FOR LM: SIMPLE, CLASSIC, FORMAL AND LITERAL

LM has developed a new logo and logotype through a long process that involved input from all stakeholders, including an extensive survey. Respondents said they wanted a logo that was simple, classic, formal and literal. These four characteristics guided the selection of ideas brought forth by a team of marketing professionals with extensive experience in branding.

The main emblem represents a "strong foundation" and being a "pillar of education" by the shape and spacing of the vertical lines in the initials "LM." The three lines in the "M" also represents the three pillars that LM stands for: Centered in Christ, Transforming Lives and Changing our World.

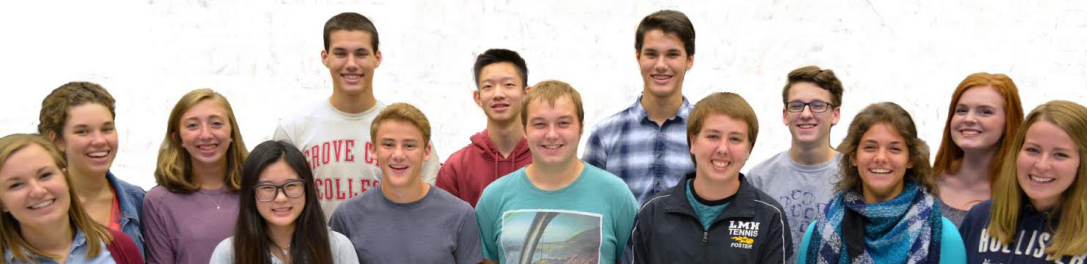
Lancaster Mennonite School is referring to the school as simply "LM", following the lead of newspapers and much of the public that say "Lancaster Mennonite" rather than the full name of the school or "LMS." The official name is still Lancaster Mennonite School for formal purposes, and the term "LMH" is still appropriate to refer to Lancaster Mennonite High School on the Lancaster Campus — a designation all the more important now that a high school also exists on the Hershey Campus.



Lancaster | Hershey | Kraybill | Locust Grove | New Danville | Saint James

Six Campuses in Central PA that are Centered in Christ, Transforming Lives and Changing our World

f YouTube Twitter Instagram
lancastermennonite.org



BANNER YEAR FOR LMH VOCALISTS

Fourteen students qualified for Lancaster County Chorus, an exceptional number of students for one school. All are members of LMH's select vocal group, the Campus Chorale, under the direction of Marcella Hostetler.

NEW LANCASTER CITY CAMPUS ADDED — A MISSIONAL MENNONITE/ EPISCOPAL PARTNERSHIP IN THE CITY

After three years of conversations and planning, Saint James School — A Lancaster Mennonite School Early Learning Center — will open its doors to its first pupils in August, 2017. The school plans to enroll PreK students in the full-day program for the 2017-18 school year. The venture grew out of LM's desire to establish an urban Lancaster site and Saint James Episcopal Church's decision to return to its historic roots in education.



When Father David Peck, rector of Saint James, asked LM about possible collaboration, LM welcomed the opportunity to work with students in a downtown location. The school has a missional orientation which looks to see where we can join with God and others in working for the common good. The call from Fr. Peck resonated with that commitment and led to the creation of this new school in one of downtown Lancaster's finest historic buildings across from City Hall and next to the Lancaster Public Library.

A MISSIONAL CENTER

- About 1,500 students from many racial/ethnic groups and socioeconomic backgrounds
- Students from 20 countries and five states
- Residence hall for students coming from outside the Lancaster area



PRAY FOR US!

- Pray for Superintendent Pam Tieszen and other school leaders during this time of transition.
- Pray for LM's global impact in its outreach to diverse students in 20 countries.
- Pray that LM will have the resources to serve students from all socio-economic backgrounds.

LANCASTER MENNONITE



Centered In Christ • Transforming Lives • Changing Our World

System Offices

2176 Lincoln Highway East
Lancaster, PA 17602
Ph: (717) 509-4459

Hershey Campus

Grades K-12
1525 Sand Hill Road
Hummelstown, PA 17036
Ph: (717) 533-4900

Kraybill Campus

Grades PreK-8
598 Kraybill Church Road
Mount Joy, PA 17552
Ph: (717) 653-5236

Lancaster Campus

Grades 6-12
2176 Lincoln Highway East
Lancaster, PA 17602
Ph: (717) 299-0436

Locust Grove Campus

Grades PreK-8
2257 Old Philadelphia Pike
Lancaster, PA 17602
Ph: (717) 394-7107

New Danville Campus

Grades PreK-5
393 Long Lane
Lancaster, PA 17603
Ph: (717) 872-2506

Saint James School

Early Childhood Education
119 North Duke Street
Lancaster, PA 17603
Ph: (717) 397-4858

ADMISSIONS

Pastors and church leaders can refer prospective students/families to the Admissions Office at (717) 509-4459, ext. 312.

Lancaster Mennonite School offers a PreK-12 comprehensive education in a nurturing and diverse environment that prepares students to be lifelong learners. Centered in Christ and committed to educational excellence in a community setting, the school exists to transform students so they can change our world through Christlike love, peacemaking, and service.



A Year of Black Rock Re-"tweet"-ing

TWEETS 15.6K FOLLOWING 64 FOLLOWERS 95 LIKES 4

January - Winter Camps



February - Winter Dayz



March - Silent Retreats



April - Outdoor Education



May - Retreat Group Activities



June - Summer Staff Training



July - Summer Camp



August - Family Camp



September - Fundraising



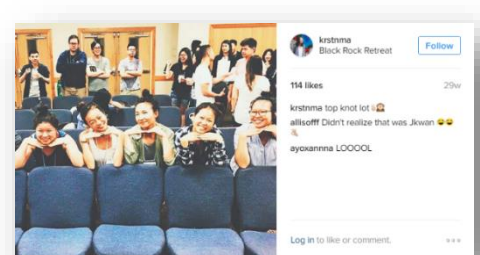
October - Youth Group Retreats



November - Family Reunions



December - Church Retreats



We praise the Lord for each guest, staff, and supporter who were able to experience the beauty of God's creation, grow in their relationships, and re-connect with the things that truly matter.

We invite you to visit us www.blackrockretreat.com 1-800-858-9299

Camp Deerpark

A Ministry of the New York City Mennonite Churches

Ken Bontrager – Executive Director
845-754-8669

E-mail info@campdeerpark.org
www.campdeerpark.org

Camp Deerpark has been extremely blessed to have four cabins in our Promise Woods children's camp village completed and in service for a full year. We knew the cabins would have an impact on our ministry, but we had no idea the response would be this great. We have experienced a 30% increase in camp usage compared to the two previous years. More importantly the new Promise Woods has sparked the creativity and imagination of our churches. Groups who were hosting one women's retreat are now hosting two or three weekends each year. Individuals and families are taking more time for personal and spiritual renewal. In short, Promise Woods has changed the entire outlook and attitude of Camp Deerpark. When completed Promise Woods will include eight camper cabins and dining room/program center. We are pushing forward with fund raising and construction.

In 2016 Camp Deerpark also experienced a ten year high in summer camp attendance. Kevin Smith and his staff continue to operate a quality, well rounded summer ministry.

The highlight of my year were the two men in the photo. Kevin Smith (right) is our summer camp program director and has recently joined our staff full time to help with weekend hosting, promotion, and capital campaign fundraising. As the summer was coming to an end and we were talking about the next steps, Kevin said to me, "I believe in this ministry and I am committed to doing whatever it takes to make it work." Consequently, he has left his family and church in Harlem and has moved to Camp Deerpark full time.

Emmanuel Lindsay (center) is currently a student at the University of New Haven where he is pursuing a degree in recreation and sports management. Emmanuel was a summer intern through the Mennonite Central Committee Summer Service program. Our goal was for Emmanuel to learn all of the, behind the scenes, support work that is involved in running the camp ministry. He learned how to: cut and split wood, repair river rafts, drive the tractor and give hayrides, train and certify younger staff on the Gator, conduct water tests, and much more. At the end of the summer Emmanuel wrote thank you notes to all of our full time staff. Mine read, "Thank you for believing in me with this position. I learned so much and I appreciate all of your advice." The photo was taken at Emmanuel's request. He said he would be honored to have a picture with the two people who invested in his life.



There are few things that bring me more joy than seeing young women and men grow in Godly character and leadership skills.

Prayerfully consider how you might be a gift to the children, youth, families and next generation of leaders in New York City.

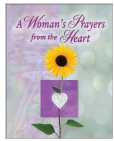


Choice Books (CB) posted the highest annual book sales in its 55-year history by purchasing/selling 5,801,145 books in 2016, an increase of 6.25% over 2015. The increase outpaced unit sales of print books which increased 3.3% in 2016 over 2015 according to Nielsen BookScan, which tracks about 80% of print sales in the U.S. With the addition of other Christian and inspirational products like Bible covers and boxed blessing cards, Choice Books exceeded 6 million items purchased/sold throughout the year from over 11,500 book displays nationwide.



Choice Books' best-selling title again in 2016 was *Keep Calm and Trust God*, with 157,095 copies purchased/sold. Four of Choice Books' top ten titles were inspirational adult coloring books. Other best-selling titles included *Too Blessed to be Stressed: 3 Minute Devotions for Women* (83,417 copies); *When Others Make Your Life Difficult* (60,096 copies); and *Brain Games Bible Word Search* (54,670 copies).

Readers continue to share how the books from CB displays impact their lives and the lives of their family and friends. Especially encouraging was a phone call from a woman seeking additional copies of the book, *A Woman's Prayers for the Heart*. She had received the book as a gift after being diagnosed cancer of the salivary glands and undergoing reconstructive surgery. "At that time," she said, "I was not walking with Jesus." Thus, her initial response upon receiving the gift was, "Oh, no, what will I ever do with a book?" However, because of the giver's kindness, she decided to read it. The Lord used the book to warm her heart toward Jesus and help her survive a very difficult phase of her life. "I read this book over and over," she noted. "Now I continue to purchase this book and give copies to family and friends for birthdays and for comfort when someone is sick or has lost a loved one." She even read the entire contents to her mother, a nursing home resident, prior to her mother's passing.



“We know that many more stories could be told of how God has used a book purchased from a Choice Books display to water the thirsty soil of a human heart seeking meaning and joy in life,” says new national CEO Ken Gonyer. “It’s reassuring to know that our labor is not in vain. God is clearly working out his purposes for people who buy books from Choice Books displays from coast to coast.”

Each year, Choice Books (CB) recognizes the highest retail volume accounts in various retail categories. In 2016, CB of Pennsylvania serviced the following retailers who were the top CB retailers in their respective categories nationwide:

Independent Supermarket – Shady Maple Farm Market, East Earl, PA, sold 2,326 books from two displays.

Restaurant Location – Shady Maple Smorgasbord, East Earl, PA, sold 6,960 books from eight displays.

Originally organized in 1962, Choice Books (CB) currently operates through a network of seven regional CB Distributors who work cooperatively with a Central Office in Harrisonburg, VA. The Choice Books of Pennsylvania distributorship is a Lancaster Conference-related ministry with board representation from Lancaster, Franklin, and Franconia Mennonite Conferences. The national organization employs over 300 staff and volunteers and services more than 11,500 displays scattered across the continental United States, Hawaii and Puerto Rico. CB purchases books from over 80 publishers and sells both English and Spanish language inspirational Christian books. For more information about Choice Books, please visit their website at www.choicebooks.org.



MISSION

To share the “good news” of Jesus Christ in the general marketplace
through inspiring and wholesome reading material



KAIROS: School of Spiritual Formation

Celebrating 25 years

2017 Marks the celebration of Kairos' 25th Anniversary of Ministry!

In the late 1980's, Clayton Swartzentruber, John Stoner, Dorothy Harnish, Sanford Alwine, Myron Ebersole and Lester Graybill joined together in a quest to develop a transformational ministry in the contemplative stream. One of those five, described the hunger and personal journey which drew her toward the emerging KAIROS vision:

"KAIROS began in my own longing to experience more deeply the Christ within and to experience my prayer as contemplation—wordless and sensing the movement of Christ in my being and in my daily walk. I longed to validate my being drawn to solitude. I wanted to journey with others of similar spirit to share my journey and to be accountable for my journey."

This group of six offered the first Kairos class in 1992 which had 28 students. Over the past 25 years, that same longing mentioned above, continues to draw students and retreatants who desire to deepen their relationship with God. Kairos currently has over 500 alumni who have traveled this journey. Their light and love shines brightly in our world.

KAIROS' foundation is based on these core experiences that have guided us from the beginning:

- **Prayer:** Contemplative prayer involving both teaching and practice of prayer forms and meditation
- **Retreat:** Silence and solitude with support to nurture contemplative living in our busy world
- **Community:** Support and encouragement for the spiritual journey
- **Guidance:** Spiritual direction, formative reading, contemplative dialogue and discernment
- **Training:** Learning to contemplatively companion others on their journey

Our current school year 2016-17 offers two Formation programs, *Foundations of the Contemplative Life* and *Awakening to Mystery. Integrating the Contemplative Journey* focuses on living and serving contemplatively in the world. Our *Spiritual Direction Training* cohort will graduate 14 new Spiritual Directors in May. Our *Silent Retreat* weekends continue to offer silence and solitude for those wishing to disconnect from the busy, noise of our every day lives, and a variety of *Day Retreats*, such as Centering Prayer led by Todd Friesen, offer an opportunity for people to experience and learn new prayer practices.

We celebrate the Kairos legacy with deep gratitude for all that has been given, and all that will continue to be!

KAIROS: School of Spiritual Formation

2160 Lincoln Highway East #13 Lancaster PA 17602

717-669-2957 | www.KAIROSjourney.org | office@KAIROSjourney.org



Two-Thousand Sixteen was a year of significant growth for New Person Ministries. The change we are most excited about is that we were able to complete our long-time goal of opening a facility in Lancaster County! We opened in December and have been slowly filling up since then. To date, we have six residents, which is close to our current capacity. We will eventually be able to house up to ten residents. This has been in the works for years and we are incredibly excited about the opportunity to serve more men than we have been able to in the past.

Last year we also consolidated several positions to hire a full time Program Director in Reading. As the Program Director, Quin Pastin has brought a wealth of case management experience. We will soon be hiring for a program director for our Lancaster location as well.

This past year, we saw 58 men successfully transition back into society and only two returned to prison on parole violations after leaving our program. We are grateful for the volunteers who continue to pour themselves into the lives of our men. Without our volunteers, our job would be next to impossible.



As we look toward 2017, we are excited about deepening relationships with churches and the continual establishment of our new presence in Lancaster. One desire is to find church families for our residents to connect with after leaving our program.

We are continually grateful for all God has done for us this past year and excited for the opportunities we have in the future.

Blessings,

*Jordan
Executive Director*

Kauffman

Enjoy God • Encourage Others • Equip Disciples • Engage the World

The Journey From Pain to Purpose

Challenged and encouraged by keynote speaker Amy Simpson's story at the 25th Anniversary Banquet, Sept 2016. Ms. Simpson's keynote address can be found at www.nlam.org/videos.

On the Frontlines: Supporting Families and Parishioners with Mental Illness. This seminar was presented with EMU Lancaster and Faith-Based Ministries Network, Sept 2016.



Amy Simpson, MBA, CPCC

Author of *Anxious: Choosing Faith in a World of Worry* and *Troubled Minds: Mental Illness and the Church's Mission*

God designed us to live in relationship with others. Illness of any kind, especially mental illness, can be overwhelming and exhausting.
 Intertwined relationships get tangled or even frayed....
 It is at times like these when families and individuals come to No Longer Alone for help.



Roads to Recovery—Karl's Story

A courageous story of one man's journey with mental illness. Looking back during dark times, Karl shares that he never felt alone because of the loving NLAM staff and his family that surrounded him. "Having someone in your corner when things are against you means a lot... No Longer Alone [was] there for me, regardless of what came down the road." View Karl's story at www.nlam.org/videos.

My OLD Life and My NEW Life

"I was lost and didn't know anything about myself, but NLAM gave me a road map to where I was headed and who I was. God puts people in your life to walk with you, and that's what NLAM did for me. They walked with me through my struggles." Today Mike's stress level and chronic depression are both well managed. He has a job he enjoys, the acceptance of a community, and a sense of purpose. Read more of Mike's story in the newsletter archives (Summer 2016) at www.nlam.org/newsletter.



Mike and Pastor Josef

NLAM is so very grateful for the generosity of all who have supported this ministry with financial gifts that are sustaining and expanding our services.
 God is transforming lives. "Great is The Faithfulness" has been our song of celebration in this 25th year!

2016 REACH and Support Groups Reports

REACH Visits 544
 REACH Clients Served 35
 REACH Units of Service 2,360
 Mileage to serve clients 12,876
 REACH Clients:
 - 77% gaining skills and supports to live more independently
 - 84% stayed out of crisis/ hospital
 * * * * *



REACH Mobile Psychiatric Rehab

Recovery • Empowerment
Accountability • Courage • Hope

PATHS to Discovery Support Group

Participants experience fellowship, encouragement and mutual support for their personal journeys.

Family Support Group (FSG)

A place where individuals with loved ones experiencing mental illness find education and support through educational presentations and share and care time.

Support Groups:
 - Paths Attendees 148 Paths Locations 4
 - FSG Attendees 159
 - TOTAL Support Group Attendees 307

What do our participants appreciate about PATHS?

- It's good to hear from other people who have problems much like our own. You can really understand where they are coming from!
- The supportiveness of the group
- The need to be with people who have mental illness
- Get to hear others' experiences
- We can pray for each other and talk about how the Lord helps us; some of the topics; being able to support each other as we share
- I appreciate the presence of God
- I appreciate the many different points of view

- Excerpts from 2016 PATHS survey

Our Vision: A brighter future of all who all touched by mental illness.

2016: A Year of Transition And Growth

River of Hope just completed our fourth year of operation, and it was a year with some unexpected transitions and some exciting growth. Early in 2016, our Founder and Executive Director, Dave Musser, announced that he desired to transition out of the Executive Director role in order to refocus his time and energy developing our services to the Plain and Amish Communities. By mid year, James Black was hired to step into the Executive Director role. God has blessed as both men have stepped fully into their new roles at River of Hope.



Dave Musser and James Black

In addition to our leadership transition, River of Hope is experiencing exciting growth! In October, we began a partnership with Jubilee Ministries to provide professional, Christ-centered counseling to the women in their Aftercare Program. This partnership creates opportunity for these women to receive Christ-centered counseling that is systemic and focused on building healthy relational systems which is often deeply lacking in their lives.

In November, we developed another partnership with Lebanon Rescue Mission and their Lebanon Free Clinic. River of Hope will now provide professional, Christ-centered counseling and clinical supervision at the Lebanon Free Clinic. This clinic serves low income residents of Lebanon County who have no access to health insurance.

2017 has started with additional growth. In January, we opened another office at Weaverland Mennonite Church. We also hired several additional clinicians in order to increase our capacity to provide services at Encounter Church of Palmyra, Ephrata Church of the Brethren, Gingrichs Mennonite Church and Green Pasture.

We feel God's hand of blessing upon us and it stirs deep gratitude and humility as well as a passion to continue expanding our mission to nurture healthy relationships by providing hope and healing through education and professional, Christ-centered counseling.

Calling All Prayer Warriors

As 2016 came to a close, River of Hope was vividly reminded that our work can be life versus death as well as hope versus despair when, within a two week time period, we had six clients in crisis where harm to self or others was a very real and present danger. These scenarios along with mandatory reporting of child abuse and the day to day weight of our clients' burdens take a serious mental, emotional, physical and spiritual toll on our clients and our staff.

In response to this vivid reminder, we are intentionally asking and inviting people to pray daily for River of Hope - our clients and our staff. There is much work to be done and we know that the prayers of many will create safe havens where God's healing hand can work miracles of healing in the lives of our clients.

Please join us in praying daily for our clients and our staff.





Transition to Community/Potters House mission is a 501c3 nonprofit Christ centered ministry. TTC ministers with a wholistic approach to the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of prerelease and post release prisoners and individuals desiring to overcome addictions. Individuals will overcome obstacles in their lives and become responsible contributors in their family, workplace and community through the Potter's House residential ministries.

In past year served over 60 men have been served for varying lengths of time. A primary goal is to help them experience the transforming power of Jesus in their lives. Many come to accept Jesus in prison but do not know how to live the Christian life. Discipleship is a key outcome of their time at Potter's House. In addition they are helped with obtaining identity papers and essential services, obtaining and maintaining a viable job, learning financial management skills, reconciling with family, building a strong , positive support network, navigating the legal system and becoming contributing members of the community.

Many volunteers have assisted in the process. Relationships are key to the men's progress. Group leaders, Bible study teachers, drivers and working alongside them provides great opportunity for relationship building.

TTC also desires to provide education and awareness to the community. In January we collaborated with the GOAL Project and several local churches to offer a tow session seminar called "Heroin Epidemic: It's in Your Community. It's in Your Congregation." The meetings were rich with information and were well attended. Congregations were challenged to create safe spaces for those struggling with addiction or a family member caught in addiction.

TTC is now in the process of implementing a new vision for a more structured, Phase One facility on a property known as Still Waters in Brownstown. Collaboration with the Amish community and several other organizations working with addiction is key to the success of the program. This new venture was introduced to the constituency at the annual meeting in March and a capital campaign is underway.

We are thankful for the relationship with Lancaster Mennonite Conference and the many partners from LMC who have supported our ministry with prayers, time and finances. We look forward to another great year of serving the Lord and fulfilling the mission of Isiah 61 in 2017.



EASTERN MENNONITE SEMINARY

Prepared to serve and lead in a global context

SPRING 2017

LANCASTER MENNONITE CONFERENCE Seminary Annual Report

Seminary alums making a difference, “Welcoming the Neighbor.”

During the divisive election season, **Matt Bucher** (2014 grad), pastor of Immanuel Mennonite Church in Harrisonburg created a simple wooden sign that read, in Spanish, English, and Arabic, “No matter where you are from, we’re glad you’re our neighbor.” This sign was planted in the church lawn. Some months later, **Nick Meyer** (2014 grad), pastor at Early Church in Harrisonburg, suggested that this message needed to be broadcast to a wider audience. A graphic artist helped Matthew and Nick develop a colorful version of the sign that could be easily printed and displayed.

These signs are now appearing across the US and Canada. Information about ordering signs can be found at the “Welcome your neighbors” Facebook page.

2017 School for Leadership Training: January 16-18

In a time when it seems dividing differences are becoming more and more pronounced, both in the church, and in broader society, nearly 250 participants at EMS’ SLT explored ways to counter this trend.

Led by keynote speakers Christena Cleveland and Drew G.I. Hart, participants explored healthy ways to navigate interactions with the “other,” while owning our own particular world-view lenses. The biblical story of the Good Samaritan, Luke 10:25-37 was a focal point in the worship services.

Visit <http://emu.edu/seminary/slt/archive/> for access to worship resources and podcasts from this event.

EMS offers May and June term courses

EMS will offer several intensive summer courses:

Harrisonburg campus

- **Mennonite Faith and Polity:** 2 SH, May 9-17 (Nancy Kauffman)
- **Isaiah:** 3 SH, May 8-19 (Andrea Dalton Saner)

- **Global Christianity:** 3 SH, May 18-26 (James Krabill)
- **Healing Ministry in the Missional Church:** 3SH May 30– June 7 (Lawrence Yoder).
- **Summer Institute for Spiritual Formation:** 1-4 SH, June 19-30 (Kevin Clark, Emily Peck-McClain)

www.emu.edu/seminary/courses/summer

Lancaster campus

- **Preaching Institute:**, May 5-6 (Steve Kriss, Wes Furlong)
- **Cross Cultural: United Kingdom –Anabaptism & Post-Christendom in a Changing Context**
- **The Holy Spirit in Anabaptist Experience** (T, Th in May and June)

Call 717-397-5190 for more information

Statement of Purpose

Eastern Mennonite Seminary prepares men and women to serve and lead in a global context. In response to God’s saving grace, we educate students to bear witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ in the power of God’s Spirit as wise interpreters, mature practitioners, discerning communicators, and transformational leaders.

Susan Schultz Huxman, University president

Michael King, Seminary dean

Phil Helmuth, director of church relations

Les Horning, interim director of seminary admissions, associate director of seminary development and church relations

For the most up-to-date information on EMS, give us a call, visit us on the web, “Like” us on Facebook!

www.emu.edu/seminary

540-432-4260

**New Year's resolutions from all, to all, mark Dr.
Susan Schultz Huxman's first convocation address**

Eastern Mennonite University's spring 2017 semester convocation marked a new era of leadership with President Susan Schultz Huxman's first address to the campus community in a packed Lehman Auditorium. Huxman, who assumed her duties Jan. 1 from Interim President Lee Snyder, introduced herself as a leader who pays attention to ceremony.

"My academic field of study, as you have heard, is communication," said Huxman. "The Latin root word of communication is community. So in my discipline, we take special interest in symbols and occasions that bind us to one another ... like this one."

Huxman then turned her attention to another ritual—the New Year's resolutions we often make but seldom keep, in part because they are so "audacious" in their high expectations.

"The three most common New Year's resolutions are: lose weight, exercise more and be a better person ... no wonder we never succeed," she said. "But I don't want to us to lose sight of the reason we make these big, audacious, 'I want to be a better person' kind of resolutions. Believe it or not, they have their place, especially if we want to create healthy, vibrant communities."

A reading from Winnie the Pooh —performed by Huxman in voices that brought the rotund bear, Rabbit, Tigger, Eeyore and Piglet to life, and the audience to laughter—contributed the point that friends don't ask for change, but instead "help you to be more of who you are."

She invited the audience of several hundred to write a resolution on a 3x5 card for her to read later. Make these "not for personal gain," she requested, "but for community-building gain, not for advancing ourselves, but for advancing our school. I want us to think about New Year's resolutions we should have for EMU in 2017, to help it become more of who it is."

**EMU's Centennial year begins, with the theme of
"Serving. Leading. Transforming."**

EMU's Centennial year marks the transformation of a quiet school on a hill meant to protect its students *from* the world, into a place engaging with, welcoming and sending alumni *out into* the world. The university will celebrate throughout the academic year 2017-18, with emphasis on Centennial Week (Oct. 11-18, 2017) and Centennial Homecoming and Family Weekend (Oct. 13-15, 2017). Visit emu.edu/centennial for more information and EMUStories.com, a new repository of EMU alumni stories and campus history in print, audio and video format.

**Lancaster Mennonite Conference
Connections to EMU**

Board of Trustees

Janet Breneman, Jonathan Bowman, Elroy Rodriquez
Ann Kaufman Weaver

***Lancaster Constituent Conference Committee
Representative Joanne Deitzel***

Undergraduate Students

11 students from Lancaster Mennonite Conference were enrolled in the Fall 2016 semester at EMU.

Giving

Lancaster Mennonite Conference churches gave \$42,270 in matching grants to their students at EMU during the year ending June 2016.

- **Susan Schultz Huxman**, *president*
- **Phil Helmuth**, *director of church relations*
- **Karen Moshier-Shenk**, *associate director of development*
- **Les Horning**, *interim director of seminary admissions, associate director of seminary development and church relations*
- **Andrew Penner**, *admissions counselor*

Keep up with EMU!

- Subscribe to a weekly news digest at www.emu.edu/news
- Become a Facebook fan.
- **Contact the church relations office**
540-432-4589, churchrelations@emu.edu

A shared tomorrow

Everence 2017 report

Celebration of Church Life
Lancaster Mennonite Conference
March 17-18, 2017

*Look out for one another's
interests, not just for
your own.*

– Philippians 2:4
(Good News Bible)

Everence® values our strong congregational partnership

For more than 70 years, Everence has worked with congregations and their members to help people of faith “build up the common life” through their financial decisions.

These connections are vital to us, and we look forward to many more years of focusing on the best interests of your members – helping them create and implement plans tailored for their needs and aspirations to share with others.

As we have since 1945, we will continue to serve the faith community as partners in stewardship throughout 2017 and beyond.

Congregations do more good with help from Everence Sharing Fund

The Everence Sharing Fund encourages

churches to help people in their communities by providing matching grants. Thousands of individuals and families benefit each year, including a former pastor and district minister in Virginia.



Several congregations pitched in to help Randy Coblentz when his doctor prescribed medications to treat a disease that affected his speech and mobility. The disease wasn't responding to an oral medication, and a different form of medication often works better in situations like Randy's when an infection affects the brain.

But his insurance didn't cover the type of long-term treatment prescribed, and the cost topped \$30,000. Grants from the Sharing Fund supplemented the congregational assistance.

Reaffirming our commitment to strengthen the broader church

Everence is reviewing our church relations programs and activities to find ways to strengthen our focus on helping congregations remain healthy during a time of shifting member participation and changing patterns of giving.

We are reaffirming our commitment to the broader church and evaluating how Everence can be most effective in supporting the faith community.

Our five-year plan includes a priority to strengthen our church relationships. We will continue to partner with congregational leaders on lifting the faith community through stewardship, mutual aid and generosity.



Generous living in a self-centered world

A new Everence curriculum, *Generous living in a self-centered world*, is designed to help us live counter to our culture through biblical models of generosity. The curriculum starts with Cain and Abel and ends with the Apostle Paul, exploring biblical stories and the connections with our modern-day American context.

The six-lesson study is an exploration of the biblical world to help first-world Christians wrestle with how to embody generosity while living as citizens of the most privileged and wealthy nation in the world. It takes a sense of purpose and discipline to not get caught in the riptide of culture that draws us into the world's flow.

Download the leaders guide at everence.com/resources-for-adults.

Using our credit card aids more charitable groups

Everence Federal Credit Union donated \$16,200 to Friends United Meeting and Christian Peacemaker Teams (\$8,100 to each organization) in 2016 from our Rebate for Missions program. Rebate for Missions is supported by the credit union's 10 percent tithe of income generated when people use their Everence Visa credit cards.

Our members voted online to choose the recipients, and we had a record of nearly 2,000 votes cast – more than triple our number from previous years.

In addition to these awards to national agencies, our credit union branch offices share Rebate for Missions money with charities in their communities.

Since the program started in 1995, Everence Federal Credit Union has given more than \$400,000 in grants

to churches, missions and relief organizations. Learn more at everence.com/banking.

MCC volunteer honored with National Journey Award

Johanna Sutter of Goshen, Indiana, received the Everence National Journey Award for 2016 because of the ways she models Christian stewardship. As part of this recognition, Everence donated \$5,000 to Mennonite Central Committee in her honor.



Johanna has volunteered for years at the MCC Great Lakes Material Resource Center in Goshen, collecting items for school kits and relief kits and assembling them for distribution to people in need throughout the world.

Johanna grew up in Germany during a time when food, clothing and other essentials were in short supply after World War II. Her family received a bundle from MCC, and she later worked at an MCC children's home in Germany. She moved to the United States in the mid-1950s and started volunteering for MCC after a long teaching career.

Pastoral Financial Assistance Program helping in a variety of ways

Our Pastoral Financial Assistance Program, overseen by Stewardship Education Director Beryl Jantzi, has been more successful than imagined,

strengthening the financial health of pastors and building capacity for their ongoing financial support from their congregations.

In 2016, more than 100 financial assistance grants for pastors were approved. Half of the assistance money came from a \$1 million grant from the Lilly Endowment, Indianapolis, and half in matching dollars raised by congregations and church conferences.

In addition to direct financial support, Everence is hosting educational events across the country for pastors and their spouses. And we're offering financial planning subsidies to help pastors and their families get the support they need for long-term financial stability.

Stewardship education resources for all ages are available from Everence

If you need a good topic for study for a Sunday school class or another setting, visit everence.com/resources-for-adults to see all kinds of adult education resources. Leaders guides and curriculum resources are available for you to download. We offer a variety of topics related to stewardship, including discipleship and Jesus' stories about money.

Everence also offers educational resources for church leaders at everence.com/resources-for-church-leaders, featuring tools for increasing generosity within your congregation and ways to assess stewardship initiatives you already have in place.

Stewardship-related resources for youths and children are available at everence.com/resources-for-youth, including materials on how real-life topics relate to biblical perspectives about how we use our gifts of time, talents and money.

Un mañana compartido

Informe de Everence de 2017

Celebración de la Vida de la Iglesia
Conferencia Menonita de Lancaster
17 a 18 de marzo de 2017

Cada uno debe velar no sólo por sus propios intereses sino también por los intereses de los demás.

— Filipenses 2.4 (NVI)

Everence® valora nuestras fuertes coparticipaciones congregacionales

Durante más de 70 años, Everence ha trabajado junto a las congregaciones y sus miembros para ayudar a las personas de fe a “construir la vida en común” a través de sus decisiones financieras.

Estas conexiones son vitales para nosotros. Por eso, deseamos que durante muchos años más podamos enfocarnos en los intereses de nuestros miembros, ayudándolos a crear e implementar planes hechos a medida de sus necesidades y aspiraciones para compartir con otros.

Tal como hemos hecho desde 1945, seguiremos sirviendo a la comunidad de fe como compañeros de la mayordomía a lo largo de 2017 y más allá.

Las congregaciones hacen un bien mayor con la ayuda de Fondo Compartido de Everence

El Everence Sharing Fund (Fondo Compartido) alienta a las iglesias a ayudar a las personas de sus comunidades brindando subvenciones compartidas. Miles de personas y familias se benefician cada año, incluyendo a un expastor y ministro de distrito de Virginia.

Varias congregaciones echaron una mano para ayudar a Randy Coblentz cuando su médico le recetó medicamentos para

tratar una enfermedad que afectaba su habla y movilidad. La enfermedad no estaba respondiendo al tratamiento oral y en situaciones como la de Randy, cuando una infección afecta el cerebro, otros tipos de medicamentos suelen funcionar mejor.

Sin embargo, su seguro no cubría el tratamiento prescrito de largo plazo, y el costo superaba los \$30,000. Las subvenciones del fondo de distribución de Everence completaron la asistencia congregacional.

Reafirmando nuestro compromiso de fortalecer a la iglesia más amplia

Everence está revisando nuestros programas y actividades de relaciones entre iglesias con el fin de hallar modos de fortalecer nuestro foco de ayudar a las congregaciones a mantener la salud en tiempos de una participación cambiante de la membresía y patrones cambiantes en las ofrendas y aportes.

Estamos reafirmando nuestro compromiso con la iglesia más amplia y evaluando de qué manera Everence puede apoyar más eficazmente a la comunidad de fe.

Nuestro plan quinquenal incluye la prioridad de fortalecer las relaciones de nuestras iglesias. Seguiremos trabajando junto a los líderes congregacionales para edificar a la comunidad de fe a través de la mayordomía, la ayuda mutua y la generosidad.



Usar nuestra tarjeta de crédito ayuda a más grupos de beneficencia

En 2016, Everence Federal Credit Union donó \$16,200 a la Reunión Unida de Amigos y los Equipos Cristianos de Acción por la Paz (\$8,100 a cada organización) a través del programa Rebate for Missions (Reembolso para las misiones). Rebate for Missions existe gracias al aporte del diezmo del 10 por ciento del ingreso de las cooperativas de crédito generado cuando las personas usan su tarjeta de crédito Visa de Everence.

Nuestros miembros votaron por Internet para elegir a los destinatarios, y tuvimos un récord de casi 2,000 votos emitidos, más del triple de la cantidad de años anteriores.

Además de estos premios a estas agencias nacionales, las oficinas de las sucursales de nuestra cooperativa de crédito comparten el dinero de Rebate for Missions con organizaciones de beneficencia en sus comunidades.

Desde el comienzo del programa en 1995, Everence Federal Credit Union ha contribuido más de \$400,000 en subvenciones a iglesias, misiones y organizaciones de socorro. Más información en everence.com/banking.

Voluntaria de CCM galardonada con el premio National Journey Award

Johanna Sutter, de Goshen, Indiana, recibió el premio Everence National Journey Award de 2016 por su manera de modelar la mayordomía cristiana. Como parte de este reconocimiento, Everence donó en su honor \$5,000 al Comité Central Menonita.

Johanna ha sido voluntaria durante años en el Centro de Recursos Materiales de CCM Great Lakes situado en

Goshen, recolectando artículos para kits escolares y de auxilio y armándolos para su distribución a personas necesitadas de todo el mundo.



Johanna creció en Alemania en una época en que la comida, la vestimenta y otros elementos esenciales escaseaban, luego de la segunda guerra mundial. Su familia recibió un paquete de CCM, y luego ella trabajó en un hogar de niños de CCM de Alemania. A mediados de la década de 1950 se mudó a Estados Unidos y empezó a trabajar como voluntaria de CCM luego de una larga trayectoria como maestra.

El Programa de Asistencia Financiera a Pastores ayuda en una variedad de formas

Nuestro Programa de Asistencia Financiera a Pastores, supervisado por Beryl Jantzi, director de educación sobre mayordomía, ha tenido más éxito que lo imaginado, fortaleciendo la salud financiera de los pastores y desarrollando la capacidad de recibir apoyo continuo por parte de sus congregaciones.

En 2016, se aprobaron más de 100 subvenciones de asistencia financiera para pastores. La mitad del dinero de la asistencia provino de una subvención de \$1 millón de Lilly Endow-

ment, Indianápolis, y la otra mitad, de aportes paralelos recaudados por congregaciones y conferencias de iglesias.

Además del apoyo financiero directo, Everence está organizando eventos educativos en todo el país para pastores y sus cónyuges. También estamos ofreciendo subsidios para la planificación financiera con el fin de ayudar a los pastores y sus familias a recibir el apoyo que necesitan para lograr una estabilidad financiera de largo plazo.

Recursos de educación sobre mayordomía para todas las edades disponibles en Everence

Si usted necesita un buen tema para un estudio de la escuela dominical u otro contexto, visite everence.com/resources-for-adults y acceda a todo tipo de recursos educativos para adultos. Allí podrá descargar guías para líderes y recursos para currículos. Ofrecemos una variedad de temas relacionados con la mayordomía, incluyendo historias de discipulado y de Jesús sobre el dinero.

Everence también ofrece recursos educativos para líderes de la iglesia en everence.com/resources-for-church-leaders, con herramientas para incrementar la generosidad dentro de su congregación y formas de evaluar las iniciativas ya en curso para la mayordomía.

Podrá acceder a recursos sobre mayordomía para adolescentes y niños en everence.com/resources-for-youth, incluyendo materiales sobre cómo los temas de la vida real se relacionan con las perspectivas bíblicas acerca de cómo usamos nuestros dones de tiempo, talentos y dinero.

What does it mean to flourish?



Healthy children. Access to water. Medical care. Since our founding in 2005, Friends of Shirati has worked with Mennonites in Tanzania to promote God's vision for human flourishing. Through our partnerships with Shirati Hospital, Shirati College of Health Sciences, and the Shirati leprosy compound, Friends of Shirati assists in developing and expanding medical work, provides educational assistance, and offers support for those living with leprosy. These vital projects were at the core of our work in 2016.



Solar water project

For years, Shirati Hospital suffered from a shortage of water, sometimes for weeks at a time. In June, Friends of Shirati received a \$50,000 donation as seed money for a solar water project. By the end of October, a new solar water pump was bringing water from Lake Victoria to the 160-bed hospital (*photo at left shows the water arriving on the first day*). A new seamless four-inch pipe now runs the 1.7 miles from the lake to the hospital. "Our daily work in the hospital has been changed and made much more efficient by having reliable, affordable water. It has also given us opportunities to serve the neighborhood," says Dr. Bwire Chirangi, medical director of

the hospital. The new pump will be connected to four stations around the hospital, to which people in the community will have access. Many in the Shirati area used to walk several miles round trip to collect water. Shirati Hospital and the community now receive up to 35,000 gallons of water per day. Donations covered 90 percent of the \$112,000 cost, and additional donations are appreciated to fully fund the project.

Solar electricity project

With an estate donation of \$100,000, the board invested in a solar electricity project that releases the hospital from expensive electricity bills and unreliable power. The 88 solar panels charge 400 batteries, which meet the daily electrical needs of the hospital. Donations to fully fund this project are welcome.

Expansion of children's ward

In early 2016, each bed in the children's ward held two to three patients at a time. A grant enabled the remodeling and the expansion of the ward from twenty to sixty beds. A playground and a laundry area for parents are being built, and an artist is painting murals of animals on the walls. Donations will fund more beds and supplies.

"May the Lord cause you to flourish, both you and your children."—Psalm 115: 14

Relief, development and peace in the name of Christ

Mennonite Central Committee (MCC), a worldwide ministry of Anabaptist churches, shares God's love and compassion for all in the name of Christ by **responding to basic human needs** and **working for peace and justice**. MCC envisions communities worldwide in right relationship with God, one another and creation.

MCC relies on our partnership with Anabaptist churches in the U.S., Canada and around the world. Much of MCC's work is possible because of your generosity. Thank you for your ongoing support of MCC's ministries!

MCC/Lancaster Mennonite Conference connections

- Members of Lancaster Mennonite Conference congregations graciously donate material resources to MCC, including through the MCC East Coast Material Resources Center in Ephrata, Pa.
- Lancaster Mennonite Conference members generously support MCC through MCC thrift shops, relief sales and My Coins Count collections benefiting MCC, including at the Pennsylvania Relief Sale. Mark your calendars for the 61st annual Pennsylvania Relief Sale on March 31-April 1, 2017.
- We are grateful for the service of the Lancaster Mennonite Conference members who contribute to MCC's work in the name of Christ by serving with MCC, both in the U.S. and overseas.

MCC at work here and around the world

RELIEF MCC has designated more than \$40 million through 36 partners in response to the Syria and Iraq crisis since 2011, including more than 60 shipments of hygiene items, blankets and other humanitarian supplies. This is MCC's largest humanitarian response ever. MCC currently has 11 ongoing humanitarian relief projects in Syria and Lebanon and additional work in Jordan and Iraq. Projects include provision of food, cash allowances, water, hygiene supplies and heating fuel, as well as support for education, employment, trauma healing and peacebuilding.

DEVELOPMENT MCC teams up with the Office of Development of Evangelical Churches (ODE) in Burkina Faso to teach new agricultural techniques including half-moon farming and food security plans. "Now the whole family eats well and we have enough food for everyone," says participant Etienne Tiendrébeogo.

PEACE In Philadelphia, Pa., MCC works with partners to address racial disparities in the U.S. criminal justice system. MCC East Coast created prisoner care kits to help meet basic human needs of current and former prisoners. Distributed to those currently incarcerated or those who are participating in re-entry ministries, they help men and women "feel loved in an unlovable place," says MCC East Coast staff member, Chaplain Ron Muse.



*Farmers in Yé, Burkina Faso are trained by MCC agriculture partner ODE to use conservation agriculture techniques. These help control erosion, improve soil fertility, and increase water retention in the soil.
(MCC Photo/James Souder)*

Thank you for all of the ways in which you join MCC to share God's love and compassion for all in the name of Christ. Learn more about MCC's efforts around the world at MCC's website, EastCoast.mcc.org.

Grace and peace to you,

Bruce Campbell-Janz, MCC East Coast executive director

Changing Lives, Changing the World

Harnessing the power of people, business,
markets and technology to alleviate poverty

Hawa Adams: Rising above barriers of poverty



Hawa Adams is a farmer and mother of eight in Ghana. Before joining MEDA's GROW project, Hawa found it difficult to meet her family's nutritional needs.

She worried her children appeared thin and were often pushed around in the village. In Hawa's first year in the project, she planted one acre of soybeans and

harvested seven (50kg) bags of soybeans; she sold three bags and kept four for her family.

"Anytime my mother prepares 'akusi' with soybeans," says her son, Majeed, "I eat and don't get hungry... as you can see I am fat and my muscles are developed," he adds with a smile.

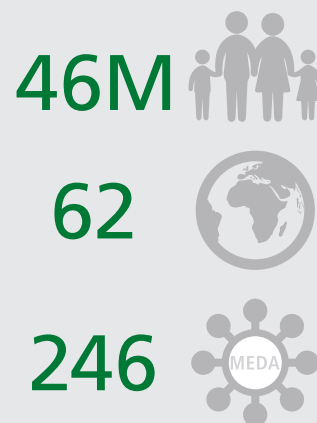
"Besides the nutritional value soya brings to my family, it has also improved my income level and savings," says Hawa, who is a member of a village loans and savings association. Hawa is thankful to MEDA for introducing GROW into her community. And this year, Hawa plans to increase her soybean farm from one acre to three.

Like all the GROW farmers, Hawa faces incredible challenges, but she is rising above these barriers toward an improved livelihood!

GROW fosters long-term change for communities as MEDA's work empowers women to not only meet an important economic need, but also to gain a profound sense of dignity and hope.

Impact by the Numbers

MEDA continued to make a lasting impact in 2016, helping 46 million families in 62 countries realize healthier, more economically sustainable lives through our work with 246 partners.



Help support the SDGs through MEDA

In 2015, more than 190 world leaders committed to 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to help us all end extreme poverty, fight inequality and injustice. By partnering with MEDA, you can support the nine SDGs shown here and help our world become more prosperous, equitable, and sustainable.

Learn more about this endeavor at sustainabledevelopment.un.org



Connect with us!

www.meda.org | meda@meda.org

Or connect with MEDA through your local chapter:

www.meda.org/lancaster
for more information.

1-800-665-7026

MEDA

Creating business solutions to poverty

Mennonite & Brethren Marriage and Engaged Encounter

Mennonite Marriage Encounter is a program started 35 years ago by Henry and Marian Lehman with the encouragement of Lancaster Conference Family Life Commission. It is licensed and copyrighted by World Wide Marriage Encounter and follows a similar outline used by all different denominations, but tailored to the Mennonite beliefs and traditions.

Marriage Encounter (ME) is not a counseling weekend for problem or troubled marriages nor is it a group discussion experience. It is a personal private time unique to each couple focused on learning techniques of better communication in a fun and exciting way. The weekend goes from Friday evening until Sunday afternoon and can help a husband and wife work toward a deeper more meaningful marriage. It is a time that can make good marriages better.

In an effort to be more flexible with busy schedules 3 R was started several years ago. The 3R's stand for Restore, Rekindle, and Renew Enrichment. Rather than a weekend experience, 3R meets one evening a week for 7 weeks and covers the same materials as a weekend format of ME.

Engaged Encounters (EE) have been held for the last 34 years in an effort to better prepare engaged couples for a successful marriage. Because of the great benefits of EE, many churches require attendance at an EE for all engaged couples. These churches usually pay for the weekend for the couples.

A Clergy weekend ME is usually held in the spring. This weekend runs from a Thursday eve - Saturday afternoon. Upon the approval of the Pastor's Bishop, any of the ME weekends can be counted as CEU's.

In the years since Mennonite Marriage Encounter was begun, there have been almost 300 Encounters with about 2,600 couples participating. This past year there were 2 encounters with 13 couples participating. Several outreach encounters were held; two in Canada with 20 couples being encountered and one in Belize with 29 couples participating. This past year Engaged Encounter had 7 encounters with 92 participants.

The February fundraising banquet helps to raise money to support the outreach encounters that are held in places other than the Lancaster area.

Mennonite Brethren Marriage and Engaged Encounter can help your church host its own encounter or other marriage enrichment meetings. Speakers are also available for many different occasions. Please contact the ME office at 717-569-5676 or email Marla Hooper, MBM&EE coordinator at love@marriageencounter.org. Let us all work together to strengthen and protect marriages as we tell the world about Christ's love mirrored by godly marriages.

MENNONITE INFORMATION CENTER

2016 Report

Total Visitors: 50,000

Backroads Tours in Buses: 140

Backroads Tours in Cars: 500

“Who Are The Amish?” feature tickets: 5,500

Biblical Tabernacle Reproduction Visitors: 27,250

Staffing: 2 full-time office persons
12 part-time staff in Center
12 Backroads Tour Guides

In 2017, renovations to the interior and exterior of the Tabernacle building are being done, funded by an estate gift. We are grateful!



SUPPORT FOR PRISON MINISTRIES

IMPACTING LANCASTER COUNTY, PA. by:

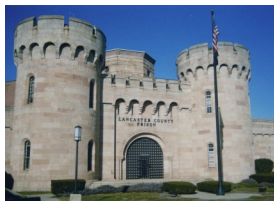
Sharing God’s love and hope to men and women in prison

Assisting the church and concerned persons to get involved in prison ministry

Inviting churches, businesses, and individuals to partner financially with local mission opportunities

Facts & Figures

- 📖 LCP chaplains office has 8 paid staff persons, plus another 12 volunteers who provide about 1,100 hours monthly. Chaplains assist with Bible studies, church services, distribution of Bibles, and counseling.
- 📖 LCP has about 1,000 inmates: 90% men and 10% women.
- 📖 The chaplains office handles about 14,000 requests/contacts from the inmate population annually.
- 📖 About 2,000 Bibles are given out annually, plus many Christian books and Bible study materials.
- 📖 The YIC Chaplain staff of five provide one-on-one counseling, group Bible studies, show Christian videos, and distribute Bibles and books.



Lancaster County Prison (LCP)



**Youth Intervention Center
(YIC)**

Testimonies

We heard from an LCP male inmate, “I accepted the Lord while in LCP. My life changed – I took a new turn to freedom. I now attend a local church. Praise the Lord.”

A female inmate sent this note, “I felt alone. I struggled that the world was out to get me. But when I read the Bible I was given, I realized that God loves me. I will not be alone again.”

Support For Prison Ministries
P.O. Box 727
Brownstown, PA 17508



(717) 859-5519

**E-mail: sfpm@dejazzd.com
www.supportforprisonministries.org**



**Del Burkholder
Director**



**Nelson Martin
Public Relations**

Quick Facts

Background

Founded in 1968 by the Mennonite community, Tabor is a nonprofit community agency which offers a comprehensive continuum of 20 housing and financial counseling programs and services for residents of Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

Tabor plays a central role in Lancaster County in preventing and responding to homelessness, assisting those who aspire to home ownership, and in counseling those struggling to manage their personal finances. Tabor serves over 4,600 individuals annually.

Strengthening the Lancaster County community by giving people the tools and inspiration to meet their housing and financial challenges and by revitalizing our surroundings

Tabor has been a HUD-approved Housing Counseling Agency since 1971 and a member of the National Foundation for Credit Counseling since 1988. Tabor has been accredited by the Council on Accreditation (COA) since 1998.



Programs and Services

- Assessments and referrals to homeless services for people in housing crisis
- Rental counseling to prevent homelessness
- Rapid re-housing for those who are experiencing homelessness
- Transitioning sheltered persons to permanent housing
- Supportive housing for individuals, couples, and families
- Individualized budget counseling
- Consumer credit counseling
- First-time homebuyer counseling
- Default mortgage counseling
- Counseling to achieve financial self-sufficiency
- Matched savings accounts to help low-income families save to purchase assets such as a home or education
- Financial education—including over 90 free workshops on banking basics, establishing good credit, budgeting, good loans vs. bad loans, and more

Tabor also offers specialized programs which serve the specific needs of veterans, disabled persons, women exiting prison, and individuals experiencing mental illness.

FY 2015-16 Impact Highlights

- 1,112 assessments/referrals were provided for individuals and families in housing crisis
- 127 households experiencing homelessness received relocation assistance and case management to end their homelessness; 81% obtained permanent housing
- Tabor's TLC program provided interim housing and supportive services for 258 individuals experiencing homelessness, including 110 children
- 471 households received financial counseling to improve their financial well-being
- \$1.1 million of debt was paid back to creditors through debt management plans
- 111 households facing foreclosure received counseling and assistance to obtain mortgage relief
- 272 households completed homebuyer counseling sessions to prepare to become first-time homeowners
- 482 attended 97 financial education workshops offered this year. ■

Rev. 10/18/16



Awards and recognition

Known for its life-changing programs and positive impact on its community, Tabor has been awarded:

- * Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency 2014 Best Practices Award and Best Housing Counseling Specialist Award
- * Millersville University's 2012 Distinguished Civic Leadership Award
- * Central Penn Business Journal's 2010 Nonprofit Innovation Award for Collaboration
- * Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency 2010 Best Agency Award

The Corinthian Plan (MC USA) Report (2016) – Submitted by Duncan Smith, Director

The Corinthian Plan (TCP) is now in its eight year enabling congregations, conferences, and Bishop Districts to provide health coverage, life and disability benefits, (and optional dental and vision coverage) to their pastors and staff. TCP is also designed to provide mutual aid to new and established congregations without the resources to fully provide these benefits to their staff.

TCP recognizes the strong participation of Lancaster Mennonite Conference (FMC). Currently:

- 29 LMC congregations carry health coverage for their pastor and/or staff
- 4 LMC congregations participate with waived health coverage
- 9 LMC congregations participate with no eligible employee

Overall participation in The Corinthian Plan remains stable with only limited loss of members. Some reasons for steady participation levels:

- For the type of health coverage TCP remains competitive in most United States markets.
- TCP offers Life Insurance, Long Term Disability, and Accidental Death & Dismemberment.
- The Fair Balance Fund provides premium support through subsidies for congregations that would have difficulty paying their premium. Currently, 38 congregations receive subsidies totaling \$27,064 a month (\$324,768 annually). This mutual aid is funded by every TCP congregation contributing \$10 per average attendee, annually.
- In a survey last fall responses shared that having persons sharing Christian values administering the program was important.

There may be uncertainty in the United States health coverage market this year. At this writing this is an unknown. Because The Corinthian Plan is a self-funded, church plan, we do not anticipate there will be a significant impact, but should be able to remain steady in what we offer.

Although the Corinthian Plan is a MC USA sponsored program, the Church Benefits Board has agreed that any congregation that ends MC USA affiliation can keep continuous Corinthian Plan coverage through the foreseeable future. This status will continue to be reviewed along with TCP eligibility policies. Members of The Church Benefits Board (CBB) which oversees TCP, are: Marcy Engle (Harrisonburg, VA), Ken Hochstetler (Everence CEO), Steve Garboden (Goshen, IN), Marlin Groff (Lancaster, PA), Mark King (Goshen, IN), Byron Pellecer (Wichita, KS), Yvonne Sieber (Hesston, KS), and Dave Weaver, Chair (Elkhart, IN).

The Corinthian Plan continues to emphasize health and wellness for everyone. For TCP participants find out more about the Wellness Incentive by talking to your Area Representative, or go to <http://mennoniteusa.org/what-we-do/the-corinthian-plan/>.

In Lancaster Mennonite Conference you can contact James Miller, your TCP Area Representative, with questions at (941) 400-9937. Also, look for him at your conference meeting this March. Go to our website to find out more <http://mennoniteusa.org/what-we-do/the-corinthian-plan/>. Duncan Smith, TCP Director, can be reached at 316-281-4255.



THE shalom PROJECT

100%

of 2015-16
participants were
offered jobs at
their work
placements and
have continued
living in Lancaster



4,654

volunteer hours in
2015-16 program
year



The Shalom Project is a one year voluntary service program for college graduates. Participants live in intentional community in Lancaster city, serve in professional internships, and engage in personal growth and Christian spiritual formation. Our goal is to seek God's shalom (wholeness, peace) for our participants and the Lancaster community.



Nathan Grieser, Director
267-222-0730
nathan@shalomlancaster.org
shalomlancaster.org

PO Box 1132
Lancaster, PA 17608

2015-16 Program Year Highlights

- Volunteered with the Women's Winter Shelter, a community initiative that aims to provide a warm, safe, and dry space for women and children during the winter months.
- Hosted an "At The Table" conversation about the gifts and challenges we see in Lancaster. This is one way we expressed our commitment to community.
- Participated in weekly seminars focused on spiritual formation, getting to know the Lancaster context, and self-care
- One participant launched a "Pages on Pedals" program through The Mix at Arbor Place, delivering books by bicycle to students during the summer to encourage reading and literacy.
- One participant tutored several refugee students on a weekly basis. She has continued this relationship even after finishing her year with The Shalom Project.
- One participant created an upcycling initiative at the Ephrata ReUzit Shop, encouraging creative uses for thrifted goods.



Woodcrest Retreat 2016 Report

The Board and Staff of Woodcrest Retreat are so grateful for God's hand upon this ministry!

Woodcrest Retreat is a Christian Camp in Ephrata, PA. The main focus is the summer camp ministry offering both overnight and day camp programs to children in the local community. Woodcrest also provides an RV campground, cabins, and pavilions for retreats and family use. The mission of Woodcrest is to introduce people to Jesus Christ and encourage Christian growth in an outdoor setting.

Pastors are invited to enjoy the complimentary day use of our cabins and the "Chapel in the Woods" during the mid-week for personal retreats, prayer, and reflection. This past year, we have seen an increased number of local pastors using our facilities in this way. One pastor was thrilled when after one day in the quietness of God's creation; he was able to outline his sermon themes for the next 26 weeks. Others use this time to be renewed and refreshed through prayer and Bible reading.



Woodcrest was blessed by an increased attendance in our summer camp program, with a total of 1,347 campers attending our day and overnight camp programs. This year, we were able to partner with Crossfire Youth Ministry, a local ministry in the Ephrata area, in bringing 30 mostly unchurched children to camp. Together, Parkview Mennonite Church, Crossfire Ministry, and funds from the Woodcrest Retreat Scholarship Fund enabled this to happen.

A Camper commented: "I learned a lot about Jesus and I now know that when I am confused, sad, etc. He will always be there for me." "This week woke me up to Christ and motivated me to pursue God and take Christianity seriously."

Many Spanish churches have discovered Woodcrest to be a perfect fit for both Ladies and Men's weekend retreats. In addition, many Mennonite congregations have found the RV Campground to be an ideal setting for summer weekend retreats and church services.

Woodcrest Retreat is currently in the midst of a campaign project, "Expanding to Serve", raising funds to upgrade the dining room/kitchen/meeting area to accommodate the increased usage of this area by both summer camp and retreat groups.

The Journey to Bethlehem continues to draw many families to experience the "True" story of Christmas. In December, we had 1,700 guests, including a Spanish church group that traveled 3 hours from New York specifically to experience this event. And, we discovered that one of our volunteers was a Muslim who is an exchange student living with a family from the Ephrata Mennonite School. What an opportunity for her to learn the Christmas story in a very non-threatening way. A group of urban kids from Reading were actually scared to walk the dark trails and were especially in "awe" of the angels' sudden appearance.

We look forward to what God will continue to do through camp ministry in the year of 2017!