

Celebration of Church Life
March 24, 2018 seminars

11:00-12:00

A Conversation with the Moderator

L. Keith Weaver, Lancaster Mennonite Conference

Aging in Place and Thriving in Community

Larry Guengerich and Evon Bergey, Landis Communities

Living where YOU want to live as long as you are able is often called "Aging in Place." Come hear examples of persons doing that as well as thriving in the community they chose.

Around the World with MCC (Seminar for children) ages 5-12

Kim Dyer and IVEP volunteers, Mennonite Central Committee

Children (ages 5+) are invited to join international volunteers for fun activities representing many different countries.

Building Family Resiliency

Wendy Hoke Witmer and Bekah Bowland, Bridge of Hope National

The Church can play a powerful role in bringing hope to those who have had difficult experiences or have experienced trauma. This seminar will explore what trauma looks like and give specific ways the Church can walk with families by building resilience.

Child Protection Policies for Churches

Brinton Rutherford, Lancaster Mennonite Conference

This seminar provides a review of required policies and procedures in any congregation that has paid or volunteer staff who work directly with children or supervises such staff in a church setting.

Developing an organic, systemic disciple-making approach

Galen Burkholder and Tim Sprunger, Global Disciples

You've heard stories of a Christian in a restricted country being imprisoned for sharing his faith and then a church starting in the prison. That is simple (not easy) disciple-making. We can do it here and see Church move outside the walls of a building and into community transformation.

Diversity in Our Worship Experience

Alvin Motley, The Way Thru Christ Community Fellowship

This seminar will address the question: Are we willing to welcome each other's style of worship?

Dynamic Youth Ministry

Josh Foley/Jamie Sensenig, Black Rock Retreat

With many years of experience ministering to youth, we will touch on current trends, the do not's and some crazy ideas as well as encourage you as you connect with the youth of your church.

From Berne to Lancaster: Discovering our common Anabaptist roots

Jeff Linthicum, First Mennonite Church in Berne, IN

Jeff Linthicum, lead pastor of First Mennonite Church in Berne, IN, will share on the impact that a field trip to the Lancaster region has had on new members who have joined the congregation as they explore their American Anabaptist roots.

How should the church respond to the opioid epidemic?

Dr. John Boll

The objectives of this seminar are to:

- Reframe the discussion regarding the opioid epidemic in terms relevant to our church and biblical principles
- Define what our present opioid epidemic is and how this relates to pain and suffering in our culture
- Review principles for treatment of pain and addiction
- Encourage dialogue within our individual congregations regarding this topic

Misión Red: Hispanic churches reaching back home

Samuel López and panel, Concilio Iglesias Evangélicas Shalom

Samuel López, administrator of the Council of Shalom Evangelical Churches, will lead a panel discussion on the development and impact of Misión Red, the network of churches that have been planted by the Council of Shalom Evangelical Churches in Mexico, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica over the past 30 years.

Overcoming Unhealthy Family Dynamics

Sheri Miller, River of Hope

This seminar will serve to identify common problematic dynamics that keep families stuck in old patterns. Discussion will include identifying and addressing common family patterns, secrets, boundaries, and grief.

Prophetic Prayer and Encouragement

Troy Landis, Eastern Mennonite Missions

This seminar aims to give space for people to receive fresh encouragement and hope from God's heart. There will be a short introduction about listening to God on behalf of others, and then we will provide time to pray, listen, and share what we hear in a facilitated small group setting. Everyone is welcome.

Remember you were slaves in Egypt...

Jonathan Charles, Habecker Mennonite Church

When we extend hospitality, when we cross the border, when we identify with the displaced and dispossessed, when we open ourselves to love the other, it always impacts how we read the scriptures, understand who God is, and in our case rediscover our spiritual roots and who we are as a people. Jonathan Charles is eager to share his journey at Habecker Mennonite Church.

Responses to violence in churches

Tracy Brown, Dwight Groff and Police Officers, Lancaster Mennonite Conference

Concerns for safety in a congregational setting continue to grow. This seminar provides information to increase safety in your facility. State and local law enforcement officers will give presentations.

Scaling Walls Back into Ministry

David and Karen Martin, Krall's Mennonite Church

David Martin, lead pastor of Krall's Mennonite Church, with his wife Karen, will share a story of leaving ministry, experiencing a season of brokenness, and scaling walls to re-enter ministry as a lead pastor.

Social Media 101 - Learning to tell our story by improving our front porch

Jeffrey McLain, East Petersburg Mennonite Church

Social Media and the web presence of a church have been referred to as the new "front porch." Often these places are where individuals first look today to learn more. Sadly, most of us have minimal and inadequate presence in these areas. Learn how a quality web presence is both essential and easier than we realize, and how it can help our mission as we also rebuild, repair, and revive our church communities.

So, What is Spiritual Direction

Doreen Miller, Gingrichs Mennonite Church

This seminar includes a description and brief history of the practice of Christian spiritual direction. Also addressed will be questions such as the following: Is spiritual direction New Age? Why go to spiritual direction? How do I find and choose a spiritual director?

The Open Secrets about Race and Racism

Karl McKinney, Erisman Mennonite Church

This seminar will share stories about the open secrets of class and race in the church. How do classism and racism influence congregations? And what can we do to change?

Welcoming the “Outcasts” into our Congregations

Lanny Millette, TTC/Potters House and Jordan Kauffman, New Person Ministries

This seminar will present a scriptural rationale and plan for welcoming the “least of these” into our congregations including those struggling with addictions, returning citizens from prison and others who are typically overlooked or neglected.

Youth Seminar (grades 7-12)

Jay Gandy and others, Weaverland Anabaptist Faith Community

A time of worship, learning to hear God's voice, discussion, and prayer.

1:15-2:15

A Conversation with the Moderator

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An Inside View of North Korea

Kenneth Sensenig and Tom Wenger, Mennonite Central Committee

How do American Christians engage inside the “Hermit Kingdom”? MCC staff provides glimpses of the North American church seeking to build bridges across vast political, religious and economic divides.

Brighter Futures: How Individuals, Families, and Congregations can impact those with mental illness

Clara Ames, No Longer Alone Ministries

Church clergy are often the first call of individuals or families who are struggling with mental health concerns, but often may feel ill equipped to serve these needs. This seminar will explore a brief history of No Longer Alone Ministries, while also providing clear and tangible ways that individuals, families, and congregations can create positive change in their churches and communities while ministering to those who are touched by mental illness.

Calling, Faithfulness, and Obedience

Ellen Lapp, K-teams working with refugees

Ellen will share how God call her to work with refugees. She will also share stories of God’s faithfulness on her journey.

Catechesis - The Necessity of Profound Discipleship in our Congregations

Stephen Weaver

Questions to be explored are: What is catechesis? What is the difference between catechesis and a catechism class? Is this Anabaptist? We will explore together the approaches of the Early Church to a biblical catechesis, and possible applications for our congregations today.

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Christian: what race are you?

DaQuan Gibson

In our current cultural climate race is one of the most dominant, polarizing, paralyzing and emotionally driven topics that everyone and no one is discussing. In this breakout session we will look at what God says about race and how it is truly non-existent and how he has created all people for His glory.

Discipleship Essentials - Space for Accountability and Encouragement

Troy Landis, Eastern Mennonite Missions

Discipleship must be simple and reproducible. Hear stories from a panel of leaders around the conference of how a simple space of accountability and encouragement through EMM’s Multipliers group helped them take a few steps forward in their journey of being disciples who make disciples.

Discover the Spirituality of your Family History

Steve Ness and Darvin Martin, Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society

Learn how you can discover treasures in your family history that show how God journeyed with your ancestors over centuries. LMHS staff and volunteers will explain how you can access archival, library, and DNA resources.

Expanding the We: Transforming church-agency relationships

Jerry Meadows, Global Disciples, Andy Mashas, Eastern Mennonite Missions, Kevin Nofziger, Everence

EMM, Everence and Global Disciples have compared notes with church leaders and will facilitate an interactive discussion on relationships for transformation rather than just transaction.

Following Jesus in Befriending Muslims

Sheryl Martin and Jonathan Bornman, Eastern Mennonite Missions

Stories will be shared of simple ways Christians have been seeking to follow Jesus in reaching out to Muslim neighbors with His blessing, peace, truth and love. Dialogue, witness, peacemaking and hospitality will be highlighted, while also allowing time for questions and discussion.

From Heroin to the Holy One: Rebuilding Lives Broken by Addiction and Incarceration

Ryan Newswanger, Jubilee Ministries

The heroin epidemic is affecting a record number of people - leading them down a long, broken path of destruction, devastation and often incarceration. Come hear stories and testimonies of lives being changed through Jesus Christ.

Getting the best out of your team through play!

Megan McMaster, Camp Hebron

One of the most effective tools for your staff, committee, class or group is play. Don't be too quick to only "buckle down to business." Learn techniques to be intentional in using play to draw your group members out and open.

Intercessory Prayer

Lenora Rivera and team, King of Glory Tabernacle

This seminar will focus on the power of prayer and intercession and how we as believers need to be attuned to the voice of God. We will also look at how prayer and intercession go hand and hand but are different.

Introduction to Spiritual Formation

Ann Weaver

What is a spiritual formation? How is Christ formed in us? Is it a process or a one-time event? What is the role of the Holy Spirit in spiritual formation? What kind of spiritual disciplines help me grow in Christ?

Kingdoms of Life (Seminar for children) ages 5-12

Mr. Michael Lichty, Hinkletown Mennonite School Science Teacher

Come and learn about the amazing diversity of God's created order on Earth and how we fit into God's "kingdoms of life." Meet face to face with some of God's amazing creatures and learn about life from the tiniest micro-organisms up to the most complex animals!

Lessons from Natives and Settlers in Lancaster County

David Schrock, Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society

In this seminar for adults, learn about Native American tribes that interacted with early European settlers and how their story enriches the Native population living in Lancaster today as well as churches seeking to learn more of their history.

Responses to violence in churches

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Simple tools to creating a contagious culture and future

Jeffrey McLain, East Petersburg Mennonite Church

When we talk about rebuilding, repairing, and reviving our churches, we are really talking about envisioning and implementing a new culture, and future. Churches experiencing working through the three R's, as well as church planters and churches in transition need to work at creating a simple but creative and contagious vision statement to lay the foundations for a new culture and future.

Teaching Children to Hear God's Voice

Ann Kanagy

Jesus said, "My sheep hear my voice." (John 10:27) big sheep and little sheep need to know how to hear His voice. This workshop will give examples of kids in the 21st century hearing God's voice, explain why this is a priority in Children's Ministry in today's postmodern culture, and offer direction to parents and Children's Ministry volunteers and staff in preparing our kids for what they may face in their generation.

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