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Conference Staff Updates

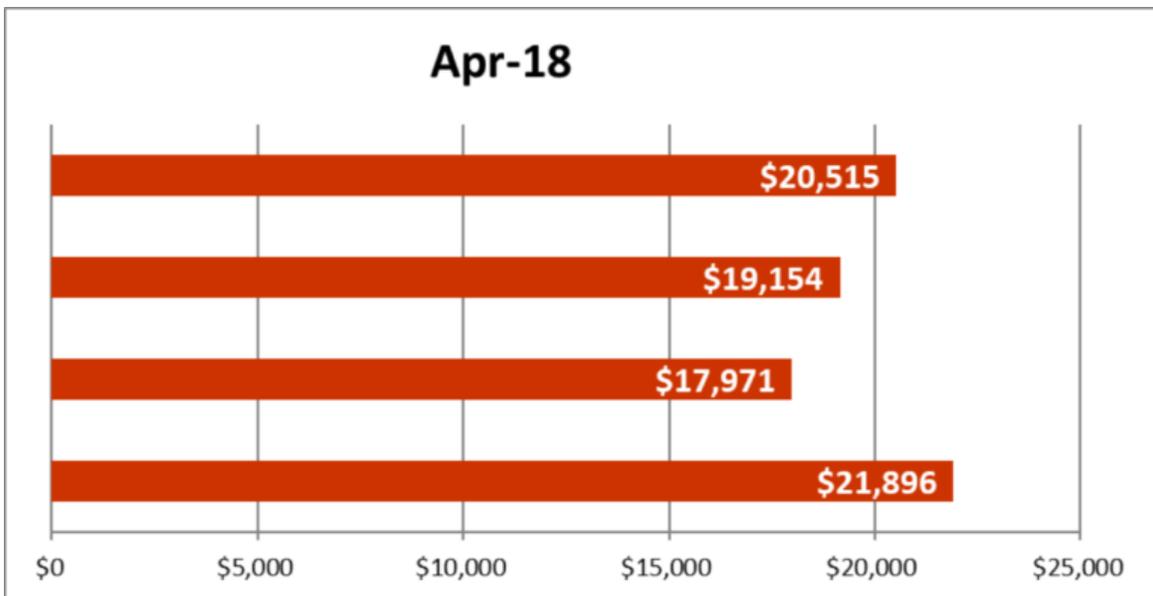
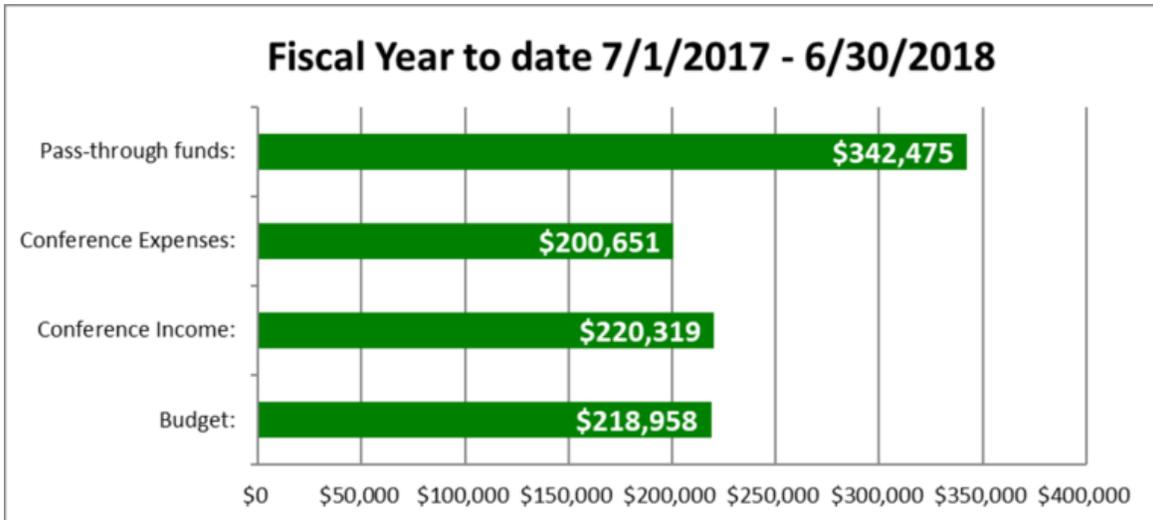
WELCOME OUR NEW STAFF MEMBER: Anna Buck is excited to join the ministry of the IN-MI Conference as the new administrative coordinator. Anna is the daughter of a United Methodist pastor and she grew up in the Indianapolis area with her three siblings. She holds a bachelor's degree from Indiana State in music education and a masters in vocal performance from Indiana University with an emphasis on opera. Anna is new to the area and is looking forward to getting to know the community of churches within the IN-MI Conference.

RETIRING (AGAIN): Nedra Gnagey came as one of the Office Interim staff to fill in when Vanessa Kelleybrew left. Now as Anna comes on board, Nedra will be leaving. From Nedra: "I want to thank everyone for welcoming me and for being so gracious when I didn't have answers to your questions or wasn't sure how to transfer your calls. I also want to thank Dan and Cindy for their help in training me and for picking up the slack when I wasn't sure how to do something." It has been great to get to know each one of you through phone calls, emails and office visits.

OUR OFFICE: Rev. Dan Miller and Paula Killough are not yet back from their ministry trip to Tanzania. Dan will share about his trip on the next **weLink**, so stay tuned! In other news, Cindy Steiner is continuing her volunteer work with the conference office and will continue to train Anna in her new position as needed.

Financial Report

Attached is the graph that I completed. My report would be the following: Giving for April was \$3,925 below budget for the month but still ahead of budget by \$3,925 for the year to date. Expenses for April were \$2,742 below budget for the month and \$19,668 below income for the year to date. —Submitted by Jim Norton, Bookkeeper



[Free Hymnals and Songbooks](#)

As we have been sorting through items in the conference office, we have found a number of old, out of print hymn books and church songbooks.

These include:

- 5 blue Church Hymnals
- 12 copies of the green *Junior Hymn* books
- 6 books entitled *Songs* that have lyrics and guitar chords
- 7 *Pocket Songster* books
- 32 copies of *Psalter: Scriptures set to music* 4th ed.

Interested parties should stop in or contact the conference office at email: imoffice@im.mennonite.net or by phone at 574-534-4006. The books are free and we will hold them until May 23rd.

Amigo Centre News

Summer Camp is coming! Think warm!! Camp runs June 17-July 27, 2018. Some weeks fill earlier, so sign up soon to hold your spot. Amigo Centre summer camp registration is available online. Help create some wonderful memories for those special children in your life. Call or register online! 269-651-2811 or dave@amigocentre.org or www.amigocentre.org

Summer Camp job opportunities. We are looking for youth that want to make a difference in the lives of children, while making new friends and earning a bit of money too! If you are interested in summer employment at Amigo in 2018, contact Dave@amigocentre.org or apply online. We are also looking for one male and one female counselor. If you know someone who would be a good fit for Amigo, please direct them our way!

Every two years, “**Know Jesus**” is held on the campus of [Goshen College](http://www.goshen.edu). Junior High youth (just completed grades 6-8) and their sponsors gather for an opportunity to grow in their relationship with Jesus while having a fun and exciting weekend of fellowship with their peers. This year’s speaker is Dustin Galyon, basketball coach and inspirational speaker from Hesston College. Mark your calendar and send your youth and sponsors! Registration is open online and packets have been sent. If you have youth, but no sponsors, contact us for additional options for the youth to attend this year.

The 21st Annual **Amigo Centre Golf Scramble** June 2. Registration is open. You can sign up by calling the office or visiting our website <http://www.amigocentre.org/amigo-golf-scramble>.

Attention Pastors! Do you need some time away from your busy life? Come walk our trails, go canoeing or sit by a fire. Our rates are \$30 for the first night and \$25 each additional night. Meals can be added if we have guest groups. We only need a couple of days notice, Give us a call at [\(269\) 651-2811](tel:2696512811) or shoot us an email at info@amigocentre.org to make your reservation.

Transitional ministry offers a unique gift in a congregation's life. Whether a change in pastor comes because of conflict, retirement, shrinking numbers and weariness, or questions of congregational viability, transitional ministry walks alongside a congregation while it answers questions of mission, courage and transformation. **November 12-15, 2018, Amigo Centre hosts a Transitional Ministry Training retreat** for individuals interested in pursuing this type of ministry. Visit tmt.amigocentre.org for additional information, or contact Amigo Centre at [269.651.2811](tel:2696512811) or mandy@amigocentre.org

Volunteer Opportunities

The International Guest House in Washington DC is seeking short term volunteers to do service of hospitality with strangers near and far. If possible, please download and advertise this opportunity in your conference churches: <https://tinyurl.com/igh-flyer2018> –Thank you for your consideration spreading the word about this incredible place and wonderful opportunity of service.

Spiritual Education Opportunities

Invite AMBS Professor David B. Miller, D.Min., an AMBS Church Leadership Center traveling associate, to your area to preach or teach on topics such as Christian leadership, missional church, healthy boundaries and holistic witness. One-on-one pastoral consultations are also available. Contact churchleadership@ambs.edu.

Take a fall seminary course! Online courses at AMBS include Christian Attitudes Toward War, Peace, and Revolution; Christian Theology 1; and Spiritual Practices: Prayer and Scripture. Hybrid courses (online, with one week on campus) include Isaiah and Family Spirituality. More than 10 on-campus courses are also offered. Nonadmitted students get 50 percent off their first class! ambs.edu/onecourse

Vision is online — for free! The Spring 2018 issue of *Vision: A Journal for Church and Theology* — on the theme, “The church and young adults” — is now available for free online. You can select individual articles or open the entire issue. Check it out! mennovision.org

Prepare for a ministry of spiritual direction: Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary’s Church Leadership Center will offer the **Spiritual Guidance Seminar (SGS)** and **Advanced Spiritual Guidance Seminar (ASGS)** on campus in 2018–19; this two-part supervised program is for those who want to become spiritual directors or to make spiritual guidance a part of their ministry. Instructor: **Dan Schrock**, D. Min. Early registration deadlines: Aug. 8 (SGS); Sept. 5 (ASGS). ambs.edu/lifelong-learning/seminars

Rooted and Grounded: A Conference on Land and Christian Discipleship: Sept. 27–29, 2018, at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Indiana. Imagine and embody alternative ways of relating to the land that cultivate *shalom* among human beings, the rest of creation and God. This event will weave together worship, theology, biblical study and praxis. Keynote speakers: Valerie Bridgeman, Karenn Gore and Randy Woodley. ambs.edu/rootedandgrounded

weLink connects IN-MI Conference congregations to each other, to the conference organizations Amigo Centre, Bethany Christian Schools and to the wider church. It is published on the second Wednesday of each month. *weLink* issues are archived on the conference website at im.mennonite.net/welink-archive/.

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