

**weLink***connecting the congregations of IN-MI Mennonite Conference***September 12, 2018**

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Conference Updates

Interim staff settling in

- Interim conference pastors, Tim Burkholder and Sharon Yoder, are engaged in their new responsibilities allowing Dan Miller's sabbatical to be free of worries about the job. Tim is privileged to meet with conference leadership teams along with several Area Councils. Sharon is working with several pastoral transitions and will be ordaining Naomi Yoder on September 23, 2018 at East Goshen Mennonite Church.
- We are both very appreciative of the support that Anna Buck, the conference Administrative Coordinator, provides and between the three of us we hope that you will feel well. Along with this, we are settling in to the new conference space and are pleased that we can continue to offer a good meeting space for the Teams and groups that find our conference office location to be a central meeting place. You are welcome to visit and/or see if our meeting space at East Goshen Mennonite would work for you.

In support of congregations

- We are grateful for the input received from the congregations that has made it possible to provide an updated directory that you can anticipate receiving yet in the month of September.
- We are happy to announce that the registration fees for the [Pastor Gathering](#), November 5-7, 2018, being held at Amigo Centre have been reduced from \$95 last year to \$30 through the use of our Pastoral Training Fund. Register [HERE](#).
- It is our hope that this will enable most of our pastors to attend the gathering. Congregations are encouraged to take even further steps to make this happen by providing child care to allow any pastors with young children to attend and you could even consider covering the remaining \$30 as a way to remove any cost barriers that might prevent them from being able to attend.

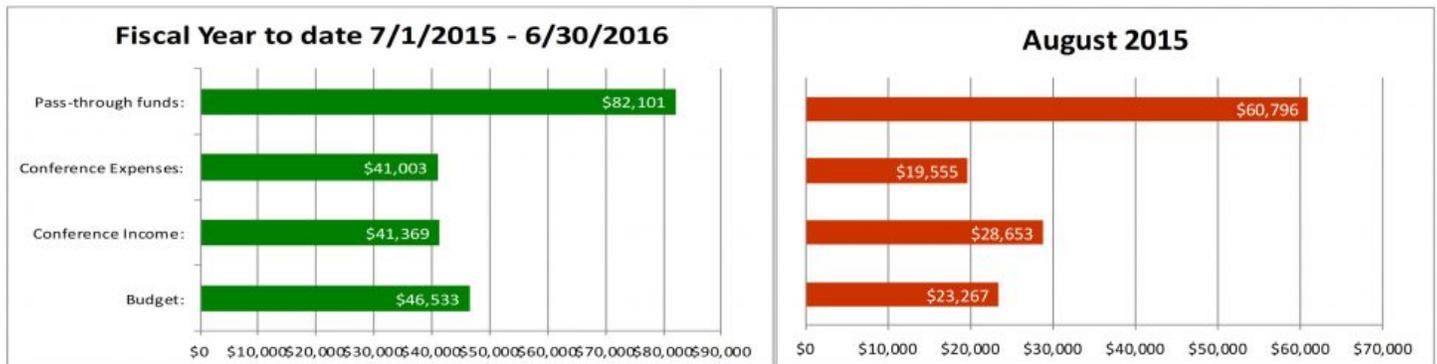
Beginnings and endings

- Rebecca Kauffman- ended at Paoli Mennonite Church June 30, 2018
- Ruben Chupp – ended (retired) at North Main Street Mennonite Church July 31, 2018.
- Danny Jones – serving as interim pastor at North Main Street Mennonite Church during August and September.
- Steve Thomas – serving as transitional pastor at Prairie Street Mennonite Church.
- Naomi Yoder – will be ordained at East Goshen Mennonite on September 23, 2018, with Sharon Yoder officiating on behalf of IN-MI Conference.

- True Vine Tabernacle and Yellow Creek Mennonite have chosen to leave Indiana-Michigan conference and will affiliate with Lancaster Mennonite Confereee

From Sharon Yoder, Interim Pastor for Leadership Transitions

Financial Report



While the year started off slow it caught up this month thanks to your generosity. The income of \$28,653 was \$5,386 above budget. While it was \$5,164 below budget for the year to date it was \$366 above expenses for the year to date.

—Jim Norton, bookkeeper

Alumni Reunion

Bethany Christian Schools in Goshen will be hosting class reunions and activities for its alumni and their families on Saturday, Sept. 22. The following graduating classes will hold their reunions Saturday: 1958, 1963, 1968, 1973, 1978, 1983, 1988, 1993, 1998, 2003, 2008, and 2013. Reunion classes will meet Saturday afternoon/evening at Bethany for visiting and a catered dinner. Alumni interested in attending should register by Sept. 12. More details are available at bethanycs.net/reunions

Mennonite Men

Mennonite Men and Camp Friedenswald will provide a retreat for men and boys on **Healthy Masculinity: On Being a Man** October 12-14.

Mennonite Men retreat – for men and boys. What does it mean to be a man? We witness toxic masculinity—men being invulnerable, acting tough, abusing power and dominating others. In this retreat, **Healthy Masculinity: On Being a Man** at Camp Friedenswald October 12-14, men and boys we will see how masculinity means something much more and better. Based on who we are as beloved sons of God, we will reconsider the marks of good men and explore our part in building God's peace. The retreat will be led by **Steve Thomas**, U.S. Coordinator for Mennonite Men, the men's organization of MC USA. Men may come alone, with a friend, or bring a son, grandson, nephew or mentee. For more information, see the attached [retreat flyer](#) or visit mennonitemen.org/joinmen.

Healthy Congregations

to think more clearly about families, relationships, and faith communities.

This fall the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center will present *Healthy Congregations*, an interdenominational workshop for pastors and other church leaders. The details are as follows:

What: *Healthy Congregations*

When: Friday evening, October 5 and Saturday, October 6, 2018

Where: Utica United Methodist Church in Sterling Heights, MI

Who: This workshop is designed to equip pastors and other church leaders with skills to respond to the presence or potential threat of anxiety in a congregational system in ways that prevent destructive conflict, and that help the church stay focused on its unique mission and purpose.

Be sure to register by Friday, September 21, 2018 in order to receive a discount on tuition for you or your entire church group! For a congregational discount coupon, click [here](#).

To register online at Brown Paper tickets, click [here](#).

Healthy Congregations' Leadership Series
announces its next program year
September 2018 - May 2019

Monthly gatherings for thoughtful leaders who want to be challenged to greater maturity and engagement with family, faith community, and world.



For more details and to register:
healthycongregations.com



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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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