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Indiana-Michigan
Mennonite Conference

weLink

connecting the congregations of IN-MI Mennonite Conference

July 11, 2018



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Conference Update

New Office Location and New Mailing Address

As I think back on Annual Sessions 2018, I am again reminded of how God moved. What a treat the CAMFELL planners put together for us this year, with the theme “**Offering ourselves to God’s renewing.**” A most amazing thing happened as we engaged the spiritual practices – God showed up! Now, this should not be amazing, because followers of Jesus know that God is always present. Yet there was something energizing and awe-inspiring as attenders engaged in worship, prayer, fasting, generosity, Bible study, hospitality, etc. I describe that something as what happens when God shows up and graciously meets us. What happened there can happen across conference as congregations engage the shared spiritual practices. God will bring transformation. Muthoni Gladys Moino, in her opening sermon

God will bring transformation. Multnomah Gladys Maria, in her opening sermon, compared the transformation God will bring to the metamorphosis of a caterpillar into a butterfly. "I believe God is doing something good and great among us. . . . Let God do the transformation." Yes!

The photos in this issue present just a glimpse of the rich time in Indianapolis: [Annual Sessions 2018 Slideshow](#)

Dan Miller on Sabbatical August – October

Missional Leadership Team (MLT) approved Dan's sabbatical plan for this fall. He will take a class and talk with others about leadership development. He will also plan a week-long retreat, and possibly some travels east and west.

Two part-time people will cover during Dan's absence. Sharon Yoder will cover the search and credentialing work. Tim Burkholder will cover the office and administrative work.

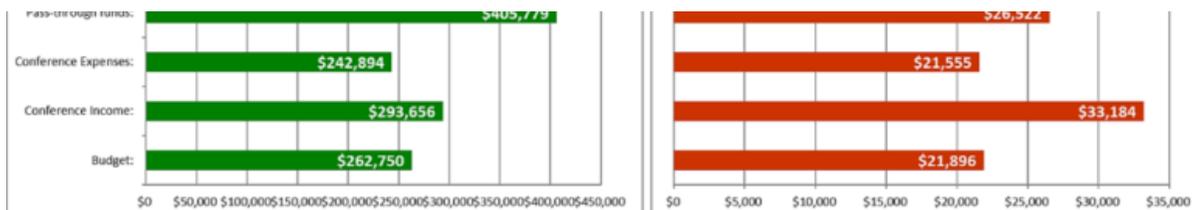
We invite prayers for Dan, Sharon and Tim.

Time to Make a Move

The offices of Indiana-Michigan Conference will be moving to our new location at East Goshen Mennonite Church between July 18th and 24th. We ask for patience during this move as we may not have great phone service during this time. Feel free to email us with any questions or concerns. We are excited to make this change and thankful for all of the time and energy that has been given to make these new offices ready for us. Please note that our mailing address has changed as well. Please send written correspondence to **PO Box 702 Goshen, IN 46527**.

Financial Report





Giving for June was \$11,288 above budget for the month. Expenses for June were \$341 below budget for the month. Thank you for your faithful giving. We ended the year with an income that was \$30,906 above budget and expenses that were \$19,856 below budget. Our income over expenses for the year was \$50,762. Jim Norton, *conference bookkeeper*.

Pastoral Prayer

Hello fellow pastors! A number of pastors, both local to Goshen and at a distance, have begun to pray together on Wednesday mornings at 8:00 am using the Anabaptist Prayer Book. If you would like more information on this gathering, please email Ben Bouwman at ben.whmc@gmail.com You can join in person or via EZTalks video conferencing.

Who Cares about Climate Change?

Pastoral Responses to Denial and Despair
September 17 to 19 at Camp Friedenswald, Cassopolis, MI

Monday, 5 p.m. through Wednesday, 1 p.m.

This retreat explores the effects of climate change on brothers and sisters worldwide, our own locales, and ourselves. Denial and despair help us manage our feelings of guilt and helplessness in the face of this large and complex reality. How does the Gospel of Jesus Christ give us hope? Engage in peer-to-peer exchanges with fellow pastors on environmental stewardship. Listen for God's guidance as we face the issues of our time and seek to become change agents. Leaders are Doug Kaufman, pastor of Benton Mennonite Church, and Amy Huser, Sustainability and Outdoor Education Director for Camp Friedenswald.

The retreat is free to Mennonite pastors including meals and lodging. Others pay \$225.

[Register here by August 31](#)

Questions? Contact Doug Kaufman: ddkaufman@goshen.edu

Employment opportunity at Belmont MC

The Church Administrator position is open at Belmont Mennonite Church and they are currently seeking applicants. For more information about the position, please click [HERE](#).

All interested parties should contact Eldon Heatwole, Eldonheatwole@hotmail.com

Happenings at Amigo Centre

Every two years, “**Know Jesus**” is held on the campus of [Goshen College](#). 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.

Summer Camp is here! There are camps running through 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 amigocentre.org

Amigo Scrapbook, Crafting, and Sewing Retreats... Whether you scrapbook, sew, quilt or craft, Amigo invites you to join us for a relaxing weekend filled with good food and fellowship. Come alone or bring friends/family. We provide the space, lodging, food and just the right amount of focused input to allow you time to balance your productivity with time to rest, restore and refresh your body and soul. Our next available retreat is **October 5-7** (or stay over to Tuesday, 0th). (This is a new date

available retreat is **October 5-7** (or stay over to Tuesday, 9th). (This is a new date as the September retreat is already full!) December is also available. Call or register online! 269-651-2811 or mandy@amigocentre.org or amigocentre.org

Dates and spaces we have available: West Shore Lodge: Aug 10-12, Sept 7-9, Nov 23-25 (Thanksgiving) **Retreat Center:** Dec 7-9, Dec 21-23.

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 amigocentre.org for additional information, or contact Amigo Centre at [269.651.2811](tel:269.651.2811) or mandy@amigocentre.org

Amigo has an opening for an **Assistant Cook position**. We are looking for someone who is excited and able to help in a local ministry. All of our meals are buffet style. We need someone who is independent, confident and willing to go above and beyond for guests. Amigo Centre strives to be a place where people can come to experience God either through Fellowship or through his awesome creation. If you are interested email us at info@amigocentre.org or call the office at [\(269\)651-2811](tel:269.651.2811).

Celebration at Kern Road Mennonite Church

Please come join us in celebrating the 30th Anniversary of Dave and Janice Sutter's ministry at Kern Road Mennonite Church! There will be a hog roast, singing, games, & festivities.

We will be celebrating at the church, **18211 Kern Road, South Bend, IN, on Saturday, August 18 from 4-8 pm**. Food will be served from 4-6 pm. For more information or to **RSVP** to the event, you can view the Evite here: <http://evite.me/6vaVe73Eqs>.

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/.

Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference

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