

**Virginia Mennonite Conference
Mission, Vision & Value Statements
Winter 2018 Delegate Session**

FOR ACTION BY WINTER DELEGATE SESSION 2018

“Virginia Mennonite Conference equips pastors, lay leaders, and congregants for worship and service, and to bring the Good News of Jesus Christ to neighbors near and far.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

APPROVED AT SUMMER 2016 DELEGATE SESSION.

Virginia Mennonite Conference Mission Statement

Virginia Mennonite Conference equips pastors, lay leaders, and congregants to bring Good News to communities that support worship, mission, and service for Jesus Christ.

AS TABLED AT WINTER 17 DELEGATE SESSION

Virginia Mennonite Conference Mission Statement

Virginia Mennonite Conference equips pastors, lay leaders, and congregants to support worship, mission, and service for Jesus Christ and to bring Good News to the world in which we live. (Passed by Conference Council, September 23 & 24, 2016)

APPROVED AT VIRGINIA MENNONITE CONFERENCE SUMMER 2017 DELEGATE SESSION

Virginia Mennonite Conference Vision Statement

“God calls us to be followers of Jesus Christ and, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to grow as communities of grace, joy and peace, so that God’s healing and hope flow through us to the world. “ (same as MC USA’s vision statement)

Virginia Mennonite Conference Mission Statement: passed but by a low margin, was tabled for further work by Conference Council..

“Virginia Mennonite Conference equips pastors, lay leaders, and congregants to support worship, mission, and service for Jesus Christ and to bring Good News to the world in which we live” (same as the one Council approved last fall).

APPROVED AT CONFERENCE COUNCIL, SEPTEMBER 22 & 23, 2017

Virginia Mennonite Conference equips pastors, lay leaders, and congregants for worship, service, and bringing the Good News of Jesus Christ to neighbors near and far.

Organizational Values (a working document)

We value:

- Discernment that includes Biblical and theological discourse.
- Ethical conduct.
- Worship that celebrates the transformative power of God.
- Partnership with Mennonite Church USA and other Christian groups.
- Service to others and compassionate care that brings healing and builds peace.
- Diversity of cultures and peoples, and various expressions of faith.
- Listening and learning together in communities of discernment.

Organizational Assumptions (a working document)

We assume:

- Jesus Christ is our example for life and the lens by which we interpret all Scripture.
- Our *Confession of Faith in a Mennonite Perspective* affirms our faith commitments based on Scripture.
- Congregations collaborate with district, regional, and global partners in missional activity.
- We call, equip, and empower leaders for various forms of ministry.
- We discern God's will together on key issues challenging our faith communities.
- Pastors are accountable to the Conference through their district minister and their congregation.
- We partner with Conference-related agencies.