



LMC *a fellowship of anabaptist churches*  
**Shalom NEWS**

JANUARY–MARCH 2022

Apostle  
Prophet  
Evangelist  
Shepherd  
Teacher

*Equipping the  
Church for God's  
Mission*





# Come to the Table

*LMC Celebration of Church Life 2022*

**June 10–12, 2022**

**LMC's Celebration of Church Life will be held at Camp Hebron in Halifax PA.** The multi-day event is designed for the entire family with activities for all ages. The plenary speakers are Adalberto Santiago from Shalom Council and Jeremy Miller from Rosedale Bible College.

Cost for weekend lodging and meals ranges from \$200 (adult) to \$25 (ages 3–17). A Saturday only meal option is available. Those who wish to stay in the campground should reserve their site with Camp Hebron directly at [camphebron.org](http://camphebron.org).

**Registration opens January 15, 2022 at**  
**[lmchurches.org/celebration-of-church-life-2022-registration/](http://lmchurches.org/celebration-of-church-life-2022-registration/)**



Questions? Call LMC at 717-293-5246 ext. 100 or email [information@lmchurches.org](mailto:information@lmchurches.org)



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**ON THE COVER**

Background artwork by

Pawel Czerwinski / Unsplash



Glenn Kauffman and Keith Blank, along with a panel presenting at the Fall 2021 LMC Leadership Assembly. Photo by Sandra Granthon-Roman.

# Leading 'APEST Unction'

*Apostle, Prophet, Evangelist, Shepherd, Teacher (APEST) is embedded in humans as part of the image of God and activated with Spirit power on mission with Jesus*

BY SHERRI MARTIN

**T**he words, 'functioning in God-given unction,' flowed freely at LMC's Fall Leadership Assembly on September 25, 2021. The leadership assembly was planned and facilitated by Supervisor Samuel Lopez, CIES District; Bishop Rodney Martin, Conestoga River District; Bishop Keith Blank, Landisville-Manor District; and Bishop Glenn Kauffman, Washington-Baltimore District. Held at Capital Christian Fellowship in Lanham, Maryland, a unique focus illuminated the day. The worship, fellowship, and speakers centered around Ephesians 4:11-13: *So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.*

As God's church on God's mission, LMC believes that the Holy Spirit is the One who breathes life into a Spirit-led movement to make disciples of Jesus, mobilize every member as a missionary, and multiply faith communities locally and beyond. As the day unfolded, God stirred among His people through a sense of trust in the Spirit and an openness to journey together.

Bishop Glenn Kauffman described "unction" as an old King James word that means "anointing." How do followers of Jesus "function in God-given unction?" It begins with Jesus as Lord dispersing His ministering anointing and impulses among His body. APEST (Apostle, Prophet, Evangelist, Shepherd, Teacher) is an acronym for the strands of the ministering anointing of Jesus mentioned in Ephesians 4. Because there are other biblical texts that speak to spiritual gifts, spiritual fruit, and character, Bishop

Glenn stated, “APEST is not proof-texting from Ephesians 4. Rather, Ephesians 4 is a portal through which to see APEST flowing throughout the New Testament. Each disciple in the church carries a portion of the anointing of the Anointed One. APEST is embedded in humans as part of the image of God and activated with Spirit power as we begin and grow as disciples on mission with Jesus.” Glenn provided a summary titled, *APEST Functions for God’s Church on God’s Mission*, compiled from several of Alan Hirsch’s works. All APEST unctions hold vision. It is simply carried with specific motivation and is designed to team with the other unctions to produce the fruitfulness that God desires.

### **APOSTLE: Sees far. “Go and makes disciples” Mt. 28:19**

- Sent one – Sending one
- Ambassador
- Pioneer function of the Church
- Extends Christianity as a healthy – integrated – innovative – reproducing movement – ever expanding into new cultures – and from generation to generation
- Guardian of the essential DNA of God’s mission in the world
- Focus solely on initiating new ideas and rapid expansion without caring for and nurturing people (shepherd and teaching function) can leave people wounded

### **PROPHET: Sees truth. “I AM the way, the truth, and the life...” Jn. 14:6**

- Absolute loyalty and faithfulness to God above all
- Guardian of the covenant relationship of God and His people
- Living life consistent with the covenant and challenge the dominant assumptions we inherit from the culture
- Justice – Spiritual warfare – Holiness
- Without other APEST leaders in place prophets can become belligerent activist or disengage from relevant relationships

### **EVANGELIST: Sees wide. “Come and see” Jn. 1:39**

- Proclamation of the good news
- Core message of the church received by various groups of people and cultures
- Storyteller, recruiter to the cause
- Enlist people into what God is doing in and through the church
- Focus on those outside the church can bring neglect to maturing and strengthening those inside

### **SHEPHERD: Sees whole. “Abide in Me and I in you.” Jn. 15:4**

- Maintaining and developing healthy community and enriching relationships
- Form a saintly people, nurture spiritual maturity, communal health, mature network of relationship, protect God’s flock
- Can value stability to the detriment of mission and foster unhealthy dependency upon themselves

### **TEACHER: Sees deep. “You have heard it was said, but I say to you...” Mt. 5:27-28**

- Understands, explains and communicates God’s Truth and wisdom that helps to train and guide
- Integrates the intellectual and spiritual—encoding it so it can be passed from generation to generation (develops doctrine)
- Left alone, can fall into dogmatism or dry intellectualism; may fail to see personal or missional aspects of the Church’s ministry

Vibrant conversation in small groups centered around APEST unction and missional movement. It was less about information and more about impartation. What was heard? What does the Holy Spirit desire to recreate within us? How do we flow with Him in this movement? Grappling through questions in small groups was enlightening, considering a broader context. Two experiences were shared where missional movement, multiplication, and APEST unction are flourishing within distinct parts of LMC and the world.

Bishop Rodney Martin, with a small group of LMC Bishops, traveled to Ethiopia in 2019 to visit leaders in Meserete Kristos Church (MKC). MKC grew out of Eastern Mennonite Missions in the 1950’s post-WWII. Within their highly structured and organized network of churches, MKC has multiplication in their DNA. As soon as a church is established or planted, it begins its own process of multiplication. When the Bishops arrived for their two-week visit, there were 38 regional offices. When they departed, there were 40. MKC reported 1000+ church plants. MKC gives every indication of a Spirit-led, missional movement.

Supervisor Samuel Lopez spoke about a trip that he and Pastor Hugo Garcia, mission director of the Shalom Council (CIES) took in 2019. Traveling to Tikka, Kenya to attend the annual IMA meeting, they stayed on to participate in an evangelistic outreach sponsored by Global Outreach Ministries. Thousands of believers from many denominations were evangelizing in the cities of Kenya resulting in thousands of new believers receiving Jesus Christ’s gift of salvation. Supervisor Samuel said, “We began to pray and ask God, what can we do here in the US?





Bishops Rodney Martin (left) and Jim Sutton meet MKC Leaders in Ethiopia. Photo by Tom Eshelman.

What is the challenge for our Spanish Churches?" By the leading of Holy Spirit and a call to unity, a team was formed to develop a new vision for Shalom Council. Although the composition of the group was never talked about between Supervisor Samuel and Pastor Hugo, the leading of Holy Spirit was evidenced by its APEST DNA. Supervisor Samuel said, "In the body of Christ we all are needed to function and carry out the mission. One thing we are sure, God will do great things beyond our understanding. That's our faith and that's our hope. Brothers and sisters, we need to recapture the call of Jesus." Ephesians 4:2-3 gives us a picture of God's will for unity in the body of Christ. "When these characteristics are practiced in our churches, in our families, and in our conference, then we can say we are living a true Christian unity. Love is essential to move us."

*"In the body of Christ we all are needed to function and carry out the mission. One thing we are sure, God will do great things beyond our understanding. That's our faith and that's our hope."*

the movement of the Spirit increases and is realized, Christian communities are inspired to shake off their collective securities and form themselves around a common mission that calls them to an adventurous journey to unknown places. Lord Jesus, may it be so! ■



*Sherri Martin and her husband Mel live in Ephrata and are members of Weaverland Anabaptist Faith Community where she serves on the Elder Team. Sherri is also on staff at LMC.*



## VIDEO SERIES ONLINE

### Alan Hirsch: *The DNA of Gospel Movement*

In these seven videos, Alan Hirsch articulates the DNA of Gospel Movements and the dynamics that lead to the rapid, indigenous multiplication of the gospel.

[vergenetwork.org/2010/10/10/alan-hirsch-the-dna-of-gospel-movements-videos/](http://vergenetwork.org/2010/10/10/alan-hirsch-the-dna-of-gospel-movements-videos/)



# Dirijan APEST Onksyon

PA SHERRI MARTIN

Mos sa yo, 'fonksyone nan onksyon Bondye bay,' te koule lib nan Asanble Lidèchip Otòn LMC a nan dat 25 septanm 2021. Sipèvizè Samuel Lopez, Distri CIES, te planifye ak fasilete asanble lidèchip la; Evèk Rodney Martin, Distri Rivyè Conestoga; Bishop Keith Blank, distri Landisville-Manor; ak Evèk Glenn Kauffman, Distri Washington-Baltimore. Ki te fèt nan Capital Christian Fellowship nan Lanham, Maryland, yon konsantre inik te eklere jounen an. Adorasyon an, di Bondye mès, ak oratè yo te santre nan Efezyen 4:11-13 Se konsa, Kris la li menm te bay apot yo, pwofèt yo, evanjelis yo, pastè yo ak enstriktè yo, ekipe pèp li a pou travay nan sèvis, yon fason pou kò Kris la ka vin. bati jiskaskè nou tout rive nan inite nan lafwa ak nan konesans Pitit Bondye a epi vin matirite, rive nan tout mezi plenitid Kris la.



Small group conversation at the LMC Fall Leadership Assembly. Photo by Sandra Granthon-Roman.

Kòm legliz Bondye nan misyon Bondye a, LMC kwè ke Sentespri a se Sila a ki bay lavi nan yon mouvman Lespri Bondye dirije pou fè disip Jezi, mobilize chak manm kòm misyonè, ak multipliye kominote lafwa lokalman ak pi lwen. Pandan jounen an t ap dewoule, Bondye te ajite nan mitan pèp li a grasa yon sans konfyans nan Lespri a ak yon ouvèti pou vwayaje ansanm.

Evèk Glenn Kauffman te deklare "onksyon" kòm yon ansyen mo Wa Jak ki vle di "wenksyon." Ki jan disip Jezi yo "fonksyone nan onksyon Bondye bay?" Li kòmanse avèk Jezi kòm Senyè k ap gaye wenksyon ministè l ak enpilsyon l nan mitan kò li. APEST (Apot, Pwofèt, Evanjelis, Bèje, Anseyan) se yon akwonim pou seksyon wenksyon ministè Jezi ki mansyone nan Efezyen 4. Paske gen lòt biblik tèks ki pale de don espirityèl, fwi espirityèl, ak karaktè, Evèk Glenn te deklare, «APEST se pa tèks prèv ki soti nan Efezyen 4. Olye de sa, Efezyen 4 se yon pòtal nan kote yo wè APEST ap koule nan tout Nouvo Testaman an. Chak disip nan la. legliz pote yon pati nan wen moun Bondye chwazi a. APEST entegre nan imen kòm yon pati nan imaj Bondye a ak aktive ak pouvwa Lespri Bondye a pandan n ap kòmanse ak grandi kòm disip nan misyon avèk Jezi." Glenn te bay yon rezime ki gen tit, APEST Functions for God's Church on God's Mission, ki te konpile apati plizyè nan travay Alan

Hirsch yo. Tout onksyon APEST yo gen vizyon. Li tou senpleman pote ak motivasyon espesifik epi li fèt pou ekipe ak lòt onksyon yo pou pwodui fwitye sa a. Bondye vle. Bishop Glenn te pataje yon lis kalite yo jwenn nan chak onksyon APEST. Li ka jwenn nan vèsyon an angle nan atik sa a.

Konvèsasyon vibran nan ti gwoup santre sou onksyon APEST ak mouvman misyonè. Li te mwens sou enfòmasyon ak plis sou impartition. Kisa ki te tande? Ki sa Lespri Sen an vle rekreye nan nou? Ki jan nou koule avè l nan mouvman sa a? Lite nan kesyon an ti gwoup te eklere, konsidere yon kontèks pi laj. Yo te pataje de eksperyans kote mouvman misyonè, multiplikasyon, ak onksyon APEST ap fleri nan diferan pati nan LMC ak mond lan.

Evèk Rodney Martin, avèk yon ti gwoup Evèk LMC, te vwayaje nan peyi Letiopi an 2019 pou vizite lidè yo nan Meserete Kristos Church (MKC). MKC te grandi nan Misyon Mennonit lès yo nan ane 1950 yo apre Dezyèm Gè a. Nan rezon legliz yo trè estriktire ak òganize, MKC gen multiplikasyon nan ADN yo. Le pli vit ke yon legliz etabli oswa plante, li kòmanse pwòp pwosesis multiplikasyon li. Lè Evèk yo te rive pou vizite de semèn yo, te gen 38 biwo rejyonal yo. Lè yo pati, te gen 40. MKC rapòte plis pase 1000 plant legliz. MKC bay tout endikasyon yon mouvman misyonè Lespri Bondye a.

Sipèvizè Samuel Lopez te pale de yon vwayaj li menm ak Pastè Hugo Garcia, direktè misyon Konsèy Shalom (CIES) te fè an 2019. Yo te vwayaje nan Tikka, Kenya pou ale nan reyinyon anyèl IMA a, yo te rete pou yo patisipe nan yon kontak evanjelizasyon patwone pa. Ministè Global Outreach. Plizyè milye kwayan ki soti nan plizyè denominasyon t ap evanjelize nan vil Kenya yo, sa ki lakòz plizyè milye nouvo kwayan te resevwa kado delivrans Jezikri. Sipèvizè Samuel te di «nou te kòmanse priye epi mande Bondye, kisa nou ka fè isit Ozetazini? Ki defi pou Legliz Panyòl nou yo?" Pa dirije Sentespri ak yon apèl pou inite, yo te fòme yon ekip pou devlope yon nouvo vizyon pou Konsèy Shalom. Malgre ke konpozisyon gwoup la pa t janm pale ant Sipèvizè Samuel ak Pastè Hugo, dirijan Sentespri a te pwouve pa ADN APEST li yo. Sipèvizè Samuel te di, "Nan kò Kris la nou tout bezwen pou fonksyone ak akonpli misyon an. Yon bagay nou sèten, Bondye pral fè gwo bagay ki depase konpreyansyon nou. Se lafwa nou e se espwa nou. Frè m ak sè m yo, nou bezwen repran apèl Jezi a." Efezyen 4:2-3 ban nou yon foto sou volonte Bondye pou inite nan kò Kris la. "Lè yo pratike karakteristik sa yo nan legliz nou yo, nan fanmi nou, ak nan konferans nou an, lè sa a nou ka di n ap viv yon vrè inite kretyen. Lanmou esansyèl pou fè nou deplase."

Bishop Keith Blank te fini sesyon maten an lè li mete aksan sou karakteristik sis mouvman, ADN debaz ki nesèse pou yon mouvman misyonè. Alan Hirsch idantifye sis sa yo kòm dinamik ki mennen nan multiplikasyon rapid, endijèn levanjil la. Pandan mouvman Lespri a ap ogmante epi yo reyalize, kominote kretyen yo enspire pou yo souke sekirite kolektif yo epi fòme tèt yo alantou yon misyon komen ki rele yo nan yon vwayaj avantur nan kote enkonni. Seyè Jezi, se pou sa se konsa! ■



# Some Appointed as Pastors

BY PASTOR HUGO GARCIA

**M**y beginnings in the pastoral ministry with my wife, Ivania García, began on March 27, 1994, at the Manantial de Vida Evangelical Mennonite Church, in Camden, New Jersey. My calling was confirmed by my pastor and by the congregation when I had barely decided to follow Jesus Christ three years earlier. I was only 27 years old. I could personally say that the Lord prematurely set me apart for this beautiful privilege. The Bible says in Ephesians 4:11 *“And He himself appointed some, apostles; to others, prophets; to others, evangelists; to others, pastors and teachers.”*

I had an internal battle to accept this call and I had three important reasons, which I considered very strong, to decline the opportunity.

1. I was a recent convert, and was just beginning to serve the Lord. I considered myself immature, but the congregation and the leaders were observing in me some gifts that I had not seen, from which they discerned that I could be the pastor (Exodus 3:11).
2. I was very young. Apart from my few years as a Christian, at 27, I considered myself too young to pastor the congregation. However, they understood that when God calls, age is not an impediment (Jeremiah 1: 6-7).
3. My third argument was that I was undocumented. Lacking proper immigration documents, I concluded I could not lead the congregation. I considered it inappropriate. However, God used the Spanish Council's leaders to help me see that if God called me, God would also take care of all these matters for me, and God did.

All my arguments were thwarted by God. I had no choice but to accept the divine call. After starting, however, the struggles began. Some leaders of that small congregation of about 25, who had supported my call before, started fighting me. To discourage me from continuing in the pastoral ministry, they used precisely the same arguments I used before I accepted the call. However, I stood firm despite the battles, aware and sure of my divine call. Perhaps 90% of the congregation withdrew from the church. But my wife and I stood firm with the support of God and the backing of the few brothers who remained and believed in our calling.

We started from scratch, and we worked hard. God continued to guide us and gave us a vision for the work God was calling us to do. We developed that vision to the best of our ability. The

church began to grow again, new people were added, and God was glorified. Growth and multiplication in our church continued, and God attested to the growth with miracles. God continues to confirm our ministry with miracles to this day. After almost 28 years as a pastor, we

have maintained a baptized membership of more than 130 people, and God continues to add more. God has been gracious to us. We work not only with our congregation, but also support other ministries within the city.

Today our congregation has a variety of ministries to meet the needs of different groups of people, both in the church and in the city. We are currently working on the remodeling of our facilities to accommodate a greater capacity, to receive more people. Sunday attendance is about 175, and on weekdays, attendance averages 100. We give all the glory to God. We believe that God has many more things for us. *Shalom.* ■

*Pastors Hugo and Ivania García, lead the Manantial de Vida Evangelical Mennonite Church in Camden, New Jersey. They are originally from Nicaragua and God has blessed them with three children. The Manantial de Vida congregation is a multicultural and dynamic church, which has several ministries to serve the members of the congregation and the needs of the community. You can find us through Facebook (Iglesia Evangélica Menonita Manantial de Vida) or visit us [lmcchurches.org/directory/iglesia-manantial-de-vida](http://lmcchurches.org/directory/iglesia-manantial-de-vida).*



Jesus Christ is made known to humanity. Congregation of Manantial de Vida walked the streets sharing the Gospel of peace. Photo provided by the author.



*Tout agiman mwen yo te antrave Bondye. Mwen pa te gen okenn chwa ke aksepte apèl diven an.*

# LMC'S MISSION FOR MANY LANGUAGES

## Haitian Creole

### Condwi pa Espri Sin

- **Fe anpil disip pou Jezi**
- **Mobilize chak manm kom missioner**
- **Multiplié foi kretyin yo lokal e lot kote**

### CHURCH OF GOD PRINCE OF PEACE, MIAMI

BY BISHOP HILAIRE LOUIS JEAN

Church of God Prince of Peace began in 1998. Our mission is to seek souls for Jesus and to encourage and connect people to Jesus and to one another. The congregation provides services in Haitian Creole for Haitian immigrants in the United States. They find encouragement, inspiration, and hope for their lives. Sunday school starts at 9:00 am and the worship service begins at 10:30 am. Join us at 210 NE 119 Street, Miami Florida 33161.

Since we are located in a multicultural area, Church of God Prince of Peace offers four multilingual services each year. These services were canceled due to COVID-19 the last two years. However, we are planning a multilingual service for early 2022. Church of God Prince of Peace is convinced that no one should be born, live and die without hearing the word of God. God called us to make disciples for the Lord Jesus Christ in communities where Jesus is least known.

Despite the difficult times, including COVID-19, the members are committed to a beautiful, new building project. We know that hard work brings good things to those who hustle. The journey has not been easy, but the Lord is faithful. Pray for us because we believe miracles happen.

### HAITIAN CREOLE

A creole language is believed to arise from the simplifying and mixing of different languages into a new one within a fairly brief period of time. Typically adults develop a pidgin language as a second language for use in commerce or other purposes. When the pidgin language becomes the native and primary language of their children and becomes formalized, it is referred to as a creole. The pidgin to creole cycle was studied by American linguist Robert Hall in the 1960s. Like any language, creoles are characterized by a consistent system of grammar, possess large stable vocabularies, and are acquired by children as their native language.

Linguists estimate 100 or so creole languages have arisen since 1500. Many of them emerged due to European colonialism and the Atlantic slave trade. Some of these are based on English or French. Other language roots include Arabic, Chinese, and Malay. Haitian Creole has the largest number of speakers with over ten million native speakers. Haitian Creole is based on French. Tok Pisin (pidgin talk), is the second largest creole from Papua New Guinea, and it has a strong English root with about 5 million speakers.



Pastor Hilarie Louis Jean preaching the Gospel at Church of God Prince of Peace in Miami, FL. Photos provided by Hilarie Louis Jean.



Outside the building of Church of God Prince of Peace in Miami, FL.



Worship service in the Church of God Prince of Peace building that is under construction.



# American Sign Language

## A Spirit-led movement to:

- **Make disciples of Jesus.**
- **Mobilize every member as a missionary.**
- **Multiply faith communities locally and abroad!**

## FIRST DEAF MENNONITE CHURCH

BY DEBRA HOFFER

First Deaf Mennonite Church was formed by parents of deaf children in 1945. It is entering its 77th year in 2022. Parents wanted their children to know about Jesus in their own language, which is American Sign Language (ASL). They can worship and know about Jesus. Jesus knows all languages. Praise the Lord that we can know and worship Jesus Christ our Lord. During worship at First Deaf, the pastor uses ASL and powerpoint to preach and share God's message. Each Sunday we have a worship leader and songleader from the congregation. The song leader uses ASL and sometimes uses a rhythm box so we can feel the beats to make music. Voice interpretation is provided for the hearing who worship with us. Average attendance is between 15-20 members and attendees. First Deaf is in partnership with Witmer Heights Mennonite Church. Both congregations share the building. One congregation worships while the other has Sunday School. Then the groups switch.

Keystone Deaf and Hard of Hearing Service rents two rooms in the basement. This service provides expertise, interpretation, and services for deaf and hard of hearing people in our community. Keystone Deaf has Deaf Game Night for the community. We start with devotions, then play games, eat snacks, and have fellowship.

Isaiah 29:18 — *And in that day shall the deaf hear the words of the book...*



Pastor Chuck Snyder sharing God's message.  
Photos provided by Jonathan Stoltzfus.



Worship at First Deaf Mennonite Church.

## AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE

American Sign Language (ASL) is a complete, formal language with the same linguistic properties as spoken languages. ASL is expressed by movements of the hands, face and body. It is the primary language of many North Americans who are deaf and hard of hearing. ASL is a language completely separate and distinct from English, and it does not have a written form. Sign language users still need to learn the written language of their region. Different sign languages are used in different countries or regions. For example, British Sign Language is a different language from ASL, and Americans who know ASL may not understand BSL.

The beginnings of ASL are not clear. Some suggest it emerged about two centuries ago with the intermixing of local sign languages and French Sign Language (like a creole). Modern ASL has evolved into a rich, complex, and mature language with its own rules for pronunciation, word formation, and word order. Just like other languages, ASL has regional accents and dialects with variations in the rhythm of signing, pronunciation, slang, and signs used. Fingerspelling is part of ASL and can spell out English words. In the fingerspelled alphabet, each letter corresponds to a distinct handshape. Fingerspelling is often used for proper names or to indicate the English word for something.



Song leader Jan Hoffer leading worship.

# FROM AROUND LMC

*Congregations who would like to report briefly on events in their congregation should send a descriptive paragraph and a high resolution picture to [smartin@LMCchurches.org](mailto:smartin@LMCchurches.org).*

## ONLINE MINISTRY TRAINING

LMC now offers a variety of online classes for Bible study and for Anabaptist history, theology, and spirituality. William Higgins, LMC resource staff, leads these hybrid in-person and online classes. Studies in Scripture classes include *Learning How to Pray: The Lord's Prayer*; *Study of the Sermon on the Mount: Matthew 5-7*; and *Gospel of Mark 1-3*. The Reading Groups classes include studies of Anabaptist Classics and Anabaptist Spirituality. Lastly, the Anabaptist Faith and Practice classes explore belief and life as Anabaptist Christians. For the list of current options check the LMC website homepage or for more information or to register contact William at [whiggins@lmcchurches.org](mailto:whiggins@lmcchurches.org).

## TIM ANNUAL MEETING

Training in Ministry (TiM) program leaders met virtually for the annual conference on *Training in Ministry* in October. TiM was developed jointly by LMC, CMC, and Rosedale Bible College. The meeting reviewed the partnership, the program, and ways to continue to utilize the program more fully by each ministry. The program includes 16 ten-week courses organized in five tracks. Courses are eligible for LMC education grants. For more information about TiM, contact Jeff McClain at [jmclain@rosedale.edu](mailto:jmclain@rosedale.edu).

## DISCOVERY

The *Discovery* course, an eight-session basic discipleship process, moved online in 2021. Congregations and districts can now access this material through Google Classroom. In addition, there is an electronic PDF version of *Discovery* that is available. *Discovery* aids the ability of a disci-

ple to hear God in their personal walk. *Discovery* is now also available in a Spanish PDF document and a Spanish version of Google Classroom.



## ANNUAL RECEPTION

The first annual reception for resource partner organizations took place in September. Eleven of the 21 resource partners gathered to peruse six LMC information stations and a drop-in lunch. Last year's reception was canceled due to the pandemic. In lieu of a reception with lunch, LMC sent gift boxes to each organization. For information about the resource partner process or to enroll as a resource partner, contact Sherri Martin at the LMC office.

## MISSIONFEST

First Mennonite Church in Berne, IN held their annual Mission Festival during the week of November 7-14. In the life of the church, this is a much-anticipated week. We appreciate watching the contributions pour in as we work to meet or exceed our financial goal, which helps to support 13 missionary families and other mission initiatives. This year, we surpassed our goal for the second year in a row. Omar Guzman a Garifuna church leader, pastor, and church multiplier spoke during the event. Guzman is a member of the Manhattan Mennonite Garifuna Church in New York.

## CONGREGATIONAL TRAUMA VIDEO BOOK

Weaverland Anabaptist Faith Commu-



nity experienced the arrest of one of its credentialed leaders in early 2021. *Grace in Crisis* was created as a series of eight to fourteen minute video chapters to explore the feelings and challenges related to the events following the arrest. The chapters describe the emotions that the trauma evoked and the ministry response of leadership as they navigated this crisis in congregational life. The podcasts are available at the LMC Youtube page in the About Time to Talk playlist ([youtube.com/user/2160LMC](https://youtube.com/user/2160LMC)).

## BISHOP INSTALLATION IN GREAT LAKES WEST DISTRICT OF LMC

Members of the Great Lakes West District's congregations gathered at North Leo Mennonite Church for the installation of a new bishop, M. John Nissley, on September 12, 2021. The service opened with worship led by a team from First Mennonite Church from Berne, Indiana, which featured piano, organ, and brass accompaniment. Members of the Bishop Discernment Committee shared an overview of the discernment process. Retiring Bishop Jim Sutton was honored for his effective leadership in the formation of the Great Lakes West District. Keith Weaver, LMC Moderator, shared a brief meditation from Ephesians 4 and led in the Installation ceremony. Participants had an opportunity to meet Bishop John following the service over light refreshments.



# NEWS NOTES

## CREDENTIAL ACTIVITY

The following men and women were licensed, ordained, or installed in recent months.

**Laurie Mellinger** was ordained as chaplain at West End Fellowship in Lancaster, PA.

**Paulus Thalathoti** (*Sumatha*) was installed as lead pastor at Norma Mennonite Church in Philadelphia, PA..

**Patrick Miller** (*Emily*) was licensed toward ordination as youth pastor at Martins Creek Mennonite Church in Millersburg, OH.

**Rick Socks** (*Ashley*) was licensed toward ordination as associate pastor at Bethel Community Church in Warfordsburg, PA.

Note - Timothy and Lorri Bentsch's credentials were listed incorrectly in the October 2021 issue of Shalom News. We apologize for the error. The correct credentials are listed below. — SN Editorial Team

**Lorri Bentsch** (*Timothy*) was licensed toward ordination as EMM mission team director, Mountville Mennonite Church in Mountville, PA.

**Timothy Bentsch** (*Lorri*) ordination was affirmed as Global Disciples global worship specialist, Mountville Mennonite Church in Mountville, PA.

## NEW GRANT OPTIONS

In 2020, LMC received several significant bequests. As a result, the LMC Finance Committee is in the process of creating a new grant award process that will expand grants to other areas besides education. Options for new grants may include missional ministry grants for congregations and leaders and health and wellness grants for pastors and their families. The plan is for the new grant system to be in place sometime in 2022.

## CONFERENCE MINISTER



Adalberto Santiago will begin as the new Conference Minister on Dec. 1, 2021. Santiago and his wife, Jenny are co-pastors of Congregación Menonita Shalom in New Columbia, Pa. They have four children. He also serves as a Supervisor in CIES leadership and on the LMC Bishop Board. He was elected as secretary of LMC in 2021. He served several terms on the LMC Credentialing Commission.

## LMC CONTACT UPDATES

With LMC moving to 450 N. Prince St., here is an update on contact information. LMC's office phone (717-293-5246), website

([www.lmcchurches.org](http://www.lmcchurches.org)), and email ([information@lmcchurches.org](mailto:information@lmcchurches.org)) all stay the same. The new LMC offices are located at 450 N. Prince Street, Lancaster, PA. Mail will not be delivered to this physical address. The new LMC mailing address is LMC, P.O. Box 1635, Lancaster PA 17608-1635.

## CHILD PROTECTION REMINDER

Local Child Protection Teams are encouraged to keep their policies up to date and in force. Keep all personnel background checks within the five-year window. Execute any training regimen your policy requires. Keep your Child Protection team fully active. If your congregation does not have a Child Protection policy, contact the LMC office to learn how you can put a policy in place. For more information contact the LMC office.

## RETIREMENTS

**Brinton Rutherford** retired in November after 15 years as Resource Staff. Prior to his work at LMC, he served as director of the Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society.



**Dale Stoltzfus** retired in December as LMC Conference Minister after 15 years of service. He was instrumental in the creation of the Credentialing Commission. He held many positions in LMC and the broader Mennonite church over the years including, LMC bishop in the Landisville district, Conference Minister in Allegheny Conference of Mennonite Church USA, and ministerial leadership in the MC USA denominational office.

**Paul Nisly** retired as Credentialing Commission Chair after nine years of service.



## LMC LEGACY FOUNDATION GRANTS AVAILABLE

The Legacy Foundation is a vital ministry of LMC created to promote hope, healing, and wholeness through Christ-centered behavioral healthcare in our community. We accomplish this by providing grants to support initiatives that nurture mental health, resilience, and innovation. Our desire is to inspire innovation and the development of outcome-based initiatives that result in mental wellness through the healing ministry of Jesus Christ. We are eager to receive grant requests. Learn more about the LMC Legacy Foundation and the grant application process at [lmc-legacyfoundation.org](http://lmc-legacyfoundation.org)



# UPCOMING EVENTS

Complete calendar and more details available at [LMCchurches.org](http://LMCchurches.org).

## Virtual Monday Night Prayer Gathering

Every first Monday of each month  
7:00–8:00 p.m. via Zoom  
717-293-5246

## Women's Prayer Gathering

Every first Friday of each month  
8:00–9:00 a.m.  
LMC at 450 N. Prince St. Lancaster, Pa.  
717-293-5246

## Multiplication Prayer Team

January 6, 2022, 7:00–8:30 p.m.  
Harvest Room, Landis Homes, Lititz, Pa.  
717-293-5246

## Newly Credentialed Leader's Orientation

April 14, 2022, 6:30–8:30 p.m.  
LMC at 450 N. Prince Street, Lancaster and  
virtual, 717-293-5246 ext. 102

## Spring Leadership Assembly

April 29, 2022  
On location (TBA) and virtual

## STEP Graduation

May 14, 2022  
Location TBA

## LMC Celebration of Church Life 2022

June 10–12, 2022  
Camp Hebron, Pa.  
On location and virtual



**LEAD OTHERS INTO LIFE  
IN THE KINGDOM OF GOD**

Develop your ministry and leadership skills next summer while giving oversight to middle school and high school youth as together we invite the Kingdom of God to grow in and around us in Lancaster city. Serve for two months in the summer by facilitating week-long experiences for youth groups.

For more information visit  
[EMM.ORG/KTEAMSUMMERSTAFF](http://EMM.ORG/KTEAMSUMMERSTAFF)  
or contact Krista Martin  
at [krista.martin@emm.org](mailto:krista.martin@emm.org).

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Lititz, PA | 717.381.3500  
[LandisCommunities.org](http://LandisCommunities.org)



*Enjoying*  
Our Lives

## Considering the STEP program? Sensing God's call?

You are invited to join an upcoming STEP class for a taste for how these classes could encourage and strengthen your discipleship journey.

**Classes meet one Saturday per month from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.**  
at 450 N Prince Street, Lancaster, PA

Contact Marcia at  
[mmylin@lmchurches.org](mailto:mmylin@lmchurches.org)  
for more information.

