

Lancaster Mennonite Conference

Celebration of Church Life

REPORT

to Credentialed Leaders and Congregational Members

March 2018



<u>Theme verse: Isaiah 61:4</u>. They will **rebuild** the ancient ruins, **repair**ing cities destroyed long ago. They will **revive** them, though they have been deserted for many generations.

THE WORD AND PRAYER

2018 Dwelling in the Word Text Isaiah 61

First Monday Prayer Group at LMC office at 7 pm

Quarterly 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 2018

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 and Conference Executive Council meetings

For the new congregations that joined LMC in 2018

For forgiveness where we have failed

New life for dry bones

For the past fourteen years, LMC 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. Isaiah 61 has been affirmed as the Dwelling in the Word text for 2018.

In reading the first verse of Isaiah 61, I am drawn to the personal pronoun "me" in this verse and throughout the chapter. Isaiah 61:1 reads: "The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. "

I hear in this verse a call to each of us to proclaim His Good News. We are to tell this Good News to the poor, the brokenhearted, those in prison and darkness, those who mourn and grieve, the ones caught in a cycle of disgrace and shame, those who have been robbed and treated unjustly and unfairly. All of us can identify with one or more of these situations or emotions and all of us are called to proclaim that there is freedom in Jesus!

Ezekiel echoed this call when in the authority of the

Sovereign Lord, he proclaimed life over dry bones and called forth the breath of life into bodies long dead.

We are not called because we are more knowledgeable, more wealthy, or are more worthy than anyone else. The call is to everyone on whom the Spirit of the Sovereign Lord rests and dwells. It's all about the Sovereignty of the Lord Almighty and the movement of His Spirit. We are simply the servants doing what we see the Master doing. As Jesus said, "the Son can do nothing by Himself, He does only what He sees the Father doing. Whatever the Father does, the Son also does. (John 5:19). And again in John 12:49,50, Jesus

declared that He never spoke on His own authority. "The Father who sent me has commanded me what to say and how to say it. And I know His commands lead to eternal life; so I say whatever He tells me to say."

Jesus came to proclaim life and truth and healing. As

He did so at the command of the Father, captives were freed, blind eyes were opened, mourning was turned to joy, despair to praise and everlasting joy replaced shame and disgrace.

This is our call as LMC! We have Good News to proclaim. As we do so in the authority of the Sovereign Lord, we will rebuild and repair that which was destroyed. We will see revival, even after many generations. God's Word never returns void but always accomplishes all He sends it forth to accomplish. Be strong and courageous, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go. Take the territory He has assigned and proclaim new life over dry bones.



Lancaster Conference Working Groups

STRATEGIC DIRECTION TASK FORCE

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

CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Joy Fasick, Constituent Rep
J. Carl Sensenig, Treasurer
Nelson Bowman, Bishop
Lloyd Hoover, Secretary
Omar Guzman, Constituent
Rep
Sandra Gonzalez, Constituent
Rep
Heather Johns, Constituent
Rep
Richard Mininger, Bishop
Tuyen Nguyen, Bishop
David Pegarella, Constituent
Rep
Stephen Weaver, Bishop
Keith Weaver, Moderator

FINANCE COMMITTEE

C. Kenneth Martin, Chair
Weaverland Mennonite
Church
Trisha Good, EMM rep
Joel Harnly, Erbs Mennonite
Church
Sheryl Mummau,
Lost Creek Mennonite
Church
J. Carl Sensenig,
Conference Treasurer
L. Keith Weaver,

LMC Moderator

CREDENTIALING COMMISSION

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

CELEBRATION OF CHURCH LIFE PLANNING TEAM

Deborah Clancy, Freedom in Christ
Jay Gandy, Weaverland Church
Al Motley, Way Thru Christ
Marcia Mylin, LMC Staff
David Pegarella, Nanticoke Christian Fellowship
Dale Rintelman, Agape Fellowship
Joselyn Santiago,
LMC Administrative Assistant
Rolando Santiago, LMHS

CONFERENCE OFFICE STAFF

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

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

Thank you!

LMC Giving for 2017-2018 Fiscal Year

Financial Report

\$467,852
\$41,072
\$116,418
\$50,436
\$625,342
\$621,252
\$4,090

a detailed financial report is available upon request

Congregations Joining LMC

Please see the complete list of new congregations in your packet, including the name and location of each congregation

Leadership Resourcing Events

ORIENTATION FOR NEWLY OR RECENTLY CREDENTIALED LEADERS

April 18, 2018 (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 11 by calling 717.293.5246, ext. 100 or via email isantiago@lancasterconference.org.

SPRING LEADERSHIP RESOURCING EVENT

Friday, May 4, 2018 from 8 am—3:30 pm

Cost: \$30

This initiative is co-sponsored by Lancaster Mennonite Conference, Barnabas Initiatives and Evangelical Theological Seminary. The theme will be Multi-ethnic Church. Attendees will have the opportunity to hear from various speakers, a panel discussion and participate in table discussions. The event aims to encourage and assist multi-ethnic households and churches by finding ways to honor the image of God in persons of all colors.

FALL LEADERSHIP RESOURCING EVENT

Saturday, September 29 from 8 am—3:30 pm

Location to be determined

Slate Hill Mennonite Church

Cost: \$30

This event will address the theological underpinnings of peacemaking and conflict transformation within a congregational context. We will also look at pitfalls to be avoided as a leader and how to lead as a conflict transformer in a missional context. The day will include input from our resource speakers Leonard Dow and John Roth, table discussions and a time for Q and A.

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 2017 - February 2018

- Discernment regarding congregations and groups of congregations seeking affiliation with LMC.
- Appointed Glenn Kauffman and a team to work at envisioning a new district created around relational affinity rather than according to locational affinity.
- Interacted with Antonio Ulloa and his proposal for spiritual renewal and revitalization
- Worked with a team to envision new ways to strengthen LMC/EMM global fraternal relationships
- Interacted with a task force assigned to work with the LMC agencies and the fraternal ministries as they reconsider the nature of their relationship with LMC in this time of affiliation and realignment.
- Formed a team to work at revising the LMC constitution. The proposed revisions were voted on and approved at the September 21, 2017 Leadership Assembly.
- Affirmed the work of Wes Furlong and the proposal for City Flourish
- Kairos vacated the office space they were renting from LMC. This space has now become the STEP office and a prayer room.
- Celebrated missional movement in: The West End Network of Churches The Shalom Council of Churches
- Approved the creation of a Seed Fund to receive contributions in support of congregational multiplication
- Engaged in extensive work with the Strategic Direction Task Force
- Approved a reorganization of the LMC/EMU partnership for the S.T.E.P. pastoral training program, resulting in the administrative oversight of S.T.E.P. being lodged with LMC. Brinton Rutherford assumed the role of Interim Director following Mark Wenger's resignation.
- Affirmed Isaiah 61 as the Dwelling in the Word text for 2018.
- Approved the 2018-2019 Financial Plan of \$620,013.

LMC Office Transitions

After serving LMC for the past eighteen years, Carl Hess has resigned to accept a position with the Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society. Carl has served the conference faithfully as the financial administrator and has seen numerous changes throughout his time. We are grateful for Carl's at-

tention to detail and his careful stewardship of LMC's financial resources. We wish Carl the best in his new role and are confident the Lord will bless and use his gifts as he serves at the historical society.





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 2017 — FEBRUARY 2018

Licenses Granted	License Type - Assignment	Congregation	District	Date
Diogenes Arauz (Ana)	toward ordination - lead pastor	Evangelical Garifuna of Manhattan	New York City	05.06.17
José M. Báez Cuevas (Delia)	toward ordination - lead pastor	Iglesia Restauración en Cristo	Shalom Council	01.28.18
Ronald Beilder (Lola)	toward ordination - lead pastor	Meadow Mountain	Western Maryland	03.26.17
Sheldon Brubaker (Sheila)	specific ministry - financial deacon	Bowmansville Mennonite	Bowmansville-Reading	09.10.17
John Drouillard (Cheryl)	toward ordination - church planter	REACH Church	Willow Street-Strasburg	10.15.16
Matthew Fox (Emery)	toward ordination - associate pastor	Agape Fellowship	North Penn	12.03.17
David Gingrich (Phyllis)	toward ordination - lead pastor	Delaware Mennonite	Juniata	08.27.17
Michael Todd Good (Christy)	toward ordination - associate pastor	Cambridge Mennonite	Martindale	02.26.17
Austin Horning	toward ordination - associate pastor	Groffdale Mennonite	Groffdale	07.02.17
William Helmlinger (Jennifer)	toward ordination - youth pastor	First Mennonite, Berne	Eastern Ohio	04.02.17
Joshua Jefferson (Monica)	toward ordination - lead pastor	Sunnyside Mennonite	Lancaster	08.27.17
Joseph P. Kindon	toward ordination - lead pastor	Diller Mennonite	Harrisburg	08.06.17
Joseph Lab (Kate)	toward ordination - lead pastor	Hershey Mennonite	LanChester	01.21.18
Nancy Maldonado	specific ministry - Christian Education and Spiritual Formation	King of Glory Tabernacle	New York City	12.17.17
Margarito Martinez	toward ordination - associate pastor	Evangelical Garifuna of Manhattan	New York City	05.06.17
Ricardo Ordoñez (Cindy)	toward ordination - associate pastor	Evangelical Garifuna of Manhattan	New York City	05.06.17
Luc T. Pham (Thu)	toward ordination - lead pastor	Upper Darby Mennonite Fellowship	Philadelphia	10.15.17
Deepak Rai (Sita)	toward ordination - lead elder	Bhutanese Nepali Church	Lancaster	09.30.17
Lenora Rivera (Randy)	specific ministry - deaconess	King of Glory Tabernacle	New York City	12.17.17
Jonathan Sauder	specific ministry - associate/youth pastor	Erisman Mennonite	Manheim	09.10.17
Daniel Q. Tran (Thao)	toward ordination - associate pastor	Vietnamese Mennonite	Philadelphia	10.15.17
R. Bruce Yoder (Nancy)	specific ministry - mission worker	Martinsburg Mennonite	Western Pennsylvania	08.27.17
Galen Zook (Eboni)	toward ordination - area director for InterVarsity	Wilkens Avenue Mennonite	Washington-Baltimore	10.28.17

Ordinations	Assignment	Congregation	District	Date
Mario Martin Alvarez (Jennie)	lead pastor	Evangelical Garifuna in Brooklyn	New York City	05.20.17
Randall Lee Carr (Deanne)	lead pastor	Beaverdam Mennonite	Eastern Ohio	03.05.17
Joy Fasick (Michael)	associate pastor	Slate Hill Mennonite	Harrisburg	09.17.17
Keith Allen Graybill (Janet)	lead pastor	Lost Creek Mennonite	Juniata	06.04.17
David Harnish (Brenda)	lead pastor	Marietta Community Chapel	Landisville-Manor	10.22.17
Charles Roy Lauver (Linda)	associate pastor	Cedar Lane Chapel	Groffdale	01.11.18
Samuel Mwangi (Gladys)	lead pastor	Carpenter Community Church	Groffdale	06.25.17
Andrew Nuñez (Carmen)	lead pastor	Believer Mennonite Garifuna	New York City	08.13.17
Mark Perri (Annabelle)	lead pastor	Immanuel Community Church	New York City	08.27.17
Albert James Schwartz (Mary Carol)	associate pastor	First Mennonite, Berne	Eastern Ohio	02.25.18
Victor Vargas (Virginia)	lead pastor	Iglesia Pentecostes de Woodburn	Shalom Council	02.14.18
Leon Zimmerman (Naomi)	interim lead pastor	Millport Mennonite	Lititz	06.18.17
Leafulla Carra	Actions	Community of the commun	District	Dete
Installations	Assignment	Congregation	District	Date
Josef Berthold (Brenda)	bishop of West End Network	West End Mennonite Fellowship	West End Network	02.25.18
Peter C. Cook (Glenda)	lead pastor	Alive Church Ephrata	Weaverland-NE PA	05.21.17
Duane Frederick (Bonnie)	lead pastor	Pinto Mennonite	Western Maryland	09.10.17
Robert Kanagy (Audrey)	interim pastoral care pastor	Mount Joy Mennonite	Landisville-Manor	11.01.17
David Martino (Susan)	lead pastor	Aurora Mennonite	Eastern Ohio	07.01.17
Jeffrey McLain (Katie)	lead pastor	East Petersburg Mennonite	Landisville-Manor	05.14.17
Alan Miller (Kathleen)	interim lead pastor	Mellinger Mennonite	Mellinger	12.03.17
David W. Musser (Ella)	bishop of Lebanon and Manheim Districts	Gingrichs Mennonite	Lebanon	02.11.18
Robert Nolt (Anna)	interim lead pastor	Goods Mennonite	Elizabethtown	07.02.17
Peter Nguyen (Esther)	lead pastor	Vietnamese Mennonite	Philadelphia	01.01.18
Donald Sharp (Loretta)	interim lead pastor	Community Mennonite Fellowship	North Penn	09.24.17
A. Willard Shertzer (Ann)	interim lead pastor	Living Light Mennonite	Landisville-Manor	11.15.17
Retirements	Assignment	Congregation	District	Date
Andrew Diener (Jean)	deacon	Stumptown Mennonite	Groffdale	12.31.17
Carl Horning (Erma)	bishop of Lebanon and Manheim Districts	Krall's Mennonite	Lebanon	12.31.17
Glenn Hosler (Judy)	lead pastor	Delaware Mennonite	Juniata	04.30.17
George Hurst (Jean)	former associate pastor	Hernley Mennonite	Manheim	07.01.17
Leon Hurst (Rosella)	associate pastor	Weaverland	Weaverland-NE PA	12.31.16
Glen D. Martin (Mary)	associate pastor	Gehman Mennonite	Bowmansville-Reading	06.04.17
George Richards (Clemmie)	lead pastor	Peabody Street Mennonite	Washington-Baltimore	07.31.17
Vincent Whitman (Alice)	lead pastor	Crossroads Mennonite	Lancaster	05.01.17
Richard Winey (Dawn)	minister of worship	Mount Joy Mennonite	Landisville-Manor	10.01.17

Assignment Changes	From	То	Congregation	District	Date
Jonathan Bowman (Beth) David Choi (Claire)	active without charge licensed toward ordination as associate pastor	inactive licensed for specific ministry assistant to bishop for church development	Church for the Needy	Bishop Oversight Philadelphia	01.04.18 01.01.18
Glenn Esh (Jen)	lead pastor	associate pastor	Cambridge Mennonite	Martindale	01.08.17
Philip Groff (Sharon)	associate pastor	lead pastor	Cambridge Mennonite	Martindale	01.08.17
Brian Guzman	licensed toward ordination as lead pastor	licensed for specific ministry as lead pastor	Casa Cristiana Jesús Es Rey	Bowmansville-Reading	12.31.17
Danh Ho (Loann)	licensed toward ordination as associate pastor	licensed for specific ministry as assistant to bishop on mission in Vietnam	Upper Darby Mennonite Fellowship	Philadelphia	01.01.18
Ramoktushi Imchen (Beth)	active without charge	inactive	Hershey Mennonite	LanChester	12.31.17
Merle Smucker (Tonya)	deacon	chaplain	Shiloh Mennonite	Martindale	08.01.17
Eugene Z. Weaver (Elaine)	associate pastor	lead pastor	Martindale Mennonite	Martindale	03.07.17
Transfers into LMC	Assignment		Congregation	District	Date
Franklin District	40 congregation	nal leaders	various Franklin congregations	Franklin District	12.13.17
Wes Furlong (Bonnie)	church consulta	nnt	West End Mennonite Fellowship	West End Network	06.14.17
Joseph Henry Furry (Linda)	lead pastor		Martinsburg Mennonite	Western Pennsylvania	08.09.17
Richard Alan Kauffman (Nanc			Maple Grove Mennonite	Western Pennsylvania	12.13.17
Paul Leichty (Twila)	active without	charge	Agape Fellowship	North Penn	05.03.17
Timothy Peachey (Helen)	retired		Maple Grove Mennonite	Western Pennsylvania	12.13.17
Earl D. Yoder (Peggy)	retired		Maple Grove Mennonite	Western Pennsylvania	12.13.17
Assignments Ending	Assignment		Congregation	District	Date
J. Nelson Bechtold (Connie)	lead pastor		Goods Mennonite	Elizabethtown	08.31.17
Robert Kettering (Elizabeth)	interim lead par		Mountville Mennonite	Landisville-Manor	08.28.16
A. Willard Shertzer (Ann)	interim lead par	stor	Pinto Mennonite	Western Maryland	07.30.17
Assignments Ending	Assignment		Congregation	District	Date
(Active Without J. Nevin Hurst (Melissa)		lachin and outreach	Weaverland	Weaverland-NE PA	02.28.18
Audrey Kanagy (Robert)	co-lead pastor	leship and outreach	Living Light Mennonite	Landisville-Manor	10.15.17
Robert Kanagy (Audrey)	co-lead pastor		Living Light Mennonite	Landisville-Manor	10.15.17
Kerry D. Martin (Marlene)	lead pastor		Millport Mennonite	Lititz	07.01.17
David Martino (Susan)	lead pastor		Community Mennonite Fellowship	North Penn	06.30.17
Joseph Miller (Julie)	lead pastor		Mellinger Mennonite	Mellinger	11.30.17
Robert Nolt (Anna)	lead pastor		East Petersburg Mennonite	Landisville-Manor	01.15.17

Dawn Winey (Richard)	associate pastor	Mount Joy Mennonite	Landisville-Manor	10.01.17
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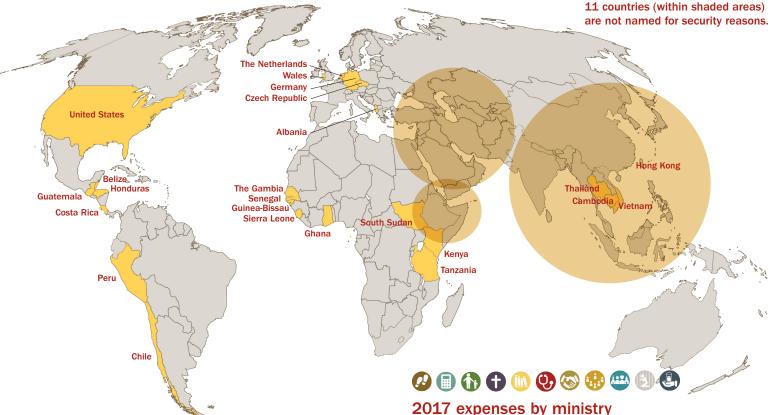
Withdrawn Credential	Assignment	Congregation	District	Date
Gina Burkhart (Dan)	associate pastor	Landisville Mennonite (now part of ACC)	Landisville-Manor	04.22.17
Keith Collins (Carolyn)	lead pastor	Church of the Overcomer (left LMC)	Philadelphia	03.01.17
Chelsea Delp (Ben)	minister of children and youth	East Petersburg Mennonite	Landisville-Manor	02.15.17
Lester K. Denlinger (Marian)	retired	Rossmere Mennonite (now part of ACC)	Lancaster	04.23.17
Jordan Farrell (Kara)	pastor of youth and young adults	Landisville Mennonite (now part of ACC)	Landisville-Manor	04.22.17
Ralph Honigmann (Valerie)	youth leader	Blainsport Mennonite	Weaverland-NE PA	12.31.16
Valerie Honigmann (Ralph)	youth leader	Blainsport Mennonite	Weaverland-NE PA	12.31.16
Larry Horning (Joyce)	administrative deacon	Bowmansville Mennonite	Bowmansville-Reading	08.31.16
Delbert Kautz (Mary Ann)	former pastor	Millersville Mennonite	Bishop Oversight	10.12.17
John Kelleher (Linda)	chaplain	Norma Mennonite	Philadelphia	06.23.17
Linda Kelleher (John)	chaplain	Norma Mennonite	Philadelphia	06.23.17
Gerald Richter Sr. (Charlotte)	former pastor	Mountainside Bible Church (previously Palo Alto)	Groffdale	06.15.11
Duane Ringler (Diane)	former associate pastor	Bowmansville Mennonite	Bowmansville-Reading	04.12.17
Eugene Shelly (Martine)	retired chaplain		New York City	12.06.17
Randall Witmer (Lorretta)	inactive	CONNECT Church	Lancaster	12.07.17

Transfers out of LMC	Assignment	Congregation	District	Transfer To	Date
Addie Banks	associate pastor	King of Glory Tabernacle	New York City	Atlantic Coast Conference	06.14.17
John Bauman (Susan)	chaplain	North Bronx Mennonite (now part of ACC)	New York City	Atlantic Coast Conference	03.08.17
Janet Breneman (Wesley Newswanger)	active without charge	Laurel Street Mennonite (now part of ACC)	Lancaster	Atlantic Coast Conference	09.13.17
D. Rohrer Eshleman (Mabel)	retired	Landisville Mennonite (now part of ACC)	Landisville-Manor	Atlantic Coast Conference	07.12.17
Julia Fisher	active without charge	Landisville Mennonite (now part of ACC)	Landisville-Manor	Atlantic Coast Conference	07.12.17
Lowell Gerber (Lois)	active without charge	New Danville Mennonite	New Danville	Atlantic Coast Conference	12.13.17
Daniel D. Good (Lois)	associate pastor	Alsace Christian Fellowship (now closed)	Bowmansville-Reading	Hopewell Network of Churches	03.08.17
Todd Gusler (Leah)	lead pastor	Rossmere Mennonite (now part of ACC)	Lancaster	Atlantic Coast Conference	06.14.17
Carl E. Hershey (Doris)	inactive	James Street Mennonite (now part of ACC)	Lancaster	Atlantic Coast Conference	07.12.17
Carmen D. Horst	associate pastor	James Street Mennonite (now part of ACC)	Lancaster	Atlantic Coast Conference	06.14.17
Thomas A. Horst (Thelma)	inactive	James Street Mennonite (now part of ACC)	Lancaster	Atlantic Coast Conference	07.12.17

Darrel M. Hostetter (Sherill)	active without charge	James Street Mennonite	Lancaster	Atlantic Coast Conference	06.14.17
Sherill Hostetter (Darrel)	active without charge	(now part of ACC) James Street Mennonite (now part of ACC)	Lancaster	Atlantic Coast Conference	06.14.17
Jason Kuniholm (Joanne)	active without charge	Mellinger Mennonite	Mellinger	Virginia Mennonite Conference	09.13.17
Marilyn E. Kurtz (Mervin)	retired	Rossmere Mennonite (now part of ACC)	Lancaster	Atlantic Coast Conference	07.12.17
S Brent Musser (Mary Anne)	active without charge	New Providence Mennonite	Willow Street- Strasburg	Mennonite Church Eastern Canada	12.13.17
Elizabeth G. Nissley (Kenneth)	retired	James Street Mennonite (now part of ACC)	Lancaster	Atlantic Coast Conference	07.12.17
Harold E. Reed (Barbara)	retired	James Street Mennonite (now part of ACC)	Lancaster	Atlantic Coast Conference	07.12.17
Kathy K. Shantz (Stanley)	inactive	James Street Mennonite (now part of ACC)	Lancaster	Atlantic Coast Conference	07.12.17
Stanley R. Shantz (Kathy)	lead pastor	James Street Mennonite (now part of ACC)	Lancaster	Atlantic Coast Conference	06.14.17
Karl Steffy (Ellen)	inactive	Landisville Mennonite (now part of ACC)	Landisville-Manor	Atlantic Coast Conference	07.12.17
Roger Steffy (Carol)	staff of church agency	James Street Mennonite (now part of ACC)	Lancaster	Atlantic Coast Conference	09.13.17
George Stoltzfus (Mae)	retired	Landisville Mennonite (now part of ACC)	Landisville-Manor	Atlantic Coast Conference	07.12.17
J. Samuel Thomas (Marian)	retired	Landisville Mennonite (now part of ACC)	Landisville-Manor	Atlantic Coast Conference	07.12.17
Kathy Weaver Wenger (Mark)	associate pastor	Groffdale Mennonite	Groffdale	Franconia Mennonite Conference	08.09.17
Mark Wenger (Kathy)	staff of church agency	Groffdale Mennonite	Groffdale	Franconia Mennonite Conference	04.12.17
Deaths	Assignment		Congregation	District	Date
Paul Dagen (Lois) Robert S. Fellenbaum (May) Harold Roitz Frey (Ruth)	retired bishop retired deacon		New Providence Mennonite Elizabethtown Mennonite	Elizabethtown	12.25.15 03.25.17 04.03.17
Robert S. Fellenbaum (May) Harold Reitz Frey (Ruth)	retired deacon retired deacon		Elizabethtown Mennonite Gingrichs Mennonite	Elizabethtown Lebanon	

Deaths	Assignment	Congregation	District	Date
Paul Dagen (Lois)	retired bishop	New Providence Mennonite	Willow Street-Strasburg	12.25.15
Robert S. Fellenbaum (May)	retired deacon	Elizabethtown Mennonite	Elizabethtown	03.25.17
Harold Reitz Frey (Ruth)	retired deacon	Gingrichs Mennonite	Lebanon	04.03.17
J. Clair Hollinger (Lois)	retired associate pastor	Lititz Mennonite	Lititz	11.08.17
Ellis Kreider (Amy)	retired pastor	Mechanic Grove Mennonite	Willow Street-Strasburg	05.03.17
Clarence R. Neff	retired leader	Kinzer Mennonite (closed)	LanChester	11.11.16
Landis K. Sangrey (Martha)	retired pastor	Lyndon Mennonite (closed)	Mellinger	07.04.17
Clarence Stauffer (Grace)	retired pastor	Kauffman Mennonite	Manheim	06.05.15
Truong Tu (Dorcas Hua)	licensed for specific ministry as a	Abundant Life Chinese	Philadelphia	02.20.17
	missionary	Mennonite		

had 138 workers serving in 35 countries in 2017



138 serving

120 long-term workers

18 short-term workers

731 sending

525 Missionary Support Team members

155 Representative Council members

38 staff (25 full-time and 13 part-time)

14 Board members (who served at any point in 2017)

19% Discipleship training

16.9% International partnerships

12.4% Leadership training

12.4% Muslim ministry

10.5% Health and community development

9.5% Business for transformation

8.2% Pioneer witness

6.3% Education

2.5% Relief

2% Children at risk

0.4% Persecuted church

A year of good news

The news I see each day can make my head spin and test my faith. From North Korea's ongoing missile testing, to mass stateside shootings, to numerous leaders and celebrities toppled by sexual misconduct, to the tensions of our polarized nation — throughout 2017, these sad realities served as a daily reminder to the church: a Christ-centered witness tells a different story. A story of faith, hope, and a glorious future.

Hope was evident throughout EMM's work in 2017. For EMM, 2017 was a year of fresh and experimental ways of fulfilling Christ's missional mandate, from new international partnerships to the first foray into adventure fundraising, among many other highlights of hope. This work would not be possible without your prayers, generosity, and continued partnership in fulfilling the Great Commission. For this, we are ever grateful. — Brian Martin, EMM Board Chair



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Eastern Mennonite Missions

regional ministry highlights in 2017 (read stories at emm.org/messenger)

East Africa: 13 long-term workers and 2 short-term workers served in 4 countries

EMM organized a retreat for new Tanzania Mennonite Church bishops and their spouses. The Mennonite Theological College of Eastern Africa experienced a turnaround in 2017, growing to 90 students. EMM helped local women obtain scholarships.

West Africa: 9 long-term workers served in 6 countries

EMM worker Beryl Forrester began ministry classes for locals. The West Africa Mennonite church partnered with LMC and EMM to credential four local church leaders. Three longtime church attendees finally accepted Christ in Catel, Guinea-Bissau.

North America: 9 long-term workers and 5 short-term workers served in 3 states

EMM's discipleship training, Launch, was revamped to focus on sharing Jesus in a globalized world. EMM's Christian-Muslim Relations Team distributed 2,200 dialogue books at the Islamic Society's convention. EMM hosted a discipleship conference along with Costa Rican discipleship network VidaNet.

Central America: 15 long-term workers and 4 short-term workers served in 4 countries

EMM started a new partnership with VidaNet, a Costa Rican discipleship network. K'ekchi' farmers began to grow fungus-free coffee plants through farming education partnerships. An EMM worker ran small business trainings to empower Honduran women.

South America: 8 long-term workers served in 2 countries

EMM held its first-ever adventure fundraiser, raising over \$58,000 for the PROMESA school. The Christian-Muslim Relations Team arranged for local pastors to make first-time visits to mosques. EMM workers helped start a new greenhouse project for a rural Peruvian community.

East Asia: 11 long-term workers served in 3 countries

An EMM transformational business was allowed to operate without paying bribes. EMM partnered with pioneers along the Silk Road. An EMM university teacher received a prestigious award honoring valued foreign workers.

West/Central/South Asia: 10 long-term workers and 2 short-term workers served in 4 countries

EMM workers completed a prayer initiative to the four corners of their country. A business for transformation initiative was launched to benefit mountain communities. An immigrant church co-led by an EMM worker merged with two other immigrant churches.

Southeast Asia: 21 long-term workers and 1 short-term worker served in 5 countries

In November 2017, 84 rural Cambodian youth were baptized in one service. An EMM worker advocated for two young Thai girls who were sexually abused. An EMM worker was invited to speak to over 100 students at a Muslim university.

Western Europe: 14 long-term workers and 3 short-term workers served in 3 countries

EMM workers in Wales founded a missional community. Three young mission interns served among refugees in Germany. Baptisms continued in Germany as refugees encountered Jesus.

Eastern/Central Europe: 5 long-term workers served in 2 countries

EMM staff/workers went on a two-week exploratory trip throughout the region. An EMM worker taught at the first-ever church-sponsored English camp in Belarus. EMM workers began to see Czech friends come to Christ.

The Middle East: 2 long-term workers served in 1 country

EMM workers initiated a home fellowship network. A congregation with EMM workers purchased a Sunday school building for its 60+ children. An EMM worker was appointed to a committee to organize a national prayer summit.

Read EMM's 2017 annual report to learn more! Get a copy delivered to your mailbox by contacting Micah Brickner at micahb@emm.org or 717 898-2251 ext. 225. You can also read the annual report online at emm.org/annualreport.

Impacting the World with Capabilities

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



Friendship Community: A Panoramic View of 2017

This year has been a year of intentional growth and strategic integration for Friendship Community. Early in 2017, *Friendship Community* was honored to be nominated by 2 local companies for a Central Penn Business Journal Nonprofit Innovation Award. Friendship Community received the nominee award during the ceremony at the Marriott Convention Center on March 9, 2017. Although we were not selected out of the nine amazing organizations in the Program category, we felt so privileged to have the Meaningful Day Academy acknowledged and be nominated for the tri-county Innovation Award. We were thrilled for Leg Up Farm, which was selected. This recognition certainly spurred the *Friendship Community - Meaningful Day Academy Team* on to continue the innovation that was recognized by companies out in the greater community.

Friendship Community is strategically growing in the area of Day Services which includes our Meaningful Day Academy and The Friendship Heart Gallery and Studio. While we continue to provide Residential and Home-Based services, more and more individuals are living with their families and *Day Services* is a true need that Friendship Community can also fulfill. Our goal is to offer person centered day activity that supports Individuals in the process of community integration while assisting them to personally flourish in their area of interest.

In August, the Friendship Heart Gallery was honored once again to participate in the renowned Mt. Gretna Art Show. During the fall season, the Gallery officially became licensed under Pennsylvania Chapter 2380 Regulations. Each month, the Friendship Heart Gallery in downtown Lancaster has a featured exhibit and if you haven't visited, we encourage you to do so. If you come on a week day, you can even see the Artists at work in the Studio. The Gallery continues to increase their social media reach on Facebook and Instagram and have created quite a following already.

The Gallery hosted a "Chalk the Block" event in downtown Lancaster. This coincided with the Governor's Arts Awards, which occurred the last week of October. "Chalk the Block" was a special event and also a community integrative experience that allowed the Heart Artists and local Artists to work on a large, temporary sidewalk chalk mural together. Over 80 people attended this unique event from senior citizens to students from the Robert Fulton Elementary School. It truly brought the community to life and was an amazing collaboration.

With enthusiasm, Friendship Community provided one of the sessions entitled *Improbable Leadership and Beyond* at the Annual Pennsylvania Advocacy and Resources for Autism and Intellectual Disability *Solutions Conference* held in October. Five leaders on our Team spoke during this session, telling of their experiences and responsibility in developing the culture of mentoring and coaching that we have today at Friendship Community and how that has positively changed our organization.

Moving forward, Friendship Community is passionate to provide innovative services for people with Intellectual Disability and Autism well into the future.

Gwen Schuit Friendship Community, CEO

Thank you for helping Friendship Community Individuals Impact the World with Capabilities!



Family and Volunteers helping at Fest/5K in May



Heart Gallery Artists showing off their work



"Chalk the Block" in October



Christmas Caroling in the Community



Heart Gallery at Mt. Gretna Art Show



Enjoying music at our day program

Thank you for your continued support of Friendship Community!



Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society

2215 Millstream Road Lancaster, Pennsylvania 17602-1499 www.lmhs.org (717) 393-9745 lmhs@lmhs.org

Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society Report to Lancaster Mennonite Conference

The Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society preserves and interprets the culture and context of Mennonite-related faith communities connected to Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. We seek to be a gathering place where people can explore stories, ideas, and legacy—for themselves and with each other. The Society also operates the 1719 Herr House & Museum, which collects, preserves, and interprets artifacts relating to the history, life, and faith of Lancaster County's first European settlers.

Lancaster Roots—The Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society, partnership with the 1719 Herr House & Museum, held forty-four events as part of its 2017 educational programming. These included the Bookworm Frolic. a bicycle tour of Native American sites, a bus tour visiting homesteads of early members of Mellinger Mennonite Church, a presentation on the work of Mission Shirati-established by Lancaster Mennonite missionaries in Tanzania, an introduction to fraktur, and more field trips, educational meetings, folk art classes and concerts.



- Library and Archives—The library and archives at the Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society continued to make progress in a number of areas during 2017. Highlights include scanning and uploading approximately 6,000 photographs and postcards to the online archival catalog and the creation of a mini-exhibit space in the library to highlight hidden library and archives treasures. The first exhibit focused on Mellinger Mennonite Church history. Additionally, letters mailed to all current LMC congregations represented a small step in proactively educating those congregations about the LMHS archives and our role in preserving their stories. Please stop by and visit us, or contact Steven Ness (email: library@lmhs.org, phone: (717) 393-9745 ext. 202) with any questions or concerns you may have.
- Museum—Donations of museum artifacts continued to come to the Society from Lancaster and Atlantic Coast congregations and Mennonite-related families in the southeastern Pennsylvania area. Accepted for educational display purposes, these items relating to church and family life included, for example, an 1843 wool coverlet from the Lititz area.
- 1719 Herr House & Museum—In 2017, David Schrock came on board as director of the Herr House and Longhouse in Willow Street, replacing Becky Gochnauer who had served in that role for over ten years. Some extensive projects involving the 1719 Herr House itself, as well as other buildings around the property, were undertaken to bring about some welcome updates. Staple events, such as the Music in the Orchard concert series, school frolics, the Maize and Snitz Fest, and Christmas Candlelight Tours, were well-attended, and regular tours continued to bring in thousands of people from all over the country and world to learn about history of the first Mennonite settlers in the county. David Schrock is enthused about the platform the Herr House and Longhouse provide for telling the experience of Mennonites over the past five centuries both to local Anabaptists and to visitors who would otherwise have no exposure to Mennonite beliefs and history.

Mennonite Information Center Report for Celebration of Church Life 2018

The Mennonite Information Center (MIC) at 2209 Millstream Road began the new year with some significant changes. As of January 1, 2018 we are still Mennonite Information Center but now function under the auspices of the Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society located next door. At the same time our director left for other work after providing insightful leadership to the center for 10 years. We are also preparing to show a new Amish presentation called "Lancaster Amish." This replaces the old standby "Who are the Amish," which had been showing since 2005.

Within the Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society (LMHS) structure there was a change when the director left in December 2017. So as LMHS discerns the call of a new director there are interim directors at each center. Herman Bontrager serves as Interim Executive Director of LMHS and Roy Bender serves as interim director at the MIC.

In the meantime, as leadership direction is being discerned by the LMHS board, we at MIC continue business as usual. Our friendly and capable staff are ready to welcome and share with you the various services we offer. If you would like a better grasp of the biblical tabernacle, you are welcome to join us for a tour of a full-size tabernacle model. Or perhaps your interest lies more in understanding your Anabaptist spiritual roots. If that's the case, we have two films, "We Believe," and "Lancaster Amish" that can help illuminate your understandings.

Another valuable service we offer is Backroad Tours. Here one of our guides joins you in your car for a two-hour tour of the countryside. Our visitors who take this tour with a knowledgeable Mennonite guide have found these tours to be most enlightening in regards to the life and faith of both Mennonites and Amish. For those who do not wish a tour but want to travel on their own our staff gladly highlights a route on a map for them to follow.

At our center we have a bookstore that includes many Anabaptist and tabernacle resources, and finally we are a partner store with Ten Thousand Villages and carry a nice array of products from this Mennonite Self-Help Organization. Buy a Ten Thousand Villages item and you help provide income for families around the world.

We welcome you to drop by our center anytime and check out our services as we continue living out our vision of providing helpful information to those come to learn more of our Anabaptist-Mennonite heritage and faith.

Rov Bender

Interim Director



A Ministry of the New York City Mennonite Churches

Ken Bontrager – Executive Director 845-754-8669

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

If you had the pleasure of spending a weekend at Camp Deerpark this past summer, you might have heard three girls' voices singing or laughing or talking as they worked in the dining room and the kitchen. These three girls were crucial for making the summer weekend retreats run smoothly.

Naidy Morera, Cesy Maruicio and Yaneli Mauricio came from the Bronx on Thursday evenings and left on Sunday afternoons before the campers got here, which is why not a lot of people and even summer staff know who they are. While everyone else's work week was coming to an end, theirs was just beginning. Their busy weekend started when the summer campers left on Friday afternoons. They would play music and clean the main house and the Promise Woods cabins with help from some summer staff.

On Saturday morning at 7AM Cesy, Naidy, and Yaneli would leave the Bontrager house for a full day of work in the kitchen. Although they had breaks between meals, their day wouldn't end until 7PM. In those 12 hours they would refill coffee pots, clean the dining room after each meal, set dishes out for each meal, and mop and sweep the floors. Then they would repeat it once more on Sunday, with even more cleaning at the end of the day. Even though this sounds like a rough job and something that they

wouldn't like, Yaneli says, "I was motivated to continue the dream that God has placed in my heart; to serve the Lord and his people."

The three young women are all a part of the Evangelical Garifuna Church in the Bronx and heard about the opportunity to serve at Camp Deerpark through board member Lillian Flores. Yaneli and Cesy were baptized here at Camp Deerpark in 2016 and all three have experienced camp as weekend guests. Naidy was praying to God to help her find a job when Lillian called. Naidy says, "I was so happy to come to camp because I liked the place and I thought that it was a good place to get myself together and to get rid of my personal problems." Yaneli added, "It was a great blessing to become a part of Camp Deerpark. They all



welcomed us with open arms and made this feel like home. With all my heart, thank you." These few months have changed them and they are forever grateful for that. Naidy believes that "Camp Deerpark is a blessing and a good place for everyone to go who wants to have a relationship with God." *Note: The above story was written by Goshen College Camping Inquiry intern, Dillon Hershey and appeared inSummer 2017 Camp Deerpark newsletter.*

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



For the 12th consecutive year, Choice Books (CB) maintained annual sales of over 5 million books with 5,190,491 books sold in 2017. After a record-setting year in 2016, this was a 10.5% decrease. The pace of sales remained exciting, however, at 14,200 books sold per day! In the history of recorded CB sales, CB has distributed nearly 117 million books. Fifty years ago, in 1967, CB posted annual sales of only 28,554 books. Despite the challenges of a changing retail environment, CB continues to

experience God's faithfulness and provision. For example, additional sales of non-book items (i.e. Bible covers, blessing cards, etc.) increased nearly 13% to 377,626 units for the year.

Choice Books' best-selling title in 2017 was *Too Blessed to Be Stressed Devotions for Women*, with 116,104 copies sold from displays. Other best-selling titles included *Keep Calm and Trust God* (106,616 copies); *Brain Games Bible Find a Word* (59,153 copies); and *Rose Book of Bible Charts, Maps, and Time Lines* (47,012 copies).





Readers continue to share how the books from CB displays impact their lives and the lives of their family and friends. Books sometimes find their way into prisons, and an inmate shared this testimony with Choice Books after reading a book entitled, 101 Prayers for My Son. "I was so intrigued by this book," he wrote. "Thank you so much. It will help my confidence in leading my sons through prayer. I have two very special boys. I am very excited to get released, hopefully soon, so I can use your book as a prayer guide."

A reader from Landenberg, PA, wrote, "Your marketing strategy is perfect. At the Walgreens pharmacy in Newark, DE, the wait is always long, and a display of your books is located near the waiting line. The selection of books is terrific. I am able to find at least one book to purchase each time that I go to Walgreens. The only Christian book stores around Newark have closed. Therefore, your book display at Walgreens is very much appreciated. The selection of books that you have at Dutchway in Gap, PA is also very good and another source of my book purchases. My most recent purchase was *Overcoming Tough Times*." Unfortunately, in January 2018, Walgreens requested that the CB display be removed from this store along with CB displays from over 100 other Walgreens stores nationwide.

"It's these testimonies that keep Choice Books (CB) strengthened to persevere," notes CEO Ken Gonyer. "As the decrease in sales implies, CB had a challenging year in 2017. Christian bookstores are closing, and CB displays are being removed. CB's distribution of 'religious' material is being scrutinized by retailers. However, the troubles we endure faithfully can build perseverance and spiritual maturity. Tough times can also bless us with an opportunity to focus on strengthening our operations, our finances, and our implementation of the CB mission. As always, and especially during these tough times, CB covets the prayers and financial backing from supporting churches and conferences."

Each year, Choice Books (CB) recognizes the highest retail volume accounts in various retail categories. In 2017, 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 2,091 books.

Restaurant Location – Shady Maple Smorgasbord, East Earl, PA, sold 5,585 books.

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 based in Manheim, PA, 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 70 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

New Person Ministries LMC Annual Report 2018



"New Person Ministries saw a lot of positive growth and change in the midst of challenges in 2017. 2017 was the first year in which our Lancaster location was open and that brought exciting change and new challenges. We brought on two new staff for this location and were able to serve 20 men in 2017 in Lancaster and 57 overall when including Reading.

A new location means forging new relationships with neighbors, churches, law enforcement and other social service agencies. This work is ongoing but we have been encouraged by those we have interacted with.

This year we had the opportunity to participate in a baptism with one of our residents. It was very moving to listen to his story and see where life was abundant where before there had only been death.

We have also had our difficult times as well. One resident struggled throughout most of the year to secure employment and find a place to live. He had some cognitive issues and was not quite able to live by himself but was very pleasant to be around and tried harder than anyone we ever had in our program before. He would often walk 12 miles round trip to get to the Lancaster Careerlink. Unfortunately, he was discharged by his treatment provider and sent to a parole violators center. We continue to search for appropriate housing for him.

While we had our difficult times, the Lord has continued to be faithful. We are very thankful to those who have partnered with us and walked with our residents.

Blessings,

Jordan Kauffman Executive Director



Recovery and Discipleship are the two pillars of the Transition to Community/Potters House program. We minister with a wholistic approach to the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of prerelease and post release prisoners and men 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 the past year we have served over 50 men 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 will learn essential life skills that will allow them to become fully contributing members of their family, church and community. We were able to celebrate multiple graduations and baptisms and many other personal milestones with the men.



Addiction is an insidious condition and we often experience the heartbreak of relapse and men returning to the old life. However we are finding that, even those who relapse report a change in their ability to think and deal with life after leaving the program. Many ask to return when they again have things better under control.

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. We have spoken at many churches and also collaborated with other organizations in educating the community to the facts of addiction and the hope that is found through life in Christ. We are currently working on a workshop for April 10, 2018 at Conestoga Church of the Brethren on "The Heart of an Addict" featuring David Hain. All are welcome.



We are hoping to break ground this spring on the Still Waters Recovery Center adding expanded facilities for intensive addiction ministry to 15 men. We are presently in a \$2,000,000 capital campaign titled "Captivity To Destiny" to complete this facility and add a women's facility as well.

We are thankful for the relationship with Lancaster Mennonite Conference and with 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 2018.



Preparing those called to serve and lead in a global context

SPRING 2018

LANCASTER MENNONTE CONFERENCE SEMINARY ANNUAL REPORT

New degree offered: Master of Arts in Christian Leadership

The Master of Arts in Christian Leadership is a remake of the Master of Arts in Church Leadership degree. In the remake, the credit requirement went from 60 to 49, and greater flexibility was added for a required "ministry specialization project." Students can incorporate other electives and disciplines — such as the graduate certificate in restorative justice offered by the Center for Justice and Peacebuilding — into their own individualized curriculum. This new degree reflects a growing trend of individuals seeking theological training toward ends beyond traditional church/religious structures. The new MACL is also tailored specifically to meet the educational requirements for United Methodist students who are seeking ordination as deacons.

2018 School for Leadership Training: January 15-17

EMS welcomed over 150 alumni, pastors and other ministry leaders to a challenging time of pondering what it means to be "*Broken Vessels, Thriving Pastors*." Input was provided by leadership of MC-USA (Iris de Leon-Hartshorn) as well the United Methodist VA Conference (Meredith McNabb). A panel of alumni shared openly about finding their way through brokenness (in self, church, community) to thriving.

A diverse lineup of workshops by faculty and other experts across the church provided participants with practical tools, skills, and information for navigating their own way through brokenness and thriving.

As always, the worship times surrounded all the input with times for reflection on God's work through, and among, us in our various ministry settings.

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

EMS offers May and June term courses

- **Biblical Foundations of Peace and Justice**: 3 SH, May 24–June 1 (Andrew Suderman)
- **Pentateuch:** 3 SH, May 14-25 (Andrea Dalton Saner)
- Spirit World and Global Church: 3 SH, June 4-12 (James Krabill)
- **Seminar in Youth Ministry:** 3 SH, May 14-25 (Sarah Bixler)
- **Ministering in Times of Trauma**: 2 SH, May 29-June 2 (Mary Thiessen Nation)
- **CPE unit**: 6 SH, May 29 August 3 (Penny Driediger)
- Summer Institute for Spiritual Formation:

1-4 SH, June 18-29 (Kevin Clark)

www.emu.edu/seminary/courses/summer

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, president
- ▶ **Fred Kniss**, *interim seminary dean*
- Nancy Heisey, associate dean
- ▶ **Les Horning**, director of seminary admissions

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

emu.edu/seminary 540-432-4260



Preparing those called to serve and lead in a global context

SPRING 2018

LANCASTER MENNONITE CONFERENCE

EMU ANNUAL REPORT

First Alumni and Friends Tour returns from the Middle East

Before her recent Eastern Mennonite University Alumni and Friends Tour to Israel and Palestine, **Betty Holsinger Shenk '75** "knew it would be great." It turned out, though, to be "a trip of a lifetime," she said. "Its impact will be lifelong."

From Oct. 20-Nov. 3, 24 participants learned about and discussed the region's Biblical history, explored archaeological sites, engaged in social issues, and enjoyed local food. Professor Linford Stutzman '84, SEM '90 and his wife **Janet SEM '91**, who have led many semester and summer cross-cultural trips for EMU, guided the group. Participants included alumni, parents of EMU alumni "and friends of EMU students.

A hallmark of EMU cross-cultural trips is making personal connections with local residents. The group visited the "Tent of Nations," a family farm and heard the firsthand account of cross-cultural friendships. More travels in EMU's unique immersive and educational format are in the works. A trip to Cuba, led by Elaine Zook Barge '75, MA '03 and her husband Nathan Barge '84, leaves March 2018. (While the trip is full, a wait list has been started.) The Stutzmans will lead a fall 2018 Mediterranean Voyage. In summer 2019, Professor Jerry Holsopple '80 will lead an exploration of Lithuania's music, art and culture.

EMS awarded nearly \$1 million Lilly grant to support pastors working in congregations

Eastern Mennonite Seminary has received a grant of \$999,900 from Lilly Endowment in support of a national initiative to help clergy working in congregations thrive in their roles as pastoral leaders. The seminary is one of 24 organizations – including seminaries, universities, retreat centers, denominational judicatories, faith-based agencies and other interdenominational and non-denominational organizations – representing diverse Christian communities to be selected to help establish the "Strengthening Foundations for Thriving in Ministry" program.

Brenda Hurst Martin will direct the grant. Hurst, who holds a doctorate from Union Theological Seminary, was pastor of Frazer (Pa.) Mennonite Church for 10 years, and a professor of practical theology at EMS for nearly six years.

How can EMU be of service to your congregation and conference?

Contact the church relations office to schedule the president, dean or a faculty guest speaker at 540-432-4597 or ChurchRelations@emu.edu.

Lancaster Mennonite Conference Connections to EMU

Board of Trustees

Janet Brenneman

Undergraduate Students

35 students from Lancaster Mennonite Conference were enrolled in the fall 2017 semester at EMU.

Giving

Lancaster Mennonite Conference churches gave \$15,650 in matching grants to their students at EMU during the year ending June 2017.

- ▶ Susan Schultz Huxman, president
- ▶ **Kirk Shisler**, vice president of advancement
- ▶ Karen Moshier-Shenk, associate director of development
- Les Horning, director of seminary admissions
- ▶ Andrew Penner, admissions counselor

Our Mission

EMU prepares students to serve and lead in a global context.

Our community of learning integrates Christian faith, academic rigor, artistic creation and reflective practice informed by the liberal arts, interdisciplinary engagement, and cross-cultural encounter.

Neighbor to neighbor

Everence 2018 report

Celebration of Church Life Lancaster Mennonite Conference March 23-24, 2018

Everence values our strong congregational partnerships

For nearly 75 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 2018 and beyond.

MyNeighbor users generating charitable contributions

The MyNeighbor credit card generated more than \$180,000 in donations for

charitable organizations from the start of a concerted marketing/ awareness campaign in spring 2017 through the end of January 2018.

The MyNeighbor card from Everence is available for business or personal use. Everence donates 1.5 percent of each transaction total to the charity the card-holder chooses from a list of thousands of possibilities, including churches.

The MyNeighbor card gives people a chance to name the nonprofit (the Neighbor) where they want contributions to go.

Cardholders can even use MyNeighbor to donate to a charity, then designate the same charity as the recipient of the 1.5 percent contribution.

Complete information is available at everence.com/myneighbor.

Sharing Fund helps churches provide financial relief

Thousands of people every year get financial help through the Everence Sharing Fund, which supplements congregational outreach efforts.

Sharing Fund grants help our partner churches assist more people with basic, everyday needs such as medical care, rent, food, clothing and utilities.

Here's an example: The fund recently reimbursed a church that helped a woman who needed surgery to get back on her feet. She wasn't able to work during her

other, as indeed you are doing.

Therefore encourage one

another and build up each

- 1 Thessalonians 5:11





recovery – she's her family's financial provider – and fell behind on her mortgage payments.

Her bank threatened to foreclose on the family home, but a bank employee told the woman she'd be in compliance if she made a payment by the end of that month. Her congregation made the payment and received a matching Sharing Fund grant.

Gain a deeper understanding with the Stewardship Ministry Wheel

Everence stewardship consultants are helping our congregational advocates, pastors and other church leaders strengthen their stewardship efforts through the Everence Stewardship Ministry Wheel.



The wheel was created to help people gain a deeper understanding of what stewardship is all about.

The wheel features five areas of stewardship – planning for the future, telling our story, teaching stewardship principles, asking for involvement, and thanking givers and volunteers.

The tool can help congregational leaders assess which activities may need more attention and which are already working well.

Talk to an Everence advocate or stewardship consultant to find out more

Everence Charitable Services is ready to help you maximize your generosity

Generosity's outlook is bright. Americans broke all records for charitable giving in 2016, according to a Giving USA 2017 report.

Everence Charitable Services is prepared to help you and other members of your congregation realize your vision for generosity.

You often can be more generous than you imagined and realize tax benefits as well. Our financial advisors can help you map out a plan for your giving.

You'll find a variety of individualized options, including a donor advised fund that offers simplicity and flexibility. You can donate cash or other assets, such as stocks, land and farm commodities. The assets are sold and the money is available for distribution to charities you recommend, whenever you wish.

Contact your Everence office, visit everence.com/charitable-giving or call (800) 348-7468.

Confidential counseling can help with debt, overall money management issues

Everence has partnered with Lutheran Social Service Financial Counseling since 2008 so our members and others we serve can access free, trustworthy, expert help with credit card and student loan debt, foreclosure prevention, and overall money management.

To date, more than 1,100 people have sought this help, and as of Jan. 1, 2017, LSS helped them pay off \$1,832,429 in debts.

Every person is eligible for up to six sessions per year of financial counseling through LSS. The service is confidential; LSS only reports total utilization numbers to Everence – never any names or personal details.

The counseling is designed to help people assess their situation, create a spending plan and do a better job of budgeting to help them pay off debts and plan ahead with more confidence

Call (877) 809-0039 to set up a telephone appointment with a certified LSS financial counselor.

Vecino a vecino

Informe de Everence de 2018

Celebracion de al Vida de la Igelsia Conferencia Menonita de Lancaster 23 a 24 de marzo de 2018

Everence valora nuestras asociaciones con las iglesias

Aproximadamente por 75 años Everence ha trabajado junto a las iglesias y su miembros para habilitar a las personas de fe a "establecer una vida común" por medio de sus decisiones financieras.

Estas conexiones son vitales para nosotros, y tenemos la expectativa de continuar por muchos años más enfocándonos en el bienestar de sus miembros –apoyándoles a crear e implementar planes a la medida para satisfacer sus necesidades y aspiraciones y para que lo puedan compartir con otros.

Los usuarios de la tarjeta MyNeighbor generan contribuciones caritativas

La tarjeta de crédito MyNeighbor (Mi vecino en inglés) generó más de

> \$180.000 en donaciones para organizaciones de caridad desde su inicio con una campaña concertada de mercadeo desde el otoño de 2017 hasta enero de 2018.

La tarjeta de crédito MyNeighbor de Everence está disponible para

uso personal o comercial. Everence dona el 1,5 por ciento del total de cada transacción a la organización caritativa que elija el titular de la tarjeta de una lista de miles de posibilidades incluyendo iglesias. La tarjeta MyNeighbor brinda la oportunidad a sus titulares de elegir una organización sin fines de lucro (el vecino) como receptora de sus contribuciones.

Los titulares de las tarjetas de crédito incluso pueden usar la tarjeta MyNeighbor para realizar donaciones a una organización de caridad, luego asignar a la misma organización como receptora de la contribución de 1,5 por ciento.

La siguiente página web contiene información completa: everence.com/myneighbor.

Subvenciones disponibles para la elaboración de planes financieros integrales

Los pastores(as) experimentan retos financieros particulares y situaciones tales como la reducción de la deuda y la planificación para la jubilación.

Una subvención generosa entregada por Lilly Endowment Inc. hace posible que pastores de la Iglesia Menonita de EE. UU. y de la Conferencia Menonita Conservadora puedan recibir un subsidio de mil dólares para cubrir costos del primer año para la elaboración de un plan financiero integral realizado por Everence. Se solicita que los pastores contribuyan doscientos dólares, costo que las congregaciones pueden cubrir.

- 1 Tesalonicenses 5:11

en efecto ya lo hacen.

Por lo tanto, anímense y ed-

ifíquense unos a otros, como





Además, los pastores activos y acreditados de nuestras iglesias afiliadas pueden recibir la Beca para el Plan Financiero Pastoral valorada en 400 dólares para cubrir el costo del primer año por la elaboración de un plan financiero integral de Everence. Los pastores solo tendrían que cubrir \$400, y la iglesia del pastor se responsabiliza por cubrir los \$800 restantes —la mitad de la cual será reembolsada por medio de la Beca para el Plan Financiero Pastoral.

Cuando colabora con un experto consejero financiero de Everence, usted puede crear un plan financiero que aliviará sus preocupaciones económicas y brindará un mapa para alcanzar sus metas financieras a corto y largo plazo y al mismo tiempo integrará sus decisiones monetarias con su fe y valores.

Fondo Compartido de Everence brinda alivio a las iglesias

Cada año miles de personas reciben ayuda financiera por medio del fondo de generosidad de Everence, el cual suplementa la labor de alcance de las iglesias.

El fondo de generosidad habilita a nuestras iglesias socias para que puedan ayudar a más personas con sus necesidades básicas como servicios médicos, pagos de alquiler, alimentos, ropa y pagos de servicios públicos.

Por ejemplo: el fondo recientemente reembolsó dinero a una iglesia por ayudar a una mujer que necesitaba una cirugía para recuperarse. Ella no podía trabajar durante el periodo de recuperación –ella es la proveedora económica de su familia – cuando se había atrasado con sus pagos de hipoteca.

Su banco trató de quitarle su casa, pero un empleado del banco le informó a la mujer que se mantendría en cumplimiento de sus obligaciones si hacía un pago antes de el fin de mes. Su iglesia hizo el pago y recibió una beca emparejada del fondo de generosidad.

Conozca la rueda del ministerio de mayordomía

Los consultores de mayordomía de Everence apoyan a los representantes eclesiales, pastores y otros líderes eclesiales a que solidifiquen sus labores de mayordomía por medio de la Rueda del Ministerio de Mayordomía de Everence.



La rueda presenta cinco áreas de la mayordomía –planificación del futuro, el relato de nuestra historia, enseñanza de principios de mayordomía, invitación a la participación, y el agradecimiento a los donantes y voluntarios.

Esta herramienta equipará a los líderes eclesiales en su labor de evaluación de las actividades que requieren atención y las que se están realizando bien.

Hable con un promotor o con un consultor de mayordomía de Everence para conocer más.

Los servicios caritativos de Everence están listos para maximizar su generosidad

El futuro de la generosidad es prometedor. Los estadounidenses rompieron records de contribuciones caritativas en 2016 según un informe sobre donaciones en EE. UU. publicado en 2017.

Los servicios caritativos de Everence están preparados para ayudarle a usted y a los demás miembros de su iglesia a cumplir sus objetivos caritativos.

Usted podría ser más generoso de lo que anticipa y al mismo tiempo obtener beneficios fiscales. Nuestros consejeros financieros le pueden ayudar a crear un plan para sus donaciones.

Contacte a su oficina de Everence, visite everence.com/charitable-giving o llame al (800) 348-7468.

La consejería confidencial puede ayudarle con sus deudas y otros retos económicos

Everence se ha asociado con Lutheran Social Service Financial Counseling (consejería financiera de los servicios sociales luteranos) desde 2008 por lo que nuestros miembros y demás personas a las que servimos pueden conseguir con confianza consejería de expertos gratis sobre temas como tarjetas de créditos, deudas por préstamos educativos, prevención de ejecución hipotecaria, y sobre la administración del dinero.

Hasta la fecha, más de 1.100 personas han conseguido esta ayuda, y hasta la fecha de enero 1 de 2017, LSS les ha ayudado a pagar \$1 832 429 en deudas.

Toda persona puede obtener hasta seis consultas de consejería financiera por año por medio de LSS. El servicio es confidencial; LSS solo informa el total de la utilización de sus servicios a Everence, los nombres y detalles personales no se informan nunca.

Llame al (877) 809-0039 para solicitar una fecha para su consulta con un consejero financiero acreditado de LSS.

CELEBRATING CHURCH LIFE HERE AND AROUND THE WORLD

As Global Disciples, we celebrate what God is doing through His Church here and in 46 countries around the world.

And we believe it is through His Church that the name of Jesus will be made known to those who have never heard the Good News. We serve local churches by equipping leaders to prepare disciple-makers who will go out and multiply churches among least-reached peoples. In the last year, more than 1,960 new churches were planted by these leaders.

We celebrate what God is doing to develop and fulfill His vision, using churches and leaders like John T, to carry out the **Great Commission.**

John T leads a discipleship-mission training program in Tanzania. In the last three years, they've trained 40 church planters, who have gone out to take the Gospel to Muslim-dominated communities and people groups. New churches have been planted, many of them meeting under a tree each week. Each small fellowship is seeing good growth, mainly from those who leave Islam to find new life in Jesus Christ.

We want to serve your local church, helping you do your part in reaching least-reached people, and inspiring to daily live out the Great Commission in your own community.

For resources to assist your congregation in engaging with God's heart for the leastreached, please contact Jerry at churchrelations@globaldisciples.org

For a glimpse of Global at work, watch "Hello, I'm Raj!" at https://vimeo.com/globaldisciples

Join Global Disciples at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 24, 2018, for the seminar "Developing an Organic, Systemic Disciple-Making Approach."

'til the whole world knows



Lancaster, PA 17603 • USA Global Disciples.org













Creating business solutions to poverty

Building Bridges to Enduring Livelihoods Working towards a more just and peaceful world



You will improve your lives.

Building a Brighter Future with Soybeans

Assibi Sumani and her husband used to struggle to pay school fees for their five children. They had no money to improve their small leaky straw-roofed house.

Two years ago, Assibi joined MEDA's **GROW** (Greater Opportunities for Rural Women) project. In her first year, she cultivated two acres of soybeans and harvested 10 bags – about 1,000 kg. With the profits, Assibi built a new two-bedroom house.

"My family is not afraid of when the next rain will come. GROW has shown us how to plan and taught us agronomic practices on how to plant soybeans, so we have had a good yield."

In her third year, Assibi hopes for a good harvest to sell her crop, pay school fees and feed her family. She wants to secure her children's future so they will care for their parents in later years.

Assibi's husband is happy his wife is now able to support the family as he has been sick lately and unable to do so. Assibi has seen GROW's benefits and offers this advice to her fellow women farmers: "Take your work seriously. For now, you will not see the benefit - but in the future, you will improve your lives."

Impact by the **Numbers**

MEDA continued to make a lasting impact in 2017, helping 91 million families in 60 countries realize healthier, more economically sustainable lives through our work with 322 partners.





Help support the SDGs through **MEDA**

































Learn more about this endeavor at sustainabledevelopment.un.org

Mennonite Economic Development Associates

Connect with us!

www.meda.org | meda@meda.org Or connect with MEDA through vour local chapter: www.meda.org/lancaster

for more information. 1-800-665-7026





REPORT TO LANCASTER MENNONITE CONFERENCE, Spring 2018

At MennoMedia and Herald Press we publish highly readable, thoughtful curriculum and books on Christian faith, discipleship, spirituality, reconciliation, and theology from an Anabaptist perspective. Our product lines reach a broad spectrum of readers—from evangelical, mainline, and Anabaptist backgrounds—and offer a "third way" approach between the sometimes contentious camps of the culture wars. Our Herald Press books target readers and thinkers who seek to live by Jesus-centered principles and values such as community, simple living, peacemaking, and social justice, as well as people who are curious about Amish and Mennonite communities. Our MennoMedia curricula and periodicals reach congregations that share these same affinities, and cultivate passion for faith formation and an active life of faith rooted in trusting God and following Jesus.

NEW RESOURCES FOR THE ENTIRE CHURCH, FROM HERALD PRESS



As a young Christian, Sarah Quezada had a heart for social justice. She was also blissfully unaware of the real situations facing today's immigrants. Until she met someone new . . . who happened to be undocumented.

In Love Undocumented, Quezada takes readers on a journey deep into the world of the U.S. immigration system. Follow her as she walks alongside her new friend, meets with lawyers, stands at the U.S.-Mexico border, and visits immigrants in detention centers. With wisdom from Scripture, research, and these experiences, Quezada explores God's call to welcome the stranger.

Available January 2018. \$15.99 USD



Your kids are spreading their wings. Are you ready? In *Fledge*, counselor, educator, and mother Brenda L. Yoder helps Christian parents navigate the many transitions of the launching years. How do you parent

tweens at home and young adults away from home at the same time? What's a good balance between boundaries and freedom? How can you pray for your fledgling youth? And what do you do with all that mom grief? Your job as a parent isn't over; it's just changing. Equip yourself with biblical wisdom for this season of transition in your family life.

Available March 2018. \$15.99 USD



The message of Jesus changed the world . . . until the world changed the message. Is a truncated and fragmented version of the good news masquerading as the full, forceful gospel of Jesus? A growing

movement of truth-seekers and Jesus-lovers believe so, and they are calling for a return to the first and foundational message of Jesus. Dig into Scripture with Bruxy Cavey as he unfolds God's message for the world. Learn why you shouldn't follow the Bible—but why you will want to read it to learn how to follow Jesus.

Available in paperback May 8, 2018. \$16.99 USD. Available now in hardback. \$21.99 USD.

A NEW WORSHIP AND SONG COLLECTION

FOR OUR CHURCH

A worship and song collection marks a particular threshold between where the church has been and where the Spirit of God may be leading. It earnestly and prayerfully looks forward. It preserves some of what is familiar while leaning into challenge and prophetic action, to continue



to welcome and inspire worshipers new to the church and those who have been present for many years. As patterns of church life and identity shift from generation to generation, worship rhythms respond to this Spirit-led movement.

HOW MUCH IS IT COSTING TO DEVELOP?

It will cost between \$600,000 and \$700,000 to develop this collection before any sales are made. That includes expenses for a project director, editorial assistant, music editor, text editor, worship editor, and the 14-member volunteer committee working over three years to learn new songs, explore available resources, and consult on the best ones to keep or add to our worship lexicon. Consider a financial gift to come alongside the committee's substantial volunteer effort to bring this project to completion. Learn more, or make a gift via credit card, at MennoMedia.org/Resonate.





REPORTE A LA CONFERENCIA MENONITA DE LANCASTER, primavera 2018

En MennoMedia y Herald Press publicamos currículos y libros altamente legibles y reflexivos sobre la fe cristiana, el discipulado, la espiritualidad, la reconciliación y la teología desde una perspectiva anabautista. Nuestras líneas de productos llegan a un amplio espectro de lectores, desde los evangélicos de linea más tradicional, hasta anabautistas de diferentes transfondos, y ofrecen un enfoque de "tercera opción" entre los campos a veces polémicos de las guerras culturales. Nuestros libros de Herald Press se dirigen a lectores y pensadores que buscan vivir según los principios y valores centrados en Jesús, como la comunidad, la vida sencilla, el establecimiento de la paz y la justicia social, así como a las personas que sienten curiosidad por las comunidades amish y menonita. Nuestros currículos y periódicos de MennoMedia llegan a congregaciones que comparten estas mismas afinidades y cultivan la pasión por la formación en la fe y una vida activa de fe basada en la confianza en Dios y el seguir a Jesús.

NUEVOS RECURSOS PARA TODA LA IGLESIA, DE HERALD PRESS



Como una joven cristiana, Sarah Quezada tenía un corazón para la justicia social. Ella también estuvo dolorosamente inconsciente de las situaciones que enfrentan los inmigrantes de hoy en día. Hasta el día

en que ella conoció a alguien nuevo. . . quien resultó ser indocumentado. En *Love Undocumented*, Quezada lleva a los lectores en un viaje profundo al mundo del sistema de inmigración de los Estados Unidos. Sígala mientras camina junto a su nuevo amigo, se encuentra con abogados, se encuentra en la frontera de México con los Estados Unidos y visita a inmigrantes en centros de detención. Con la sabiduría de las Escrituras, la investigación y estas experiencias, Quezada explora el llamado de Dios para recibir al extranjero entre nosotros.

Disponible en enero del 2018. \$ 15.99 USD



Tus hijos están extendiendo sus alas. ¿Estás listo (a)? En Fledge, la consejera, educadora y madre Brenda L. Yoder, ayuda a los padres cristianos a navegar las muchas transiciones de los años de lanzamiento.

¿Cómo crías hijos gemelos en casa y jóvenes adultos fuera del hogar al mismo tiempo? ¿Cuál sería un buen equilibrio entre los límites y la libertad? ¿Cómo puedes orar por tus jóvenes? ¿Y qué haces con todo ese dolor de mamá? Su trabajo como padre no ha terminado; solo está cambiando. Equípate con sabiduría bíblica para esta temporada de transición en tu vida familiar.

Disponible en marzo de 2018. \$ 15.99 USD



El mensaje de Jesús cambió el mundo. . . hasta que el mundo cambió el mensaje. El mismo es hoy una version truncada y fragmentada de las buenas nuevas que se conoce como un evangelio manipulador e incompleto

de Jesús? Un creciente movimiento de buscadores de la verdad y de amantes de Jesús creen que esto es un error, y están pidiendo un retorno al primario y fundamental mensaje de Jesús. Adéntrate en las Escrituras con Bruxy Cavey mientras desarrolla el mensaje de Dios para el mundo. Aprende qué en realidad no se trata de sólo seguir la Biblia (pero qué querrás leerla con detenimiento para aprender a seguir a Jesús).

Disponible en rústica el 8 de mayo de 2018. \$ 16.99 USD. Disponible ahora en tapa dura. \$ 21.99 USD.

UNA NUEVA COLECCIÓN DE MÚSICA DE ADORACIÓN PARA LA IGLESIA

Una colección de música de adoración y canciones demarca un punto de partida particular entre donde ha estado la iglesia y hacia donde El Espíritu de Dios puede estar guiándola. En un espíritu de oración mira hacia atrás. Conserva algo de lo que es familiar mientras que se inclina hacia el desafío y la acción profética, para continuar dando la bienvenida e inspirando a los fieles nuevos en la iglesia y a aquellos que han estado presentes por muchos años. A medida que los patrones de la vida e identidad de la



iglesia cambian de generación en generación, los ritmos de adoración responden a este movimiento guiado por el Espíritu.

¿CUÁNTO ESTÁ COSTANDO DESARROLLARLO?

Costará entre \$ 600,000 y \$ 700,000 desarrollar esta colección antes de realizar cualquier venta. Eso incluye gastos para un director de proyecto, asistente editorial, editor de música, editor de texto, editor de adoración y el comité de voluntarios de 14 miembros que trabajan durante tres años para aprender nuevas canciones, explorar recursos disponibles y consultar sobre los mejores para mantener o agregar a nuestro léxico de adoración. Considere un regalo financiero para acompañar el esfuerzo voluntario sustancial del comité para completar este proyecto. Obtenga más información o haga un regalo con tarjeta de crédito en MennoMedia.org/Resonate.



2018 REPORT TO LANCASTER MENNONITE CONFERENCE

The mission of MHS is to strengthen and extend Anabaptist-affiliated health and human service organizations. These Lancaster-area organizations belong to our growing network of 80 ministries:

- Fairmount Homes
- Friendship Community
- Garden Spot Village
- Landis Communities (Landis Homes, Steeple View Lofts, Welsh Mountain Home)
- Lighthouse Vocational Services
- Mennonite Home Communities
- No Longer Alone Ministries
- Pleasant View Retirement Community
- Sunny Crest Home
- Tel Hai Retirement Community
- United Zion Retirement Community

Activities

- The Values-based Leadership Program welcomed 28 leaders in the 2017-2018 class. Participants gain self-awareness and an Anabaptist perspective on leadership. Registration for the 2018-2019 class is open at www.vblp.org.
- The annual Mennonite Health Assembly brings staff leaders and board members together for learning, worship and fellowship. The March 2018 Assembly in Pittsburgh, Pa used story-telling and visual arts to highlight the characteristics of resilient Anabaptist organizations.
- We are cooperating with Mennonite Disaster Service and Sistema de Salud Menonita to develop trauma response resources for pastors and other leaders in Puerto Rico following Hurricane Maria.
- Around the Globe We partner with China Christian Council for workshops, learning tours and an Executive Residency Exchange program to support developing senior care services in China.

For Thanksgiving and Prayer

- Finding and keeping qualified and compassionate employees is a significant concern for MHS members across the country. A shortage of caregivers and health care workers is limiting the ability to offer services in some communities.
- We will have a transition in leadership when Karen Lehman becomes CEO of MHS in May 2018.



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 four 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 have come from an abusive background. I am learning how to forgive the ones who hurt me."

A female inmate sent this note, "Thank you for giving me the personal Bible. Reading it gives me hope and understanding. I feel like there is some light in my life. I pray you can continue to reach out to lost souls."

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

Like us on Facebook

(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 18 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.

HUD Approved
Counseling Agency



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 100 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.





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

FY2016-17 Impact Highlights

- 1,226 assessments/referrals were provided for individuals and families in housing crisis
- 281 households experiencing homelessness received relocation assistance and case management to end their homelessness
- Tabor's TLC program provided interim housing and supportive services for 295 individuals experiencing homelessness, including 127 children
- 471 households received financial counseling to improve their financial well-being
- \$864,000 of debt was paid back to creditors through debt management plans
- 127 households facing foreclosure received counseling and assistance to obtain mortgage relief
- 292 households completed homebuyer counseling sessions to prepare to become first-time homeowners
- 642 attended 109 financial education workshops offered this year. ■

Rev. 1/24/18





Letter to Lancaster Mennonite Conference

The Corinthian Plan (TCP) is delighted to continue to serve Lancaster Mennonite Conference (LMC) by offering health coverage and other benefits. In September 2017 Keith Weaver confirmed this intention of the TCP Board to "Grandfather" not only individual congregations or districts already participating, but the Conference as a whole. This is motivated by keeping the pool of coverage larger, but also the desire to nurture ongoing relationships. We appreciate LMC's desire to continue in this relationship.

There are 26 LMC congregations participating with the Corinthian Plan in one way or another:

- 22 offer health coverage for some or all of their pastor(s) and/or staff.
- 4 have no one currently needing coverage, but participate at a reduced level in case coverage is needed in the future
- 2 congregations are receiving subsidies from the 'Fair Balance Fund'. (All participating congregations contribute to this mutual aid program for church plants and other churches needing assistance.)

The Corinthian Plan also offers Wellness resources and a Wellness Incentive of up to \$300 per person. If you are a member, find out how to receive your Incentive at http://mennoniteusa.org/what-we-do/the-corinthian-plan/wellness-incentives/.

We believe that The Corinthian Plan is a practical way of providing Mutual Aid in this time of healthcare uncertainties. The plan remains in a strong financial position. It is 'self-funded' and 'congregationally based'. (It is totally funded by the premiums paid by member congregations.)

We at the Corinthian Plan, (Board, Employees, and Contract Staff) desire that our participating members live a good and healthy life, which begins with a strong relationship with God. As Mark 12: 28- 34 encourages, love the Lord your God with all your heart mind and soul, and one's neighbor as oneself: A good word for a healthy life.

Duncan Smith, TCP Director 2018



THE SHALOM* PROJECT EXISTS to equip our participants to experience God's shalom and extend it into the Lancaster community.

THE SHALOM PROJECT IS a one year voluntary service experience for recent college graduates. Participants live together in a house in Lancaster city, serve the community through full-time, professional internships, and participate in seminars focused on Christian spiritual formation and personal growth. We cover our participants' living expenses during their year with us.

2017 HIGHLIGHTS

Welcoming a group of six participants in August (our largest group so far), who are committed to sharing their gifts in Lancaster, growing spiritually, and engaging in community.

Formation of several new partnerships with local congregations and organizations such as Advoz, Global Disciples, Water Street Mission, Ten Thousand Villages, and the New Holland Early Learning Center.

Hosting a cooking demonstration and meal with the Almahasnehs, a local Syrian refugee family.

*Shalom: wholeness, peace, well-being



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

ShalomLancaster.org

PO Box 1132, Lancaster PA, 17608







OUR IMPACT



8,300+ volunteer hours



50+ group seminars per year



21 community partnerships, and counting



Majority of alumni remain active in Lancaster





PROCLAIMING CHRIST & DISCIPLING INMATES

In 1970, Martin Weber, a farmer from Lancaster, PA, sensed a call to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with men and women behind the prison walls in the state of Alabama. For almost 20 years he followed that call while serving as a chaplain with the Alabama Department of Corrections.

Martin founded the ministry that is known today as We Care Program. We Care Program's primary purpose is training and placing volunteer chaplains in the prison context to fulfill the Great Commission of Jesus Christ.

2017 Highlights...

Chaplaincy...

21 paid chaplains and 6 volunteer associate chaplains served in 20 different facilities. Their influence potentially reached nearly 21,000 inmates. We Care Chaplains taught an average of 20 classes and services each week in addition to assisting with chaplain duties.



ReNew Hope...

This is our largest annual multi-prison outreach event of the year. One day of training followed by four days of ministry: 380 volunteers, 26 institutions, 98 gospel services, 24,500 inmates potentially reached.



Softball Outreach...

The Alabama Department of Corrections allowed 69 We Care volunteers from AL, PA, and GA to compete with inmates in 11 different institutions. They shared short spiritual challenges with the men between each game. Inmates loved the competition.



Donut Days...

7,718 donuts were made for 3,400 inmates and staff in 4 institutions. 30 volunteers got to witness the impact of a free gift and the gospel message shared hand in hand.





Woodcrest Retreat 2017 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.

Woodcrest was blessed by an increased attendance in our summer camp program, with a total of 1,419 campers attending our day and overnight camp programs. We are especially excited about the youth participating in





One day camp child exclaimed to the Bible teacher: "I learned more about Jesus this week than I ever did before!" Another camper commented, "I tear up at worship" and "I felt really close to God, and was reminded that I could give my worries to God."

Another highlight was the opportunity to bless 250 guests through the Hawaiian Luau, a poolside fundraising event with a program featuring "Piercing Word", who gave a dramatic word-for-word presentation of the book of Jonah, complete with throwing Jonah overboard into the pool. We were blessed in return with a very generous offering of over \$ 70,000 toward the Indian Rock Center building project.

Many Spanish churches have discovered Woodcrest to be a perfect fit for both Ladies and Men's weekend retreats. A large number of Mennonite congregations have found the facilities to be an ideal setting for summer weekend retreats and church services.

Woodcrest is especially excited for the newly renovated Indian Rock Center. The new dining room/kitchen/meeting area and separate activity room will nicely accommodate the increased usage of this area by both summer camp and retreat groups. The completion date is set for May, 2018.

The Journey to Bethlehem continues to draw many families to experience the "True" story of Christmas. In December, we had 1,999 guests, despite the cold, snowy weather. The staff is amazed and blessed by the over 130 volunteers who make the "Journey" come alive.

We look forward to what God will continue to do through camp and retreat ministry in the year of 2018!