

# Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference

Program Book for  
Summer Fest 2024



**Mara Christian Church of America, Indiana**

415 W Smith Valley Road, Greenwood, IN 46142

**June 7-8, 2024**

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Schedule for 2024 Summer Fest

# *Doing a New Thing*

June 7-8, 2024

Mara Christian Church of America, Greenwood, IN

FRIDAY, June 9

- 6:00-7:00 Registration (Foyer)
- 7:00-8:00 **Worship (Sanctuary)**
- 8:15-9:30 Social Options (will be announced)

SATURDAY, June 10

- 8:30-9:00 Registration (Foyer?)
- 9:00-9:45 Discerning in Community, Part 1 (Fellowship Hall)
- 10:00-11:15 Discerning in Community, Part 2 (Fellowship Hall)
- 11:30-12:30 **Worship (Sanctuary)**
- 12:30-1:30 Lunch (Fellowship Hall)
- 1:30-2:45 Spiritual Experiences (See page 4 in Report Book)
- 3:00-4:30 Fun Fest (will be announced)
- 4:30-6:00 **Worship (Sanctuary)**

Color code:

Worship services are in red

Social Opportunities are in orange

Spiritual Experiences are in blue

Discerning in Community Sessions are in green

## Spiritual Experience Descriptions

### Wild Church – Sharon Norton

The best way to learn about Wild Church is to come and experience it for yourself. In “returning to nature as a spiritual practice,” Wild Churches invite for encounters with God in creation. Though the many Wild Churches around the world may each have their own uniqueness, they all share a value of worshiping with the entire ecosystem that God created. During this time, Sharon Norton (Wild Church of Goshen) will facilitate a form of Wild Church in a nearby park. Be prepared to walk and be outside for this experience.

### Visio Divina – Sharon Yoder

Much like Lectio Divina (which means *sacred reading*), Visio Divina is a spiritual practice of listening, observation, and contemplation. But instead of using a passage of the Bible or a poem, Visio Divina (which means *sacred seeing*) utilizes an image or images to focus this meditative and reflective practice. Sharon Yoder (IMMC Conference Co-Minister) will guide participants in listening for and encountering God through images. No supplies are needed, but you may wish to bring some paper or a journal to make notes of what you see, hear, and experience.

## Fun Fest Options

### Hymn Sing (first 45 minutes of Fun Fest only)

Join together to sing a variety of Hymns from Voices Together. This time will be led by experienced song leaders from different IMMC churches. Come and sing old favorites as well as new songs of faith!

### Artistic Expressions

Don't worry, you don't have to be an artist to participate in creating art! Members of First Mennonite Church of Indianapolis will facilitate creative art activities connected with our theme verse (Isaiah 43:19).

### Giant Dutch Blitz

Take your Dutch Blitz game to the next level with a life-sized version of an old favorite game. Teamwork will be key and laughs will abound! A special thanks to Waterford Mennonite Church for supplying the giant Dutch Blitz cards!

### Yard Games

A selection of yard games will be available to play. This will be a self-directed activity.

# CONSENSUS IS A PROCESS...

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## Be heard

Listen to understand the others' points of view rather than to prepare your own response. Listen more than you speak.

1

2

## Be fully present

Bring your whole self to community discernment. Focus on the process, from beginning to end, and the conversation in your group.

3

## Assume best intentions

Is there something someone said that you want to understand better? Be inquisitive. Use curiosity instead of judgments/assumptions.

4

## Build understanding

Even more than problem solving or absolute agreement, the goal of discussion is increase understanding between individuals.

5

## Examine multiple perspectives

On rare occasions, consensus will be unanimous agreement. For the rest of the time, we will seek a consensus that acknowledges our different views and finds an agreeable future.

# ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER..

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## Motion

...is the statement of an idea proposed for decision-making

- It can be presented by anyone: "I move that..."
- Or the leader may ask, "Is there a motion to..."

## Second

...is a show of support for the motion to be considered

- Anyone can say, "I second the motion"
- Or the leader may ask, "Is there a second?"

## Restate

The leader restates the motion so that everyone understands what is being considered

## Discussion

Time is given for discussion of the motion

- In table groups with feedback shared with the gathered group

## Vote

The leader states the motion then asks for delegates to vote

- The motion will pass if at least 1/2 of the votes are affirmative (in some cases, the MLT may request a higher affirmation percentage for a motion to pass)
- Voting may be done by a show of hands, a verbal affirmation, or ballot

## Announce

The leader announces the result of the vote and any instructions

# Chapter 1: Conference Program

## Conference Personnel — 2023-2024

### Missional Leadership Team

Steve Slagel, moderator Maple River (20/2023-25 affm)  
Becky Helmuth, moderator-elect, Benton (23/2023-27 affm)  
Brenda Meyer, post-moderator, Benton (19/2023-24 appt)  
Duane Yoder, treasurer, Fairhaven (19/2022-25 affm)  
Naomi Yoder, secretary, East Goshen (19/2022-25 affm)  
Rolando Sosa Granados, Piedra Viva (21/2021-2024 affm)

### Conference Staff

Joanne Gallardo, conference co-minister, Kern Road (2021-Present)  
Sharon Yoder, conference co-minister, Belmont Neighborhood Fellowship (2019-Present)  
Clayton Gladish, administrative coordinator (2021-Present)  
Michelle Cabanaw, bookkeeper and administrative assistant (2022-Present)

### Gifts Development Team

Sharon Norton, chair, Walnut Hill (23/2023-26 affm)  
Leandrea Lange, New Foundation United in Christ (23/2023-26 affm)  
Jewel Gingerich Longenecker, Kern Road (21/2021-24 affm)  
Rod Maust, Shalom (22/2022-25, affm)  
Grant Miller, Kalamazoo (22/2022-25 affm)

### Leadership Enhancement Team (LET)

Kent Miller, College (16/2022-25 affm)  
Craig Oury, Shalom (23/2023-2026, affm)  
Barbara Slagel, Maple River (23/2023-26 affm)  
Dave Sutter, Kern Road (18/2021-24 affm)  
Shin Yee Tan (23/2023-2026 affm)

### Ministry Credentialing Team (MCT)

Suella Gerber, chair, Fellowship of Hope (19/2022-25 affm)  
Kelly Carson, Mennonite Fellowship of Bloomington (22/2022-2025 appt)  
Ruben Chupp, Sunnyside (16/2022-25 affm)  
Angy Moore, Kern Road (13/2021-24 affm)  
Phil Waite, College, (19/2021-24 affm)

### Personnel Committee

Ray Hunsberger, chair, Belmont (20/2023-26 affm)  
Kathy Nofziger Yeaky, North Goshen (21-2021-24 appt)  
Sue Ramseyer, Bloomington (23/2023-26 affm)

### Stewardship Team

Jim Alvarez, chair (23/2023-26 affm)  
James Gerber (20/2020-23, appt)  
Patty Graber, First Mennonite (20/2024-27 affm) – resigned for personal health on April 2, 2024.  
Marlene Kroeker, Belmont (23/2023-26 affm)  
Jeff Miller, Waterford (22/2022-25 appt)  
Duane Yoder, Fairhaven (19/2022-2025 affm)

### **Intercultural Working Group (work completed as of December 31, 2023)**

Jes Stoltzfus Buller, chair, Walnut Hill

Zenebe Abebe, Shalom

Carol Bixler, Shalom

Bonita Childs, Peace Community

Marissa Smucker, Belmont

### **Congregational Coaches**

Brian Bither serves Emmanuel Living Christian Church & Mara Christian Church of America, Indiana; pastors Shalom.

Ben Bouwman serves Benton; pastors Walnut Hill.

Ruben Chupp serves Hudson Lake; attends Sunnyside.

Ron Guengerich serves College; attends Eighth Street.

Russel Jensen serves Parkview; pastors Maplewood.

Lois Kaufmann serves Fellowship of Hope; attends Assembly.

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

Marty Lehman serves Waterford and East Goshen; attends College.

John Powell serves Ninth Street; attends Shalom Community, MI.

David Sutter serves Hopewell; pastors Kern Road.

Janice Yordy Sutter serves Walnut Hill; pastors Kern Road.

Phil Waite serves Kern Road; pastors College.

Mary Lehman Yoder serves Berkey Avenue Mennonite Fellowship; attends Assembly.

### **Search Guides**

\*denotes activity during 2023-2024

Ruben Chupp attends Sunnyside.

\* Suella Gerber, serving First Mennonite, interim pastor at First Mennonite.

\* Becky Horst, serving Benton, attends College.

Frank Kandel serving Fairhaven; attends Shalom.

\* Richard Kauffman serving Sunnyside and First Mennonite; interim pastor at First Mennonite.

\*John Kaufman, serving North Goshen, attends Waterford.

\*Steve Slagel, serving Kern Road, transitional pastor at Kern Road.

### **MCC Great Lakes Rep**

George Thompson, Waterford (19/2022-25 appt)



## **Geographic Locations of Congregations**

### **Northern (11 congregations)**

#### **Upper Peninsula**

Grand Marais

Wildwood

#### **Northern MI**

Maple River

Grace Chapel

New Hope Community Church of Midland

Ninth Street

#### **Southern MI**

Ann Arbor

Community Christian

Good News

Kalamazoo

Peace Community

### **Michiana (17 congregations)**

#### **Swanee Lake (Plus)**

Hopewell

Hudson Lake

Kern Road

#### **Goshen**

Benton

Berkey Avenue

College

East Goshen

North Goshen

Walnut Hill

Waterford

#### **Elkhart**

Belmont

Belmont Neighborhood

Fellowship of Hope

New Foundation United in Christ Fellowship

Piedra Viva

Prairie Street

Sunnyside

### **Southern (8 congregations)**

#### **Camfell**

Mennonite Fellowship of Bloomington

Emmanuel Living Christian

Fairhaven

First, Indianapolis

Mara Christian Church

Morning Star

Parkview

Shalom

## weGive Donors

weGive is an opportunity for individuals to share in cultivating leadership growth and connections between congregations. Proceeds are be used directly in the overall ministry of the conference.

The following are the weGive Donors group, as of May 2024:

Zenebe Abebe  
Jaime Alvarez  
Kenneth Blout  
Cynthia & Gordon Bontrager  
Phil & Carolyn Bontrager  
Patricia Brubacher  
Kelly Carson  
Karl Cender  
Randy & Joy Detweiler  
Sherrill Glick  
Alvin & Dolores Graber  
Stan & Jeanette Harder  
Becky Helmuth  
Marcella Hershberger  
Virgil Hershberger  
Frank & Linda Kandel  
Paula Killough  
Eleanor Kreider  
Dean & Bek Linsenmeyer  
Rod & Martha Yoder Maust  
D Richard Miller  
Kent Miller  
Bruce Nafziger  
Laverne Nafziger  
Kathreen Nofziger & Michael Yeakey  
Esther Shaum  
Dale Shenk  
Juanita Shenk  
Rose Shetler  
Marisa Smucker  
Jacob Snider  
Cindy & Daniel Steiner  
Vic & Marie Stoltzfus  
David & Janice Sutter  
Johanna Sutter  
George & Karen Thompson  
Roberta Yoder  
Sharon & Kevin Yoder

# Chapter 2 Items for Discussion and/or Action

## Annual Sessions 2023 Minutes and Proceedings

*Friday, June 9, 2023*

1. **Gathering Meal.**
2. **Delegate Orientation.**
  - a. Clayton Gladish (Administrative Coordinator for IMMC) led a time of orientation to the Report Book, the schedule, and the grounds of Amigo Centre.
  - b. Brenda Meyer (Moderator of IMMC, Benton) gave an introduction to the topics being discussed as part of the Discerning in Community and solicited questions of clarification of these topics.
3. **Worship Service 1.** The worship service was led by Grant Miller (Kalamazoo), with music by Jeshua Franklin (Kern Road), Joanne Gallardo (Conference Minister), Kent Miller (College). A Congregational Story was shared by Simon and Lucy Muange of International Bethel City Church of Detroit (church plant in Detroit, MI), including stories of both blessing and challenges in ministry. The theme verses for the year, Philippians 2:1-5, were read. Cyneatha Millsaps (Mennonite Women) shared a sermon on the theme of Unity in Love, challenging those gathered to center what's good for the other and the community rather than just for one's self. Grant closed with a blessing and Clayton shared announcements and invitation to the social hour to follow.

### 4. **Social Hour.**

*Saturday, June 10, 2023*

5. **Worship Service 2.**
  - a. The worship service was led by Cindy Voth (Waterford), with music by Jeshua Franklin (Kern Road), Joanne Gallardo (Conference Minister), Kent Miller (College). A Congregational Story was shared by Grant Miller of Kalamazoo Mennonite Fellowship (Kalamazoo, MI), including stories of growth and change through and since the Covid-19 Pandemic caused them to meet outdoors—a practice that is still lifegiving for the congregation to this day. Jewel Gingerich Longenecker (Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Kern Road) led a celebration of Ursula Hess' graduation from the Journey Program. Kent Miller led a

recognition of New Pastors in IMMC congregations over the past year. Cindy closed with a blessing.

6. **Discerning in Community 1, Part 1.**
  - a. Delegates were welcomed by Brenda Meyer.
  - b. Joanne Gallardo and Sharon Yoder (Conference Co-Ministers) gave a welcome, sharing words of gratitude and encouragement to the delegates.
  - c. Sharon Yoder gave a report of former IMMC pastors who had died in the past year: LeRoy Bechler, Mary Elizabeth Herr, Phil Mininger, John L. Troyer, and Aden J. Yoder. Sharon also reported on churches that either closed or withdrew their membership from IMMC: Bonneyville Mennonite Church (Closed), Cedar Grove Mennonite Church (Withdrawn), Holdeman Mennonite Church (Withdrawn), Liberty Christian Fellowship (Withdrawn), Mission 72 (Withdrawn). Sharon offered a blessing for these congregations.
  - d. Ben Bouwman (Leadership Enhancement Team Chair, Walnut Hill) spoke about the Growth and Wellness Plan and invited credentialed leaders to participate in the survey about the new and improved plan.
  - e. Brenda Meyer invited a motion to approve the minutes from Annual Sessions 2022. Karsten Hess (Waterford) motioned to approve the minutes as written; the motion was seconded by Craig Oury (Shalom). A hand vote was taken for those in-person and a survey was sent to those on Zoom. **The minutes were approved as written unanimously.**
  - f. Addie Leaman (Gifts Development Team Chair, College Mennonite) gave a brief description of the different teams that persons were being nominated to serve on and invited delegates to submit further names. Brenda returned and requested a second to the Gift Development Teams motion to approve the slate of nominations, which was provided by Pamela Yoder (College Mennonite). Delegates were instructed to complete the ballot form provided to them in-person or on the Google form provided to those on Zoom. One question was raised concerning the difference between roles that are "Appointed by the Missional Leadership Team" and those that require delegate

affirmation, to which Clayton responded that the former are those that are pointed mid-year to fill gaps or uncompleted terms while the latter are those filling regular 3-year terms.

- g. Brenda gave some more introduction to the proposals being considered by the delegates and gave space for questions of clarification on the proposals.
  - i. Question: is there a specific percentage needed for these proposals to pass. Answer: according to the by-laws it is a simple majority unless otherwise stated, so it will be a simple majority in this space.
  - ii. Question: what is the goal in adopting this shorter document? Answer: the covenant piece was removed previously and the discernment piece has not been put into practice. The breadth of variance piece would be removed and housed elsewhere. The Missional Leadership Team wants to commend the summary document as the mission and vision of IMMC.

#### 7. **Discerning in Community 1, Part 2.**

- a. Proposal 1: Changing the 3<sup>rd</sup> point of the Breadth of Variance statement for Credentialing.
  - i. This proposal is brought by the MLT and will serve as the motion; the motion was seconded by Ben Bouwman (Walnut Hill).
  - ii. Time was given in table groups to consider the following questions:
    - 1. What are your concerns about this proposal? What do you hope for?
    - 2. Do you support the direction of giving congregations more say in how they handle questions of LGBTQIA+ inclusion and leadership?
    - 3. How does Philippians 2:1-5 and “unity in love” relate to our credentialing practices?
  - iii. A time for reporting from each table was given as well as an opportunity for individuals to respond in writing on their ballots.
  - iv. Delegates were invited to vote using the paper ballots provided for in-person and online form for Zoom participants. The results were as follows: Yes, 48; No, 5 (90.6% approval).
- b. Proposal 2: Making the Summary Version of the Renewing a Vision as the official Mission and Vision Document of IMMC.

- i. This proposal is brought by the MLT and will serve as the motion; the motion was seconded by Phil Waite (College Mennonite).
- ii. Time was given in table groups to consider the following questions:
  - 1. What are your hopes or concerns for using the summary Renewing a Vision statement as the official IMMC vision document?
  - 2. Do you have counsel about how the Breadth of Variance agreements are lodged and accessed? How we promote discernment between IMMC congregations?
- iii. Delegates were invited to vote using the paper ballots provided for in-person and online form for Zoom participants. The results were as follows: Yes, 50; No, 2 (96% approval).

#### 8. **Lunch & Free Time.**

#### 9. **Seminars.**

- i. Sabbath Gardening, Andrew Hudson
- ii. Calling All Church Treasurers, Marlene Kroeker
- iii. Voices Together: Singing Beyond Our Boundaries, Adam Tice

#### 10. **Discerning in Community 2.**

- a. Patty Graber presented the Spending Plan for 2023-2024 and gave a financial update, including a potential shortfall at the end of the year.
  - i. Stewardship Team and Missional Leadership Team are recommending the Spending Plan, which serves as the motion; the motion was seconded by Pat Baer (Benton)
  - ii. There were several comments made during the time of discussion relating to the need for Stewardship Team and Missional Leadership Team to do further work if the year ends with a shortfall. It was also noted that there are reserve funds available to cover the short-fall if needed.
  - iii. One commenter suggested that it might be helpful to connect with congregations to better understand why giving is down.
  - iv. A request was made to talk around tables concerning the Spending Plan, which was granted.
  - v. Clarification on what a “no vote” would mean in this case. Brenda said that it would effectively mean that IMMC would have to

stop spending money, lay off the staff, and come up with a new plan.

vi. Delegates were invited to vote using the paper ballots provided for in-person and online form for Zoom participants. The results were as follows: Yes, 44; No, 3 (93.6% approval).

b. Marisa Smucker (Intercultural Working Group, Belmont) gave a presentation on the recommendations of the Intercultural Working Group for IMMC to adopt or consider going forward in the efforts toward intercultural competence. Delegates were invited to converse and ask questions and make comments on what was presented.

c. Brenda formally passed on the Moderatorship to Steve Slagel (Moderator-Elect of IMMC, Transitional Pastor).

11. **Worship Service 3 (Closing Worship)**. The worship service was led by Craig Oury (Shalom), with music by Jeshua Franklin (Kern Road), Joanne Gallardo (Conference Minister), Kent Miller (College). The theme verses for the year, Philippians 2:1-5, were read. Sharon Yoder (Conference Minister) gave a sermon that encouraged unity in love through listening to one another and the Spirit, even in the midst of differences. Craig closed with a blessing.

The meeting adjourned at 5:45pm.

Minutes recorded by Clayton Gladish, Administrative Coordinator, Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference.

## For Appointment by the Missional Leadership Team

Appointments are made to fill mid-year resignations or vacancies. According to IMMC's By-laws, the Missional Leadership Team can appoint one (1) to three (3) team members as long as the chairperson and two (2) team members have previously been affirmed by the Conference Assembly of Delegates (see Article 8, section 2; page 11).

*No persons have been appointed in the 2023-24 fiscal year.*

## For Affirmation by the IMMC Delegates

Affirmation of the team and commission members and chairpersons by the Conference Assembly of Delegates is required for the chairperson and at least two (2) team members. The following persons have been approached by the Gifts Development Team and have agreed to serve pending affirmation, with the exception of those listed to serve as part of the Gifts Development Team who were approached by the Missional Leadership Team (per IMMC's By-laws).

Those without a picture and indicated with an asterisk (\*) require affirmation of an additional term.

### MISSIONAL LEADERSHIP TEAM



**Jeshua Franklin** (24/2024-27)

**Congregation:** Kern Road

**Occupation:** Executive Director of the Goshen College Music Center.



**Meredith Sommers** (24/2024-27)

**Congregation:** Wildwood

**Occupation:** Library Manger, Bayless Public Library

**Rolando Sosa Granados**, Piedra Viva Mennonite Church (21/2024-27) \*

### LEADERSHIP ENHANCEMENT TEAM



**Ndunge Sefu** (24/2024-27)

**Congregation:** Prairie Street

**Occupation:** Interim Pastor, Kalamazoo Mennonite Church



**Micheline Ilonga** (24/2024-27)

**Congregation:** Prairie Street

**Occupation:** Student at AMBS, pursuing a Masters in Theology & Peace

## MINISTRY CREDENTIALING TEAM



**Linda Thomas** (24/2024-27)

**Congregation:** Walnut Hill

**Occupation:** Co-Director of Pathways Retreat, Spiritual Director

**Phil Waite**, College Mennonite (19/2024-27) \*

## PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

**Kathy Nofziger Yeakey**, North Goshen (21/2024-27) \*

## Proposed 2024-2025 Spending Plan

Income and Expenses Summary				
	2023-24 Spending Plan	Actual through 4/30/24	Proposed 2024-25 Spending Plan	% Change
<b>INCOME</b>				
Congregational Support for Conference	\$215,000	\$141,196	\$213,000	-0.9%
Individual Gifts and Other Expected Income	\$54,495	\$48,722	\$63,026	+156%
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$269,495</b>	<b>\$189,918</b>	<b>\$276,026</b>	<b>+2%</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
Care of Pastors and Congregations	\$3,400	\$1,496	\$3,400	0%
Communications	\$4,250	\$3,928	\$4,200	-1.2%
Conference Initiatives	\$1,500	\$584	\$1,500	0%
Conference Leadership Teams' Expenditures	\$2,250	\$594	\$2,250	0%
Leadership Development	\$3,500	\$1,489	\$3,500	0%
Mennonite Church USA Connections	\$35,925	\$26,970	\$37,100	+3.3%
Office Expenditures	\$18,150	\$11,268	\$21,000	+15.7%
Conference Staffing	\$198,695	\$173,923	\$216,715	+9.1%
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$274,755</b>	<b>\$220,252</b>	<b>\$289,665</b>	<b>+5.4%</b>
<b>BALANCE</b>	<b>\$(5,260)</b>	<b>\$(30,334)</b>	<b>\$(13,639)</b>	

### What do the Expense Categories Include?

#### Care of Pastors and Congregations

- Congregational Coach Expenses
- Pastor/Congregation Crisis Expenses
- Pastoral Family Assistance Program (WellSpan)

#### Communications

- Gospel Evangel
- Printing Other Publications
- Website & Digital Media

#### Conference Initiatives

- Intercultural Transformation
- Special Projects Fund

#### Conference Leadership Teams' Expenditures

- All-Teams Retreat
- Teams Meeting Expenses
- Teams Travel

#### Leadership Development

- Pastor Gathering
- Leadership Training Grants
- Ministry Inquiry

#### Mennonite Church USA Connections

- Denominational Database
- Firstfruits to Mennonite Church USA
- General Assembly Travel
- Mutual Aid – Corinthian Plan

#### Office Expenditures

- Equipment, supplies, and maintenance
- Postage
- Space Sharing/Utilities
- Taxes, Insurance, Fees
- Archive Storage
- Office Staff Team Building **\*NEW\***
- Fundraising **\*NEW\***

#### Conference Staffing

- Salaries, Wages, Benefits
- Continuing Education and Consultants



## Commentary on the Spending Plan from the Stewardship Team

As you review data from July 1, 2023 – April 30, 2024, please note:

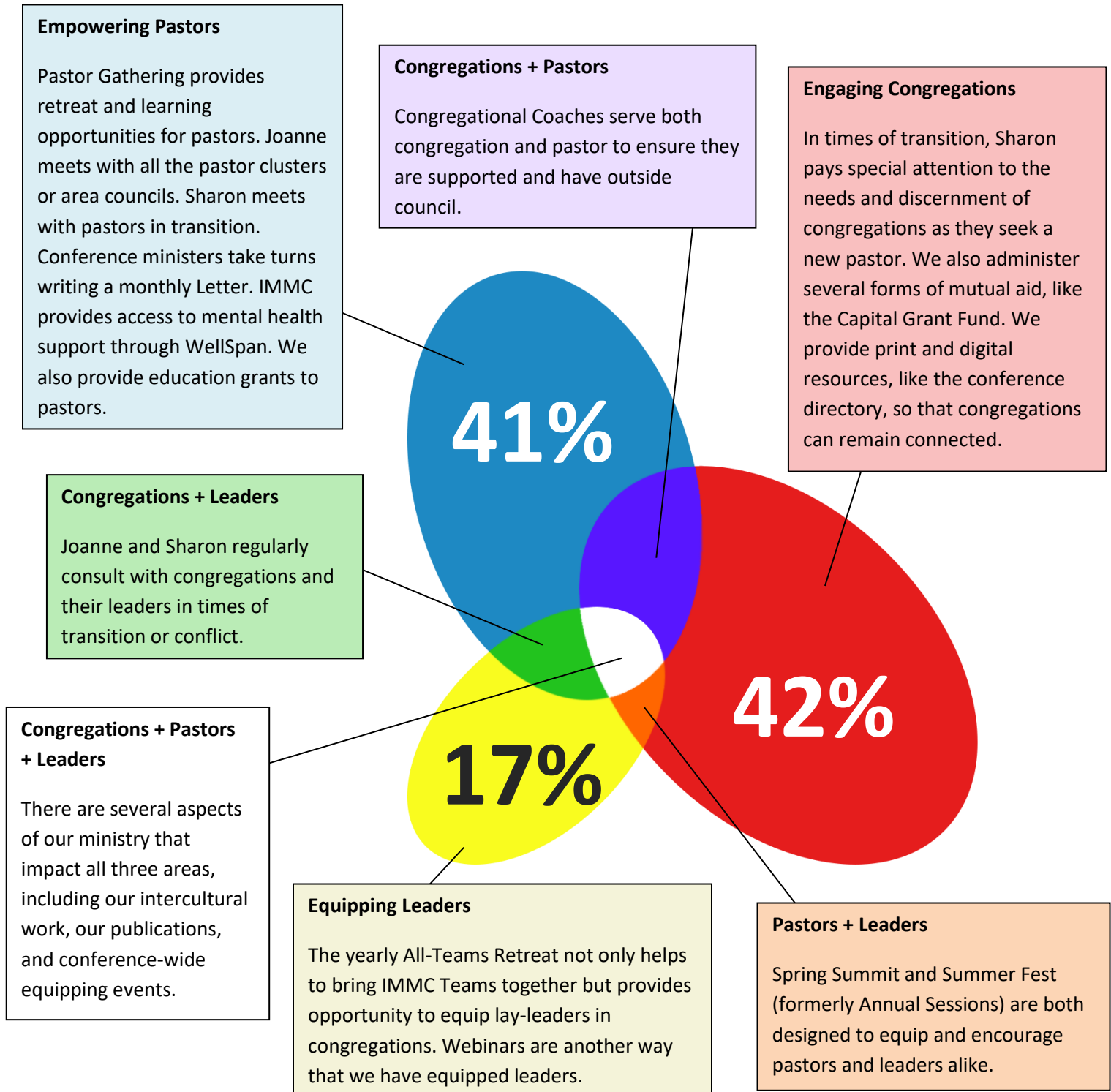
- **Our spending is within the projected amount for the current fiscal year.** Even so, as of April 2024, our expenses are higher than one year ago and \$30,000 over year-to-date income. This is partly due to increased costs of travel and wages for staff to provide the services that IMMC offers to pastors and congregations.
- This gap is also due to the reality that in June we receive our highest monthly income from congregations. From typical giving patterns over the past five years, we expect to significantly reduce this gap between expenses and income. **Still, we anticipate a need of \$13,500 as we close the fiscal year on June 30.**
- **We need your help to end the 2024 year with a balanced budget.** In June 2023, we erased the deficit between income and expenses because you responded to the need you heard at our annual meeting. We can do this again – with your support! Please visit our [weGive](#) page to learn more about giving options and/or plan now to respond during the upcoming **weGive Week, June 10-14**, immediately following Summer Fest. Your gifts help to sustain the work and ministry of IMMC! Thank-you!

### Looking to next year's spending plan:

- We are presenting a spending plan that projects expenses of \$13,639 above income for 2024-25.
- Best practice regarding financial reserves is to have 25% of an annual spending plan covered. We have 100% of our budget covered by reserves.
- 80% of our spending plan is designated for wages, salaries, and benefits for staff to provide the services you need for the support of your congregations and pastors. This is the typical amount required for a service organization such as ours. **We cannot reduce our spending plan without reducing staff time, which would in turn reduce the services we can provide to our pastors and congregations.**
- We urge congregations who are able, to increase their giving to help cover the projected deficit.
- The projected contributions from individuals (weGive) was increased to \$18,000 for 2024-25. This is higher than last year's projected amount, based on data over the past two years that shows an upward trend because of increased fundraising efforts. We believe this is possible because we know you support the ministry and mission of IMMC.

## How do these funds help us live into our vision, values, and purpose?

Like any service organization, the expenses are mostly related to staffing. These staff help to carry out the work of the organization and provide the services that have been discerned as necessary by the board and delegates of Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference (IMMC). For this reason, the numbers only tell part of the story. The Spending Plan proposed above is created to enable the staff and volunteers of IMMC to carry out the work that God has called us to. In an attempt to tell more of the full story of the Spending Plan, we present to you a narrative that focuses on how the funds support and enable the ministries of IMMC.



## Chapter 3 Reports to Delegates

### Missional Leadership Team Report 2023-2024

By Steve Slagel, moderator

This year the MLT:

- Began with a two-day August retreat at Pathways Retreat in Goshen. We centered our time with Isaiah 43. As we read verse 19, "I am about to do a new thing..." we imagined possibilities of what God will do in the future of our conference. Here are many of the possibilities:
  - Conference gatherings marked by deep relationships, joy, and laughter.
  - Highlighting the inspiring stories of congregations.
  - Youth and young adults fully engaged in the life of IMMC.
  - IMMC as a place people want to be.
- Worked at the proposal for Youth and Young Adult Delegates. We discussed, brainstormed, drafted, and imagined how this possibility could be realized. We are excited for the ways God will do this new thing.
- Continued to work at *Growing Our Intercultural Witness*. Based on the recommendations of the Intercultural Working Group, we committed to a number of next steps:
  - Restructure conference gatherings by expanding efforts for inclusion.
  - Including intercultural competency and anti-racism training with credential leaders and IMMC teams. We support the LET with Joanne's leadership to move this forward.
  - Including stories of congregations engaging in intercultural development in a regular column in weLink and the Gospel Evangel.
  - Continuing to develop and make a list of resources for antiracism education and intercultural competency for all IMMC members.
- Welcomed Becky Helmuth as moderator elect.

### Conference Minister & Staff Report 2023-2024

By Sharon Yoder and Joanne Gallardo, conference co-ministers

**Conference Staff:** implementing the vision and mission of IMMC.

- Michelle Cabanaw – bookkeeper and admin. assistant; maintains financial data on accounts payable and receivable, payroll and all financial entries; reconciles monthly and quarterly financial statements, creates and reviews financial reports, and ensures legal requirements.
- Clayton Gladish – administrative coordinator; supports the work of other staff, manages conference communication, and coordinates and hosts conference events.
- Joanne Gallardo – meets with IMMC team leaders to review the Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI); supports pastors and leaders in ongoing congregational life; collaborates with the Leadership Enhancement Team, Gifts Development Team, and Missional Leadership Team.
- Sharon Yoder – focuses on office and financial oversight; assists with congregational leadership transitions, pastoral searches, and credentialing; collaborates with Ministry Credentialing Team, Stewardship Team, and Missional Leadership Team.

**Conference Events:** gathering the community of congregations.

- Annual Sessions 2023, with a theme of *Unity in Love*, held at Amigo Centre June 9-10, 2023.
- Conference Sunday 2023 resources for worship, including a pre-recorded sermon, used the Annual Sessions theme and shared with congregations for June 11, 2023.
- All Teams retreat, for persons serving on Missional Leadership Team, Gifts Development Team, Leadership Enhancement Team, Ministry Credentialing Team, Stewardship Team, and Personnel Committee, held at College Mennonite Church September 15-16.

- [Giving Tuesday and Year-End Giving campaigns](#) – emails sent on November 28 and December 31, 2023 to increase IMMC’s individual donor base.
- [Christmas Open House](#) – hosted on December 20 in East Goshen’s fellowship hall, we were blessed to visit guests as we enjoyed snacks together.
- [Healthy Boundaries 201](#), a virtual and in-person training especially for credentialed leaders at East Goshen Mennonite Church, led by Nancy Kauffmann and Michael Danner on January 10.
- [Pastors Gathering](#), at Amigo Center November 6-8, with opportunity for sharing circles, good food, fellowship, fun, and personal retreat.
- [Spring Summits 2024](#) were held in person at Prairie Street Mennonite Church on March 9 and via zoom on March 16. We heard a powerful sermon by Stephen Lowe and discussed the potential of including youth delegates in our gatherings.

**Communication:** networking to promote connection among the community of congregations.

- monthly emails: [weLink](#) newsletter; [weNote](#) announcements; [wePray](#); and letters to pastors from Joanne or from Sharon.
- quarterly [Gospel Evangel](#) publication and quarterly letters to *Missional Seeds* donors.
- IMMC [website](#) and [Facebook](#) posts.
- *weGive* became the new name for what was formerly known as *Missional Seeds*.

**Joining you in your community:**

- Joanne and Sharon preach upon invitation, officiate credentialing and commissioning services for pastors, meet with congregational leaders as requested, and meet with pastor cluster groups, transitional pastors, and chaplains.

**IMMC Office space:** provided in a generous space-sharing arrangement at East Goshen Mennonite Church. IMMC and East Goshen staff enjoy weekly coffee connections.

As IMMC staff, we desire to be *centered on Jesus and guided by the Holy Spirit, acting through Grace, Love, and Peace* as we relate with one another and as we support pastors and leaders in our community of congregations.

## **Gifts Development Team Report 2023-2024**

By Sharon Norton, Chair

A new thing that GDT is doing is clarifying what kind of people would add the broadest representation of our constituency in relation to who currently is serving on their teams. Clearly, younger folks are missing from our teams and as we expand the capacity for their participation in Conference, this is a great time to recruit them to get even closer to the work. We are also continuing to look for racial/ethnic/sexual orientation diversity.

Please encourage anyone you know who would like to add their perspective and expertise to the work of our Conference.

We appreciate Grant Miller’s work with the team and wish him well in new ministry roles that take him out of our constituency!

## **Leadership Enhancement Team Report 2023-2024**

By Kent Miller, Chair

Leadership Enhancement Team continues to look for ways to strengthen and resource Pastors, Ministers, Congregational Coaches, and Lay Leadership across our conference. Here are several areas we’ve worked on in 2023-2024.

1. Pastoral Growth and Wellness – We continue to encourage Pastors to make a plan for their own growth and wellness. We initiate this around the school year, and encourage Pastors to submit a plan, updates, and a final report.
2. Pastor Gatherings –
  - a. November 6-8, 2023, at Amigo Center. We continue to use the natural beauty and resources available at Amigo Centre to provide a space for reflection and rejuvenation. This past November we focused on offering times of guided conversations, space to retreat, and consider our worship experiences. There were \_\_\_\_\_ persons attending.
  - b. November 22-24, 2024, at Amigo Centre. We are working on 2024’s event, and this time we are doing the event over a weekend, to allow for part-time pastors, and those who may have a full-time job during the week to attend. Watch for updates on this event in your email.
3. Future ‘Leadership Webinars’ for Cong leaders/Pastors – One area we have begun having a few conversations about, is how might we work at resourcing Congregational Leadership, which would include Pastors, but also other lay leaders within the congregation. These discussions are very new, and if you have potential suggestions on what type of Webinars would be helpful for your congregation, please let one of the LET members know.
4. Congregational Coaches –
  - a. Fall Training – Sharing Wisdom session, led by Joanne. We posed several questions and invited feedback from those in attendance to share their wisdom. We talked about joys of working with their congregation; things you’ve learned as you work with them; and what’s been the most challenging thing they’ve encountered so far? This led to good discussion and sharing amongst the coaches in attendance, and felt like a good chance for them to connect.
  - b. Spring Training – Led by Steve Slagel, who presented and led discussion around two main ideas: Walking with Congregations in Times of Anxiety; and Coaching a congregation in transition. The information was very timely and well received. There is a recording of the session available to coaches who were not able to attend.
  - c. Placement of coaches – LET works on an ongoing basis to engage congregations seeking to add a new, or replace a retiring Congregational Coach. Joanne is a point person for pushing these conversations out, and we are always open to hearing from individuals wanting to hear more about Congregational Coach ministry in the conference. Feel free to reach out to LET.
5. Sister Congregations This idea was brought by the Intercultural Working Group (IWG) to the Missional Leadership Team (MLT) as a way of sharing resources and experiences of congregations who are already doing Intercultural work. It has been a while since IMMC has done something like this. It was noted that there has been a challenge in the past to connect with congregations at a distance but with advances (such as Zoom) it has become easier to do this. It was also noted that congregations, especially those in the Upper Peninsula would appreciate this kind of connection. There will be LET members at our Conference Gathering to answer questions and talk with you more about this budding initiative.
6. Updated LET Training grants to Pastors. LET provides training grants to pastors which can help with the expenses of education and/or training events. The maximum amount given to any one pastor each year has been \$100, for many years. We decided to increase that maximum amount to \$200/annually. We generally do 2-3 grants per year.

LET continues to look for ways to enhance leadership across the conference. We are excited to serve the people and the mission of our conference.

## **Ministry Credentialing Team Report 2023-2024**

By Suella Gerber, chair

The Ministry Credentialing Team continues to center and work at a culture that encourages our credentialed leaders to grow and thrive in their ministries. To that end, we continue to:

1. Support credentialed persons by
  - a. Placing newly credentialed persons into peer-mentor relationship;
  - b. Encouraging all credentialed leaders to place themselves in a relationship where they are being cared for emotionally, spiritually, psychologically, etc.;
  - c. Making sure there are Healthy Boundaries trainings available for everyone to be able to participate every three years. We are in the process of making a HB training available for Spanish speakers;
  - d. Carrying conversations with leaders in difficult placements;
  - e. Growing awareness of how our credentialing processes and requirements preference certain persons and/or disadvantage persons. And making changes accordingly.
  
2. Credentialing. We have the privilege and holy opportunity for conversations with persons who are being called to ministry by congregations or other faith communities. We see and intend these conversations to be a collaboration with the community that has requested a credential for a pastor or chaplain or other kinds of ministry, our credentialing actions affirming and responding to those communities and requests.
  - a. During the past 12+ months, we have listened to stories of injury caused by the credentialing process. For that process, we've been accompanied by a spiritual director, someone who could listen with us and lead us through a process and conversations that have been begun to repair and heal the harm caused. We will lead a liturgy of repentance and repair at SummerFest.
  - b. MCT will remain open to receiving stories of harm.

## **Stewardship Team Report 2023-2024**

By Jim Alvarez, chair

The Stewardship Team (ST) has been meeting monthly via zoom over the past year. Team members were Jim Alvarez (chair), Jim Gerber, Patty Graber, Marlene Kroeker, Jeff Miller, and Duane Yoder (IMMC treasurer). Sharon Yoder, Conference Minister, and Michelle Cabanaw, bookkeeper also joined the meetings.

In August, Jim Alvarez, and Jim Gerber, Duane, Sharon, and Michelle met with our Everence representative, Kent Miller, to review IMMC investments. And in May, Jim Alvarez, Sharon, and Michelle met with our Brotherhood Mutual rep, Mitch Andrews, to review our liability insurance coverage.

Janice Eigsti Miller did a financial review for IMMC in October and offered many affirmations for the work of our bookkeeper, Michelle Cabanaw. She also made several recommendations to improve checks and balances, which were adopted as new procedures.

The Stewardship Team recommended that IMMC check into outsourcing payroll when we learned that QuickBooks was initiating a significant price increase for its payroll program. A cost comparison found outsourcing to Ministry Works was cost effective, so we moved ahead with this plan in April.

Since July 2023, Stewardship Team approved capital grant requests from two congregations: Fairhaven Mennonite and College Mennonite. A total of \$50,708 was distributed as matching grants to these congregations for building maintenance and/or renovations.

Using Henri Nouwen's book *The Spirituality of Fundraising* as our focusing conversation, Stewardship Team pondered the reality that "fundraising is first and foremost a form of ministry." As we embrace our mission and enthusiastically share it with others, we create space for congregations and individuals to join and support the vision of IMMC. Stewardship Team member Marlene Kroeker has been reaching out to make connections with congregations and staff connected with individual donors through Giving Tuesday, end-of-calendar-year fundraising, and weGive week.

Congregational and individual giving to IMMC has been slightly above previous year giving. Though lower than spending plan projections, operational expenses are also above where we were in April 2023. We will need strong donations in the last two months of our fiscal year to balance our budget.

We are deeply grateful for generous financial support that make it possible for our staff to continue equipping and supporting our community of congregations as they engage the world God loves.

## Leadership Report of Credentialed Persons

May 1, 2023 – May 15, 2024

### Ordained

July	16	'23	Sophie Lapp Jost, College Mennonite Church for ministry in Bammental, Germany
Dec	17	'23	Carmen Horst, Walnut Hill Mennonite Church

### License Toward Ordination

Dec	20	'23	Osée Tshiwape, Sunnyside Mennonite Church
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### License Extension

Nov	07	'23	Monica Miller, First Mennonite Church (until January 25, 2024)
Mar	01	'24	Quinn Brenneke, Prairie Street Mennonite Church (until March 1, 2026)
Apr	08	'24	Tantra Taylor, New Foundation United in Christ Mennonite Fellowship (until April 8, 2026)

### New Pastoral Appointments

<u>Beginning Date</u>				<u>Installation Date</u>
Aug	01	'23	Marcella Hershberger, co-pastor, Hudson Lake Menn Church	July 30, 2023
Aug	01	'23	Marcia Carpenter, co-pastor, Hudson Lake Mennonite Church	July 30, 2023
Aug	01	'23	Steve Slagel, transitional pastor, Kern Road Mennonite Church	Aug 6, 2023
Aug	01	'23	Sean Swanson, interim pastor, Kern Road Mennonite Church	Aug 6, 2023
Sept	01	'23	Becky Helmuth, transitional pastor, Benton Mennonite Church	
Aug	22	'23	Suella Gerber, interim at First Mennonite Church, Indianapolis	
Sep	15	'23	Richard Kauffman, interim at First Mennonite Church, Indianapolis	
Oct	23	'23	Maria Hosler Byler, pastor, Sunnyside Mennonite Church	Nov 5, 2023
Dec	01	'23	Nicholas King, interim pastor, North Goshen Mennonite church	Nov 26, 2023
Jan	01	'24	Osée Tshiwape, asst. pastor, Sunnyside Mennonite Church	Jan 7, 2024

### Credential Transfer

May	24	'23	Renee Kanagy <i>from</i> Central District Conference
July	19	'23	Sean Swanson <i>from</i> Ohio Mennonite Conference
Oct	04	'23	Andrew Brubacher Kaethler <i>to</i> Mennonite Church Eastern Canada
Oct	06	'23	Dennis Schmidt <i>from</i> Western District Conference
Oct	06	'23	Dianne Schmidt <i>from</i> Western District Conference
Oct	25	'23	Nicholas King <i>from</i> Mountain States Mennonite Conference
Nov	28	'23	Arthur Smoker <i>from</i> Virginia Mennonite Conference
Dec	19	'23	Maria Hosler Byler <i>from</i> Mosaic Mennonite Conference
Apr	18	'24	Simon Muange <i>from</i> Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference
Apr	22	'24	Timothy J. Burkholder <i>to</i> Mennonite Church Alberta

### Completion of Ministerial Assignment

Jun	11	'23	Janice Yordy Sutter, pastor, Kern Road Mennonite Church
Jun	11	'23	David Sutter, pastor, Kern Road Mennonite Church

July	31	'23	Rebecca Helmuth, transitional pastor, Hudson Lake Mennonite Church
Aug	13	'23	Doug Kaufman, co-pastor, Benton Mennonite Church
Aug	15	'23	Daniel Yoder, pastor of spiritual formation and youth, College Mennonite Church
Aug	27	'23	Brenda Hostetler Meyer, co-pastor, Benton Mennonite Church
Oct	31	'23	Rebecca Helmuth, interim pastor, Sunnyside Mennonite Church
Nov	30	'23	Nathan Graber-McCrae, North Goshen Mennonite Church
Dec	31	'23	Rachel Nafziger Hartzler, interim pastor, Sunnyside Mennonite Church
Jan	25	'24	Monica Miller, pastor, First Mennonite Church, Indianapolis
Jan	31	'24	Naun Cerrato, pastor, Piedra Viva Mennonite Church
May	12	'24	Grant Miller, pastor, Kalamazoo Mennonite Fellowship

Credential ending due to ended affiliation with an IMMC congregation

Sept	01	'23	Calvin Kaufman, formerly member of East Goshen Mennonite Church
Dec	31	'23	Mark Stahl, formerly pastor at Parkview Mennonite Church (continues credential with COB)
Mar	10	'24	John Schrock (now credentialed by Church of the Brethren for pastoral ministry)
Apr	19	'24	Cora Brown, pastor at Church Without Walls, now affiliated with LMC
Apr	19	'24	Jonathan Brown, pastor at Church Without Walls, now affiliated with LMC

## Deceased Pastors 2023-2024



**Jacob Henry "Jake" Flisher, Jr.**, of Goshen, died September 22, 2023 at the age of 96. He is survived by four children, Mary Ina Hooley (Don) of Bluffton, Ohio, Judy Ginger (John) of Eugene, Oregon, Sylvia Blaser (Dennis) of Caledonia, Illinois and Jeanette Hunt (Randy) of Millersville, Pennsylvania; grandchildren; and great grandchildren. His wife, Arvilla preceded him in death in 1998. In 1953, Jake and Arvilla became missionaries in Central India with Mennonite Board of Missions, where they worked until 1975. His work included lab technician and administrator of Dhamtari Christian Hospital; he also pastored in several village churches. In 1975 they moved to Missouri, where Jake served as administrator of Beth Haven Nursing Home until retirement in 1995. In 2000 he moved to Greencroft Retirement Center, Goshen where he lived up until his death.



**Darrel M. Hostetler**, 91, Goshen, died January 31, 2024. He is survived by his wife, Marian, and children, Bruce (Laura Chisholm) Hostetler, Portland, Oregon, Rick (Kim) Hostetler, Goshen, Brenda (Rich) Meyer, Millersburg, Anne (Kobi) Menahemy, Oakland, California, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Darrel taught music and Bible at Iowa Mennonite School and Bethany Christian High School, served as Executive Director at Walnut Hill Daycare, and administrator at Mennonite Disabilities Committee. He and Marian were missionaries in Nigeria from 1963-1965 and did voluntary service in Swaziland from 1979-1982. For many years, Darrel served as assistant pastor and as Minister of Music at North Goshen Mennonite Church. He also directed the Evergreen Singers and the MCC Relief Sale Men's Chorus. He will be remembered for his love of music, his listening and openness to people and ideas, and his humor.



**Enrique Ortiz**, 86, Goshen, died July 29, 2023. His wife Kathleen passed away in 2017. He is survived by his sister, Sylvia Rivera, Texas, nephews, and nieces. Enrique served as a pastor for 24 years in 3 different churches and as Executive Secretary for the Puerto Rico Mennonite Conference. He was deeply loved by the church in Puerto Rico. Enrique also worked in maintenance and as a mechanic. He was a member of North Goshen Mennonite Church, where he was very involved and taught the Spanish Sunday School class.





**Chibuzor V. Ozor**, known fondly as Chibu, died July 31, 2023 at age 79. Born in Nigeria, he is survived by his wife of 46 years, Chima; and their five children, Chidimma, Chinedu, Chinemerem, Chigözïe, and Chidiebere; and 3 grandchildren. Chibu had an insatiable quest for knowledge and was a lifelong learner, holding numerous advanced degrees in education, linguistics, and theology. He was an educator at several higher education institutions and taught in the Detroit Public schools for 23 years. He also served as pastor of the Ann Arbor Mennonite Church from 1986-2017. He had a heart for others, especially those who were suffering, marginalized, disadvantaged or underestimated; and his actions demonstrated his deep love for God and his love for humanity. His courage, humility, passion for justice, and reverence for God, inspired many.



**Robert Schloneger** died March 25, 2024 at the age of 82. He is survived by his wife Enid and three sons, Craig (Ann) Schloneger of Lititz, Pennsylvania, Kevin (Lisa) Schloneger of Indianapolis, and Mark (Sarah) Schloneger of Goshen; grandchildren, and great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a daughter, Tricia Schloneger. Bob served in a variety of pastoral ministry roles over the years, serving as pastor, teacher, and mentor. With IN-MI Mennonite Conference, Bob served as congregational coach and as a search guide for pastoral search committees. He also served, with Enid, for two years with Mennonite Voluntary Service in Puerto Rico, and in retirement, he volunteered with Meals on Wheels. He was a master wood turner and was always eager to help others with his handyman skills.

**Church Closures & Withdrawals**

**Church Without Walls (Elkhart, IN)**

Withdrawal from IN-MI Mennonite Conference (IMMC)  
April 19, 2024

Church Without Walls was established in January 1991 as an inner-city church plant in cooperation with IMMC. Their stated mission was “to participate with surrounding Christian congregations for mutual support and ministry for evangelism in South Central Elkhart, in order to accentuate the African American culture and create a style of church conducive to holistic ministry and which results in racial and economic unity.” Jonathan Brown has been giving leadership to this congregation since 1992; his wife Cora joined him in 1997.

In 2006, the congregation began a Homeless Prevention program and in April 2007, they began the Emerge Ministries Program. Emerge, directed by Pastor Cora Brown, currently consists of four programs, which have significant impact in the South Central Elkhart community: Women’s Outreach, Homeless Prevention, Emergency Assistance, and the Emerge Transitional Care Center. All Emerge programs support families to develop stable relationships and improve their basic life skills.

On April 22, 2024, IMMC received the following from Pastor Jon Brown:

Last Friday at LMC’s Bishop Board meeting Church Without Walls was accepted as a member congregation. Yesterday at a ceremony at Church Without Walls we were welcomed into membership... We have been blessed in many ways through our fellowship in Indiana Michigan Conference. We have fellowshipped with various denominations since 1992 and we look forward to continued fellowship with MCUSA congregations.  
Shalom,  
Jon Brown & Cora Bown

IMMC responded with sadness and respect for their decision to part ways with IMMC and offered a blessing for them and their ongoing ministry in the South-Central Elkhart area.

## Chapter 4 Annual Reports from Ministry Partners

These reports can be found on our website by using the links below (digital version) or by visiting <https://www.im.mennonite.net/events/summerfest/>.

### English

[Anabaptist Disabilities Network](#)

[Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary](#)

[Bethel College](#)

[Eastern Mennonite Seminary](#)

[Eastern Mennonite University](#)

[Everence](#)

[Hesston College](#)

[Journey Program at AMBS](#)

[Mennonite Central Committee](#)

[Mennonite Church USA](#)

[Mennonite Disaster Service](#)

[Mennonite Education Association](#)

[Mennonite Health Services Association](#)

[MennoMedia](#)

[Mennonite Men](#)

[Mennonite Mission Network](#)

[Mennonite Women](#)

### Español

[Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary](#)

[Bethel College](#)

[Eastern Mennonite Seminary](#)

[Eastern Mennonite University](#)

[Everence](#)

[Hesston College](#)

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[Mennonite Central Committee](#)

[Mennonite Church USA](#)

[Mennonite Disaster Service](#)

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[Mennonite Health Services Association](#)

[MennoMedia](#)

[Mennonite Men](#)

[Mennonite Mission Network](#)

[Mennonite Women](#)

## **Chapter 5 Announcements**

### **Annual Sessions 2024 Evaluation**

Please take a moment to reflect and give feedback on Summer Fest 2024 using this Google Form:

<https://forms.gle/haEG1K4Ww8wuUNMS7>

Thank you!

### **Conference Sunday Materials**

We have provided materials for congregations to engage in a Conference Sunday that connects with our Annual Sessions. To view or download these materials, visit the Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference website or with this link: <https://www.im.mennonite.net/events/summerfest/#conference-sunday>.

### **Summer Fest 2025**

We're excited to announce that Summer Fest 2025 will take place at Waterford Mennonite Church (Goshen, IN). We will be soliciting feedback from delegates and other conference personnel to discern the date for next year. Please stay tuned for updates on that.