Leadership Development: resources for credentialed and lay leaders that are God-honoring, Spirit-directed, and congregation-centered are offered to call, cultivate, and support leaders to grow in competency and character as life-long learners. Leaders and congregations develop a lifestyle of learning, growth, and change.

Leadership Education Grants: scholarship funds to support credentialed and emerging leaders with tuition costs and/or educational materials for leadership education and training. The amount will be based on availability of funds, need, number of applicants, and references from church leaders.

Life Stages Resourcing: resourcing for all life stages from infant to elderly, single, married, or widowed, in school, at work, or retired. Help is available for ministry direction, curriculum selection, and in congregation resourcing.

LMC Legacy Foundation: a new charitable foundation to assist LMC to continue a vision to nurture mental health, broadly construed, with resilience and innovation. The foundation accepts grant requests for funding that relate to mental health needs in local communities of LMC congregations.

Mission Statement: LMC is committed to the continuing work of Jesus Christ. We gather in congregations to worship in Christ's name, to minister the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ to one another, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, to go forth as workers in God's kingdom. We partner with a network of organizations to equip people for ministry, exercise mutual care, and extend God's salvation, healing, and hope to the world.

Missional Identity: more than a tag-line or logo, a missional identity attempts to uncover the essence of an organization. Through a process of assessment, discovery, and adoption the identity claim that emerged for LMC was, "We are people of Christ's peace." LMC applies the identity to actions and ministries throughout the conference.

Offering Schedule: suggested designated giving guide for all congregations, especially those that use a designated offering schedule.

Quizzing: young people get together, study the Bible, and answer questions in fun, friendly inter-conference competition. It is also a good opportunity to meet new friends and people from other churches.

***Shalom* Evangelical Church Council (Concilio Iglesias Evangélicas Shalom):** a group of Evangelical churches united in a Council to proclaim Jesus as Savior and Lord with headquarters in New Holland, Pa. The churches are located in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York and Oregon and Mexico, Nicaragua and Costa Rica.

***Shalom News*:** published four times per year, the magazine covers LMC issues, events, and stories from congregations and leaders that reflect *"We are people of Christ's peace."*

Sowing Shalom: nine self-contained sessions, explores the core value of "peace." The DVD based curriculum and *Leader's Guide* helps the group get the most out of the discussion.

STEP: a three-year training program for people considering congregational leadership and want to gain practical ministry training. It is a joint effort between LMC, who administers the program, and EMU, who grants academic credit. STEP combines formation, pastoral topics, and pastoral skills in very practical ways.

Urban Education Grants: grants given for tuition assistance to urban students or students of color with a recommendation from their pastor and with the approval of the Conference's Urban Education Grant Committee. Money is made available for these grants through the generous support of Lancaster Conference churches.

2020 Vision: ***We see new life*:** guided by the prompting and direction of the Holy Spirit, our fellowship of congregations discern and discover how we are being sent into God's mission so that this shared vision results in congregational revitalization and in the launching of new faith communities.

Web-Site: www.lancasterconference.org
updated March 17, 2017! Access to the church directory, congregational openings, regular blog posts, conference announcements, and general information.

To learn more about any of the LMC 411 listings, contact the Conference Office.

LMC
2160 Lincoln Highway East, #5
Lancaster, PA 17602
717-293-5246
information@lancasterconference.org
www.lancasterconference.org

We are people of Christ's peace

LMC 411

Ministries and Resources of LMC

March 2018

LMC 411: Brief Descriptions of Ministries and Resources

Acronyms:

BB	Board of Bishops
CC	Credentialing Commission
CEC	Conference Executive Council
CCL	Celebration of Church Life
EMM	Eastern Mennonite Missions
LEG	Leadership Education Grant
LMC	Anabaptist fellowship of 180 churches in 10 states
LMHS	Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society
LMS	Lancaster Mennonite School
MCC	Mennonite Central Committee
MWC	Mennonite World Conference
SOC	STEP Oversight Commission
STEP	Study & Training for Effective Pastoral Ministry
TCP	The Corinthian Plan
UEG	Urban Education Grant

Board of Bishops: consists of all bishops/ overseers/supervisors from the districts in LMC. The Board of Bishops meets every other month for resourcing, sharing, and giving overall leadership to LMC. All CEC members are invited to Bishop Board meetings.

Celebration of Church Life: an annual gathering for LMC churches at the end in March. All LMC members are invited to this event that includes worship, resourcing, displays, ice cream and more.

Child Abuse and Criminal Background Checks: All children's ministry workers, paid or volunteer, must complete a Child Abuse History, Criminal Background Check and possibly the FBI Check in order to perform ministry in LMC.

Church On the Other Side: a partnership with the Board of Bishops, LMC staff, congregations, and individuals to nurture a culture of church planting multiplication centered around the Great Commission. The initiative seeks to multiply churches through leader development, practical training, and starting new faith communities.

Church Revitalization: resourcing for congregations that have a readiness and openness to a process of renewal and revitalization. There are a number of resources available to assist leadership teams or district leaders in the discernment of suitable resources for their journey of revitalization.

Conference Agency: a ministry organization that has governance connections and allied with the mission and vision of LMC. Agency CEOs meet with BB and LMC staff. Conference agencies are: EMM, Friendship Community, LMHS, LMS, and LMC Legacy Foundation.

Conference Executive Council: The governing body of LMC made up of Bishops and Pastors. CEC meets every other month to tend to governance business.

Conference Minister: an oversight ministry at the conference level: assists bishops with search processes, serves as a pastor to overseers, assists with linking pastors and congregations, and other significant roles. Leads the CC.

Confession of Faith: a statement of beliefs that guide and anchor Christian belief and practice within LMC and provide guidelines for interpretation of Scripture. Congregations within LMC are asked to affirm and adopt either the Confession of Faith in a Mennonite Perspective (1995) or Mennonite Confession of Faith (1963).

Core Values: shared values around which LMC congregations unite and that reflect a missional Anabaptist identity. With Jesus Christ as the center of our faith and life, the core values examine a way of seeing the world through God's reign, a way of reading Scripture through Jesus, and a way of living the Christian life as disciples. Curriculum packages are available for study and reflection.

Corinthian Plan: a health care plan available to LMC pastors and other church leaders, operated by Mennonite Church USA.

Credentialing Commission: a commission appointed by the Board of Bishops to interview all candidates for leadership roles in LMC congregations or other assignments. When approved, the commission provides a valid certificate and ministry card. The commission meets monthly.

Discovery: an eight-week discipleship course to deepen one's spirituality and the ability to hear God speaking to the Christian.

Districts: all congregations in LMC are geographically divided into one of 28 districts, each led by a bishop. The district leaders of the congregations meet together on a regular basis. A number of bishops oversee more than one district.

Email Announcements: a bi-weekly email of information from the conference office to credentialed leaders and congregations. To receive this regular communication, visit our website and fill out the information in the "Join Our Email List."

EVANA: a movement of pastors and churches with an evangelical Anabaptist theology. Our common vision is to see Jesus bring transformation to our local communities.

Finance Committee: appointed by the Board of Bishops to review the annual Financial Plan, prepare an offering schedule, suggest ways to increase congregational and individual giving, and make recommendations on fiscal matters. The fiscal-financial year for LMC is February 1 - January 31.

FirstFruits Tithe: LMC promotes the principle and practice of a firstfruits tithe (10%) of regular income as a biblical standard of giving through the local congregation. Congregants are encouraged to give additional offerings and gifts to support God's kingdom through many worthy Church organizations and agencies. LMC shares a firstfruits tithe with MWC and other organizations.

Fraternal Organizations: non-profit ministry organizations recognized by LMC as supporting the mission and vision of the fellowship. They range from camps to social service ministries.

Flourish: a missional community movement that exists to birth, resource, and multiply clusters of Christ-followers where we live, work, and play. Through "huddles" discipleship and coaching promotes the development of new communities. Global Delegate: delegate to the international church bodies with which LMC maintains relationships in Asia, Africa, Europe, and Central and South America.

Human Sexuality resources: a packet that lists suggested resources to help congregations navigate an increasingly complex, highly sexualized world.

LMC: a fellowship of about 180 congregations (14,000+ members), five conference agencies, and 12 fraternal organizations. Congregations are located in ten states and emerging church plants are located around the country. Worship occurs in many different languages.

LMC Office: 2160 Lincoln Highway East, #5, Lancaster, Pa. 17602. The office is open Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Everyone is welcome to stop by the office to browse and borrow resources for congregational or personal use.

Leadership Assembly Resourcing: held twice a year usually on the third Friday of May and September. All licensed or ordained persons are encouraged to attend these gatherings.

Leadership Assistance Program: available to all credentialed leaders, staff, and their family members through the services of Philhaven/ Wellspan to help them resolve personal problems that may affect performance in their employment situations and with their personal well being.