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## IMMC Happenings

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Beginning September 1, Anna Board will begin working remotely some days. Anna will be physically in the IMMC office space on Mondays and Wednesdays and working remotely on Tuesdays and Thursdays. As we continue to dream about how to live into our vision, we are exploring creative ways to build connections between congregations. Anna hopes this change will allow for opportunities to connect with IMMC congregations.

Beginning August 1, Sharon Yoder's position as conference pastor for leadership transitions was increased to 0.35 FTE from 0.25. This change will allow for better staff connections. Sharon has kept search and credential processes moving, but staff connections have been sparse. Both Stewardship and Missional Leadership teams approved using some of the overage from last fiscal year to cover this increase.

Plans continue to a Pastor Gathering November 11-13 at Amigo Centre. This event consists of three separate events held consecutively, to reduce travel:

- \* Healthy Boundaries, sponsored by Ministry Credentialing Team
- \* Pastor Retreat, planned by Leadership Enhancement Team
- \* Pastors Summit, sponsored by Missional Leadership Team.

Follow this link for more information and registration:

<https://im.mennonite.net/news-events/2019-pastor-gathering/>

Retiring Pastors. Retirement is a big step. Adjusting one's role is challenging work, giving the retiring pastor a chance to "clean out their closets" and release a past identity in order to embrace what is emerging. If you have retired in the last three years or are retiring in the next year, consider walking with a group of peers in a confidential facilitated conversation. The group is limited to 8 members and will meet biweekly. Regular attendance and confidentiality are expected. IMMC is helping with the cost. For more details or to express interest, contact Dan Miller at [dan@immennonite.net](mailto:dan@immennonite.net) or 574-534-4006.

## **CELEBRATING**

We celebrate with Jeremiah Chuiha, pastor at Emmanuel Living Christian Church (Indianapolis) that he has received notice of his visa approval.

We celebrate the four years Paula Killough served on Missional Leadership Team (MLT), especially noting the two years as moderator. Thank you, Paula. And thanks be to God.

We celebrate those who begin new terms of service on conference leadership teams. We hope that as a result of involvement, each one will experience growth in their capacity as a leader and gain greater clarity about the gifts they offer.

We celebrate the international flavor of participants in Journey: Missional Leadership Development. The Weekend Learning Event will be September 6-8.

## **CONNECTING**

July 14 Sharon Yoder was present at Walnut Hill Mennonite (Goshen) to install Jane Miller as interim associate pastor, to serve along with ongoing pastor Ben Bouwman. Dan Miller was present the same day at First Mennonite, Indianapolis, to install Gary Martin as transitional pastor.

As Anna Board changes her work routine, she is interested in learning more about IMMC congregations. Stay tuned for more details.

Sharon and a couple of Missional Leadership Team members attended Wilma Cender's memorial service at Hopewell Mennonite Church on July 3. The service was a touching celebration of Wilma's ministry; she will be deeply missed in IMMC.

## **CREDENTIALING AND DEVELOPMENT**

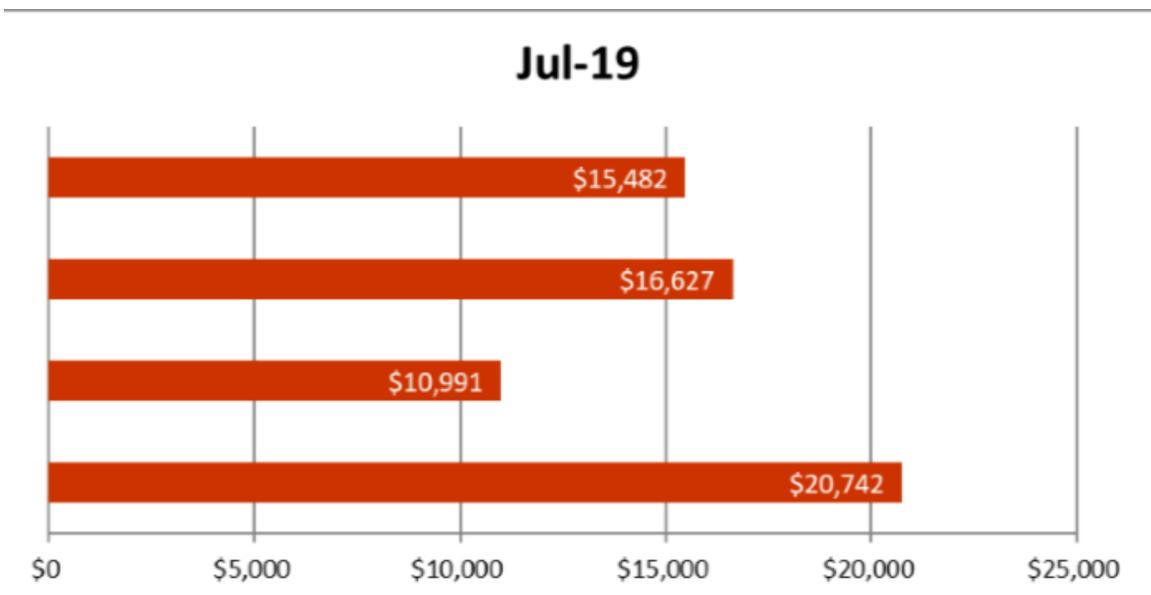
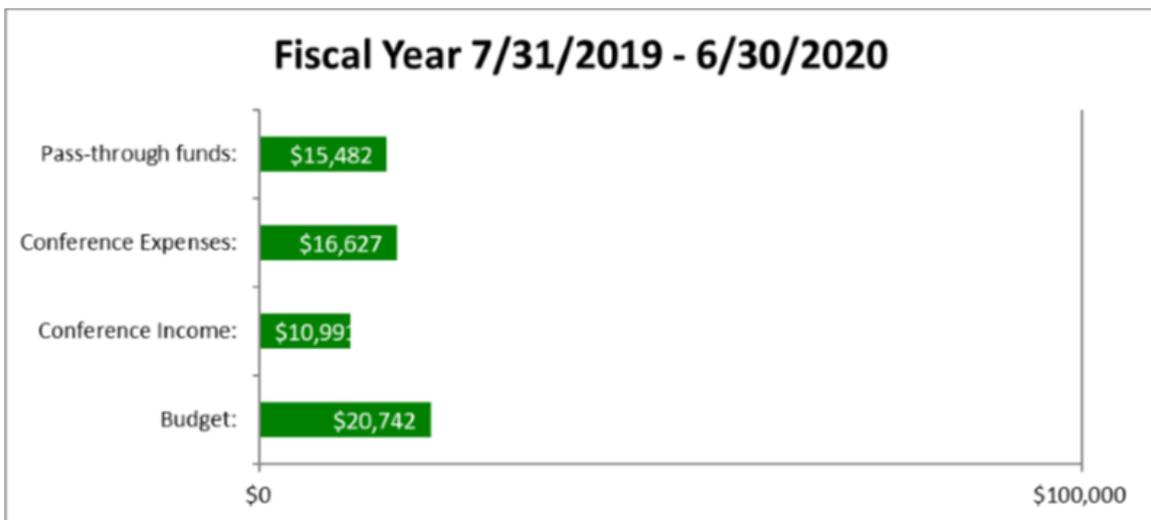
Sharon Yoder is working with 4 active pastoral searches and with several other congregations that are in various states of transition.

Two years ago, Volunteer Search Guides were trained to offer support to congregations during pastoral searches. Sharon resources the Search Guides as

they walk with Search Committees and scheduled a refresher meeting with them for November 19.

## Financial Update

For July our income was \$5,636 below expenses and \$9,742 below budget. We always budget equally across the months of the year. July tends to be a low income month thus we expect to catch up with later months. We appreciate your prayers and continued support. -Jim Norton, *IMMC Bookkeeper*



## Amigo Centre Updates

- **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 latter half of 2019.
- **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:269-651-2811) or shoot us an email at [info@amigocentre.org](mailto:info@amigocentre.org) to make your reservation.
- **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. Call or register online! 269-651-2811 or [mandy@amigocentre.org](mailto:mandy@amigocentre.org) or [www.amigocentre.org](http://www.amigocentre.org)
  - **Limited space available September 23-30**
  - **December 3-11 (early and late options along with the weekend)**
- **“She is a Tree of Life”** is the theme for the **Retreat for Women and Girls** at Amigo Centre, **October 11-13**, We look forward to a weekend full of fellowship and learning together, along with an opportunity to retreat from routine distractions. This year we are again inviting young girls (third grade and older) to come with an adult for a fun-filled weekend. We will have activities designed specifically for them. Our speaker is Sabrina Falls from Shalom Mennonite in Indy. Happy is the one who finds wisdom and whoever finds wisdom finds life (Proverbs 3:13, 8:35). Register online, or your congregation should have brochures available. Contact Amigo if you need additional information or brochures.
- **Transitional ministry** has a unique place in the mission of the church. While “interim pastors” have provided preaching and pastoral care for many years, “transitional ministry” involves training to lead congregations through a process of preparation for entering a new chapter of leadership. **October 21-23, 2019, Amigo Centre will host a Transitional Ministry Training retreat** for individuals interested in pursuing this type of ministry in Murdock, Kansas, at Camp Mennoscah. Visit <http://tmt.amigocentre.org/> for additional information, or contact Amigo Centre at 269.651.2811 and ask for Mandy. You may also email [mandy@amigocentre.org](mailto:mandy@amigocentre.org),
- **Save the dates:** Winter Youth Retreat
  - Senior High Retreat                      January 10-12: Katie Misz, Speaker
  - Junior High Retreat                      February 7-9: Colton Eby, Speaker

- o Peace Camp  
Speaker

February 14-16: Saulo Padilla,

### **Amigo Road Scholar Programs**

If you are over 50 and looking for additional learning experiences, Amigo runs several Road Scholar (formerly Elderhostel) programs. Check out the programs online at [www.roadscholar.org](http://www.roadscholar.org). These programs run from Sunday evening through Friday morning. You may commute or stay at Amigo.

**Program #12343 – A Study in Shared Heritage: The Amish and Mennonites** – John Sharp is leading this program September 8-13

**Program 20986 – Amish-Mennonite Quilt Series** – Carol Honderich is leading the final “Women of the Bible quilt program October 27-November 1. Janis Nelson will be leading the “Shipshewana Blessing” quilt program in September 8-13.

**Program 22518 – Discover Your Family’s Roots** – a program doing research in genealogy – with the help of several Amigo staff as well as the staff from the Allen County Genealogy Center in Fort Wayne. This program runs September 29-October 4.

If you have questions, please contact Mandy at Amigo. [mandy@amigocentre.org](mailto:mandy@amigocentre.org)

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## **Job Opportunity**

**Eighth Street Preschool** is accepting applications for the position of **Preschool Director**. This is a part-time position (approx. 25 hours per week). The person in this position will foster a caring, nurturing, loving environment for children to learn and thrive mentally, emotionally and socially through play-based engagement with children from different backgrounds and experiences in a context that is affordable and lives out Christian values without preaching to them. Please direct inquiries and resumes to [karenlarsen81@yahoo.com](mailto:karenlarsen81@yahoo.com).

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conference website at [im.mennonite.net/welink-archive/](http://im.mennonite.net/welink-archive/).

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