



LMC *a fellowship of anabaptist churches*

Shalom NEWS

APRIL–JUNE 2024



Engaging the Mystery
New Ways of Worship and Connections



LMC *Spring* LEADERSHIP ASSEMBLY

Friday, May 3, 2024

8:30 a.m. arrival, program from 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Location: Mellinger Mennonite Church, 1916 Lincoln Hwy E, Lancaster PA

Theme: *The Kingdom where Jesus is King!*

A detailed schedule will be available soon. Please check the LMC website for more information or contact Marcia at mmylin@lmcchurches.org



April–June 2024

Issue 2 / Volume 44

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ON THE COVER

Main photo: Motley Church meeting at Hub 450 in Lancaster.

Engaging the Mystery

New Ways of Worship & Connection

BY ROBERT BRODY

We loved you so much that we shared with you not only God's Good News but our own lives, too. — 1 Thessalonians 2:8 (NLT)

New Danville Mennonite Church has been on a journey to learn how to live out the Scriptures. In 1 Thessalonians 2:8, Paul writes to the church in Thessalonica to encourage them, as followers of Jesus, to engage in the mystery of God's Good News. New Danville has had a rich 300+ year history, and like many churches today, found itself in a slow decline over the last few decades.

More recently, with renewed vision and relationships, the church started to grow again, almost doubling in size. We sent people out to help with two other churches in our area who had also been struggling, and then the pandemic hit. Like so many other churches, our attendance dropped again. Even before the

pandemic, we recognized that New Danville's format was not a fit for everyone. The pandemic made us take a hard look at what really makes a church.

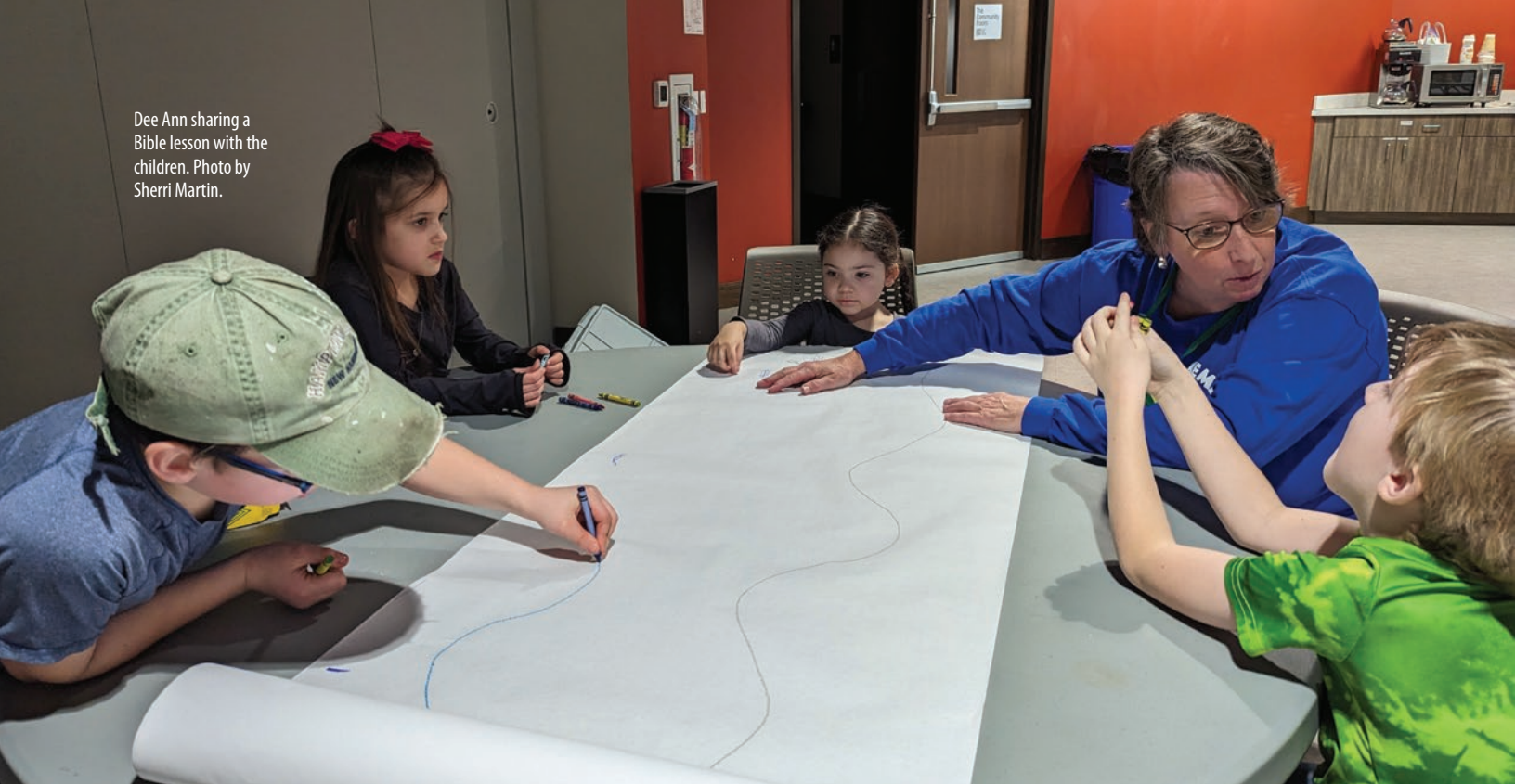
Several years ago, a young adult approached me and told me they wanted to know more about God but found the church to be "creepy." In order to make space for those who were not familiar with or attracted to our way of "doing" church, we decided to try something different. We invited a few young adults and their friends to a local restaurant to talk about God and what turned them off about church.

Out of that Motley Church was born. We've met in various locations over the years from restaurants to the church base-

Jim, Ryan & Stephanie, and Judy ponder a question about the Bible passage with Pastor Robert (standing). Photo by Sherri Martin.



Dee Ann sharing a Bible lesson with the children. Photo by Sherri Martin.



ment, and more recently located at HUB 450 in Lancaster City. In our current format, we have a meal together and then get into our topic for the night which is done in a very conversational format.

Almost 30 people attend Motley Church. For some, it is their only church. For others, it augments their regular church time with a chance to reach new people in a different format than Sunday morning. We have children who attend and they sometimes go off into their own group; other times, they are part of the conversation with the adults.

Everything has a family meal atmosphere. In fact, our bulletin is called *The Menu*. It has *Appetizers* which are opening questions everyone discusses while we are eating. Then there is the *Main Course* which is our Bible passage for the evening, followed by *Food for Thought* which includes guiding questions about the passage. Finally, there is the *Take Home Box* which usually includes a verse to memorize or action steps to take based on the lesson.

What I find exciting at Motley is even though we have a diverse crowd (spiritually, politically, economically), all of whom are at different points in their spiritual journey, they have come to love and care for one another. They text each other almost daily with prayer requests and other information. It reminds me of what Paul told the Thessalonians. They are not just learning

What I find exciting at Motley is even though we have a diverse crowd (spiritually, politically, economically), all of whom are at different points in their spiritual journey, they have come to love and care for one another.

about God, they are learning how to love and live with one another. I find this to be the key to a healthy church: having people who really do share each other's lives together.

We like to call Motley Church another expression of New Danville Mennonite. It's part of New Danville's network but reaches a different

crowd in a different way. We hope that there will be more. We are currently working with some young adults to start something in a local college town near us. It probably won't look exactly like Motley Church. Each expression we create is tailored to meet the needs of those who attend. In this case, it's more of a younger crowd, many of whom work in the service industry so we'll look for ways to work with their lifestyle and schedules. For several summers one of our members has run a ministry called *Church in the Dirt* which takes place in a barn with horses and also includes a meal for people to share.

There is room for all kinds of churches big and small. At New Danville some of us feel that building a huge auditorium isn't the way forward for us, (although we will, if need be). Rather we want to continue to develop various initiatives throughout our community. Each one having the advantage of being small and intimate, and yet having the resources of the collective network. The Apostle Paul reminds us that the body has many parts, each with its own function. Motley reaches people New Danville

cannot, and New Danville provides resources (VBS, Youth Group, etc) that Motley cannot. This is the network we seek to develop.

Many people are speaking about the challenges we face in the world today, but with great challenges come great opportunities. For New Danville, doing all of these different forms of ministry has come at a cost and brought its own unique set of challenges. However, if it results in more people knowing Christ and participating in a community then it's worth it. It should also be mentioned that we continue to change and evolve. Not everything we do works the way we think it will. Motley Church was originally called *The Sunday Night Grind* and has gone through several iterations. We keep moving forward and keep leaning into relationships. We do not let failure stop us. We "fall forward" learning from each expression experience.

My personal hope is that this network won't grow just through New Danville, but that other churches will take on this mission. I see many churches that are **Maintaining** what they have, but I'm hoping more churches will consider some other "M" words: Morphing, Merging, Mothering, and Multiplying. It's time for congregations to proactively look at how we are being the church and think of new ways to express our love for God and one another, including those currently outside of our community.

Motley reaches people New Danville cannot, and New Danville provides resources (VBS, Youth Group, etc) that Motley cannot. This is the network we seek to develop.



Pastor Robert welcomes everyone and offers thanks for the meal. Photo by Sherri Martin.

Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field." Matthew 9:37-38 (NIV) ■

Robert Brody is the Lead Pastor at New Danville Mennonite Church, and currently serves as a Bishop in LMC encouraging new expressions of church. At the age of sixty, he continues to skateboard despite the advice of his doctor.



Other "M" Words for Congregations to Consider

Morphing – A church that takes a look at itself to see how it can be more engaged, changing its format, programs, etc. to make it more open and relevant to its local community based on its resources and energy level.

Merging – Sometimes a church can't do it on its own. We have some local congregations in close proximity to one another who can combine resources. This could be a complete merger of the two or it might mean merging various resources and personnel; It could be a combined youth group, worship team, services, etc. There are lots of possibilities.

Mothering – There are some churches that are in a healthy place but don't have the people or energy to start a new movement. They can share their resources with another partner who is ready to launch a new church initiative. Churches have traditionally given to missionaries traveling abroad, these initiatives can be seen as a domestic mission field and supported by missions budgets. (A few people have given to Motley Church from outside the New Danville congregation to help see it move forward.)

Multiplying – There are some churches like New Danville who need to launch new expressions of itself. They can create dinner churches or other initiatives, or perhaps partner with another struggling church to give them the momentum they need to move forward.

Nuevas formas de Adoración y Conexión: Abordando el Misterio

POR ROBERT BRODY

Por el cariño que les tenemos, nos deleitamos en compartir con ustedes no solo el evangelio de Dios, sino también nuestra vida. 1 Tesalonicenses 2.8 (NVI)

La Iglesia Menonita de New Danville ha emprendido un viaje para aprender a vivir las Escrituras. En 1 Tesalonicenses 2:8, Pablo escribe a la iglesia de Tesalónica para animarlos, como seguidores de Jesús, a participar en el misterio de las Buenas Nuevas de Dios. New Danville ha tenido una rica historia de más de 300 años y, como muchas iglesias hoy en día, se encuentra en un lento declive en las últimas décadas.

Más recientemente, con una visión y relaciones renovadas, la iglesia comenzó a crecer nuevamente, casi duplicando su tamaño. Enviamos gente para ayudar con otras dos iglesias en nuestra área que también habían estado luchando, y luego llegó la pandemia. Como tantas otras iglesias, nuestra asistencia volvió a disminuir. Incluso antes de la pandemia, reconocimos que el formato de New Danville no era adecuado para todos. La pandemia nos hizo analizar detenidamente lo que realmente caracteriza a una iglesia.

Hace varios años, un joven se me acercó y me dijo que quería saber más acerca de Dios, pero que la iglesia le parecía “espeluznante”. Para hacer espacio para aquellos que no estaban familiarizados o no se sentían atraídos por nuestra forma de “hacer” la iglesia, decidimos probar algo diferente. Invitamos a algunos jóvenes y a sus amigos a un restaurante local para hablar sobre Dios y lo que los desanimaba de la iglesia.

De ahí nació la Iglesia Motley. Nos hemos reunido en varios lugares a lo largo de los años, desde restaurantes hasta el sótano de la iglesia, y ahora estamos ubicados en HUB 450 en la ciudad de Lancaster. En nuestro formato actual, comemos juntos y luego abordamos el tema de la noche, que se realiza en un formato muy conversacional.

Casi 30 personas asisten a la Iglesia Motley. Para algunos, es su única iglesia. Para otros, aumenta su tiempo habitual en la iglesia con la oportunidad de llegar a gente nueva en un formato diferente al del domingo por la mañana. Tenemos niños que asisten y a veces se van a su propio grupo; otras veces, son parte de la conversación con los adultos.

Todo tiene un ambiente de “comida familiar”. De hecho, nuestro boletín se llama “El Menú”. Tiene “Aperitivos”, que son preguntas iniciales que todos discuten mientras comemos. Luego está el “Plato principal”, que es nuestro pasaje bíblico para la noche, seguido de “Alimento para el pensamiento”, que incluye preguntas guía sobre el pasaje. Finalmente, está la “Caja para llevar a casa”, que generalmente incluye un versículo para memorizar o pasos de acción a seguir según la lección.

Lo que encuentro emocionante en Motley es que, aunque tenemos un grupo diverso (espiritual, político y económico), todos los cuales se encuentran en diferentes puntos de su viaje espiritual, han llegado a amarse y cuidarse unos a otros. Se envían mensajes de texto casi a diario con peticiones de oración y otra información. Me recuerda lo que Pablo les dijo a los Tesalonicenses. No sólo están aprendiendo acerca de Dios, sino que están aprendiendo cómo amarse y vivir unos con otros. Considero que esta es la clave para una iglesia saludable: tener personas que realmente comparten la vida de los demás.

Nos gusta llamar a la Iglesia Motley “otra expresión” de la Iglesia Menonita de New Danville. Es parte de la red de New Danville, pero llega a un público diferente de

una manera diferente. Esperamos que haya más. Actualmente estamos trabajando con algunos adultos jóvenes para comenzar algo en una ciudad universitaria local cercana a nosotros. Probablemente no se verá exactamente como la Iglesia Motley. Cada expresión que creamos está diseñada para satisfacer las necesidades de quienes asisten. En este caso, se trata más bien de un público más joven, muchos de los cuales trabajan en la industria de servicios, por lo que buscaremos formas de adaptarnos a su estilo de vida y horarios. Durante varios veranos, uno de nuestros miembros ha dirigido un ministerio llamado “Iglesia en la tierra”, que se lleva a cabo en un granero con caballos y también incluye una comida para que la gente comparta.

Hay espacio para todo tipo de iglesias, grandes y pequeñas. En New Danville, algunos de nosotros sentimos que construir un auditorio enorme no es el camino a seguir (aunque lo haremos, si es necesario). Más bien queremos continuar desarrollando diversas iniciativas en toda nuestra comunidad. Cada una tiene la

ventaja de ser pequeña e íntima y, sin embargo, tener los recursos de la red colectiva. El apóstol Pablo nos recuerda que el cuerpo tiene muchas partes, cada una con su propia función. Motley llega a personas que New Danville no puede, y New Danville proporciona recursos (EBV, Grupo Juvenil, etc.) que Motley no puede. Esta es la red que buscamos desarrollar.

Mucha gente habla de los desafíos que enfrentamos en el mundo hoy, pero los grandes desafíos conllevan grandes oportunidades. Para New Danville, realizar todas estas formas “diferentes” de

ministerio ha tenido un costo y ha traído su propio conjunto único de desafíos. Sin embargo, si esto resulta en que más personas conozcan a Cristo y participen en una comunidad, entonces vale la pena. También cabe mencionar que seguimos cambiando y evolucionando. No todo lo que hacemos funciona como pensamos. La Iglesia Motley originalmente se llamaba “The Sunday Night Grind” y ha pasado por varios procesos. Seguimos avanzando y seguimos apoyándonos en las relaciones. No dejamos que el fracaso nos detenga. “Caemos hacia adelante” aprendiendo de cada experiencia de expresión.

Mi esperanza personal es que esta red no crezca sólo a través de New Danville, sino que otras iglesias asuman esta misión. Veo muchas iglesias que mantienen lo que tienen, pero espero que más iglesias consideren otras palabras con “M”: Transformación (Morphing), Fusión (Merging), Maternidad y Multiplicación. Es hora de que las congregaciones observen de manera proactiva cómo somos la iglesia y piensen en nuevas formas de expresar nuestro amor por Dios y por los demás, incluidos aquellos que actualmente están fuera de nuestra comunidad.

“La cosecha es abundante, pero son pocos los obreros — dijo a sus discípulos —. Por tanto, pidan al Señor de la cosecha que envíe obreros a su campo”. Mateo 9:37-38 (NVI) ■



Robert Brody es el pastor principal de la Iglesia Menonita de New Danville y actualmente se desempeña como obispo en LMC fomentando nuevas expresiones de la iglesia. A los sesenta años sigue corriendo patineta a pesar de los consejos de su médico.

Finding Home in Motley Church

A Testimony of Connection, Acceptance, and Belonging

BY FELICIA CHENG

For years, I wandered in the wilderness of spiritual disconnect, longing for a sense of community that traditional churches failed to provide. It wasn't until I discovered Motley Church, a "fresh expression" of faith, that I truly found my spiritual home. In this testimonial, I'll delve into the profound differences I have experienced, between traditional churches and Motley. Along with sharing my personal transformative feelings of returning to a spiritual community after a prolonged absence.

The primary distinction that sets Motley apart from traditional churches, for me, is the emphasis on interpersonal relationships. At Motley, I don't just attend services; I know everyone there. In a traditional church, the vast congregations often result in a sense of anonymity. On the other hand, Motley is a close-knit family where every face is familiar and every individual is invested in one another. It's a community where acceptance isn't just preached but actively practiced, allowing me to feel embraced for the person I am.

After nearly a decade of spiritual absence, joining Motley felt like a homecoming. The void left by years of disconnection was filled with a genuine and loving community—one that had eluded me in various traditional churches. Motley became the answer to my longing for connection, acceptance, and a true sense of belonging. The diverse array of people from different walks of life, all united under the Motley banner, became the catalyst for rekindling my relationship with God.

Motley Church, with its inclusive and welcoming nature, strengthened my bond with spirituality in ways I hadn't experienced before. It's not just a place of worship; it's a space where everyone, regardless of their journey or background,

is welcomed with open arms. I believe God guided me to this unique community that exemplifies His love by accepting anyone and everyone. Being part of Motley isn't just about attending services—it's about actively participating in a community we've collectively built every day of the week, not just on Tuesdays.

Welcoming newcomers with a smile and a meal is a cornerstone of Motley's ethos. In my heart, there's joy in feeding people, both physically and spiritually. Letting them know it's okay to embark on a journey with God wherever they are in life. The shared meals at Motley are not just a ritual; they are a symbol of our collective commitment to nourishing each other's souls.

I extend a heartfelt invitation to anyone seeking a "fresh expression" of faith to join us on a Tuesday evening at Motley, located at HUB 450. Come and enjoy a meal and great conversation. It's an opportunity to experience the warmth, acceptance, and genuine connection that define Motley. And, with a touch of humor, I playfully add, "If you get more out of it than that (and not just me teasing Pastor Robert), you're welcome at our table any time." Motley is more than a church; it's a family, and we eagerly welcome anyone seeking a spiritual home. ■

Felicia Cheng is a devoted single mom who passionately advocates for community building and spiritual learning. With a heart for fostering genuine relationships, Felicia found her home in Motley Church, where she thrives on welcoming everyone with a smile and a shared meal. Her journey reflects a deep commitment to creating a space where individuals from all walks of life feel accepted and embraced in their spiritual journey, including her own.



Felicia Cheng serves soup to her son. Photo by Sherri Martin.

Check it out – Motley Church just moved!

Motley Church meets every Tuesday at Millersville Mennonite Church, 437 Manor Avenue, Millersville, Pa. 17551. Join us at 6:00 p.m. for dinner and conversation. If you're looking for a different way of doing church this might be your answer. Everyone welcome! Questions? Contact Robert Brody at robertbrody@newdenvillechurch.com.





Left: People singing during a worship service. Photos provided by Pastor Tanis Guerra.



CONGREGATIONAL PROFILE:

Iglesia Evangélica Camino Al Cielo

DISTRICT: CIES

LOCATION: Alpha, New Jersey

DATE OF FOUNDING: 2020

**AVERAGE SUNDAY WORSHIP
ATTENDANCE:** 30

WORSHIP SERVICE:
Sunday 3:00 p.m.

PASTOR:

Estanislao Guerra, "Tanis" as everyone calls him, is the pastor of Iglesia Evangélica Camino. Estanislao is a young man passionate about God and His word. He also works as CIES Director of Juventud Shalom (Youth Ministry).



LEARN MORE: For more information about Iglesia Evangélica Camino Al Cielo, scan the QR code.

Iglesia Evangélica Camino Al Cielo, (Evangelical Church the Road to Heaven), is paving a new way to experience God's Holy Spirit for many in the local community of Alpha, New Jersey. In the last three months, we are seeing the hand of God move in the growth of the church, which was founded in 2020. These are exciting times for our congregation as many new visitors are finding their way to Jesus.

We are known in our community as a united church of God, where everyone is welcomed like family. Visitors experience the road to heaven through our Sunday worship where they are filled with delight in the presence of the Holy Spirit.

As a congregation we are working hard to know the needs of our parishioners and our community; both spiritual and physical. We come together every month to give boxes of food to those most in need in our local community. As we visit their homes we bring the good news of Jesus.

I am encouraged to see how the members of our congregation are faithful to God's calling as we continue to grow. To be stretched to share the over-pouring love of the Holy Spirit with our church visitors and beyond. This is the heart of who we are, as we expand to reach more people to share the love of Jesus through evangelization and local missions. ■



Pastor Tanis preaching on the theme of Worship on a Sunday morning.

Right: Chaplain for First Responders baptizes a firefighter. Photos provided by Pastor Robert Brody.



DISTRICT: New Danville

LOCATION: Lancaster, Pennsylvania

DATE OF FOUNDING: 1717

AVERAGE SUNDAY WORSHIP

ATTENDANCE: 139

WORSHIP SERVICE:

Sunday 10:15 a.m.

Tuesday 6:00 p.m.

PASTOR: Robert Brody is the Lead Pastor at New Danville Mennonite Church, and currently serves as a Bishop in LMC encouraging new expressions of church.



LEARN MORE: For more information about New Danville Church, scan the QR code.

CONGREGATIONAL PROFILE:

New Danville Mennonite

New Danville Mennonite Church is known in our community as a people who have a heart to support the needs of others, which includes our local first responders. We recently licensed one of our members as Chaplain for First Responders. He works with our local fire departments and recently baptized his first firefighter.

We are excited that our congregation is willing to try new ways of being church and reaching other people. Not everything we try works, but we go into it knowing that and continue to experiment with what it means to be a family of believers.

We are learning how to be more diverse in how we meet and interact together as we connect with people who have a hard time finding their place in a Sunday-centric church. ■



Sunday worship service at New Danville.



Above: Annual car show which attracts many people from the community.

Left: Robert Brody preaching a sermon describing his early life in Philadelphia, specifically shopping cart racing.

New Ways of Worship – Giving

BY BISHOP TUYEN NGUYEN AND PAUL PEARCE, LMC DEVELOPMENT TEAM

Every Sunday, or at least most Sundays, we take an offering (give money) as part of the Worship service. It may go towards missions, benevolence or just paying the bills.

“The offering is an act of worship, an instance in which we are invited to give up something that we value – our money – as a sacrifice to God. In many ways it is the high point of the liturgy.”
Mark Allen Powell, The Stewardship Bible p1614.

Have we considered the idea that whenever we give, not just on Sundays, that too is an expression of our Worship? When we give either as individuals to our church and other ministries, or as a church body, whether the gift be large or small, we are indeed engaging in an act of worship.

One of the concerns that we have nowadays is the welfare of our children and grandchildren. I praise the Lord that all my children learned to tithe when they started to get a weekly allowance. Perhaps, they did that because they listened to their parents, and they still do that today. I think that they have a heart for worshiping the Lord. One of our daughters thought that whatever amount of money she received she would tithe. She tithed even when she got the loan for her college tuition!

Now we have five grandchildren. We have the same concern, but at this stage, it is not our responsibility to direct action, but for us to pray. The eldest of our grandchildren turned 10 this year and he wanted to have his birthday celebration in California with all the family members attending. Everyone was very happy with that decision, so they showered him with gifts and money on his birthday.

“Grandpa, this is one-half of my one-tenth tithe, please put this into mission work, I will put the other half to my home church.”

Before he left to go back to the East coast, he handed me 28 dollars and said, “Grandpa, this is one-half of my one-tenth tithe, please put this into mission work, I will put the other half to my home church.” I thought that was the best thing he ever said to me, even better than “I love you, Grandpa.” Of course, I said thanks and prayed for him. Deep down in my heart, I say thanks to the Lord because He is taking care of the next generation. I took the money, put it in a red envelope

and plan to frame it. I replaced his money and sent a check to the church. The red envelope is still on my desk. I have not framed it yet. I want to get a title for the frame. Selecting a Bible verse among many blessing promises is not easy, because the Lord God is so generous with us.

We invite you to share in the work of LMC with a gift, either as individuals or as a church, not just to support the ministry, but also as an act of worship to God.

Hebrews 13:16 ESV *“Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.”*

“The Joy of Giving Lasts Longer Than the Joy of Getting” ■

WAYS TO GIVE



MAIL

Write checks to LMC at:
P.O. Box 1635
Lancaster, PA 17608



ONLINE

lmcchurches.org/donate



BECOME A MONTHLY PARTNER

Set up automatic monthly giving at
lmcchurches.org/donate



ADD LMC as part of your congregational giving plan

If you have questions about other ways to support LMC, contact Mindi at mhoover@lmcchurches.org.

NEWS NOTES

LMC CREDENTIALING REPORT

In recent months, the following men and women were licensed, ordained, or installed:

Robert Earl (*Denise*) was licensed toward ordination as pastor at King of Glory Tabernacle in Bronx, New York.

Andy Hostetter (*Jodie*) was licensed toward ordination as pastor of Hayat in Lancaster, Pa.

Philippe Bortz (*Abbey*) was licensed toward ordination as executive pastor at East Gate in Bethlehem, Pa.

Abbey Bortz (*Philippe*) was licensed toward ordination as children's pastor at East Gate in Bethlehem, Pa.

Ansel Burneet was licensed toward ordination as a counseling pastor at East Gate in Bethlehem, Pa.

Menuka Tamang (*Phurba*) was ordained as lead pastor at Rivers Edge Fellowship in Lancaster, Pa.

Jermaine Shannon (*Rena*) was licensed toward ordination as assistant pastor at Wilkens Avenue Mennonite Church in Baltimore, Md.

Chad M. Burkholder (*Krystal*) was ordained as associate pastor at Martindale Mennonite Church in Ephrata, Pa.

Dean E. Martin (*Dawn*) was ordained as associate pastor at Martindale Mennonite Church in Ephrata, Pa.

Ken Hoover (*Joy*) was ordained as pastor of Sarasota Community Church in Sarasota, Fl.

Lilian Flores (*Cristobal*) was ordained as lead pastor of Evangelical Garifuna Church-Bronx in Bronx, New York.

CELEBRATION OF CHURCH LIFE PAUSED IN 2024

God is moving and accomplishing much among us here at LMC – including growth in the number of congregations, ethnic diversity, and locations across the United States and beyond. To that end, the Conference Executive Council and the Board of Bishops decided that **LMC will not hold a conference-wide CCL event in 2024**. A team has been commissioned to review the purpose and goals of the event and seeks to discern the heart of God as to how those goals can be better met for all who are a part of LMC. The pause in the event for 2024 is to give the review team adequate time to do its work. We covet your prayers for the review team.

Information about all future events will be posted on the LMC website.

BISHOP TRANSITIONS

Stephen Weaver recently retired as Bishop of the LanChester, New Danville, Willow Street-Strasburg Districts, where he served from 2015–2023. Three new Bishops were appointed to serve as a team. They will primarily relate to the leaders and congregations: Bishop Mark Wenger, LanChester District; Bishop Mike Clemmer, New Danville District; and Bishop John Drouillard, Willow Street Strasburg District.

Bishop J. Allen Lehman recently retired as Bishop of the Franklin District, where he served from 2017 to 2023. A Bishop Team was appointed to replace him. Bishop Eric Lehman and Bishop Randy Smith will serve as a team relating to the leaders and congregations in the Franklin District.

CIES-CUBA ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

From February 15 to February 21, 2024, Supervisor Samuel Lopez, Supervisor Hugo Garcia, Bishop Brian Martin, and Pastor Lynn Shertzer traveled to Cuba to participate in the CIES-Cuba Annual Leadership Assembly. Samuel Lopez serves as Supervisor of the 51 congregations in the Concilio Iglesias Evangelicas District (CIES), which includes nine congregations in Cuba.



NEW BISHOP ORIENTATION

On Monday, February 12, 2024, LMC held a newly appointed Bishop Orientation. The all-day event focused on welcoming new bishops and reflecting on their experiences. LMC & EMM staff spoke about various topics, including the Bishop role, movement and APEST function, the vision of Intercultural Leadership Ministry, EMM and Karios, social trends intersecting with Anabaptist Theology and credentialing.

MANY WERE BLESSED!

Sunday, January 21, 2024, Village Chapel in New Holland, Pa. held a day of appreciation for Jeff Horst as he retired after 35 years of service as pastor. Jeff was licensed as a pastor in May of 1988 and had the longest tenure of pastoral service of any district leader since then. The Chapel members, his family, and others gathered to celebrate a man with a heart bent on serving the Lord, his congregation, the district, and his family in his role as pastor – and who will continue to find new ways to serve as he follows Jesus in this next season of life.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Complete calendar and more details available at LMCchurches.org.

LMC Women's Prayer Gathering

**Every first Friday of each month
8:00 a.m.**

LMC at 450 N. Prince St. Lancaster, Pa.
717-293-5246 ext. 114 for more information

Mennonite Life – Plain Living Series 1: Gifts for Relief—from White Horse to the World

Monday, April 8, 2024

7:00 p.m.– 8:30 p.m.

Garden Spot Village Chapel
Mennonitelife.org

Mennonite Life – Plain Living Series 2: Amish Agricultural Exchange— Lancaster & Tanzania

Monday, April 15, 2024

7:00 p.m.– 8:30 p.m.

Garden Spot Village Chapel
Mennonitelife.org

LMC/EMM Quarterly Prayer Meeting

April 18, 2024

3:00 p.m.

West Community Room, Landis Homes,
Lititz, Pa.
717-293-5246 ext 102

Mennonite Life – Tabernacle Kit Workshop

Saturday, April 20, 2024

9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Mennonite Life Visitors Center
Mennonitelife.org

LMC Newly Credentialed Leader's Orientation

Thursday, April 25, 2024

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

LMC 450 N. Prince Street Lancaster, Pa.

Spring Leadership Assembly

Friday, May 3, 2024

Mellinger Mennonite Church

Mennonite Life – Author Talk: The Mennonite and Brethren Music of Peggy's War

Thursday, May 9, 2024

6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Mennonite Life Community Room
Mennonitelife.org

STEP Graduation

Saturday, May 18, 2024

Byerland Mennonite Church

LMC Resource Partner Expo

Friday, September 27, 2024

5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Weaverland Anabaptist Faith Community

Fall Leadership Assembly

Saturday, September 28, 2024

Weaverland Anabaptist Faith Community

Learn your own & others' stories. Become a Mennonite Life member!



In 2024, members enjoy complimentary admission to the Mennonite Life Museum, the 1719 Museum, and the Biblical Tabernacle Experience

**717.393.9745
mennonitelife.org**

 **Mennonite Life**





– LANDIS ADULT DAY SERVICES –
GOLF OUTING
Wednesday, June 5, 2024
Fairview Golf Course

Help support the Landis Adult Day Services Program providing care for aging adults who need daytime assistance with activities, companionship, meals and medicine.

717-381-3580 | gnikoloff@landis.org

 Landis
Adult Day Services



Friendship Community

FEST & 5K • 10K



2024
Fri. & Sat.
May 10-11

friendshipcommunity.net/fest

LOOKING FOR A SUMMER JOB WITH PURPOSE?
JOIN OUR K-TEAMS SUMMER STAFF.

Grow in leadership and discipleship skills while serving in a camp counselor-like role during the summer Kingdom Team program for middle and high school youth groups.



LEARN MORE AT
EMM.ORG/KSTAFF

