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Conference News

Practicing Our Hope: Annual Sessions 2019 takes place June 13-15 at Amigo Centre. Hear stories from Michigan congregations about how they are experiencing God in their communities. Attend worship and listen to engaging sermons. Check out the website for more information.

CONNECTING

Dan made a trip to Bloomington and Indianapolis in mid-January.

Northern Michigan pastors and spouses had their annual retreat January 18-20.

Sharon Yoder is on board now in the quarter-time position working with searches and credentialing.

As part of the sabbatical from regional meetings this year, MLT invites pastors and delegates to invest that time in missional connections, or imagining next steps in doing conference meaningfully.

The last week of February, Dan will meet with mid-states leaders, attend part of Pastors and Leaders at AMBS, and attend Constituency Leaders Council.

CELEBRATING

We celebrate Anna and Brandon's wedding on January 19.

We celebrate Rhonda Yoder's contributions to Leadership Enhancement Team as she steps back to address family concerns.

The retiring pastors group had their first meeting February 11, after being delayed 2 weeks by winter weather.

We give thanks for the planning Missional Leadership Team and others are doing for [Practicing our Hope: Annual Session 2019](#).

CREDENTIALING AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Two options for Healthy Boundaries training:

A Leadership Clinic on February 25 at AMBS Pastors and Leaders. David Miller will lead the seminar. David is a teaching associate at AMBS; he was a pastor at East Goshen. He spoke at Annual Sessions in 2018. Register online.

Mennonite Church USA convention in Kansas City at the beginning of July. A Healthy Boundaries 101 seminar is being scheduled for Tuesday, July 2. Registration for convention is open. See information [here](#).

As a conference in Mennonite Church USA we are committed to helping pastors in Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference maintain healthy and life-giving relationships in their families and churches. Because pastors have access to people in vulnerable times, it is important that we consciously learn and maintain healthy boundaries.

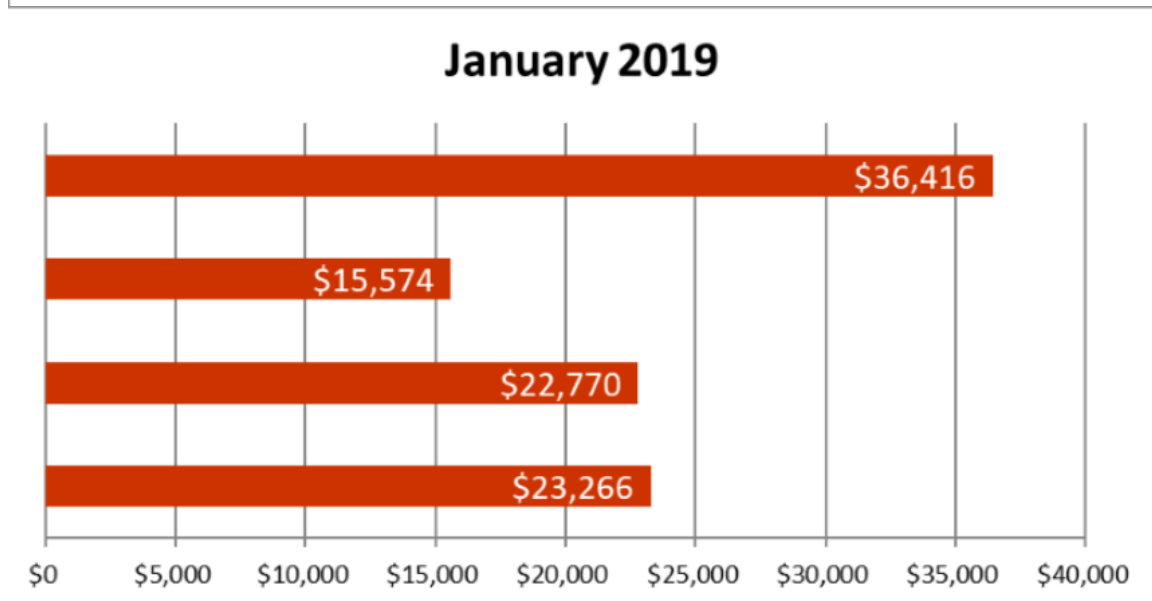
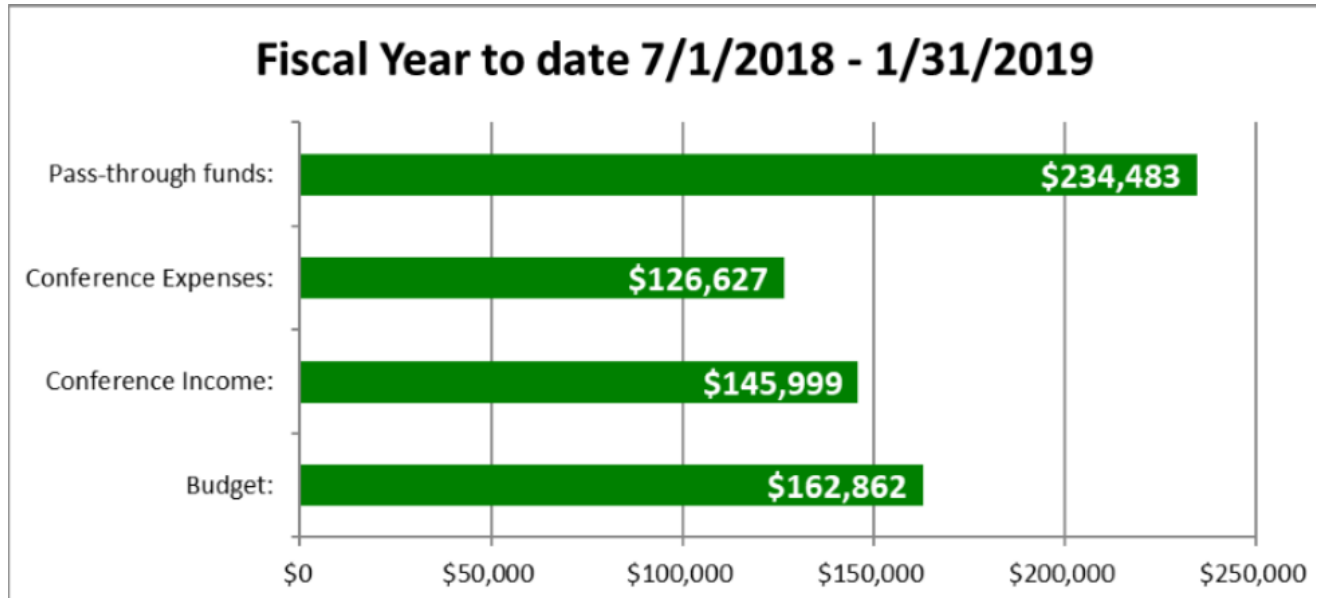
Ministry Credentialing Team (MCT) is joining with other Mennonite Church USA conferences in asking that every pastor attend a Healthy Boundaries seminar every three years. MCT sponsored Healthy Boundaries 101 seminars as part of the Pastor Gathering for the last two years, and have asked every pastor to have this training by the end of 2019.

Pastor Financial Wellness

Everence has received a second \$1 million grant in support of pastor financial wellness. Half of it will be for educational events and half for financial assistance grants. Watch for future educational events.

Application forms, if you did not receive a matching financial grant last time, are available [here](#). Contact the office at 574-534-4006 if you have questions, or you can contact Patty Skelton, Everence Administrative Assistant at patty.skelton@everence.com.

Financial Report



Thank you for your continued generous support. In January while our income was below budget by only \$496 our expenses were below budget by \$7,196. The year to date income is above expenses by \$19,372.

You are invited to register for **Sent 2019: Beautiful Feet!** This year, the conference will be hosted by Beloved Community Mennonite Church and Mountain States Mennonite Conference and will take place Apr. 26-28, 2019, in Denver, Colorado.

The **Sent conference** is the event that Mennonite Mission Network (MMN) organizes every year to gather missional leaders who share a passion for planting peace churches in our nation. **Sent** is normally attended by a diverse community of leaders: women/men, immigrants, millennials, pastors, missional staff leaders, and others.

Information can be found here: [Sent 2019 Registration](#).

Scholarships will be available based on need. Once again, Everence is joining us in this effort, and we hope to help as many as we can.

Updates from Bethany

Musical Tickets: Bethany Christian High School will perform Junie B Jones the Musical on Thursday-Sunday, Feb. 28-March 3, 2019. Bring the children in your life for this one-act musical and treats with the cast! In this beloved musical, the outspoken and lovable Junie heads to first grade, adjusts to school, gets glasses, learns how to navigate the relationships of childhood, and discovers her own voice in her diary of "Top Secret Personal Beeswax." Tickets are \$9 for adults and \$7 for students. Tickets may be purchased online at bethanycs.net/tickets. Performances are at 7 p.m. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday and 3 p.m. Sunday.

Members of the cast include:

Belmont: Matthew Dyck, Sasha Dyck, Philip Krabill, Christian Yoder

Berkey Avenue: Norah Schloneger

College: Malachi Lind

Waterford: Emma Bontrager, Isa Hartzler

Open House at Bethany: Bethany Christian Schools will host a drop-in open house noon to 2:30 p.m. Sunday, March 3, for anyone considering enrolling for fall 2019 and beyond. Bring your family and invite others from your church or neighborhood who may have interest in Bethany. Stop by after church for a light lunch, and faculty and staff will be available to answer questions and give tours. So we know to expect you for the meal, please register online (bethanycs.net/admissions/visit) or RSVP to Trish Yoder in the admissions office ([574-534-2657](tel:574-534-2657) or admissions@bethanycs.net).

Updates from Amigo

Final Amigo Winter Youth Retreats for 2019 is February 15-17: Senior

High – Speaker: Tig Intagliata (Bluffton College campus pastor). **Title:** "Becoming Friends

with God." **Scripture:** John 15:15. **Description:** Tig will help your

students to prepare for the stage of life after high school. His campus ministry expertise will give insight for how to have a true friendship with the

creator. Drawing near to God is something we all need to work on. **There is still room if you would like to come – call us at 269-651-2811.**

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. **Maximum of 90 people for each**

event. If you want to come, sign up soon! We are almost full for our two spring dates!

2019 spring dates include:

March 8-13 (weekend plus stay over Sun-Wednesday options or early Thursday arrival)

64 already registered!

April 2-7 (weekend plus come early Tuesday-Thursday night additional options)

80 already registered!

Call or register online! 269-651-2811 or mandy@amigocentre.org or www.amigocentre.org

All are invited to the **FRIENDS OF AMIGO BANQUET**, 6 pm March 14th at Yellow Creek Mennonite Church. Come to hear an update about what is happening at Amigo Centre this past year and what we're working on in 2019. Please call to let us know you are coming!

NEW DATE: 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. **April 1-4, 2019, 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:269.651.2811) or mandy@amigocentre.org

Amigo Centre wood splitting and workday will be on **April 13th**. We have a lot to do in preparation for the summer. Rain or shine we'll be tackling projects all over camp. If you are interested in helping prepare campfire wood and cleaning up areas of the timber we'll be cutting and splitting firewood. Please RSVP by calling 269-651-2811 or emailing info@amigocentre.org

SAVE THE DATE!

22nd Annual Camper Scholarship Amigo Centre **Golf Scramble** will be **June 8th**, 2019 at 8 am. Registration to come soon. If you're interested in joining and want registration information feel free to contact Amigo Centre at 269-651-2811 to have your name added to the list.

AMIGO SUMMER CAMP is coming! Think warm!! Camp runs June 16-July 26, 2019. 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

Amigo 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 know of youth in your family or community that would be interested in summer employment at Amigo in 2019, contact Dave@amigocentre.org or apply online. We are also looking for a few staff to help in maintenance, dining hall and housekeeping. If you know someone who would be a good fit for Amigo, please direct them our way!

AMIGO FACILITIES Has it been awhile since your congregation has had a **church retreat**? Are you considering trying to get one up and running? Give us a call to find out how we can help facilitate your retreat. There is some availability in the Spring and Early Fall 2019.

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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