

RadiX: A virtual learning platform. EMM and LMC collaborate to offer training and discipleship classes.

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.

Social Media: LMC can be found on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube. LMC's YouTube has a large number of video resources for leaders and congregations.

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.

Studies in Scripture: In-depth studies of key Biblical passages. In each the goal is to understand Scripture better, learn how to interpret Scripture, learn to hear the Spirit speak to us through Scripture, and grow in faithfulness.

The Corinthian Plan (TCP): affordable insurance for pastors and leaders.

Web-Site: www.lmcchurches.org: Access to the church directory, events, congregational openings, regular blog posts, conference announcements, and general information.



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LMC 411

Ministries and Resources of LMC

January 2023

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
CCL	Celebration of Church Life
CC	Credentialing Commission
CEC	Conference Executive Council
EMM	Eastern Mennonite Missions
ILM	Intercultural Leadership Ministry
LMC	Anabaptist fellowship of over 250 churches in 13 states & 5 countries
MWC	Mennonite World Conference
STEP	Study & Training for Effective Pastoral Ministry
TCP	The Corinthian Plan

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)

Anabaptist Faith & Practice Classes: These explore important Anabaptist-Mennonite themes biblically, historically and theologically. Topics include believer's baptism, loving enemies and a Christocentric reading of the Bible, as well as Anabaptist history.

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.

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.

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 disciple.

Districts: all congregations in LMC are geographically divided into districts, each led by a bishop or bishop team. 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.

Grants: Scholarship funds or tuition assistance to support students. The application can be found on the LMC website.

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

Intercultural Leadership Ministry: Pursuing justice through helping LMC to dismantle racism, equip leaders to become interculturally competent, and promoting resources and tools to equip followers of Jesus.

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

Leadership Assembly Resourcing: held twice a year usually on the third Friday of May and the last Saturday in 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.

LMC: a fellowship of about more than 250 congregations, four conference agencies, and 20 resource partner organizations. Congregations are located in 5 different countries, in 13 states, and a number of emerging church plants. 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 am. to 4 pm. Everyone is welcome to stop by the office to visit the staff or receive a tour.

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 God's mission in the world and partner with Him.

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

Resource partner organizations: Organizations that have a close relationship with LMC and receive benefits.