

**Life Stages Resourcing:** resourcing for all life stages from infant to elderly, single, married, or widowed, in school, at work, or retired. Marcia Mylin is available for ministry resourcing consultation.

**LMC:** a fellowship of about more than 250 congregations three conference agencies, and 21 resource partner organizations. Congregations are located in 5 different countries, in 13 states, and emerging church plants are located around the country. Worship occurs in many different languages.

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

**LMC Office:** 450 Prince Street, in Lancaster The office is open Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.. Everyone is welcome to stop by the office to browse and borrow resources for congregational or personal use.

**Mennonite World Conference:** Global Fellowship of Anabaptist and Mennonite groups from around the world. LMC has been a member since 2018.

**Mission Statement:** A Spirit-led movement to make disciples of Jesus, mobilize every member as a missionary, and multiply faith communities locally and beyond!

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

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

**Shalom Evangelical Church Council: (CIES)** a group of Evangelical churches united in a Council

to proclaim Jesus as Savior and Lord with headquarters in New Holland, PA. The churches are located in the states of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York and Oregon and Mexico, Nicaragua and Costa Rica.

**Shalom News:** published four times per year, the magazine covers the LMC fellowship of churches with stories from congregations and leaders.

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

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

**STEP Study Award:** A scholarship program available to all LMC STEP students.

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

**Web-Site:** [www.lmcchurches.org](http://www.lmcchurches.org): Access to the church directory, congregational openings, regular blog posts, conference announcements, and general information.

**Women's Education Grant:** A new scholarship program that supports training of women for ministry.



# LMC

*a fellowship of anabaptist churches*



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# LMC 411

## Ministries and Resources of LMC

## Nov. 2021

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

# LMC 411: Brief Descriptions of Ministries and Resources

- Acronyms:**

AAILT	African-American Intercultural Leadership Team
BB	Board of Bishops
CC	Credentialing Commission
CEC	Conference Executive Council
CCL	Celebration of Church Life
EMM	Eastern Mennonite Missions
LEG	Leadership Education Grant
LMC	Anabaptist fellowship of over 200 churches in 10 states
LMHS	Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society
LMS	Lancaster Mennonite School
MCC	Mennonite Central Committee
MWC	Mennonite World Conference
SOC	STEP Oversight Commission
SSA	STEP Study Award
STEP	Study & Training for Effective Pastoral Ministry
TCP	The Corinthian Plan
UEG	Urban Education Grant
WEG	Women's Education Grant

**African-American Intercultural Leadership Team:** The African-American Intercultural Leadership Team (AAILT) addresses issues of race and intercultural competence. It has focused leadership attention on racial issues within LMC. Its task is to help move leaders and members of LMC from

minimalization toward acceptance and adaptation in the language of the Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Email Announcements:** an every other week email of information from the conference office to credentialed leaders and congregations sent. To receive this, contact the LMC office.

**EMM:** Eastern Mennonite Missions sends missionaries around the globe. It is the mission arm of LMC.

**Explore the Core:** A 13 session curriculum to explore LMC Anabaptist values in two versions.

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

**Global Delegate:** delegate to the international church bodies with which LMC maintains global relationships in Asia, Africa, Europe, and Central and South America.

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

**Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society:** The Historical Society archives LMC records, includes a library, museum and bookstore and includes the Mennonite Information Center and Tabernacle.

**Landis Communities:** A group of related adult, aging and retirement organizations with facilities located in south central PA.

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

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

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

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