

# Annual Sessions 2021 (June 18-19)



**Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference**

**Sturgis, MI**

Amigo Centre, Sturgis, MI

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**“BECOMING ONE”**  
**Annual Sessions 2021**  
**June 18 & 19, 2021**



Greetings Sisters and Brothers,

We serve an amazingly faithful God, full of patience, love, mercy and grace. We praise God that we have made it this far considering the year we have all experienced. We are pleased to host 2021 Annual Sessions June 18th-19th both online and at the serene surroundings of the Amigo Centre in Sturgis, Michigan.

Our theme this year derives from the thought **“Becoming One”** sculpted from Ephesians 4:1-16. The Conference gathering goals are (i) transformation, (ii) relationship and (iii) equipping. These goals triggered the team to create some amazing seminars. **Descriptions of these seminars can be found [HERE](#).**

We invite you to take this amazing journey with us. Considering what the entire world has experienced this last year and throughout, we are humbled to equip participants with the keys to **“Becoming One”** by taking part in worship, worshipful work, and seminars.

We have some wonderful guest speakers and instructors ready to join us as we work to become one with each other and with God. **We encourage you to bring your families.** The staff at Amigo has set up a number of activities for children of all ages!

Information of registration is attached. **Register [HERE](#).**

Sincerely,

Annual Sessions Planners,  
*Wanda Bradford, Community Christian Fellowship*  
*Jeremiah Chuiha, Emmanuel Living Christian*  
*Muthoni (Gladys) Maina, Morning Star*  
*Izaete Nafziger, North Goshen*  
*Shawn Lange, New Foundation United in Hope Fellowship*  
*Anna Board, IMMC*

Schedule for 2021 Annual Sessions  
**“Built Together”**  
June 18-19  
Online and at Amigo Centre, Brutus, MI

Color code:

- Worship services are in red
- Meals are in orange
- Seminars are in blue
- Worshipful Work Sessions are in green

**FRIDAY, June 18 (Via Zoom)**

- 3:00-3:30pm Welcome & Worship
- 3:30-4:45pm Worshipful Work
- 7:00pm Worship Service

**SATURDAY, June 19 (Hybrid, Zoom and at Amigo)**

- 10:30am Registration
- 11:00am Worship (Hybrid)
- 12:15pm Lunch
- 1:15-2:30pm Seminars
  - o Missional Discipleship Initiative (Hybrid)
  - o Grief and Loss (in-person)
  - o Intercultural Competency (in-person)
- 2:30-2:45pm Break
- 2:45pm-4:00pm Worshipful Work (Hybrid)
- 4:15-4:30 Break
- 4:30pm-6:30pm Farewell Celebration for Dan Miller (in-person)

## Procedural Rules for Delegates

Adapted from the special rules approved at the beginning of the 2007 Mennonite Church USA Delegate Assembly held in San José, California.

*Indiana-Michigan constitutional provisions for decision making at Annual Sessions:*

- The conference shall seek consensus or broad affirmation in all decisions. Where available time does not allow for consensus or where circumstances are not deemed to require broad affirmation, the conference may proceed by majority vote.
- A majority of votes cast shall determine any matter, except when the delegates agree otherwise or when otherwise provided in the constitution or bylaws.
- A quorum shall consist of all properly recognized delegates present at a duly called assembly meeting.

Delegates representing INDIANA-MICHIGAN Conference congregations need to attend to the church's business in a timely manner that allows for due consideration. Balancing these goals is typically difficult, especially in decision-making bodies as large as ours.

Parliamentary procedure is used to help groups, especially large ones, balance the goals of timely action and due consideration. It does so by standardizing procedures through a system of rules that establish who may speak, about what, when, and for how long. Most people are not familiar with these rules and as a result tend to experience parliamentary procedures as cumbersome. So far no one has developed a less cumbersome and yet fair way to balance these competing goals. This document is adapted from the Procedural Rules for Delegates successfully followed at Mennonite Church USA Charlotte 2005 Delegate Assembly, and is an effort to make parliamentary procedure feel a bit more user friendly.

### Basic rules

In an effort to allow as many persons as possible to be heard, please follow these basic rules:

- Only delegates may make motions or vote on them.
- Do not address the assembly more than twice in a day on any one topic.
- Before you speak a second time on one topic, make sure that no one else who has not yet spoken on that topic wishes to do so.
- When you go to the microphone to address the assembly, wait to be recognized by the moderator. Once recognized, state your name and (if appropriate) the group you represent before making your remarks.
- Only speak on behalf of a group if you have been specifically commissioned to do so.
- In order to keep the discussion from becoming personal, always address the moderator rather than a previous speaker or someone else in the meeting.
- Always speak respectfully. If you disagree with another person who has spoken, please describe that point of view with respect.
- So that the group can put your remarks in context, always indicate whether you are speaking in favor of or against the proposal that is being discussed.

### Parliamentary procedures commonly used

During the delegate session, if you want to introduce a motion, raise a question, or extend discussion, please follow these procedures:

- If you want to amend a main motion, limit or extend debate on a motion, or lay a motion on the table, you need to make a motion to that effect while the main motion is still under consideration. To do so, seek recognition from the moderator and then make the motion.  
(Simply say, "I wish to amend the motion," and then, when recognized, say, "I move that the motion be amended to say . . .")

- To object to the consideration of a motion, call for a more precise vote, ask a question about parliamentary procedure or offer information on a question, first seek recognition of the moderator and then state your business. (*You might say, "Point of information." Then, if recognized, you might say, "In relation to the current motion, delegates may find it helpful to know that..."*)
- To call for a recess, adjournment, or a question of privilege (to rectify some problem that is distracting the assembly, for instance), seek the recognition of the moderator and after recognition make the motion. (*You might say, "I rise to a question of privilege." The moderator will ask you what the question of privilege is.*)
- Many motions require a second. This guarantees that at least one other person is interested in the proposal. (*To second a motion, rise and say "I second that motion."*)
- Any motion that comes from a committee does not need a second since the support of a committee already indicates that the body is interested in the motion.
- Finally, if you think that it is time to end discussion you can "call for the question." However, if there is any objection to ending discussion, then the delegate body will need to take a vote on your proposal to end discussion.

New motions and/or amendments to motions that are on the agenda

We will conduct our business according to the following rules which are commonly used in large assemblies that must get their work done in a relatively short period of time.

- Any motion that brings substantive business to the body must be taken to the moderator or moderator-elect before it can be brought to the floor. The purpose of this is to make sure that the assembly only takes time to consider clear and appropriate motions.
- Likewise, amendments to resolutions that appear on the agenda must be presented to the moderator or moderator-elect before they can be brought to the floor for discussion. The purpose for this rule is the same as above.

For more specific information on the kinds of motions you can make and the rules that apply to them, see *Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised (10<sup>th</sup> edition)*. If you have questions about parliamentary procedure during the delegate sessions, we invite you to ask the designated parliamentarian about appropriate procedures during a break.

We hope that the procedures described above will enable Annual Sessions to be times of discernment together. Come prepared to hear God's voice as we worshipfully work together.

## Chapter 1 Conference Program

### Delegates to Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference, June 2020

#### Congregational delegates include:

1. All ordained and licensed ministers with active congregational assignments:  
OM = Ordained Minister  
LM = Licensed Minister  
DE = Deacon
2. One elder or comparable leader:  
CC = Congregational Chair

CE = Chair of Elders

E = Elder

3. One delegate representing financial matters:  
F = Financial rep
4. One delegate for each 150 members or fraction thereof:  
D = Delegate

Ann Arbor Mennonite Church  
1-OM Chibuzor Ozor

Belmont Mennonite Church  
1-OM Mandy Yoder  
4-CC Audra Mark  
7-F Uryna Gerber  
8-D Mike Zehr

Belmont Neighborhood Fellowship  
1-OM Kevin Yoder  
4-CC Glenn Leinbach

Benton Mennonite Church  
1-OM Doug Kaufman  
1-OM Brenda Meyer  
4-CC John Buschert  
7-F Bruce Nofziger  
8-D Helene Hoover

Berkey Avenue Mennonite Fellowship  
1-OM Joanne Gallardo  
1-OM Mark Schloneger  
8-D Jenny Hooley

Bethel Mennonite Church  
1-OM Joe Pendleton  
4-CC George Smith  
5-CE Wallace Yordy  
7-F Ryan Gnagey

Bonneyville Mennonite Church  
2-LM Mariah Martin  
4-CC Randy Zimmerly  
7-F Korey Bromley  
7-F Kurt Eby

Cedar Grove Mennonite Church  
4-CC Douglas Troyer  
7-F Mike Sheppard  
8-D Susan Barham  
8-D Anna Troyer

Church Without Walls  
1-OM Cora Brown  
1-OM Jonathan Brown  
6-E Rosetta Brown  
8-D Louise Millsaps

College Mennonite Church  
1-OM David Maldonado  
1-OM Madeline Maldonado  
1-OM Phil Waite  
1-OM Daniel Yoder  
1-OM Pamela Yoder  
2-LM Talashia Keim Yoder  
5-CE Becky Horst  
7-F Scott Litwiller  
8-D Vivian Kaser  
8-D Tim Lichti  
8-D Higinio Luna

Community Christian Fellowship Ministries  
1-OM Sam Wilson  
6-E James Bell  
6-E Jackey Wilson

East Goshen Mennonite Church  
1-OM Merle Hostetler  
1-OM Cal Kaufman  
1-OM Naomi Yoder  
5-CE Tim Yoder  
7-F Millard Graber  
8-D Susan Hanna  
8-D Beth Grieser

Emmanuel Living Christian Church		Kalamazoo Mennonite Fellowship	
1-OM	Jeremiah Chuiha	2-LM	Grant Miller
Fairhaven Mennonite Church		4-CC	CarolSue Borkholder
4-CC	Rachel Yoder	Kern Road Mennonite Church	
7-F	Duane Yoder	1-OM	David Sutter
8-D	Christine Bailey	1-OM	Janice Yordy Sutter
Family Worship Center at the Lighthouse		2-LM	Jennifer Helmuth Shenk
1-OM	James Hochstetler	4-CC	Andrew Tucker
5-CE	Jeremy McLaughlin	7-F	James Halteman
Fellowship of Hope Mennonite Church		8-D	Barbara Devereaux
1-OM	Suella Lehman Gerber	Liberty Christian Fellowship	
7-F	Verlin Miller	8-D	Brian Wills
First Mennonite Church, Indianapolis		Maple River Mennonite Church	
1-OM	Bob Smith	5-CE	Heidi Burkhart
1-OM	Mag Richer Smith	7-F	Janet Trowbridge
7-F	Jeanene Boyce	8-D	Arnold Burkhart
7-F	Michael Miller	Mara Christian Church of America, Indpls	
8-D	Todd Grotenhuis	1-OM	Ang Rem
6-E	Marj Rush Hovde	2-LM	David Ngole Tha
Good News Community Chapel		8-D	Eric Lian
4-CC	Jan Esch	8-D	William Maung
8-D	David Esch	Mennonite Fellowship of Bloomington	
Grace Chapel		5-CE	Virgil Sauder
2-LM	James H Nelson	7-F	Sue Ramseyer
4-CC	Renna Harness	8-D	John Sauder
7-F	Glen Jackson	Morning Star Church	
Grand Marais Mennonite Church		1-OM	Gladys Maina
1-OM	Phil Bontrager	1-OM	Simon Mungai
4-CC	Carol Tester	8-D	Tom Hines
7-F	Jay Aeschliman	New Foundation Utd in Christ Menn Flsp	
Holdeman Mennonite Church		1-OM	Shawn Lange
1-OM	BJ Leichty	1-OM	Tyrone Taylor
8-D	Vernard Guengerich	2-LM	Leandrea Lange
Hopewell Mennonite Church		2-LM	Tantra Taylor
1-OM	Joel Short	8-D	Lanata Chalmers
5-CE	Marty Gaff	New Hope Community Church of Midland	
Hudson Lake Mennonite Church		1-OM	Harold (Denny) Heath
1-OM	Barbara Devereaux	5-CE	Lewis Davis
1-OM	Esther Lanting	7-F	Cathy Carpenter
4-CC	Barbara Funnell	Ninth Street Community Church	
6-E	Les Gnagey	4-CC	Raymond Jones
7-F	Heidi King		
8-D	Gary Heminger		



North Goshen Mennonite Church

1-OM Nathan Graber-McCrae  
1-OM Izaete Nafziger  
4-CC Marcos Stolfus  
6-E Jonathan Nussbaum  
7-F Tim Nafziger

Parkview Mennonite Church

4-CC Tillie Graber  
7-F Sylvia Bontrager  
8-D Grace Whitehead

Peace Community Mennonite Church

7-F Bonita Eileen Childs  
8-D Theodore Myles

Prairie Street Mennonite Church

1-OM Cyneatha Millsaps  
1-OM Quinn Brenneke  
7-F Joshua Kinder  
8-D Alan Longenecker

Shalom Mennonite Church

1-OM Brian Bither  
4-CC Jeanne Smucker  
7-F Linda Kandel  
7-F Robert Love  
8-D Frank Kandel

Sunnyside Mennonite Church

1-OM Amy Kratzer  
1-OM Charles Geiser  
1-OM Teresa Geiser  
4-CC Sandra Yoder  
5-CE Peter Graber  
7-F Dale Shenk  
8-D Mary Kauffmann

Walnut Hill Mennonite Church

1-OM Ben Bouwman  
1-OM Carmen Horst  
5-CE Evelyn zumFelde  
7-F Brian Miller  
7-F Janice Eigsti Miller  
7-F Arloa Bontrager  
8-D Shin Yee Tan

Waterford Mennonite Church

1-OM Neil Amstutz  
1-OM Katie Misz  
1-OM Cindy Voth  
8-D Joy Yoder  
8-D John Kaufman  
8-D Karsten Hess

Wildwood Mennonite Church

4-CC Jonathan Miller  
7-F Suetta Hollinger  
8-D Janice Wagner

### **Congregational Coaches**

**Phil Bontrager** serves Wildwood, attends Grand Marais

**Ruben Chupp** serves Hudson Lake; attends Sunnyside

**Ron Guengerich** serves College & Waterford; attends Eighth Street

**Russel Jensen** serves Parkview; attends Maplewood

**Lois Kaufmann** serves Fellowship of Hope

### **Search Guides**

\*denotes those who were active during 2020-2021 season

\***Ruben Chupp**; serving Berkey Avenue, attends Sunnyside

\***Suella Gerber** served North Goshen; attends Fellowship of Hope

**Keith Kinglsey** serves New Foundation United in Christ; attends Fellowship of Hope

**Tim Lichti** serves Holdeman; attends College

**Janice Yordy Sutter** serves Walnut Hill; attends Kern Road

**Leonard Wiebe** serves Bonneyville; attends Eighth Street

\***Rebecca Horst** served Walnut Hill, serving Waterford; attends College

\***Frank Kandel** serving Fairhaven; attends Shalom

**Richard Kauffman** attends College

**John Kaufman** attends Waterford

\***Bob Schloneger** served Shalom, serving First, attends North Goshen

## **Conference Personnel — 2020-2021**

### **Missional Leadership Team**

Brenda Meyer, moderator-elect, Benton (19/2019-21 affm)  
Bob Yoder, moderator, College (14/2017-21 affm)  
Duane Yoder, treasurer, Fairhaven (19/2019-21 affm)  
Naomi Yoder, East Goshen (19/2019-21 affm)  
Steve Slagel, Maple River (20/2020-22 affm)

### **Personnel Committee**

Ray Hunsberger, chair, Belmont (20/2020-23 appt)  
Marge Schrag, Menn Fellowship of Bloomington  
(13/2019-22 appt)  
Rachel Stoltzfus, Waterford (18/2018-2021 appt)

### **MCC Great Lakes Rep**

George Thompson, Waterford (19/2019-22 appt)

### **Conference Staff**

Dan Miller, conference pastor, Walnut Hill (09/2018-21)  
Sharon Yoder, conference pastor for leadership transitions (19/2019-)  
Anna Board, administrative coordinator, IMMC (18/2018- )  
Jim Norton, bookkeeper, Walnut Hill (2015- )

### **Commissions and Committees**

#### **Leadership Enhancement Team (LET)**

Ben Bouwman, chair, Walnut Hill (17/2017-20 appt)  
Christine Kauffman, East Goshen (19/2019-21 appt)  
Kent Miller, First Middlebury (16/2019-2021 affm)  
Dave Sutter, Kern Road (18/2018-2021 affm)  
Andrea Grotenhuis, First Mennonite (20/2020-23 appt)

#### **Ministry Credentialing Team (MCT)**

Ruben Chupp, Sunnyside (16/2019-21 affm)  
Suella Gerber, chair, Fellowship of Hope (19/2019-22 appt)  
Angy Moore, Kern Road (13/2019-21 affm)  
Phil Waite, College, (19/2019-22 affm)

#### **Stewardship Team**

Cindy Steiner, chair, East Goshen (12/2018-20 affm)  
Verlin Miller, Fellowship of Hope (12/2018-20 affm)  
Ron Ringenberg, Prairie Street (20/2020-22 appt)  
Angela, Swartzendruber, North Goshen (20/2020-23 affm)  
Duane Yoder, Fairhaven (19/2019-22 appt)

#### **Gifts Development Team**

Addie Leaman, (17/2018-2020 affm)  
Bruce Nofziger, chair, Benton (14/2018-20 affm)  
Janice Wagner, Wildwood (17/2018-20 affm)

## Geographic Locations of Congregations

Regions and area councils

### Northern (15 congregations)

#### Upper Peninsula

Cedar Grove  
Grand Marais  
Wildwood

#### Northern MI

Maple River  
Grace Chapel  
New Hope Community  
Church of Midland  
Ninth Street

#### East Central MI

Bethel

#### Southeast MI

Ann Arbor  
Community Christian  
Good News  
Liberty Christian Fellowship  
Peace

#### Southwest MI

Kalamazoo

### Michiana (26 congregations)

#### Swanee Lake (Plus)

Holdeman  
Hopewell  
Hudson Lake  
Kern Road

#### Elkhart

Belmont  
Belmont Neighborhood  
Bonneyville  
Church Without Walls  
Fellowship of Hope  
New Foundation United  
in Christ Fellowship  
Piedra Viva  
Prairie Street  
Sunnyside

#### Goshen

Benton  
Berkey Avenue  
College  
East Goshen

Family Worship Center  
North Goshen  
Walnut Hill  
Waterford

### Southern (11 congregations)

#### Camfell

Menn Flsp of Bloomington  
Emmanuel Living Christian  
First, Indianapolis  
Mara Christian Church  
Morning Star  
Parkview  
Shalom

#### Fort Wayne

Fairhaven

## **Missional Seeds Giving Club Members**

as of May, 2020

Patricia Brubacher  
Kelly Carson  
Karl Cender  
Sherrill & Melvin Glick  
Alvin and Dolores Graber  
Virgil & Ruth Hershberger  
Suetta Hollinger  
Frank and Linda Kandel  
J. Stanley Kauffman  
Paula Killough  
Eleanor Kreider  
Doug and Joy Landis  
Dean and Bek Linsenmeyer  
Rod and Martha Yoder Maust  
Dan and Nadine Miller  
D Richard Miller  
Kent Miller  
Laverne Nafziger  
Esther Shaum  
Jacob Snider  
Daniel & Cindy Steiner  
Vic and Marie Stoltzfus  
Johanna Sutter  
David and Janice Sutter  
Juan O Vega  
Roberta Yoder  
Duane and Rachel Yoder

## Chapter 2 Items for Discussion and/or Action

### Annual Sessions 2019 Minutes and Proceedings

IMMC Annual Sessions

Amigo Centre, Sturgis, Michigan

Thursday, June 13, 2019—Saturday, June 15, 2019

“Practicing our Hope”

Recorder: Dan Haarer

#### Opening Worship Service, 1:30pm

1. Mark Schloneger, pastor of Berkey Avenue Mennonite Church and member of Goshen Mennonite Ministers Committee, served as emcee this session. Music was introduced by John Buschert of Benton Mennonite who played recordings of hymns and shared the sheet music on his screen. Elements of the service include the following
  - Mark welcomed attendees, summarized in minute 2.
  - Mark introduced Aaron Kaufmann who served as IT assistance.
  - A pre-recorded video of various members of IMMC congregations reading portions of Ephesians 2:11-22. Readers included: Ruth Mischler (Benton Mennonite), Lavonne (Berkey Avenue Mennonite), Ben Bouwman (Walnut Hill Mennonite), Rachel Eby (Bonneyville Mennonite), Talashia Keim Yoder (College Mennonite), Merle Hostetler (East Goshen Mennonite), Julian Gonzales (East Goshen Mennonite), Tim Nafziger and Belen Robledo (North Goshen Mennonite), Shin Ye Tan (Walnut Hill Mennonite), Katie Misz (Waterford Mennonite)
  - Singing included, H. 1 “Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness”
  - **Congregational Story:**
    - North Goshen Mennonite Church: Izaete Nafziger shared about how the congregation has been challenged to find a new way to be “the church” during COVID-19. Member of North Goshen worked with a local Spanish radio station to distribute meals and assisted them in paying for bills. The church walked alongside members of the community as they struggle with immigration and medical issues. They have opened their parking lot to Maple City Health center to be used as a COVID-19

testing site. This has been a great help to the Latino community and to those who don’t have access to healthcare. Monday to Friday, the church is open and being used as a resource to the community, doing God’s work.

- Ben Bouwman, chair of the Leadership Enhancement Team, introduced pastors who were new to Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference including Quinn Brenneke (Prairie Street Mennonite Church), Cyneatha Millsaps (Prairie Street Mennonite Church), and Grant Miller (Kalamazoo Mennonite Church).
- Ben closed the time and released attendees for a five-minute break.
- Mark welcomed attendees. He reflected on GMMC’s original plans for the weekend and on the loss of not being able to gather in-person. He expressed thankfulness for the ability to gather over Zoom. He also reflected on Juneteenth and how members of IMMC should take the time to celebrate the contributions of African Americans in the church. He introduced the theme verses Ephesians 2:11-22.

#### Teaching Session 1, 2:00pm

6. Ben Bouwman introduced the guest speaker, Safwat Marzouk (AMBS)
7. Safwat’s topic was: “Built Together: A Biblical Vision for an Intercultural Church”
  - He spoke on the meaning of a “diving wall” as outlined in the Ephesians 2 passage. He challenged listeners to consider their cultural dividing walls and ways to “move from activism to welcome the stranger to embodying integration in our congregations.” To do this, it is important to define culture, multi-cultural and intercultural. He asserts that the church must become intercultural, behaving as, “a covenantal community that cultivates a decartelizing unity and fosters a just diversity. In this covenantal community differences are received as a gift, not a threat; and boundaries are not rigid, but rather porous and mutually negotiated.” The hard work of intercultural competency is necessary and built by five principles: This is God’s Project (Worship), The Need is Mutual, Conversation is Mutual (Mission), Fellowship is Vital, Healthy Boundaries are Necessary (Communion). The time ended with the

reading of *A Prayer on Diversity* written by Swee Ann KOH.

### **Worshipful Work, 3:30pm**

8. Opening. An audio recording of the hymn “Longing for Light” was followed by a word of introduction by Bob Yoder, moderator and member of MLT. Attendees were instructed to have their virtual packets and report books ready. Links to both resources were made available in the chat bar.
9. **Congregational Story.**
  - Waterford Mennonite Church: In a prerecorded video, Cindy Voth shared of three ways that God is building up Waterford MC amidst the pandemic. She reflected on how worship services have moved to being livestreamed. They have learned and grown in their ability to bless one another. She gave an example of times when the congregation offered special blessings over Zoom. They are finding new and creative ways to connect with one another and their community through Zoom: Bible studies, congregational prayer meetings, congregational meetings. There are ways to include those who could not otherwise have been included. 16 women at WMC have sewn masks for the community.
10. **Breakout rooms.** Brenda Meyer, moderator-elect and member of MLT, explained to attendees that they would be put into Zoom break out rooms for 10 minutes. During this time, they were to tell one another their name, congregation and one-way God has been Building Together their congregation during this time.
11. **Minutes.** Bob referred to the Minutes and Proceedings of the June 13-15, 2019 Annual Sessions held at Amigo Center, Sturgis, MI, found on the website and pages 14-22 of the printed report book. These minutes were approved as printed by a very strong affirmative vote.
12. **Conference staff and the MLT were introduced.** Brenda also introduced Shana Peachey Boshart who is the Denominational Minister for Faith and Formation for MCUSA.
13. **Gifts Discernment Team (GDT) report.** Bruce Nofziger, chair introduced the Affirmation ballot, included in the delegate virtual packet. Bruce asked delegates to open the online Affirmation ballot and the link was posted in the chat bar. The Affirmation Form was presented with recommendations by both GDT and MLT for

adoption. The vote was taken by delegates selecting Yes or No on each position separately. The Form in the virtual packet also lists those previously affirmed or appointed by MLT to various positions. Delegates were asked to complete the Gifts Inventory, included in the delegate packet and as an online Google Form, for GDT’s future use. Bruce encouraged attendees to think intentionally about nominating people of color and recognized that the leadership teams need to better reflect the make-up of conference.

14. **Stewardship Team (ST) report.** Cindy Steiner, chair, included a variety of items in her report: she noted that affiliation sheets will be sent by mail and email to each congregation and should be passed on to delegates. Cindy reminded delegates of the Capital Fund Grants that are available to congregations. Missional Seeds pledges for 2020 stand at \$14, 268, up from \$11,977 the previous year. She thanked Belmont Mennonite Neighborhood Fellowship, East Goshen Mennonite, Fairhaven Mennonite, Good News Community Chapel, North Goshen Mennonite and Prairie Street Mennonite for their increased giving. The current year’s financial report as of May 31 shows income of \$183,298 and expenses of \$190,177 with a net income of \$6,879. Cindy highlighted the financial support as equipping, resourcing, and training in support of the conference’s mission. The ST expresses many thanks to the conference for its support. Cindy called attention to the 2020-2021 proposed Spending Plan, found on pages 27-28 of the delegate Report Book. The total projected income and expenditures are \$248,900 and \$248,040, respectively. The vote for the Spending Plan was taken online using a Google Form. The link to the ballot was available on the conference webpage and in the chat bar.
15. **Demographic Survey.** Bob gave a brief explanation about the demographic survey that was completed by 35 of the 45 IMMC congregations. This survey consists of 34 questions and is part of the efforts of the MLT to increase intercultural competency and to understand the diverse make-up of IMMC. The following findings are a snapshot of the responses received as of June 19, 2020:
  - 19 congregations responded that they do not have any public congregational statements that refer to race, ethnicity, gender, sexual

orientation, age, educational level or economic level and 13 do. Other questions asked about formal membership, number of delegates sent to Annual Sessions, and the age range of individuals who participate regularly in the congregation. There were questions about economics and education level of individuals in each congregation. The next section concerned comings and goings (i.e. new members, number of withdrawn memberships. Respondents were asked which of the leadership teams they could give a description of. There was also a section asking respondents to reflect on what they learned about their congregations from this survey.

- Bob shared about the six phone calls he's had with pastor who've completed this survey. He is encouraged by the excitement around this topic and that it seems like there is good energy for IMMC to be doing this work.
- He thanked all of those who took the time to complete the survey and shared that this work in intercultural competency will inform MLT goals and focus in the following years.

16. **Closing.** Mark Schloneger gave announcements and John Buschert played a recording of SJ 27 "God of the Bible"

#### Evening Worship, 7pm

17. Mark Schloneger greeted those who gathered on Zoom and gave a few announcements:

- Register for Seminars taking place on Saturday
- Instructions on how to access the worship livestream
- Donations are being accepted for IMMC congregations who are facing financial hardships. Instructions on how donations can be made were given.
- Viewers were then sent to the College Mennonite Church homepage to watch the worship livestream.

18. Talashia Keim Yoder served as worship leader

- Welcome and prayer, three candles were lit as a visual representation of the three regions of IMMC.
- Congregational Stories
  - Benton Mennonite Church: Rachel Yoder Penner shared about how Benton served and cared for their family after the birth of their daughter. The members and

pastors at Benton Mennonite have walked alongside of them.

- Berkey Avenue Mennonite Church: Lowell Nafziger and Sherm Kauffman explained how their community garden came to be. The garden is available to anyone in the community to use. It has become a place for relationship building.
  - Walnut Hill Mennonite Church: Ben Bouwman, pastor, talked about the year of transition the congregation has experienced. He shared how this transition began with the retirement of pastor Jane Stoltzfus Buller and continuing through the adjustment of moving to an online format. Walnut Hill donates 40% of their budget to missions and supporting Bethany students.
  - Singing, H.55 "Cantemos al Señor" and SJ 13 "My Soul is Filled with Joy"
    - Worship team included: Ben Bouwman, Rhiannon Harrison, Jes Stoltzfus Buller, Linda Lehman Thomas, Theo Budiardja, Jason Harrison
  - Scripture, the video of Ephesians 2:11-22 was played
  - Dan Miller, conference pastor delivered a sermon. See summary in minute 16.
  - Singing, H. 407 "We are People of God's Peace"
  - Response, Talashia Keim Yoder
  - Singing. SJ 73 "The Lord Lift You Up"
  - Blessing, Talashia Keim Yoder
19. Dan's talked about the hostility in the current culture and how Christians should look for a word of transformation from God. He related the divisions between the Jews and Gentiles in the Ephesians passage to the walls of hostility built up in today's culture. He challenged listeners to think on how they are responsible for perpetuating the polarization. Rather than constantly reacting, we are meant to respond as people of peace. He discussed how the hard work of learning to engage cultural differences requires being humble with oneself and others. We are reconciled not by what we do, but by Christ who is our peace. Christ created one new humanity out of two, it is something new. Christ killed the hostility. The differences are not necessarily destroyed, but the hostility between persons has been killed. He quoted Tom Yoder Neufeld, "Peace does not



come about without a life and death struggle...it costs nothing less than the life of the one making peace." Entering Christ's peace is disorienting. Christ's peace is not the destination, but a gift. Jesus turns our values upside down. We are being asked to consider the question: 'Jesus.'" We are being asked to proclaim Jesus in these times.

**Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, 9am- 4:15pm**  
**Morning Worship, 9:00am**

20. Bob Yoder, moderator served as worship leader
  - Congregational Story
    - Bonneyville Mennonite Church- Stacey Garten, Bonneyville MC-Stacey shared how the members of Bonneyville supported her family during a difficult custody battle. The congregation was present at the court proceeding when Stacey and her husband were granted custody of their grandson.
    - College Mennonite Church- Daniel Yoder and Talashia Keim Yoder shared how the congregation has been able to serve the community financially and through the food pantry during the circumstances surrounding COVID19. They also announced the launching of a new "This is the Story" an all-age, year long curriculum that takes participants through the entire Bible.
  - Call to worship
  - Singing, SJ 4 "You've Got a Place" and SJ 64 "Somos el Cuerpo de Cristo"
  - Scripture reading, Ephesians 2:11-22
  - Sermon, Joanne Gallardo, Berkey Avenue Mennonite Church
  - Singing, H. 322 "For We Are Strangers No More"
  - Communion, Led by Brenda Meyer, moderator-elect and pastor at Benton Mennonite Church
  - Singing, SS 123 "Let Us Talents and Tongues"
  - Closing by Bob Yoder
21. Joanne Gallardo spoke on what it means to be a household of God. Followers of Christ are one household. A household is home when everyone is here; each person is an important piece of the puzzle. Joanne offered a few guidelines for helping the church live together. First, "leave no one behind." We are not all in this together. Inequality exists and we are not all at the same table experiencing the current reality in the same ways. Leaving no one behind means giving up

some of what we have for those who are wanting. Second, "we talk about things". You can't be built together if you can't talk to one another. Open communication promotes authenticity and pathways to connection. Life together in Christ is like a puzzle, each piece fitting together and making the most sense when they are a part of the whole. One piece missing makes for an incomplete puzzle. Another principle is "believing the best of one another". This isn't conformity but making room for each piece to fit. We are guided by love. Love is something you practice. It must be a habit, something you make a part of your routine. We are called to be guided by love, not a patronizing/all excusing love, but a gentle, intentional love. "Christ seeks to reconcile all things together and to build us together in love is at the heart of the message in Ephesians." "What does it look like to be built together?" "What does it mean to know that not all of us are on equal footing?" It may mean giving up power and control. God's people are a strange people. We are called to live as a strange, but lovely household.

22. Seminars, Saturday, 10:30am-11:45am, three options included:
  - Nekeisha Alayna Alexis, "Intercultural Competency" (two, 45 min sessions)
  - Cory Martin, "Elkhart Jail Ministry"
  - Aileac Deegan, "Dealing with Grief"

**Worshipful Work 2, 1:15pm-2:30pm**

23. Opening. A recording of "My Life Flows On" was shared by John Buschert as a gathering song.
24. Congregational Story. In a pre-recorded video, Denise Reesor and Joel Holsopple of East Goshen Mennonite Church shared about the impact of the Colossian Way curriculum on their group. They have learned about conflict resolution and how to value the diversity of thought in their congregation. The focus has shifted to what members do share rather than what they do not.
25. Voting Results. Bob Yoder, moderator relayed the results of the votes on accepting the 2019 Annual Sessions Minutes, the GDT Affirmation Slate and the 2020-2021 Spending Plan. All three items received strong votes of approval. Bob then introduced Dave Sutter for the Leadership Enhancement Team Report.
26. Leadership Enhancement Team. Dave Sutter, interim chair of LET, introduced the members of LET including Ben Bouwman, Chris Kauffman,

Kent Miller and the newest member, Andrea Grotenhuis. Dave discussed the following work done by LET:

- Congregational Coach role-LET is working on expanding the role of Congregational Coaches. LET has been speaking with current coaches and congregations to learn what they need in terms of support and training. The updated copy of the ministry description of Congregational Coach is available in the Virtual Packet. Dave highlighted points in the new description and shared his own positive experience with having a congregational coach at Kern Road. LET identified qualities of a congregational coach, identified term limits for coaches, the roles and functions of a congregational coach-congregation connections, identified what congregations can do in the relationship, and highlighted LET's responsibilities to coaches and congregations. LET will be sending out letters to congregations asking for names of people who might be good options for congregational coaches.
  - Framework for Pastoral Growth- Sent to pastors each year and focuses on two of the core competencies. Pastors are encouraged to engage with this and to find a support partner to walk alongside them in this. Dave thanked those who participated this year: Amy Kratzer, Ben Bouwman, Dave Sutter, Brenda Meyer, Dan Schrock, Esther Lanting, Jen Shenk, Katie Misz, Phil Bontrager and Randy Detweiler.
  - Deceased Pastors-Kent Miller read a brief obituary of each pastor who died in 2019-2020. The obituaries are included in the Report Book on page 34: Juliana Bender, Moses Andrew Beachy, Dean Brubaker, Wilma Cender, Paul Gingerich, William Hooley, Rex Jones, Willard Swartley.
27. Congregational Updates. Bob Yoder introduced Sharon Yoder, the conference pastor of leadership transition. Sharon delivered the report on behalf of the Ministry Credentialing Team. Other members of MCT include Ruben Chupp, Angy Moore, Suella Gerber, Phil Waite and Wilma Bailey. Details on the congregational updates are included in the Virtual Packet.
- Dawning of a New Day- Due to health issues, Robert Hunt is no longer able to continue the ministry of Dawning of a New Day. A moment of silence was taken to thank God for his ministry.
  - Lake Bethel Mennonite Church- This congregation chose to affiliate with Evana on August 27, 2019. A moment of silence was taken to thank God for their ministry.
  - North Main Street Mennonite Church- North Main held their last public worship service on July 28, 2019. After the closing of the church, North Main gave many generous financial gifts to organizations made possible by the sale of their properties. A moment of silence was taken to thank God for their ministry.
  - Paoli Mennonite Fellowship- Paoli was a duly affiliated congregation and has chosen to move membership to Central District Conference. A moment of silence was taken to thank God for their ministry.
  - Piedra Viva Mennonite Church-This congregation meets at Sunnyside Mennonite Church, Elkhart, IN and is in process of becoming members of IMMC. Naun Cerrato, pastor of Piedra Viva, has a vision for planting Spanish speaking congregations in the Michiana area.
    - In a prerecorded video, Naun Cerrato offered greetings on behalf of Piedra Viva and thanks to IMMC and Sunnyside for their welcome. He shared his vision for planting peace churches in Elkhart County.
    - Suella Gerber offered a prayer of blessing for Piedra Viva.
28. Brenda Meyer discussed the process on the next two agenda items. Both items, the Tanzania recommendation and Covenant recommendations, will be introduced and then followed by breakout room conversations.
29. Tanzania Recommendation from MLT. Brenda provided background information of the relationship with IMMC and the Shirati Diocese. The Tanzania Affinity group worked to discern whether IMMC should have an official partnership with the Shirati Diocese. They were concerned that both COVID19 and climate change make international travel more difficult. There were also concerns about commitment and energy in conference surrounding this relationship. The MLT considered the recommendation by the affinity group and decided not to continue with

an official partnership. MLT recommended that no official partnership occur.

The three considerations the MLT had were:

- Different expectations from both parties, particularly financial
- MLT wasn't sure they had seen the required energy from IMMC delegates
- The timing, both with COVID and climate change. and also with the work on Intercultural competency, MLT thought it might be better to focus on those congregations already in IMMC.

Sharon asked for questions, there were no questions from attendees.

30. Covenant. Bob Yoder relayed the MLT recommendation to delete the "covenant" section of *Renewing a Vision*, thus eliminating the "signing of the covenant". However, the MLT will continue to focus on strengthening relationships among our congregations. In December of 2017 the MLT paused the covenant idea for three years. MLT tested ideas on covenant with pastor groups and at 2020 Regional Meetings and found support to not continue with the signing of the covenant. Proposed action: The section "Covenant for congregations and credentialed leaders" be removed from the 2017 *Renewing a Vision* document. Bob asked for questions, there were no questions from attendees.

31. Breakout rooms. 10 min.

32. Bob Yoder asked for questions following the breakout rooms. There was one question about the covenant section being there because of legal liability. Bob Yoder noted that IMMC and MLT can take action and are working on reaching out to the congregations who have been inactive and then ask why they are a part of conference and if they want to continue to be.

33. Action. Delegates were asked to vote online on the following action: the section "Covenant for congregations and credentialed leaders" be removed from the 2017 *Renewing a Vision* document.

34. Open mic.

- Marj Rush Hvide thanked the planners for the efforts to move Annual Sessions online
- Bj wrote in the chat bar that she thought Annual Sessions went very well.
- Bob echoed Brenda Meyer's words from the previous day in offering thanks to Anna Board for her work in organizing Annual Sessions. He

also thanked Aaron Kaufman for his good work.

- Bruce Nofziger reminded attendees to fill out the Gifts Inventory Form.
- Millard Graber wrote that the topic this year was very timely. Bob identified the ways that the Holy Spirit influenced this year's topic which now is so fitting in light of current circumstances. The Spirit has been at work in building the conference up in different ways that we can strengthen relationships with each other now to further the reign of God on this earth.
- Prayer. Bob led a time of prayer.
- Completing service on leadership teams. Bob Yoder offered words of commendation to each of the following individuals for their service on their respective leadership teams: Randy Detweiler (MLT), Rose Shetler (Stewardship), Verlin Miller, (Stewardship), Steve Hochstetler-Shirk (Personnel) and Wilma Bailey (MCT).
- Announcements. Mark Schloneger offered last minute announcements about filling out the Gifts Inventory Form, Video recordings of the Friday and Saturday worship services are available online. Attendees were asked to fill out the evaluation. Mark offered thanks to Dan, the the MLT, Anna and Aaron for their flexibility in adjusting to the online format. Annual Sessions 2021 will be at Amigo Centre.
- Prayer. Randy Detweiler offered a prayer of gratitude and blessing.
- Closing remarks. Mark offered thanks to Marty Lehman who served as local coordinator.

Teaching Session 2, 3:00pm

35. Safwat Marzouk's topic for this second session was: "Built Together: The Role of Empathy and Power in Conflict Transformation."

- Safwat began by expressing the importance of narrative in conflict resolution. He used the example of Joseph and his brothers in Genesis 36-50. The estrangement the brothers felt in Genesis 42 allowed them to empathize with Joseph's struggle. Justice leads to empathy and empathy leads to transformation. The brothers are transformed, and Joseph is transformed by "breaking the cycle of violence through forgiveness, from a place of power." He made the point that, "When you

are oppressed: your story matters and you are the one who should be telling it.” Safwat spoke on preaching peace through narrative-following the example of Jesus. This requires “engaging in storytelling and listening, sitting with these stories before moving too quickly to do something.” The time concluded with the reading of words by written by Cyneatha Millsaps entitled, *Love Moves at a Snail’s Pace.*”

#### 36. Conclusion and Sending

- Vote on covenant, Bob Yoder reported on the results from the vote on covenant. 51 of 52 votes voted in approval. It was decided to remove that portion from the *Renewing a Vision.*

- Blessing for pastors, Dan Miller lead a prayer of blessing: “The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.”
- Dan invited participants to clap for the GMMC planners and Staff members. Gratitude was expressed for the hard work that went into this Annual Sessions.
- Dan concluded with a prayer of Paul for the church of Ephesus. He offered words of blessing.
- Sending song, SJ 78 “We Will Walk with God”, a prerecorded version of this song was shared by John Buschert.

## **Gifts Development Team Report 2018**

Bruce Nofziger, Chair

**COMING SOON**

## FOR APPOINTMENT BY THE MISSIONAL LEADERSHIP TEAM

### MINISTRY CREDENTIALING TEAM

Steve Slagel, Wildwood Mennonite Church (20/2021-2024)

- **Home Congregation:** Maple River Mennonite Church
- **Current Occupation:** Organizational Consultant/ Transition Pastor
- **Congregational/conference/churchwide experience:** Settled Pastor with Shore MC, Silverwood MC, and East Goshen MC. Interim Conference Minister for Illinois Mennonite Conference. Transition Pastor with Maple River MC, Valparaiso MC, Hopedale MC (IL), North Goshen MC, and Holdeman MC.
- **Family:** Steve and his wife, Barb, have three grown children (Carrie, Luke, and Andy), three children-in-love (Eric, Nicky, and Megan), and two grandchildren (Benny and Faith).
- **Interests/Hobbies:** Baseball Umpiring, Golfing, and being in the woods.
- **Share a few sentences about what being part of a larger, diverse Christian community has meant to you and your life with Jesus:** My faith has been, and continues to be, shaped in community. Some of my most robust experiences of growth have happened in cross cultural settings and with diverse people.
- **What drew you to say yes to serve on the Leadership:** I am excited for the way in which God's Spirit is at work among the people and congregations of IMMC.

## FOR AFFIRMATION BY THE IMMC DELEGATES

### LEADERSHIP ENHANCEMENT TEAM

David Sutter, Kern Road Mennonite Church (18/2021-24)

### MINISTRY CREDENTIALING TEAM

Angy Moore, Kern Road Mennonite Church (13/2021-24)

- **Home Congregation:** Kern Road Mennonite Church
- **Current Occupation:** Lawyer
- **Congregational/conference/churchwide experience:** Ministry Credentialing Team since 2013
- **Family:** Spouse: Erik Grayvold; Son: Titus (born 2020)
- **Interests/Hobbies:** amateur harpist and ukulele player, picture book enthusiast, and coffee admirer
- **Share a few sentences about what being part of a larger, diverse Christian community has meant to you and your life with Jesus:** Diversity makes us pause to note that our personal experiences are not universal experiences. Other points of view combine to create a fuller picture—of our world and of our God.
- **What drew you to say yes to serve on the Ministry Credentialing Team?** I first said yes because I had spare time and wanted to know more about conference and its work. I've continued to say yes to additional terms because of the importance of our work and the great people I've come to know through MCT.

### MISSIONAL LEADERSHIP TEAM

Bob Yoder, College Mennonite Church (14/2021-24)

Mark Schloneger, Berkey Avenue Mennonite Church (21/2021-25)

## **COMING SOON**

### **Chapter 3 Missional Leadership Team and Staff**

#### **Missional Leadership Team Report 2019-2020**

By Bob Yoder, moderator

## **COMING SOON**

### **Conference Pastor Staff Report 2019-2020**

Conference Staff

Dan Miller, conference pastor

## **COMING SOON**

### **Chapter 4 Committees/Teams**

#### **Leadership Enhancement Team Report 2020-2021**

By Ben Bouwman, chair

Members:

Ben Bouwman, Christine Kauffman, Kent Miller, Dave Sutter

1. LET continues to make progress on the goals that they set during the 2019 Leadership Teams Retreat. The main goal at that time was investing significant effort into our work with congregational coaches. Over the last year we have: received nominations for potential coaches; contacted and trained additional coaches; shared the updated Ministry Job Description with congregations who currently have coaches; and invited congregations without a coach to consider getting one. We are hopeful that a greater percentage of our congregations will have coaches in the near future. Furthermore, given our conference's focus on Intercultural Competence, we sought to pay attention to multiple types of diversity as we contacted and recruited coaches. Paying attention to diversity will continue to be a priority.

A second goal was meeting annually with the Ministry Credentialing Team. Following the 2020 Leader Team Retreat, the two teams were able to meet and debrief how the input affected our work.

A third goal was incorporating core competencies into other parts of our work. We added a line about the core competencies in the updated Ministry Job description for Congregational Coaches.

2. Due to the COVID pandemic, and the monthly webinars on Intercultural Competency offered to pastors in the fall, LET decided not to offer a Pastor Retreat. We expect to offer something fall 2021. We also continue to encourage pastors and other credentialed leaders to be intentional about their growth through the Framework

for Pastoral Growth. Lastly, we are intentional about introducing and welcoming pastors who are new to the conference during our Annual Sessions.

## **Ministry Credentialing Team Report 2020-2021**

By Suella Gerber, chair

Persons who have served on MCT in the past year are Ruben Chupp, Suella Gerber, Joel Kern, Angy Moore, Phil Waite, Suella Gerber; Sharon Yoder as IMMC Pastor for Leadership Transitions; and Dan Haarer writes minutes.

As the Ministry Credentialing Team, the orientation for our work is to nurture a culture of growth and development. To that end, at our monthly meetings during the past year, we have been:

1. Updating our policies. Perhaps not glamorous work, it has been good to go through the policies, updating, revising, and or removing them.
2. Supporting credentialed persons.
  - a. Placing newly credentialed persons into peer-mentor relationship;
  - b. Encourage all pastors to have their own pastor;
  - c. Making sure there are Healthy Boundaries trainings available for everyone to be able to participate every three years;
  - d. With help from Nekeisha Alexis, have revised our Core Competencies and credentialing questions to reflect our expectations for multicultural awareness and competence;
  - e. And are in the process of creating social media guidelines.
3. Credentialing. We have been honored to interview candidates for licensing and ordination.
4. IMMC membership. MCT has had the privilege to meet with pastors and leaders from Piedra Viva as they explore and prepare for membership in the conference.

## Leadership Report of Credentialed Persons

June 1, 2020 – June 1, 2021

### Ordained

May 02 '21 Jennifer Helmuth Shenk, Kern Road MC, South Bend, IN

### License Toward Ordination

Jun 14 '20 Naun Cerrato, Piedra Viva (Living Stone), Elkhart, IN  
Aug 23 '20 Sharon Norton, Mennonite Mission Network, Elkhart, IN  
Sept 13 '20 Carmen Horst, Walnut Hill, Goshen, IN  
Sept 20 '20 Nathan Graber McCrae, North Goshen, Goshen, IN

### License Extension

Nov 04 '20 Mariah Martin, Bonneyville Mennonite, Bristol, IN (until Nov 3, 2022)

### New Pastoral Leaders

<u>Beginning Date</u>	<u>Installation Date</u>
Aug 17 '20 Nathan Graber-McCrae, North Goshen, Goshen, IN	Sept 20, 2020
Sept 8 '20 Carmen Horst, Walnut Hill, Goshen, IN	Sept 13, 2020
Dec 3 '20 Velma Swartz (interim), Waterford Mennonite, Goshen, IN	
Feb 1 '21 Francis Ringenberg (sabbatical pastor), East Goshen, Goshen, IN	
Feb 15 '21 Richard Kauffman (interim), Berkey Avenue, Goshen, IN	
Apr 15 '21 Philip Schmidt, Belmont Mennonite Church, Elkhart, IN	April 25, 2021
May 29 '21 Steve Slagel (transitional), Holdeman Mennonite Church, Wakarusa, IN	

### Congregational Coach Assignments

#### Credential Transfer

Jun 14 '20 Ronald C. Collins *from* Mountain States Mennonite Conference  
Jul 27 '20 Bradley A. Miller *to* Central District Mennonite Conference  
Oct 5 '20 Stanley W. Green *to* Pacific Southwest Mennonite Conference  
Oct 15 '20 Robert D. Brown *to* Central Plains Mennonite Conference  
Dec 1 '20 Michael J. Sherrill *from* Pacific Southwest Mennonite Conference  
Dec 1 '20 Teresa T. Sherrill *from* Pacific Southwest Mennonite Conference  
Apr 15 '21 Philip B. Schmidt *from* Western District Mennonite Conference

#### Completion of Ministerial Assignment

June 30 '20 Steve Slagel, North Goshen Mennonite, Goshen, IN (transitional)  
Aug 30 '20 Jane Miller, Walnut Hill, Goshen, IN (interim)  
Dec 31 '20 Mark Stahl, Parkview Mennonite, Kokomo, IN  
Jan 31 '21 Dan Schrock, Berkey Avenue, Goshen, IN  
Jan 31 '21 Randy Detweiler, Holdeman, Wakarusa, IN  
May 1 '21 Frances Ringenberg (sabbatical pastor), East Goshen, Goshen, IN

#### Credential Withdrawn Due to Congregation Leaving

Dec 5 '19 Orlo Fisher, Talcum Mennonite, Talcum, KY  
Nov 10 '20 Thomas Schwartz, Wattles Park Faith Fellowship, Battle Creek, MI  
Mar 31 '21 Harlan Steffen, Wawasee Lakeside Chapel, Syracuse, IN



## Deceased Pastors

**COMING SOON**

### **Stewardship Team Report 2020-2021**

By Cindy Steiner, chair

The Stewardship Team (ST) meets monthly. Team members are Jim Gerber, Holdeman; Patty Graber, First Mennonite Indianapolis; Ron Ringenberg, Prairie Street; Cindy Steiner, East Goshen; Angela Swartzendruber, North Goshen; Duane Yoder, Fairhaven. Jim Norton, IMMC Bookkeeper and Dan Miller, Conference Pastor, also attend.

Stewardship Team spent much time reviewing IN-MI Mennonite Conference (IMMC) investments and cash accounts. We evaluated the returns on investments, appropriate levels of risk for each fund, and best options to allow for periodic withdrawal of gains. Monies from a CD and a money market account were moved to an IMMC Endowment investment fund, and a Plant Network investment fund was created. An IMMC Investment Strategy Statement was written and approved by Missional Leadership Team (MLT). The document states the purpose of each fund, how and where it is invested, intended use of the income, and who is responsible to administer the fund.

A sub-group of ST worked with the IMMC Bookkeeper and Conference Pastor to review and update QuickBooks line items. A QuickBooks

generated receipt has been created that will provide a more professional acknowledgement of contributions from individuals and congregations. The Bookkeeper is now working on updating the Handbook and Procedures Manual for the Bookkeeper position. We realize the need for accurate documentation of financial history and procedures as leadership personnel changes.

IMMC is in process of transferring ownership of property on CR 20, Elkhart, IN to New Foundation United in Christ Mennonite Fellowship. We have also provided money from the Annual Sessions fund to assist Amigo Centre in installing antennas for cell phone coverage in their buildings. This will make it feasible for IMMC to gather there this year for Annual Sessions on Zoom and in person.

Affiliation sheets were provided to keep your congregation informed of your financial support and participation in Conference affairs. We value your participation in the mission and vision of IMMC.

We are grateful for the ongoing generosity of each congregation, Missional Seeds Giving Club member and individual. Thank you for your support that enables us to grow together as a community of grace, joy and peace, sharing God's love in our world.

## **Chapter 5 Conference Institutions**

### **Journey, A Missional Leadership Development Program**

2020-2021 Report

**COMING SOON**