



Reports & Statistics Book

2021-2022

(RE)PACKING



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Mission

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.

Vision

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.

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CONFERENCE STAFF

June Miller, *Acting Conference Executive*
Caleb Schrock-Hurst, *Racial Justice and Equity Leader*
Jon Trotter, *Communications Manager*

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** Not a Conference Endorsed Ministry but placed with other educational institutions.*

DELEGATE KEY

- * Voting credentialed leader
- () Congregational membership
- [] Average attendance
- ~ Did not report

ASSEMBLY SCHEDULE

Thursday July 14, 2022

- 2:00p **Tour of Archives at EMU** (Public event, Sadie Hartzler Library)
- 4:00 **Race and History in Harrisonburg**
Historical walk (Public event, downtown Harrisonburg)
- 6:45 **VMMissions Program** (Public event at Zion Mennonite Church)
Celebrate the ministries and stories of transformation through the work of God through VMMissions.

Friday July 15, 2022

7:30a Registration

Session 1 - (RE)ALITY CHECK

- 8:30 Welcome & Opening
Music & Worship
Stories
Scripture and Reflection
- 10:00 Break
- 10:30 Table Groups
- 11:30 VMC Business
Approval of Minutes
Moderator's Report
Finance Report
Nominations
Blessing Zion Hill Mennonite Church
- 12:00 Lunch

Session 2: (RE)CLAIMING THE SHARED VISION

- 1:30 Guest introduction
Music & Worship Stories:
MC USA Report back
Vision for Youth
Racial Justice Task Force
Scripture and Reflection
- 3:00 Break
- 3:30 Table Groups
- 4:15 Closing Worship/Wrap Up
Supper on your own

5:00 Appreciation Dinner for Pastors and Credentialed Leaders

- 7:00 **Trissels Bicentennial** (Public event at Trissels Mennonite Church)
VMC Historical Committee Report
Message: "The Holy Spirit Gives Gifts" by Elwood Yoder, based on Acts 2:1-4; 14-21.

Saturday, July 16, 2022

- 6:45a **Mennonite Women Prayer Breakfast**
(at Trissels Mennonite Church, RSVP)

Session 3: (RE)NEWING RELATIONSHIP

- 8:30 Welcome and Prayer
Worship
Scripture and Reflection
Strategic Plan Action Steps
- 9:15 Stories: Interim Conference Leadership
- 10:00 Break
- 10:30 Table Groups
- 11:30 Commissioning
Music & Worship
- 12:00 Closing

MINISTERS BEING COMMISSIONED

Credential Status Change

Name	Congregation/Org.	Dist./Cluster	Title/Role
Zachary Dey	Williamsburg Mennonite	Eastern	Associate Pastor
John Engle	Powhatan Mennonite	Eastern	Pastor
Carmen Miller	VMRC	Chaplain	Chaplain
Veronica Sanchez	Enciende una Luz	Northern	Co-Pastor
Curt Stutzman	Weavers Mennonite	Central	Pastor

Interim Conference Leadership Team to be Commissioned

Duane Beck	Consultant to Pastors on Leadership and Local Ministry
Bishop Leslie Francisco III	Minister of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
Craig Maven	Minister of Administration and Church Relations
June Miller	Director of Communications and Administration
Caleb Schrock-Hurst	Church Relations and Racial Justice Leader
Maren Tyedmers Hange	Minister of Formation and Soul Care

VMMISSIONS WORKERS BEING COMMISSIONED

Name	Assignment
Seth and Theresa Crissman	The Soil and The Seed Project ministry, USA
Ken Wettig	SLAQ (Servant Leadership Quest) director, USA
Nathan Carr	Prison ministry, USA
Isaiah Hartzler*	Congregational ministry intern, USA
Shawn and Laura Green	Evangelism and church support, Italy
Dan and Mary Hess	Evangelism and church planting, Albania
Dini and Klementina Shahini	Church and school leaders, Albania
David and Rebekka Stutzman	Networking and church planting, Germany
Norma Teles	Early education center director
Kate Miller (name changed)*	Business for transformation, Central Asia
Steve Horst and Bethany Tobin	Supporting Life Enrichment Church, Thailand
Paulo and Ana Silva* (names changed)	Business for transformation, Central Asia

* New appointment

CONFERENCE MODERATOR REPORT

As an educator I have long paid attention to how we must tend to both the need for continuity and for change to stay healthy as a faith community. Continuity is important for stability and for preserving hard won wisdom about what is required for human flourishing. Change is important because challenges show up that require adaptation and active listening as God's Spirit shakes up our comfortable assumptions and prompts new growth.

Virginia Mennonite Conference this year experienced significant upheaval—with unexpected changes in leadership and tensions that at times seem to threaten stability. While we celebrate the 200th anniversary of the first congregation in VMC, we also worry about how to hold together continuity of our rich history with changes prompted by the Spirit's call to become more diverse, equitable and inclusive so all God's children know they are beloved and called to follow Jesus.

Close to two decades ago, I organized a team of eight young adults to interview their peers about the stories and practices that shaped their faith, and their hopes for the future church. The results were published by Herald Press in: *Thank You for Asking: Conversing with Young Adults about the Future of the Church* (2005). I had fun setting up an “intergenerational dialogue” between my grandfather, A.D. Wenger (born in 1867 near Edom in Rockingham County), and this group of young adults. In 1902, A.D. published a travelogue about his turn-of-the-century trip around the world. I never met him, nor did my mother or any of my siblings. He died when my father was seventeen years old, while serving as the second president of what is now Eastern Mennonite University. My dad made sure each of his eight children received a copy of his father's book, *Six Months in Bible Lands: Around the World in Fourteen Months*. It sold well in Mennonite circles in his day since A.D. was a well-known evangelist and educator.

I was curious to hear what continuity and change young adults might see when comparing the “global village” they knew to A.D.'s encounter with the religious and cultural plurality of his day. I was surprised that A.D.'s core vision continued to ring true for most of the 56 young adults we interviewed a century later: that a few faithful Mennonites could “wield a wonderful influence for the betterment of the human race” if they remain true to “the humble teachings of Jesus, and thus be a great power

for good to the world.”

While our research is now somewhat dated, what we discovered in 2005 is that many Mennonite-affiliated young adults use different language, have worldviews with more complexity, talk more about contextualization than universality, don't generally relate well to abstract, doctrinal “truths,” speak in humble, confessional ways about God, and are more circumspect about how the biblical meta-narrative makes sense of their world. Yet they almost all agreed with the young globetrotter's core vision that a few Mennonites could be a wonderful influence for good in the world if they remain true to “the humble teachings of Jesus.”



In addition to VMC's recent leadership crisis, our conference is experiencing tensions that arise from our diverse perspectives about how we are called to pursue God's mission in the world and who we partner with in that mission—within VMC and among our broader MC USA church family. While I sense near panic by some of our VMC members following the MC USA special delegate assembly in May, I want to say with conviction that there is nothing that happened at the assembly that hinders or needs to distract any VMC congregation from carrying on with the mission to which it is called. Nor did anything happen that disrupts or needs to distract us from pursuing our conference's mission: to equip pastors, lay leaders, and congregants for worship and service, and to bring the Good News of Jesus Christ to neighbors near and far. We can do much more together, collectively, than we can as individual congregations, or as individual conferences for that matter. But managing continuity and change well will require working together “with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace” (Eph 4:2-3). When we do so, we show that a few Mennonites can be a wonderful influence for good in the world if they remain true to “the humble teachings of Jesus.”

Sara Wenger Shenk
Conference Moderator

CALVARY DISTRICT

C3 Hampton

The church is gradually moving back to in person services, meeting in person every first and third Sunday. There is still a very large online presence of our membership and also an area of growth and outreach to people beyond our present geographical area. The goal is to return to in person services in August.

The church has developed a new website and a hybrid congregational care system (any need a member may have they can access support online, anything from benevolence, dedications, prayer, weddings, hospitalization...) out of town guests can submit an advanced notice of attendance and our greeters will be on the look out for them. You are invited to check out the website at C3Hampton.org and click on member care, also history and other options.

Rocky Mount

The church continues to struggle with coming back to in person services due to majority of the membership being older. They continue to meet by phone because the online virtual experience most are not familiar with accessing the technology. Pastor Louvenia is contemplating her future at this point and possible relocating closer to her children. We are in prayer about the future of the church and what possibilities that may or may not be ahead.

Chesapeake

We continue to provide a space for a local church that has continued services throughout Covid. They are a smaller congregation but they have a presence in the community and I remain in contact with the Pastor on a regular basis.

South Africa

Pastor Flinn continues to provide leadership and has reopened in person services. Attendance and church participation is doing very well, they are also exploring relocating to a new facility which will give them more space and versatility.

Lauren Francisco is going to South Africa next month for three weeks and working with the new orphanage we have partnered with. We are exploring how we might strengthen our partnership and support of their ministry.

On another note it is with sadness that I share the contractor who assisted us in renovating the 18 bathrooms at the elementary school we partnered with in South Africa tragically died after an accidental fall from a building unrelated to our work. Please keep the family of Kyle Mastross in your prayers.

Bishop Leslie W. Francisco III
District Minister

Congregations:

District Minister: Leslie W. Francisco III
Vice Chair: Lesley Francisco McClendon
Treasurer: Nicole Francisco Bailey

C3 Hampton (Calvary Community)

Hampton, VA (950) [900]

*Nicole Bailey
*Leslie Francisco III
*Natalie Francisco
*Lesley McClendon
*Caleb McClendon
Joseph Carranza
Shawn Manning
Alicia Manning
*Flinn Ranchod
Vivian Stevens-Lyons
Nan Williams

Fellowship of Christ (2019)

Rocky Mount, NC ~ (46)
Leonard Katrina

* Voting credentialed staff

~Did not report in 2022

() = membership [] = avg. attendance, including online

CENTRAL DISTRICT

Central District of Virginia Mennonite Conference recognizes that though the Covid-19 pandemic continues, and over one million people have perished, we must be about ushering in “Thy Kingdom Come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven” to the world around us. The Holy Spirit leads as we cultivate what is true, noble, right, pure, lovely, admirable, excellent, and praiseworthy (Philippians 4:8).

Zion Hill requested to leave the organizational structure of MC USA, VMC, and district. The loosening mores surrounding human sexuality are too much for them to bear. They are therefore seeking fellowship among Conservative Mennonite Conference. As our relations remain cordial, we hope to continue to cooperate with Zion Hill in future ways. Their Sunday worship is in-person. Pastor Wenger continues to send out weekly email devotionals called, “The Nugget.”

The Beldor congregation reaches its community through care and visitation. They are an active part of the community in that way. Worship has been done safely with in-person meetings. They post sermons and announcements on Youtube & Facebook each week to reach the broader community. They also reach out to the community with weekly mailings of sermon devotionals. Adult Sunday school gatherings resumed after Easter, which was the first in two years. Men’s Bible studies and bluegrass concerts continue with enthusiasm.

Christiansburg congregation remains active in missional work by supporting a preschool program, a county food assistance program, and working with youth. There is much joy in being able to resume

worship together. They also project worship using Zoom. They have monthly fellowship lunches at the church and are planning monthly fellowship picnics at members’ homes. They are revitalizing fellowship groups. Pastor Andrew and Molly added their third child during the year, now with Simon, Sarah, and Moses.

The Mt. Clinton congregation conducts worship in-person and using Zoom. They reach out to their community by conducting Kid’s Club (with Weavers), prison ministry, prayer outreach, and discipling. They recently concluded an Open Door support group with a released female prisoner, and are considering another. They are revitalizing and expanding their fellowship groups. They plan and do excellent seasonal ministry activities. Pastor Jim is currently on sabbatical hiking the El Camino de Santiago. The group of elders and worship committee have set up an excellent guest preacher schedule, and pastoral visitation is well covered.

Weavers’ ministry includes worship, Kids Club (with Mt. Clinton), hosting its living nativity weekend in December, and conducting MDS service projects. They conduct worship in-person and by using FaceBook-Live. Attendance is strong. In 2021, they worked with MDS to build a high-quality bridge for an elderly couple in eastern Rockingham County, and are making plans to conduct a second project. They have created a coffeehouse using their old youth building. It began as a way to safely create intergenerational sharing and has grown to a means to reach out to the surrounding community.

James Åkerson
District Minister

Congregations:

District Ministers: James Akerson and Robert G. Wenger
Chair: Dale Hartzler
Vice-chair: Daniel Martin
Treasurer: Clayton Shenk
Secretary: Janie Heatwole

Beldor Mennonite Church

Elkton VA (15) [17]
*James Akerson

Christiansburg Mennonite Fellowship

Christiansburg VA (36) [40]
*Andrew Fairfield

Mt. Clinton Mennonite Church

Harrisonburg VA (110) [75]
*Jim Hershberger
Les Horning

Weavers Mennonite Church

Harrisonburg VA (155) [97]
*Curt Stutzman
Daniel Martin

Zion Hill Mennonite Church

Singers Glen VA (36) [27]
*Robert Wenger
Lois Wenger

* Voting credentialed staff

~Did not report in 2021

() = membership [] = avg. attendance, including online views

EASTERN DISTRICT

It has been two years plus since the infamous month of March 2020 which sent us scrambling for ways to continue to be church in lockdown. We have learned much about perseverance, being flexible and God's sustaining grace and we are still learning.

The work of Eastern District continues as our six congregations seek to follow Jesus and invite others to join us in that. I am grateful for how each is a true expression of God's love and sign of God's coming Kingdom. I applaud those of the district in pastoral leadership as they have poured their lives into their church and larger communities.

This year saw the transition of Mt Pleasant Mennonite away from our conference. We miss them "at the table" and pray for God's leading as the seek reaffiliation.

Some highlights to share: Pastor John Engle began serving Powhatan Mennonite in September 2021. He and his wife, Julie, are new to the area and have been well received as the congregation is grateful for God's provision.

About the same time, Pastor Zach Dey began serving Williamsburg Mennonite as Associate pastor. He will assume lead responsibilities as I step away this July. This intentional succession of leadership has progressed well thanks to good advice received and the congregation's graciousness and flexibility. First Mennonite has set aside some intentional time of study as a congregation this past year around the questions: "What is salvation?" and "How are we saved?" The study is yet in process but is bearing the fruit of owning and understanding more deeply our faith and our message.

At Huntington Mennonite, mid-week Bible studies enrich participants and contacts with the larger community have given opportunities for peace witness.

Pastor John Dey has ably led at Warwick River Mennonite for sixteen years. His decision to make a transition means pulling up significant roots in the church community. The congregation is currently in a transitional pastor search.

There was a fifty years of ministry celebration for Carl Mericle in January of this year at Providence Mennonite. I thank God for the dedication that Carl has brought to his call to ministry over these years.

It is a blessing to be a co-laborer in this part of God's field!

David Lehman
District Minister

Congregations:

District Minister: David Lehman
District Minister of Williamsburg:
J. Harold Bergey
Chair: In transition
Vice-Chair: Tyler Yoder
Secretary: Betty Kurtz
Treasurer: Melanie Plato

First Mennonite Church

Richmond, VA (71) [70]
*Ryan Ahlgrim

Huntington Mennonite Church

Newport News, VA (103) [45]
*Howard Miller
*Anna Janzen
Milton Janzen
Russell De Young

Powhatan Mennonite Church

Powhatan, VA (90) [70]
*John Engle
Glen Landis

Providence Mennonite Church

Newport News, VA (23) [15]
*Carl Mericle
Evangeline Yoder

Warwick River Mennonite Church

Newport News, VA (45) [45]
*John Dey
Harold "Ted" Yoder or
Sue "Snooky" Yoder

Williamsburg Mennonite Church

Williamsburg, VA (94) [64]
*Zachary Dey
*David Lehman
Heinz Plato

* Voting credentialed staff

~Did not report in 2021

() = membership [] = avg. attendance,
including online views

HARRISONBURG DISTRICT

Harrisonburg District leadership model shifted from Roy Hange as district minister to a co-district minister team of Roy and Maren Hange. In May their time was increased to a shared 3/8 time.

Esperanza de Vida has called Magdiel Diaz Gonzales in a half time role as pastor.

Harrisonburg Mennonite Church finished a three-year transitioning process into the roles of Lead Pastor for Jake Lee and Senior Pastor for Craig Maven which was celebrated on January 30, 2022. Carmen Schrock-Hurst was added to the team as Associate Pastor.

Sabbaticals: Phil Kniss (PVMC), Peter Eberly (Eastside), Harrigan Bowman (Early Church), Matt Swartz (Eastside), and Paula Stoltzfus (PVMC).

The district pastors met weekly by Zoom during the pandemic and switched back to in-person in September. Much of our focus was on support and restoration for covid-fatigued pastors, including a time of anointing. Due to all the stirrings in VMC as well as MC USA, we met bi-weekly instead of monthly during the spring. District council meetings used an Appreciative Inquiry to process, connect and strengthen relationships during these challenging times.

Eastside Church moved into their new building after over 10 years in a rented school auditorium.

Harrisonburg District walked with various missional initiatives: The Soil and Seed Project by Seth and Teresa Crissman, SLAQ ministry to youth by Ken Wettig, two prison chaplains with Grace Inside/ Jason Wagner and Nick Meyer... in addition to various church-based efforts.

The Harrisonburg District's Mission Advisory Council continues to work at generating new ideas to focus our work together.

Credentialing: Ken Wettig and Harrigan Bowman were licensed and installed for their new roles as Early Church pastors after a year leadership restructuring process. Carmen Schrock-Hurst was installed at HMC as associate pastor in a transfer from a teaching role.

Roy and Maren Hange
District Ministers

Congregations:

Co-District Ministers: Maren Hange and Roy Hange
Co-chairs: Steve Pardini and Paula Stoltzfus
Treasurer: Jim Beachy
Secretary: vacant
Member at large: vacant

Charlottesville Mennonite Church

Harrisonburg, VA (48) [63]
*Maren Hange
*Roy Hange
Tim Nissley

Early Church

Harrisonburg, VA (32) [60]
*Harrigan Bowman
*Ken Wettig
Carol Tobin

Eastside Church

Harrisonburg, VA (100)
*Peter Eberly
*Matthew Schwartz

Family of Hope

Harrisonburg, VA (12) [12]
*Harvey Yoder

Harrisonburg Mennonite Church

Harrisonburg, VA (775) [363]
*Jacob "Jake" Lee
*Craig Maven
*Carmen Schrock-Hurst
Pearl Lantz
Steve Pardini

Iglesia Esperanza de Vida

Harrisonburg, VA (18) [24]
Magdiel Gonzales Diaz

Immanuel Mennonite Church

Harrisonburg, VA (66) [65]
*Matthew Bucher
Tim Friesen

Manantial de Vida

Harrisonburg, VA (112) [60]
*Carlos Malvaez
*Wendy Malvaez

Mosaic of Grace

Harrisonburg, VA (17) [30]
*Michael Metzler
Suzy Kanode

Mt. Vernon Mennonite Church

Grottoes, VA (84) [40]
*Gregory "Greg" Stenson
Leroy Blosser

Park View Mennonite Church

Harrisonburg, VA (343) [215]
*Moriah Hurst
*Philip Kniss
*Paula Stoltzfus
Rosemary King
Joe Lapp
Joe Longacher
Lloyd Mast

Ridgeway Mennonite Church

Harrisonburg, VA (92) [88]
*Chadwick Miller
Glen Kauffman

* Voting credentialed staff
~Did not report in 2022
() = membership [] = avg. attendance, including online views

NORTHERN DISTRICT

Northern District is delighted to have two District faith communities, Zion, and Trissels, hosting events for the 2022 Assembly. We look forward to unpacking early as well as recent VMC experiences and re-packing what is needed for the journey ahead: "Into to the world for the love of the world"

Zion was also the venue for a Leadership Enrichment event with Lana Miller on the theme, From scarcity to abundance. Approximately 20 persons participated in conversations about nurturing an abundant mindset and looking at the assets we already have in our congregations.

We are deeply grateful to VMC and the Racial Justice Task Force for providing District Pastors with anti-racism training and an individual follow up session. Northern District faith communities supported the February training event and follow up by paying the fees connected with the training. The learnings were a way of unpacking and repacking our attitudes and actions for the journey of racial justice.

Transitions and Leadership processes as of June 1, 2022:

The first Sunday of 2021 was the last formal Sunday worship service for Crossroads Mennonite Church in Timberville, VA. The service began with each household lighting a candle that was extinguished at the end of the service with a personal word of blessing by Pastor Marian Buckwalter.

The decision to close was made after a 6-month consultation process. The church voted unanimously to gift the building and property to Iglesia Mennonita Monte Moriah, a sister district faith community. A group connected to IMMM that was reaching out to the Timberville community had been meeting at Crossroads for Bible study.

After eight years of service to Lindale Mennonite Church, Pastor Deb Horst, had her farewell celebration on June 5. A search team is seeking a new youth pastor. Anna Ressler will serve as a full-time ministry intern from AMBS for the summer months.

Crest Hill Community Church and Grace Mennonite Fellowships are both in the process of confirming a candidate for lead pastor.

Pastor Veronica Sanchez was approved for ordination for her ministry at Enciende una Luz in Rockingham County and Shalom Comienza in Waynesboro. The service of ordination will take place at Shalom Comienza, currently meeting at Waynesboro Mennonite Church, at 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 13.

Aldine Musser and Mike Shenk
District Ministers

Congregations:

District ministers: Aldine Musser and Michael Shenk III
Chair: David King
Vice-chair: Joan Kulp
Secretary: Debbie Katz
Treasurer: Darrel Miller

Big Spring Mennonite Church

Luray, VA (29) [22]
*Pearl Hartman
Kathy Yoder

Crest Hill Community Church

Wardensville, WV (23) [18]
*Marian Buckwalter

CrossWay Mennonite Church

Harrisonburg, VA (12) [11]
*James Rhee

Grace Mennonite Fellowship

Lacey Spring, VA (110) [51]
*LaShonda Russell
Mike Oswald
Phyllis Martin

Hebron Mennonite Church

Fulks Run, VA (56) [30]
*Mark Conley

Iglesia Enciende una Luz

Harrisonburg, VA ~ (90)
*Armando Sanchez
*Veronica Sanchez
José Luis Hernandez

Iglesia Menonita Monte Moriah

Lacey Spring, VA (27) [18]
*Alfonso Alvarado Ayala

Lindale Mennonite Church

Linville, VA (303) [290]
*Robert Yutzey
Erin Hess
Evelyn King
Gloria Lehman

Mathias Mennonite Church

Mathias, WV (20) [25]
*Dean E. Williams

New Song Anabaptist Fellowship

Harrisonburg, VA (19) [38]
*Basil Marin
Jeryllyn Schrock

Stephens City Mennonite Church

Stephens City, VA (19) [28]
*Merle Christner

the exchange

Winchester, VA (30) [30]
*Chris Scott
Viqui Dill

Trissels Mennonite Church

Broadway, VA (205) [67]
*Harold N. Miller
Dave Yutzey
Jewel Yutzey

Valley View Mennonite Church

Criders, VA (35) [20]
*H. Michael Shenk III

Woodland Mennonite Church

Basye, VA (16) [9]
*Rodney Lebron

Zion Mennonite Church

Broadway, VA (144) [100]
*Sarah Piper
Elwood Yoder
Joe Friesen

* Voting credentialed staff

~ Did not report in 2022

() = membership

[] = avg. attendance, including online views

POTOMAC DISTRICT

Daniels Run Peace Church, located in Fairfax, VA and led by pastor “Tig” Intagliata, responded in the last year to the influx of Afghan refugees into Northern Virginia by helping sponsor three families. We provided temporary housing, took them to appointments and language classes, and assisted them in finding jobs. Some of our new friends provided a delicious Afghan meal for a church fellowship meal in March. The congregation hosted Beating Guns with Shane Claiborne and Raw Tools in April, which included turning a gun into a garden tool, a message by Claiborne, and testimonies of those who have been affected by gun violence.

DC City Church, led by pastor Bruce Clark, combined with “Advance Church” of Maryland at the beginning of the pandemic. The congregation is grateful to the Lord. Some of the highlights in this past year: Pastor Bruce Clark was ordained as a bishop, and the congregation ordained three pastors, as well as four Church Mothers. They started a Prayer Walk around neighborhood schools to pray for the safety of the children in the midst of school shootings. They began 365 days of prayer where they pray each day at 7pm. Bishop Clark started a 30 for 30 witnessing initiative to reach out and evangelize the community. The church has hosted Women’s Bible Study and a weekly Men’s Prayer group, both of which are open to the community.

Fourth Street Community Fellowship in Washington, DC, was unable to offer Sunday worship at the church last year due to COVID-19. However, some church members joined the online worship service provided by another congregation. Pastor Kim Eung-soo, who worked as a staff member last year, went to heaven due to a chronic disease. The funeral service was held at the Korean-American Rockville Presbyterian Church in Maryland.

The Washington Dulles Airport Chapel, led by chaplains Eugene and Christina Kraybill, offers two Christian worship services on Sunday mornings. “We have experienced curious persons attending the Chapel services including practicing Muslims and recent believers in Yeshua from Judaism are hungry to learn more,” they write. “We were blessed this past year when we received designated funds just in time to restock our give-away Bibles & Christian literature.

Washington Community Fellowship, near Capitol Hill in DC and led by Senior pastor Andrew Cheung, celebrates a successful ministry to address the needs of at-risk students experiencing pandemic learning loss in our surrounding community. With an enthusiastic and generous response from supporters, we offered three weeks of an engaging STEM (Science, Engineering, Technology and Math) day camp last summer and look forward to expanding the offering again this summer. We are grateful for the ways God is opening doors to serve the community with the love of Christ.

Vietnamese Christian Fellowship, meeting in Falls Church, VA and led by pastor “Duc” Peter Simon Nguyen, was blessed to have regular worship back in a church building and to have some guests, both believers and non-believers join our worship services. We celebrated high school graduations with the members.

The Iglesia del Evangelio Completo Alfa y Omega, now led El Salvadoran pastor Jose Borjas, gathers for Sunday afternoon worship services in rented space at the Living Faith Lutheran Church in Rockville, MD. Home fellowship groups continue to meet throughout the city for fellowship and discipling of new believers.

Luke Schrock-Hurst
District Minister

Congregations:

District Minister: Luke Schrock-Hurst
Chair: Sang Jin Choi

Daniels Run Peace Church

Fairfax, VA (30) [33]
*Stephen “Tig” Intagliata
Karen Zehr

DC City Church

Washington, DC ~ (45)
*Bruce Clark

Fourth St. Community Fellowship

Washington, D.C. (60) [40]
*Sang Jin Choi

Iglesia del Evangelio Completo

Alfa y Omega
Hyattsville, MD ~ (115)
*Jose F. Borjas

Vietnamese Christian Fellowship

Falls Church, VA ~ (21) [15]
*Peter Simon Nguyen

Washington Community Fellowship

Washington, DC (69) [78]
*Andrew Cheung
Phyllis Miller

* Voting credentialed staff
~ Did not report in 2022
() = membership [] = avg. attendance,
including online views

SOUTHERN DISTRICT

The traditionally rural congregations of Southern District have adopted new technology allowing them to increase their on-line presence and minister to people around the globe. But this is far from the only reason for excitement in our district!

Three district churches—Greenmonte, Springdale, and Lynside—will once again hold a joint Vacation Bible School this summer, sharing the responsibilities and joys that accompany such an event. While our world has not returned to “normal,” holding Vacation Bible School once again feels like a step in the right direction.

Greenmonte Fellowship has reintroduced several reoccurring programs to the life of the congregation, with weekly prayer services on Tuesday mornings, youth group Wednesday evenings, and Life Groups throughout the week. Additionally, they have found much encouragement through stories of transformation shared by their missionaries on home assignment.

Gordon Miller, pastor of Lynside Mennonite, returned in May after a four-month sabbatical. He was energized by his time serving in Arizona at Peace Academic Center, and was grateful for the ways Lynside members stepped up and led in his absence. Lay leaders from the congregation preached and picked up visitation and administration duties. Lynside knows that value of teamwork!

Signs of Life Fellowship said goodbye to their founding pastor, MaryBeth Heatwole Moore, in January 2022. Leadership responsibilities have been passed on to Thomas and Barbara Knopp. Signs of Life meets in Greenmonte’s basement on Sunday mornings.

Springdale has provided significant leadership to the refugee resettlement programs in Augusta County over the last year. This ministry has breathed new life into the congregation and continues to provide opportunities to develop relationships with other area churches. The congregation also participated in the “9-11 project,” referring to 2 Corinthians 9:11. Participants were given \$100 to bless someone else in whatever way they felt appropriate. They were encouraged to share their experiences with the rest of congregation during a worship service.

The facilities at Staunton Mennonite have received a freshening up, with new interior paint, roof, and more changes to come. Staunton continues to discern how

Congregations:

District Minister: Kevin Gasser
Auxiliary District Minister: Beryl Jantzi

Chair: Phil Lehman
Treasurer: Gerald Shenk
Secretary: Ranita Shenk

Greenmonte Fellowship Church

Stuarts Draft, VA (89)
 *Seth Hankee
 Dave Brenneman

Lynside Mennonite Church

Lyndhurst, VA (55) [55]
 *Gordon Miller
 Keith Showalter

Rehoboth Mennonite Church

Schuyler, VA ~(10)
 Terri Jordan

Signs of Life Fellowship

Staunton, VA ~[10]
 Thomas Knopp

Springdale Mennonite Church

Waynesboro, VA (99) [58]
 *Kevin Goertzen
 Alan Shenk

Staunton Mennonite Church

Staunton, VA (35) [70]
 *Kevin Gasser
 Glenn Zendt
 Kathy Zendt

Waynesboro Mennonite Church

Waynesboro, VA (80) [68]
 *Joe Arbaugh II
 *Clair Good
 *Phil Lehman

* Voting credentialed staff
 ~ Did not report in 2022
 () = membership
 [] = avg. attendance, including online views

to be a blessing in their community, with members serving at the Valley Mission, the Staunton/Augusta Church Relief Association, and other local programs. Additionally, Staunton’s Bible quizzing teams have once again excelled, with their Children’s Quiz Team taking first place in back-to-back years in a local tournament and a Teen Quizzer taking first place overall at an event in Boston.

Waynesboro Mennonite is experiencing growth through their community activities. They host a “Get Real” program, which ministers to broken people seeking wholeness and wellbeing. Waynesboro also has several online ministries that have grown through the pandemic, including online Bible studies, thanks in large part to the work of Phil Lehman. New neighbors from the Democratic Republic of the Congo have benefited from Pastor Clair Good’s fluency in Swahili. Waynesboro also hosts Iglesia Shalom-Nuevo Comienzo, a Spanish-speaking church plant.

We are confident that by working together and following Christ daily in life, we in Southern District will continue to have an impact in our communities and beyond.

Kevin Gasser
District Minister

TENNESSEE/CAROLINA/KENTUCKY DISTRICT

TCK district ranges from Durham, North Carolina, to the hills of West Liberty, Kentucky. We are one in the Spirit of Christ but very different in many other ways. I praise God for the faithfulness of these congregations, who despite many of them who are without pastors at the moment, are serving the body of Christ well and their communities.

At Durham Mennonite Church for the last two years, retired pastor Duane Beck has been mentoring and guiding the church, helping them to better understand themselves and their strengths. He established a prayer group to faithfully pray for the congregation and its future. Through the years, the church has supported several community organizations by allowing the use of their building. They continue to look for a part-time pastor. They have been having a Zoom service each Sunday as well as in-person services.

Greensboro Mennonite Fellowship stays connected and directed by using the great gifts of the members of the congregation. They take turns filling the preaching schedule and asking others to preach for them on other Sundays. The church has a great international feel, with members from several different countries. They have also stayed in touch by Zoom and in-person services.

Outlet 10.27, a church in formation, meets in the home of Keith and Tami Nice. They enjoy good food together, Bible Study and fellowship times together. This fellowship has built great bridges across nationalities and cultures.

Mountain View Mennonite Church has enjoyed the leadership of Joe

and Charissa Bellone, and have stayed connected through social media, emails and phone calls and in-person worship. The leadership team is working at forming new small groups that can meet and encourage each other. New outreach programs are being planned for the summer.

In August, Asheville Mennonite Church interim pastor John Myer resigned and left the congregation. The leadership is looking for ways to keep the congregation attractive to new families and are working hard to find a part-time pastor. The church has enjoyed good fellowship and has a strong mission support program for quite a few missionaries and ministries.

Mara Christian Church has been blessed with their own building. Pastor Cha Ki gets to the Charlotte Mara congregation 4-5 times a year, and helps with the communion services, weddings and baptisms. During the pandemic, Pastor Cha Ki provided the online message for all four of the Mara churches in the United States. He is a licensed pastor from the Indianapolis congregation, and is the first ordained pastor among the four Mara Mennonite churches and ministers among the four churches as needs arise. Their church membership hovers around 195 with an average attendance of about 150. They continue to function well with a leadership team and alternate preaching duties when no pastors are available. They are trying to bring a pastor from Myanmar.

With the pastoral leadership of Pat and Jan McFarin, Knoxville Mennonite Church has enjoyed

Congregations:

District Minister: Chuck Hostetter, Jr.
Assist. to District Minister: Daniel J. Yoder
Chair: Vernon R. Moyer
Vice-chair: John Bender
Treasurer: Leroy Kauffman
Secretary: Roy Hunsberger

Asheville Mennonite Church

Asheville, NC (18) [20]
 *Chris Conley

Concord Mennonite Church

Knoxville, TN ~ (6)
 Jerry Hartness

Durham Mennonite Church

Durham, NC (16) [21]
 Cheryl Van Horn

Greensboro Mennonite Fellowship

Greensboro, NC (22) [45]
 John Bender

Iglesia Cristiana Renuevo

Winston-Salem, NC (18)
 Juan José Lagos

Knoxville Mennonite Church

Knoxville, TN (44) [40]
 *Patrick McFarren
 Kaitlin Gencay
 Reuben Budiardja

Mara Christian Church of America

Charlotte, NC (113) [180]
 Bei Lua

Mountain View Mennonite Church

Hickory, NC (85) [165]
 *Joseph Bellone

West Liberty Mennonite Church

West Liberty, KY (10) [34]
 *Joshua Fyffe
 Steve Stoltzfus

Congregation in Formation

Outlet 10.27

Graham, NC (10)
 Tami Nice

* Voting credentialed staff

~ Did not report in 2022

() = membership

[] = avg. attendance, including online views

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

TENNESSEE/CAROLINA/KENTUCKY DISTRICT (CONTINUED)

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

great fellowship and teaching during the pandemic via Zoom. They now are worshipping in-person again. Knoxville has an amazing group of elders that do a great job throughout the week and the congregation is doing great under their love and care.

Concord Mennonite Church is a small aging congregation. Several deaths have affected this group greatly in the last year. They are without a pastor, so two of the men take turns leading and preaching each Sunday. They continue to provide a fellowship meal for all who come. Pray for them as they seek to know God's will for them as they move forward.

At West Liberty Mennonite Church, Josh Fyffe pastors this small congregation of mostly family members. The congregation is working to reach out to the families of the community. They have provided a Facebook live service each Sundays well as meeting in person.

Iglesia Christana Renuevo, Juan Jose and his wife Cecelia are giving good leadership to this new emerging church planting work in Winston Salem, NC. Juan has been meeting with a number of individuals and families for discipleship is constantly reaching out to new people in their community. The exciting news for them is that they are now sharing the old Oakhill Mennonite Church building with another congregation that has been renting the building for over 10 years. They feel blessed to have a stable place to gather and worship.

Please continue to pray and support the work of the TCK district and the churches here.

Chuck Hostetter
District Minister

ADMINISTRATION AND LEADERSHIP CLUSTER

After moving to Dayton in the summer of 2019, I requested a transfer of my credentials from Atlantic Coast Conference to VMC. I was not intending to return to congregational ministry, but had taken a position at Eastern Mennonite University. It was nice to connect to other credentialed leaders who were not currently serving as pastors, when I joined the Administration and Leadership Cluster.

Participation in the cluster allows a more personal connection to the Conference for those who are credentialed in VMC but are not serving in church leadership.

Currently, this cluster is comprised of eight credentialed persons who represent various VMC and Mennonite Church USA entities. These entities are an important part of the life of the Conference and the members have felt a call to the ministry of the broader church.

In Romans 12 we read that God has given us various functions as we live and work together as one body. We pray that those of us in the Administration and Leadership Cluster will be blessed to lead diligently in the areas in which God has called us.

Beth Good
Cluster Leader

Cluster Leader
Beth Good

Members
Spencer Bradford
Les Horning
Beryl Jantzi
Aaron Kauffman
MaryBeth Moore
Jason Showalter
Skip Tobin

CHAPLAINS CLUSTER

The Chaplains Cluster of VMC met regularly for support, sharing of ideas and conversation about what it means to minister in settings with acute as well as chronic conditions this past year.

We discussed questions such as what has given you hope or cause for discouragement in the past two months? If you were sitting on a park bench next to Jesus what one question would you want to ask him at this point in your life? What story or aspect or teachings of Jesus' life guides your ministry?

We have had some transitions in the cluster. Linda Wenger has transitioned into retirement. Derek Yoder has begun as the new Chaplain at Pleasant View Homes, Inc. Dave Gullman has transitioned to the Regional Chaplain for the Faith and Light ministry. Carmen Miller is taking next steps for credentialing in

Virginia Mennonite Conference.

The chaplains steadfastly stay present in times of grief and loss, in changes of life-circumstances and with those who are dying. They provide counsel and encouragement to those in medical crisis and moral distress.

Throughout all the changes in health-care in the past two and a half years they have been valiant and flexible. I commend them for their pastoral presence and deep love for those they minister to.

Pearl Hartman
Cluster Leader

Oversight Leader
Pearl Hartman

Chaplains
Dave Gullman
Steve Landis
Carmen Miller
Ron Pierantoni
Steve Swartzendruber
Linda Wenger

TEACHING CLUSTER

The Teaching Cluster consists of leaders credentialed in Virginia Mennonite Conference (VMC) and Allegheny Mennonite Conference (AMC) for the ministry of teaching. The group maintains supportive and collegial relationships while members' credentials are held within two different conferences. There is a sense of group identity arising from common vocations, working at Eastern Mennonite University, investment in Mennonite Church USA and Anabaptist Mennonite theological commitments.

The group did not have a ministry leader for a period of about eight months in 2020-21, and the meetings lapsed. The cluster resumed meeting in May 2021 and has met monthly during the academic year, with a break from June to August.

In 2021-22, the cluster found creative ways to meet while keeping members safe from COVID exposure. Monthly meetings were hosted by members on decks and porches or at Eastern Mennonite Seminary. There is a relaxed atmosphere for sharing personal updates and praying for one another.

Several members are navigating retirement from a teaching career and are re-discovering their vocational identity in a new phase of life. Other members have begun new jobs and are processing the accompanying leadership challenges and opportunities.

Sarah Ann Bixler
Cluster Leader

Cluster Leader
Sarah Ann Bixler

Members
Brian Martin Burkholder*
Kevin Clark
Penny Driediger
Wendy Miller
Veva Mumaw*
Byron Peachey*
Carl Stauffer
Linford Stutzman
Dorothy Jean Weaver
Sandy Wenger
Lonnie Yoder*

* non-VMC participants

RACIAL JUSTICE TASK FORCE

Duties

- To fulfill the mandate provided the Task Force by the Race Relations letter from 6.29.2020
- To work toward making VMC an anti-racist organization

Members

Maren Hange *Co-chair*
 Vivian Stevens-Lyons *Co-chair*
 Andrew Cheung
 Chris Cox
 Andrew Fairfield
 Aldine Musser
 Tami Nice
 Armando Sanchez
 Caleb Schrock-Hurst *Staff*

Uniting VMC in eradicating systemic racism and personal prejudice while celebrating and embracing diversity within the conference and beyond.

The Racial Justice Task Force (RJTF) began its work in February 2021 and continually returns to the 2020 race relations letter and its stated “pivotal opportunity Virginia Mennonite Conference has to urgently and strategically address the barriers established and maintained by racism, racial injustice, racial insensitivity, and a lack of racial consciousness.” We were sad to see Juan Carlos Malvaez step off the task force and were glad to welcome Armando Sanchez in his place.

During the past Summer and Winter VMC assemblies the RJTF provided input and space for conversation on racial justice. In addition, we provided financial support for the visit of Osheta Moore to Eastern Mennonite High School on March 21, 2022. We have begun conversation toward looking at VMC documents and bylaws.

We received a \$ 10,000 grant from the Anabaptist Center for Religion and Society and are in the process to plan some in-person events which has been hampered by the pandemic. As part of the Summer Assembly 2022 we will have a Walking Tour of Newtown -- Historic Black Neighborhood of Harrisonburg led by Matthew Bucher.

We are rolling out the Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI). In August 2021 conference leadership went through the assessment and training. In January 2022, Caleb went through the training to become a certified administrator and he has begun leading training sessions for district with more upcoming.

For August 12-13, 2022 the RJTF is planning its first in-person gathering to deepen the relationships on the task force since we have only gathered in monthly zoom meeting. We have taken some time to learn from one another how each of us continues to engage and grow in this work.

CONFERENCE COUNCIL

Conference Council worked hard this year to manage leadership changes responsibly. On September 11, 2021, moderator Richard Early resigned. We expressed gratitude for his service. On October 21, 2021, I was invited to serve as moderator, having begun as moderator elect on September 1. Council agreed to invite the chair and vice chair of the Faith & Life Commission to regularly meet with Council officers, Sara and Jim Hershberger (secretary) to assist in discernment until a moderator elect is appointed.

After four persons filed a nonsexual ministerial misconduct complaint against executive conference minister, Clyde Kratz, fall of 2021, Council sought to assure a fair process for those who filed the complaint and for Clyde, according to VMC's Ministerial Misconduct Policy. On February 2, 2022, after the FLC officers determined that Clyde was responsible for ministerial misconduct, Council placed Clyde on administrative leave. We authorized June Miller to serve as Acting Conference Executive. When both the "complainants" and Clyde appealed, Council officers appointed an appeal panel, who determined that Clyde "more likely than not did engage in ministerial misconduct." Clyde resigned on March 22, 2022.

In March and April, Council focused on what is needed during this time of leadership transition. We agreed that a team approach will be best for interim conference ministry leadership. We also agreed that it would be helpful to have a consulting group from outside of VMC help us listen, learn and seek healing for personnel and systemic breakdowns of trust in recent years. We sought nominations both for interim conference leaders and for those with qualities needed to assist

with the healing process. We agreed to provide transparent updates to assist in rebuilding shared understanding and trust.

At their May 19 meeting, Council unanimously approved an interim conference ministry team. After receiving many nominations, we selected eight persons with whom to explore possible interest and availability. While two persons, because of other commitments, declined to serve, we were thrilled to learn that six (including two existing staff) were eager to serve: Craig Maven, Minister of Administration and Church Relations; Maren Hange, Minister of Formation and Soul Care; Bishop Leslie Francisco III, Minister of Diversity Equity and Inclusion; Duane Beck, Consultant to Pastors on Leadership and Local Ministry; June Miller, Director of Communications and Administration; and Caleb Schrock-Hurst, Church Relations and Racial Justice Leader.

Council is also nearing approval of a proposal from Gilliam & Associates, LLC who will work with an internal leadership liaison healing team to design and facilitate a listening, learning, healing process for our anxious, hurting conference family. In the coming months, we expect to invite twelve VMC persons to serve on the liaison team to work with the outside facilitators.

Council welcomes your counsel as we seek to serve and lead with integrity and transparency so we all grow as communities of grace, joy and peace.

Sara Wenger Shenk
Conference Moderator

Officers	Role	Term ends
Sara Wenger Shenk	Moderator	2024
	Moderator Elect	
Leroy Kauffman	Treasurer	2023
Jim Hershberger	Secretary	2022

Non-voting Members

Elwood Yoder, *Chair*, Historical Committee
 Aaron Kauffman, *President*, VMissions
 Paul Leaman, *Head of School*, Eastern Mennonite School
 Ryan Ahlgrim, *Chair*, Constitution & Bylaws Committee
 Steve Carpenter, *Chair*, Gifts Discernment Committee
 June Miller, Acting Conference Executive, VMC
 Caleb Schrock-Hurst, Racial Justice Leader, VMC

Representatives to Constituency Leaders Council

Sara Wenger Shenk, Moderator
 Marian Buckwalter, 2022 Member at large
 Vacant, Executive Conference Minister

District Representatives

Vivian Stevens-Lyons	Calvary
Dale Hartzler	Central
Vacant	Eastern
Steve Pardini	Harrisonburg (co-chair)
Paula Stoltzfus	Harrisonburg (co-chair)
David King	Northern
Vacant	Potomac
Phil Lehman	Southern
Vernon R. Moyer	TCK

Commission Representatives

Michael Shenk	Faith & Life
Joe Longacher	Faith & Life
James Musser	Congregational Life
Vacant	VMissions

FAITH AND LIFE COMMISSION

As with last year, the Faith and Life Commission (FLC) was able to carry out its work despite the continued significant effect of COVID-19, primarily by adjusting its meeting time to a two hour Zoom session on the second Thursday of each month.

Among personnel changes, Jean Oswald was appointed to the FLC as a Member at Large, and Beth Good succeeded Beryl Jantzi as leader of the Administrative/Leadership Cluster. Vice-Chair Pearl Hartman, with the support of FLC Secretary Mike Shenk, stepped forward to lead the Commission in exemplary fashion during the Chair's two month medical absence.

A more significant personnel change was the resignation of Executive Conference Minister Clyde Kratz on March 27, 2022, following a lengthy process beginning in August 2021, when four persons filed a complaint against him for non-sexual ministerial misconduct, concluding with a decision by an Appeal Panel on March 16, 2022.

The panel found him guilty of:

1. misuse of power
2. violation of truth telling
3. breaking and misusing confidentiality
4. intentional deception and dishonesty
5. harming the leadership of another pastor

The protocol prescribed in the Misconduct Policy adopted by VMC in 2016 was followed, beginning with interviews of 44 witnesses by an Investigative Team from Mennonite Church USA (as is required when a Conference Minister rather than a pastor is charged.) The FLC officers continue to relate to Clyde in regard to sanctions they imposed following his hearing, again as required by our policy.

As noted elsewhere, to provide services for which Clyde was previously responsible, including staff support of the FLC, Conference Council has appointed a six member Interim Conference Ministry Team to serve for two years, with a review after one year, while longer-term direction is decided.

As with other Conferences, VMC has felt the impact of the decisions made at the Mennonite Church USA special session in Kansas City in late May regarding the denominational membership guidelines, including much dialogue throughout the Conference and some actions in anticipation of those decisions.

The Faith and Life Commission anticipates that issues related to membership and especially credentials will

Officers

Joe Longacher
Pearl Hartman
H. Michael Shenk III

Role

Interim Chair
Vice-Chair
Secretary

Staff

June Miller

Acting Conference Executive

Members

Leslie Francisco III
James Åkerson
Pearl Hartman
David Lehman
Maren Tyedmers Hange
Roy Hange
Beth Good
Anna Janzen
MaryBeth Moore
Jean Oswald
Aldine Musser
H. Michael Shenk III
Luke Schrock-Hurst
Kevin Gasser
Sarah Bixler
Chuck Hostetter

District or Cluster

Calvary
Central
Chaplains Cluster
Eastern
Harrisonburg
Harrisonburg
Leadership/Administration Cluster
Member at Large
Member at Large
Member at Large
Northern
Northern
Potomac
Southern
Teaching Cluster
TCK

FLC Committees

Credentials

James Åkerson, Chair
Beth Good
David Lehman
June Miller
Sarah Piper
Mike Shenk
Luke Schrock-Hurst

Leadership Enrichment

Aldine Musser, Chair
June Miller
MaryBeth Moore
Jean Oswald
Luke Schrock-Hurst

command increased attention during the year ahead. It is our hope that our interactions with all parts of our body are marked by thoughtful dialogue and slowness to act.

Following adoption of the VMC Strategic Plan on February 6, 2021, the FLC was asked to propose action plans for each of the 63 Objectives subsumed under the five Strategic Plans, in an effort to translate laudable desires into discernible activities and attitudes.

We hope that during one of our 2022 Summer Assembly Delegate Sessions the action plans related to two or three of the Objectives of Strategic Goal #1 can be shared, to illustrate how that can be done.

Joe Longacher
Chair

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE COMMISSION

Member	Role
James Musser	Chair
June Miller	Acting Conference Executive
Skip Tobin,	VMMissions Ministry Coach - USA
Sharon Arbaugh	Mennonite Women of Virginia President
Mary Bendfeldt	Member at-large
Teresa Shifflet	Member at-large

Composition

- The Congregational Life Commission serves as a liaison between two ministries that are represented on the commission, Mennonite Women of Virginia and the VMC Youth Council.
- The commission plans resource events for lay leaders in VMC congregations. Due to COVID these events have been limited during the past year. The commission planned a ½ day resource event for lay leaders. It featured Sara Wenger Shenk and her book, "Tongue-Tied: Learning the lost art of talking about faith". Due to low registration, it was cancelled.

Mennonite Women of Virginia

The Mennonite Women of Virginia had their first in-person meeting in more than a year on July 17. It was an attempt to combine their annual missions day project, "Women encouraging Women", and the annual prayer breakfast usually held at the VMC Summer Assembly. It was attended by 60 women. The event was held outdoors at Weavers Mennonite Church with Diane Marin as speaker and Jerlyn Schrock as worship leader. A food offering was received for the Lacey Springs Food Pantry located at Grace Mennonite Church. Additionally, an offering of about \$1500.00 was received for the ongoing ministry of the Mennonite Women.

The annual fall women's retreat was cancelled due to COVID, however one is being planned for this fall, November 12-14, 2022.

The MWV executive committee has met with Alicia Manning to discuss racism and ways to respond to it. These conversations are ongoing.

Virginia Mennonite Conference Youth Council

Mark Harmon continues to serve as chair of the council assisted by Moriah Hurst and youth representatives from several VMC churches. Due to COVID they have not had any retreats for junior high and senior high youth during the past two years.

The leadership team met with the Leadership Enrichment Committee of the VMC Faith and Life Commission to discuss way that the LEC could provide resources for credentialed youth pastors.

James Musser
Chair

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

Composition

- Members are elected for three-year terms by the Conference Council through a gift-discernment process, with consideration for the constituent groups served. The Archivist shall be an ex-officio member.

Member

Elwood Yoder
Simone Horst
James Rush
Ken Seitz

Role

Chair
Archivist

Duties

- Provide oversight and guidance in establishing policies for Conference Archives.
- Provide personal counsel and assistance to the Conference archivist in the performance of those duties.
- Encourage and promote the gathering and preservation of documents and artifacts of historical significance and value.
- Promote programs and studies of historical interest within congregations and Conference in order to foster appreciation for their heritage.
- Encourage the publication of articles and books of historical significance or interest.

This Historical Committee has been active in the past year, with several projects underway. Twice in the past year, the Committee's chair was able to give reports to the Conference Council.

Archives and collections: Ninety-five congregations have collections in the VMC Archives. However, forty percent of those congregations are no longer with the Virginia Conference. Congregations with the largest VMC Archives collections are Lindale (34 boxes), Park View (23 boxes), Zion (22 boxes), Harrisonburg Mennonite (21 boxes), Community Mennonite (14 boxes), Trissels (13 boxes), and Dayton Mennonite (10 boxes). The VMC Archives are located on the first floor of the Hartzler Library at EMU. VMC has 600 square feet of secure storage space, and the shelves are almost full.

The Historical Committee negotiated a new Memorandum of Understanding between VMC and the Hartzler Library in July 2020. The Understanding lasts for nine years and costs VMC approximately \$7500 a year. The EMU Library provides access, security, and longevity to the Conference Archives. Simone Horst, an employee of EMU, serves as Conference Archivist. Virginia Mennonite Conference, Virginia Mennonite Missions, and Eastern Mennonite School have the most extensive institutional records in the VMC Archives (the University has separate archives for EMU records). Other institutions with significant collections in the Archives are VMRC, MDS, and Virginia Mennonite Women. The VMC Archives also has boxes from sixty-nine individuals, with the largest collections from Lewis J. Heatwole (36 boxes) and John L. Stauffer (27 boxes). The Historical Committee encourages congregations and institutions to help preserve their archival holdings by giving to the Conference to maintain this outstanding collection of resources.

Harry A. Brunk books on the internet: In a remarkable turn of events in 2022, our Historical Committee made the second volume of Brunk's history book available through the University of Michigan and HathiTrust Digital Library. James Rush secured permission from the sons of Harry A. Brunk, and Simone Horst negotiated with the staff at the University of Michigan to provide online access to Volume 2 of Harry A. Brunk's two-volume history series. The conservative Mennonites of the Shenandoah Valley had already provided online access to Volume 1 of Brunk's books. To use Harry A. Brunk's books online, search at [hathitrust.org](https://catalog.hathitrust.org/Record/000236381) or navigate to <https://catalog.hathitrust.org/Record/000236381>

VMC History Book: In the fall of 2021, Steve Nolt and Elwood Yoder began work as co-authors of a new history book about the Virginia Mennonite Conference. Two chapters have been written, the era from 1885 to 1929. This book will include the story of Mennonites in Virginia and surrounding states. The VMC Historical Committee manages the book project. The Shenandoah Mennonite Historians, an independent group in the Shenandoah Valley, have helped carry the book's twelve-year vision and have raised approximately half of the funds needed. A Book Committee provides an editorial perspective on the outline and chapters. A goal is to finish the book by 2025, the 250th anniversary of Mennonites migrating to the Linville Creek region of Virginia and 500 years since the founding of Anabaptism in Europe. Many thanks to the fifteen VMC congregations and numerous individuals who contributed to this book project.

Elwood Yoder
Chair



Denominational Agency Reports



2022 Report to Virginia Mennonite Conference of Mennonite Church USA

So, if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! 2 Corinthians 5:17

Ways MC USA equipped conferences, congregations and communities to #BeTransformed in 2021

Our Mission

The mission of Mennonite Church USA Executive Board is to equip and empower leaders to share with others the gift of God's peace and transformative love.

Our Vision

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.

Our Renewed Commitments

- Follow Jesus
- Witness to God's peace
- Experience transformation



More than 1,000 people participated in [MennoCon21](#), MC USA's first hybrid convention, held online and in-person in Cincinnati, Ohio, July 6-10. Revitalization was a key focus, with Executive Director Glen Guyton introducing *Be Transformed* as the theme for the next biennium.

[Church Vitality](#) staff coached faith formation leaders during a difficult year through cohorts, roundtable discussions and webinars. At-home worship guides for Lent and Advent resourced families, while a [Bible-based curriculum about policing](#) helped congregations discuss important social justice issues.



MC USA supported new missional churches, awarding its second round of [Thrive Church Planting Grants](#) to three congregations: Community of Hope, Summit Street Church and Wild Church.



The first "Learn, Pray, Join" initiative of 2021, in collaboration with the Mennonites Against Militarism project, focused on the ["Cost of War,"](#) highlighting resistance to war as a core peace church value.

["Learn, Pray, Join: Cost of Poverty"](#) explored the topic of poverty from theological and practical perspectives, addressing its intersectional nature and the impact of the pandemic, through prayers, blogs and resources.

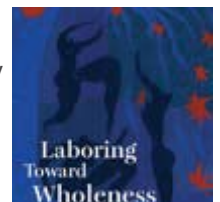
In response to rising gun violence, MC USA partnered with [RAWtools](#), an organization that teaches nonviolence and turns guns to gardening tools, which are sold to support the denomination's peace and justice work.

Twenty congregations received [Justice Fund](#) grants for their efforts to combat poverty, dismantle racism, seek immigration justice or reimagine policing. This work was supported by Allegheny Mennonite Conference, which provided a [\\$45K donation](#) and \$15K matching grant, and by giving from across the church.



Glen Guyton began his second four-year term as executive director in April 2021 and [Jon Carlson](#), pastor, Forest Hills Mennonite Church, was affirmed as moderator-elect at the Delegate Assembly in July.

MC USA's Women in Leadership ministry created ["Laboring Toward Wholeness,"](#) a Bible-based curriculum for dismantling patriarchy in the church, and relaunched its Holding It(,) Together podcast.



PeaceMail
Mennonite Church USA



[Subscribe to PeaceMail](#), MC USA's weekly digital news magazine and the only source for all of the denomination's news, blogs, upcoming events and resources.

MennoCon23, MC USA's biennial convention will be held in Kansas City, Missouri, July 4-8, 2023. Save the date for this transformative experience!

[MennoniteUSA.org](#)

Anabaptist Disabilities Network

Annual Report 2021



In 2021, Anabaptist Disabilities Network:

- Co-sponsored the [MC USA Accessibility Resolution](#) along with four congregations. The resolution was passed unanimously by the delegate body in May of 2022.
- Gave matching funds to congregations to increase accessibility through our [Barrier-Free Grant program](#). Projects have included accessible restrooms, renovation of a camp bathhouse, and a summer church camp for Deaf children.
- Published a [Disability Language Guide](#) which was included in the new style guide for MennoMedia.
- Offered three **webinars**:
 - *Do We Want to Get Well? Healing What Divides Us* with Amy Julia Becker in January
 - *Providing Mutual Support when People Experience Mental Illness* (part 1) with Janelle Bitikofer in June
 - *Churchwide Change: Reducing Stigma and Supporting People who Experience Mental Illness* (part 2) with Janelle Bitikofer in October
- Presented at multiple conferences:
 - Led a presentation on inclusive mission trips for youth/young adults with disabilities at the Faith Inclusion Network Community for All Conference
 - Led an ADN networking group at the 2021 Church of the Brethren Annual Conference
 - Coordinated accessibility at MennoCon 21
 - Presented 2 workshops on disability and hosted an online virtual exhibit booth at MennoCon 21
 - Led a workshop on aging and disability at the Church of the Brethren National Older Adult Conference
- Published:
 - **Connections Newsletter** (Spring – Transitioning to Adulthood, Summer – Hearing Loss and Deafness, Fall – Including Children with Disabilities in Congregational Life)
 - **Opening Doors blog** articles

Our Staff: Jeanne Davies, executive director
Kate Szambecki, resource director (hired in August 2021)
Emily Hunsberger, office administrator

Field Associates are volunteer professionals who bring their wisdom and experience to ADN. *Staff and Field Associates are available for accessibility assessments, consultations, preaching, classes, or workshops.*

Our expense budget for 2021 was \$87,200. We rely on support from both individuals and congregations. In May of 2021, we began our Building the Future Partners campaign, asking ADN friends for a commitment of \$1000/year for 3 years. So far, we have 34 partners and are hoping for 6 more.

We invite congregations interested in increasing their accessibility to consider designating a congregational disability advocate or becoming a partner congregation.

www.anabaptistdisabilitiesnetwork.org • 574-323-1362 • adnet@adnetonline.org

The Corinthian Plan (MC USA) Virginia Mennonite Conference Report (2020) – Submitted by Duncan Smith, Director

The overall health of Corinthian Plan (TCP) participants is always our concern. Our underlying question being: “How can The Corinthian Plan best serve participants?” Since early March 2020 TCP has focused on programs and health coverages related to the COVID-19 Outbreak that benefits participants.

To this end The Corinthian Plan (TCP) offered a Premium Holiday (May 2020). Participating groups were invited to contribute, as able, from what they would have paid in May 2020 premiums. This funded short-term grants for groups suffering economic impact from COVID-19. Congregations were very generous with their donations, showing their concern for other participating congregations.

The Corinthian Plan’s health coverage, Congregational Employee Plan, also set up some special coverage for COVID-19 participant claims as well as some flexibility for congregations or conferences that needed to reduce staff hours or change the status of an employee on a temporary basis. For general information pertaining to The Corinthian Plan or specific COVID-19 information please go to our [webpage](#).

In 2020 The Corinthian Plan (TCP) ended our self-funded vision plan and began working with VSP. Through joining an established not-for profit system we were able to offer more robust benefits at a slightly lower cost.

The Fair Balance Fund continues to provide subsidies for those TCP participating congregations with need. Funding comes through participating congregations contributing annually, \$10 per average attendee. There is *one* congregation in Virginia Mennonite Conference receiving a TCP subsidy.

TCP encourages health and well-being through the *Wellness Incentive*. Each TCP participant can earn up to \$300 annually, \$150 for each of two steps. Couples can earn up to \$600 annually. Employees waiving health and spouses qualify, too. For more information go directly to our Wellness Incentive [webpage](#).

Virginia Mennonite Conference (VMC) participates in TCP with 11 congregations/Conference office staff carrying health coverage, 9 congregations waiving coverage, and 3 participating without an eligible employee, for a total of 23. Thank you! One VMC congregation receives monthly subsidy to assist in paying their full premium. Overall, 311 congregations or conference offices participate in The Corinthian Plan with 716 persons carrying health coverage.

Contact your MC USA Corinthian Plan team or our Third Part Administrator Everence with questions.

- James Miller, (jmm_smc@yahoo.com) TCP Area Advocate for VMC
- Ingrid Friesen Moser (Ingrid.wellness@gmail.com), Wellness Coordinator
- Duncan Smith (duncans@mennoniteusa.org), Director
- Denise Henke (denise.henke@everence.com) Third Party Administrator

The Church Benefits Board oversees The Corinthian Plan for MC USA. Members are Dave Weaver (Chair, Goshen, IN), Marcy Engle (Harrisonburg, VA), Steve Garboden (Goshen, IN), Ken Hochstetler (Goshen, IN), Mark King (Goshen, IN), and Byron Pellecer (Wichita, KS).

I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.

– John 15:5

Grow your financial future with purpose

Everence 2021 report

Virginia Mennonite Conference
Annual Assembly
July 14 - 16, 2022

Everence partners with churches to encourage good stewardship

Everence Financial® has been a reliable stewardship partner for churches since our start in 1945 as a mutual aid organization.

We continue working closely with churches and their members, and that will always be at the core of what we do.

We not only encourage generosity among our members – we help them find effective ways to be more generous, as part of our focus on stewardship as a spiritual discipline.

Our service to the faith community takes many forms, including stewardship education resources for pastors and church leaders. Learn more at everence.com/financial-services/for-churches.

Your MyNeighbor card can help you support your church



Everence Federal Credit Union created the MyNeighbor card to make it easy for members to support nonprofits, including their home congregations.

The credit card, launched in 2017, has generated more than \$1.5 million for charitable organizations so far.

Members use the MyNeighbor card just as they would any credit card. Everence donates 1.5% of each transaction total to the charity the member chooses from thousands of possibilities, including churches.

“The MyNeighbor card provides a simple and effective way for people to support the charities they care about most,” said Matt Gehman, Everence Federal Credit Union President and CEO.

Visit everence.com/myneighbor for details.

Sharing Fund helps churches boost benevolence

The Everence Sharing Fund helps thousands of families every year through matching grants to churches.

Millions of dollars have gone to our partner congregations over the years, with churches contributing millions more to help people with basic, everyday needs.

Sharing Fund grants often help people pay their rent, put food on the table or take care of medical bills. Over the last couple of years, some of that relief has gone to people directly affected by COVID-19, as well.

Churches with an Everence stewardship advocate can access matching Sharing Fund grants. Check out everence.com/sharing-fund for more information.

Financial wellness program is helping hundreds of pastors

More than 400 pastors have received a total of \$2 million in grants through the Everence Pastoral Financial Wellness Program in the last five years.



The financial assistance grants are part of an initiative funded, in part, by Lilly Endowment Inc. to help pastors tackle medical, credit card and educational debt.

The COVID-19 pandemic has added to the challenges faced by pastors and faith communities, as many churches had to endure a decline in giving.

Everence recognizes that pastors' financial health is important, both in terms of their own holistic well-being and as a component of a thriving ministry.

More info is available at everence.com/pastoral-financial-wellness.

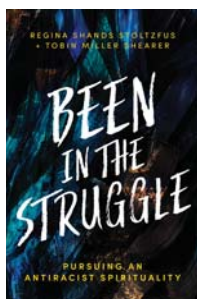


REPORT TO VIRGINIA MENNONITE CONFERENCE

Spring 2022

At MennoMedia we publish curricula and books that call readers to follow Jesus in word and deed. We publish resources about Christian discipleship, spirituality, reconciliation, justice, and theology from an Anabaptist perspective. Our curricula, periodicals, and hymnals reach a broad spectrum of evangelical, mainline, and Anabaptist readers and congregations, cultivating passion for faith formation and an active life of discipleship.

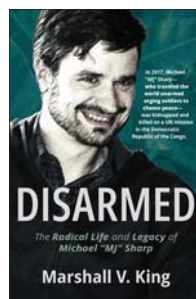
NEW RESOURCES FOR THE ENTIRE CHURCH, FROM HERALD PRESS



Been in the Struggle

Pursuing an Antiracist Spirituality

Been in the Struggle nurtures, challenges, and fosters the work and witness of dismantling racism for the long haul. Filled with wisdom and insight from nearly three decades of partnering across racial lines, authors Regina Shands Stoltzfus and Tobin Miller Shearer offer a powerful mix of practical direction and poignant reflection to empower and sustain those working to dismantle racism, regardless of their stage on the journey.



Disarmed

The Radical Life and Legacy of Michael "MJ" Sharp

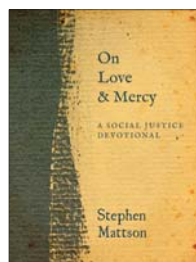
Michael "MJ" Sharp was a modern Mennonite armed with wit and intellect, but not a gun. At 34 years old, MJ was working in the Democratic Republic of the Congo—urging rebels to lay down their weapons—when he was murdered. This gripping account explores what compelled MJ to travel the world working for peace and the impact of his life and death in the ongoing story of Christian peacemaking.



The Space Between Us

Conversations about Transforming Conflict

Conflict is inevitable. But rather than approaching conflicts as threats or problems to be solved, what if we could see our disagreements as opportunities for personal growth? Facilitator and mediator Betty Pries gently guides readers toward seeing discord as an opportunity for positive change and a way to build resilience. Pries offers practical skills for engaging conflict and casts a vision for a more joy-filled future.



On Love and Mercy

A Social Justice Devotional

A 60-day devotional that invites readers to expand their vision of both personal faith in God and the redemptive work of social action. Breaking down the premise that Christians must choose between being either socially conscience or theologically sound, Stephen Mattson offers the hopeful message that Jesus—and Christianity—is both. Each day's entry offers a much-needed source of affirmation, solidarity, and encouragement.

SHINE: LIVING IN GOD'S LIGHT

Welcome children and youth to a place where they are known and loved, where their questions are taken seriously, and where they can gather to hear God's story and together find meaning for their lives. *Shine* guides children and youth to stretch and grow toward God's light, and then shine that light to others.

For those raising children in the Anabaptist tradition, the importance of teaching impressionable, curious hearts and minds about faith from an Anabaptist perspective is essential. Whether you are looking for Sunday curriculum, faith formation activities for families, or whole-church experiences around the biblical story, *Shine* has options to suit your church's needs.

Shine equips children to

- Grow in relationship with Jesus
- Explore God's story together
- Serve one another



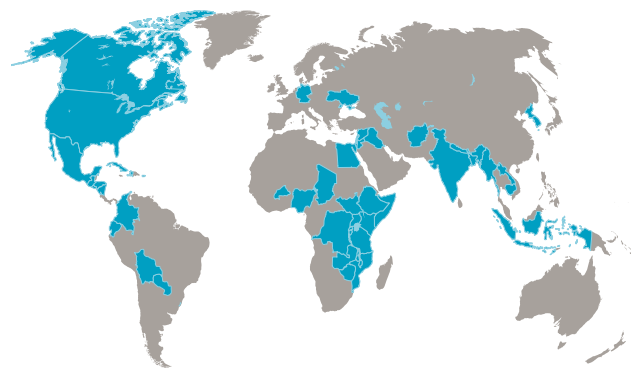
Sunday school that lights the way.



2022 report for Virginia Mennonite Conference

MCC East Coast

Toll Free: (888) 563.4676 • EastCoast@mcc.org • mcc.org



47

countries

385

partners

508

projects



In Niniongo, Burkina Faso, Adama Sawadogo and her child Adjara Zabre are participants in an MCC-supported maternal and child health project. Using care group models, the project has resulted in major improvements to maternal and child health, including an 83% reduction in infant mortality since the project started in 2018. (MCC photo/ Paul Shetler Fast)

MCC's 2022 guiding scripture

I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.

John 15:5 (NRSV)

Dear Friends:

MCC's global partnerships strive to ensure that all of God's children can experience the fullness of life promised by scripture. This includes maternal and child health work in Burkina Faso all the way to immigration work in South Florida. In Philippians 2, we are reminded that if we have the mind of Christ in us, we will focus on the interests of others. This has been the MCC story for more than a century: bringing people together to share God's love and compassion for all in the name of Christ. Thank you for being part of the MCC story.

With thanksgiving,

Hyacinth Stevens,
MCC East Coast executive director

Maren Hange,
outgoing MCC East Coast board member

MCC and Virginia Mennonite Conference connections

- Omar Borja Perrera (Colombia) served in the Spanish department at Eastern Mennonite University through MCC's International Volunteer Exchange Program (IVEP) in 2021-22.
- MCC appreciates supporters of the Virginia Mennonite Relief Sale, which took place in Oct. 2021 and raised a record amount of just over \$400,000 for MCC. Support the 2022 sale on Sept. 30 – Oct. 1 at the Rockingham County Fairgrounds in Harrisonburg, Va.
- MCC is grateful for 12 years of board service from Maren Hange (co-pastor of Charlottesville Mennonite Church) and welcomes Glenda Siegrist (member of Harrisonburg Mennonite Church) as the new MCC East Coast board member representing Virginia Mennonite Conference.

“It is in working together—in a spirit of cooperation—that God can work through our efforts to bless the world.”

-Hyacinth Stevens

In 2022, MCC celebrates the 50th anniversary of the first MCC Thrift shop that opened in 1972 in Altona, Manitoba, Canada. Today, MCC Thrift shops have grown into a North American network of over 100 shops in the USA and Canada, many of whom are independent 501(c)(3) organizations. Shops like Gift & Thrift in Harrisonburg, VA (established in 1982) generate income for

the programs of MCC through the sale of donated items and committed volunteers. In MCC's East Coast region, 17 Thrift shops generate about \$3 million annually towards MCC's ministries of relief, development and peace in the name of Christ. Pictured are college students and staff in January 1974 at the Et Cetera Shop in Bluffton, Ohio. (MCC photo/ Leland Gerber)



Mission Statement: MEA will strengthen Mennonite education for restorative leadership, work, and service throughout the church and the world.

A season of change and opportunity



MEA has moved into a new season of organizational life with several personnel changes. On September 1, 2021, [Rev. Dr. Michael Danner](#) (top) began as Executive Director and CEO of MEA. Michael serves as part of a shared staffing arrangement between MEA and Mennonite Church USA Executive Board. In this shared staffing role, Michael provides leadership to MEA as the Executive Director and to the church vitality team of MC USA as the Associate Executive Director. The goal of the shared staffing arrangement is to reimagine the education ministry of the church to better serve the needs of MC USA members, congregations, and conferences.



[Janice Eigsti Miller](#) (middle) was named CFO and Senior Director of Operations as of January 1, 2022. A Goshen College graduate, she replaced Lisa Heinz, who retired in December after 23 years of service. Janice brings experience in the finance departments of Bethany Christian Schools and Goshen College.



At its March meeting, the MEA Board of Directors elected [Dr. Nathan Alleman](#) (bottom) as Board Chair to replace outgoing Chair Dick Thomas. Dick has served faithfully as Chair since 2018, and we are deeply grateful for his wealth of experience and wisdom. Nathan will begin his tenure July 1. He is also a product of Anabaptist-Christian education, having attended Eastern Mennonite School in his youth and Messiah College for undergraduate studies. He holds a Master's Degree in Higher Education and a Doctoral Degree in Educational Policy, Planning and Leadership. He is an Associate Professor of Higher Education at Baylor University, Waco, Texas, and has served on the MEA board since 2019.

With new staff in leadership roles and a new Board Chair, we are excited about MEA's future!

The goal of MEA going forward is to build on what continues to be vital from the past, while considering the educational needs of the whole church, including local congregations and area conferences, non-degree educational programming, and resources for church-based leadership development.

MEA's Hispanic Ministries Education programs: SeBAH & IBA

MEA operates two programs aimed at cultivating Spanish-speaking leaders and disciples of Jesus: a seminary and a Bible institute. *Seminario Bíblico Anabautista Hispano* (SeBAH – the Hispanic Anabaptist Biblical Seminary) and *Instituto Bíblico Anabautista* (IBA – the Hispanic Anabaptist Bible Institute) offer strong theological and Biblical teaching from a uniquely Hispanic and Latino/a Anabaptist perspective. Reducing the barriers of access and affordability is a priority for this ministry.



- [IBA student Josué González](#), (left) of Miami has been named moderator-elect of *Iglesia Menonita Hispana*, the Hispanic/Latino/a constituency group of MC USA. An airplane dispatcher by trade, Josué is set to graduate from IBA this Spring. One of the best affirmations of our work is when our students emerge as leaders in the church. We are very proud of Josué!

2021 has been full of exciting work and meaningful connections as the work of Mennonite Men continues to benefit our communities and congregations. Our three programs—JoinTrees, JoinMen, and JoinHands—continue to thrive as we invite men to grow, give and serve as followers of Jesus.

To learn more about our work, download resources, or contribute to our programs, visit mennonitemen.org.

Steve Thomas, Mennonite Men Coordinator for Canada



Mennonite Men

Engaging men to grow, give and serve.

JoinTrees

Planting Trees to restore the earth

JoinTrees is our campaign to plant one million trees by 2030. This campaign targets climate change—an existential threat to life on our planet. By increasing tree and forest cover with this JoinTrees campaign, our goals are to help: (1) mitigate global warming, (2) serve climate justice, and (3) support biodiversity.

Our vision is a healthy, thriving planet where God's abundant life of shalom is enjoyed by all from generation to generation.

A recent grant given to Landisville Mennonite Church in Pennsylvania contributed to the planting

of over 600 trees on 3.65 acres as the land is turned from farmland back to forest and meadow as part of the congregation's efforts to improve water quality, expand pollinator and wildlife habitat, and address climate change.

In 2021 we funded the planting of 41,000 trees in Guatemala and Honduras to restore land in local watersheds and assist farmers incorporate trees into crop and animal farming systems. These projects improve local communities, assist vulnerable populations, support biodiversity and will help mitigate the increasingly negative effects of global warming.

Learn more and contribute to this program at mennonitemen.org/jointrees



JoinHands

Sharing resources for new church buildings

JoinHands is our program for giving and grantmaking. Through our JoinHands Mennonite Church Building Program, we provide grants to help new congregations acquire their first church building. Mennonite Men has given over 2.3 million dollars to new congregations for this purpose.

We invite individuals and congregations to give to JoinHands. We especially ask churches pursuing building projects to give as a way of sharing resources and serving "fair balance" with congregations in need.

Our current project is raising \$40,000 for the Hmong Mennonite Church in Westminster, Colorado. Since 2015, members of Hmong Mennonite Church have been planning and searching for a place of their own to accommodate their growing ministry. Once funded, the grant will assist this congregation in finding space of their own to carry out their growing ministry.

Help us accomplish this fair balance. We can extend grants only as donors give to this program. For more details about this program, visit mennonitemen.org/joinhands.



JoinMen

Gathering men and promoting their growth

JoinMen provides retreats and resources from an Anabaptist perspective to promote healthy masculinity, Christian formation and community. We desire that all men find a place of belonging among men who are strong, loving and wise as we follow Jesus in building God's shalom.

Retreats provide opportunities for men to gather together and engage issues in community. More than an event, these experiences are also meant to encourage participants to be part of an ongoing men's group and growth process. A full list of

retreat themes we offer can be found at mennonitemen.org/joinmen.

In addition to retreats, a study guide and audio book are now available for *Peaceful at Heart: Anabaptist Reflections on Healthy Masculinity*. A video series based on this book will soon be released. This video series featuring interviews with each of the 19 contributors can be viewed by groups who are reading and discussing the book together. We are also anticipating the release of *Strong, Loving, and Wise: Joining Conversations for Men*. This book is a guide for men covering topics such as male formation, personal challenges, sexual wholeness, conflict tools, and life roles, just to name a few.



Be local. Be global. Be the Gospel.

Note: Underlined words indicate active links.



Virginia Mennonite Conference + Mennonite Mission Network

Worker support around the world



1 Virginia Mennonite Missions

As a sister agency, Mennonite Mission Network partners with VMissions to expand ministry opportunities and support for international workers beyond Virginia Mennonite Conference congregations.

Missional Discipleship Initiative

- » John David Thacker — Mennonite Church Planter/Virginia Mennonite Conference/VMissions
- » Mount Clinton Mennonite Church

Worker support

- 2 Mary Raber, serving in Odessa, Ukraine
- » Chapel Hill Mennonite Fellowship **Couple** working in a sensitive Middle Eastern location. Assignment ended summer 2020.
- » Harrisonburg Mennonite Church

Mission banks

\$441

- » Springdale Mennonite Church

Service participants



Service sites

SOOP

- » Highland Retreat
- » Unique World Gifts
- » Williamsburg Christian Retreat Center

Mennonite Voluntary Service

- 3 Anali Martin, serving in Washington, D.C.

Service Adventure

- 4 Ginny Miller, serving in Anchorage, Alaska
- 5 Lexie Coburn, serving in Johnstown, Pennsylvania

SOOP

- Elroy and Linda Miller**, Glendale, Arizona
- Ann and Sherman Eberly**, Glendale, Arizona
- Melvin Janzen**, Carlsbad, New Mexico

Prayer partners

29

Congregational giving to Mission Network



During Mission Networks' past fiscal year, August 1, 2019, through July 31, 2020, Virginia Conference congregations gave **\$141,821. Thank you!**



It is an honor to be in partnership with you, as we pursue God's calling on our church together. Navigating the unprecedented challenges of a pandemic, we may draw encouragement from God's promise in Isaiah 43:19: "I am making a way in the wilderness (NIV)." These are words of hope we can count on. God is working in our world, in our church, and in each of us. Thank you so much for your generous support and partnership in prayer. The Lord's grace, peace and wellness be with you!

Mike Sherrill

Mike Sherrill
Executive Director



We are incredibly grateful to you for your support, as we strive together to reflect the kingdom of God here on earth!

Eric Frey Martin

Eric Frey Martin
Church Relations Representative

Thank you for your continued partnership in God's mission!

www.MennoniteMission.net Toll-free: 1-866-866-2872



Conference Ministry and Conference Endorsed Ministry Reports

Most of Eastern Mennonite School's 357 students, K to 12, came to school daily throughout the 2020-21 school year; 144 of them were from Virginia Mennonite Conference churches (another 34 Mennonite students came from Community and Shalom congregations).

Our students wore masks, kept distance, wiped desks, ate lunch outside (a good change!), adjusted to new schedules, and limited interactions to smaller groups. Some did classwork from home for the safety of compromised family members, because of a part-time job, or due to involvement in other activities that increased their possible exposure to COVID-19.

It was hard in many ways. But it also brought our learning community together in care, support, and encouragement for one another. "I cannot adequately thank our families who took health screening practices seriously, our flexible and committed teachers, and our students whose attitudes were exemplary," says Paul Leaman, head of school.

Some highlights from the year...



Sustainability

More than 40 volunteers from the school and broader community helped to install 357 **solar panels** on the upper building roof in October. The installation offsets nearly one third of the total electricity used by the school's facilities. See more, including live data, at easternmennonite.org/solar. Students also collected boxes used for COVID-safe lunches for composting.



Faculty & Staff

A fall faculty-staff professional development seminar focused on "**building community in polarized times**," with consultant and professor David Brubaker. The input helped the school navigate a contentious election season. A winter workshop by the Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities raised awareness about **implicit bias** and nurturing a school culture where all feel welcome.



Faith Gatherings

Guests and school members shared personal **stories of belonging** via video for the weekly elementary gathering and chapel for grades 6-12. We also gathered to lament loss and to mark the one-year anniversary of shutting down due to COVID-19 in spring 2020.



Music Creativity

Innovative efforts by director Jared Stutzman made some choral singing possible inside and outside this year, though it was still disappointing to miss sharing programs with area churches and beyond. Instrumental classes continued with masked instruments, often outside, and distanced. An outdoor, safely-spaced **musical theater** production of *Les Misérables* played to capacity audiences on the soccer field.



EMES Traditions

At the elementary school, traditions now 15 years old continued with COVID adjustments. These included the annual peace parade, a Christmas music program, Easter Passion Walk, and a dessert theater production. Parents helped to finish off parts of the EMES three-acre outdoor learning and play space. They excavated, spread wood chips, installed tree “cookies” for safely distanced classroom meeting space, and chopped wood.



Spring Events

Juniors and seniors enjoyed a banquet and party at an outdoor venue in May, one the most “normal” activities of the year as COVID restrictions began to ease. COVID-adjusted E-term (high school) and Explore Week (middle school) activities, a one-day senior trip to DC, outdoor community service day, and commencement exercises on the lawn for 47 graduating seniors were other spring activities that helped to build a few more memories.



Service

National Honor Society students led a **fall food drive** to support a DC-area Mennonite church food pantry collecting more than the goal of 75 boxes. Mennonite Central Committee facilitated the partnership. Other service included trash pick up and a clothing drive.



Flames News

Varsity athletics teams were the only teams that had a chance at competitive play this year, masking and – for some – distance learning while in season. Other teams enjoyed skill building activities. Intramural teams competed in pickleball, disc golf, volleyball, spikeball, and cornhole to stay active.



Donor Support

Donors made it all possible by supporting the school’s virtual auction, Christmas Fund Drive, Great Community Give, annual golf tournament, and through the Virginia Education Scholarship Tax Credit Fund. See more at easternmennonite.org/support.

THANK YOU for ongoing prayers, advocacy, student referrals, and financial gifts as we join home and church in calling students to faith in Jesus Christ, academic excellence, personal integrity and compassionate service in the world.



Mission: VMMissions equips the church to share new life in Jesus Christ with neighbors near and far.

Vision: VMMissions envisions a Spirit-filled church of many cultures living out God's kingdom in every sphere of life.

THE GOSPEL IS FOR EVERYONE.



Who is the gospel for? According to Revelation 7:9, it's for those "from every nation, tribe, people and language"—in other words, it's for everyone! That's the focus of **our first major capital campaign in a decade—A Church of Many Cultures**, which launched

in 2021 with **the goal of raising \$3 million for three new areas of ministry:**



Business for Transformation—Starting for-profit enterprises to bless communities and share the gospel where there is little Christian presence.



Global Church Planting—Supporting church planters from around the world who are gifted and called to multiply disciples and churches where needed most.



Mission Training Center—Renovating "the barn" on our property into a gathering place for prayer, training, meetings and community events for up to 50 people.

I'm happy to share that so far we have raised **\$2.7 million, or 90% of the \$3 million campaign goal**. This campaign has already allowed us to provide grants to six church planters in Virginia, North Carolina, the Dominican Republic, Albania and Central Asia, and to give three business loans to Christian entrepreneurs operating in the 10/40 Window (the area of the world with the fewest Christians).

We see global migration relocating Christians from all over the world, many of whom sense God's call to reach their new neighbors for Christ. Our international workers are also discovering that some countries resistant to traditional mission work are wide open for business ventures.

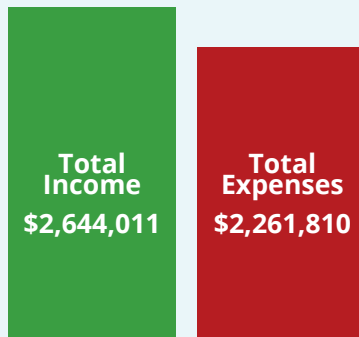
This campaign enables VMMissions to position itself to catch the wave of what God is doing as the agency moves into its second century of ministry.

I invite you to learn more and get involved! Visit **campaign.vmmissions.org**


Aaron M. Kauffman, President

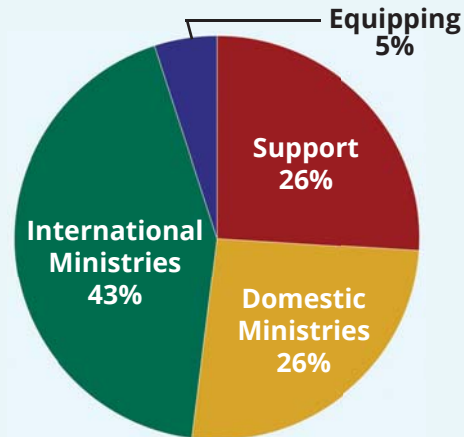
VMMISSIONS BY THE NUMBERS

Income and Expenses



Fiscal year: Sept. 1, 2020
to August 31, 2021

How Funds Were Used



Totals

Donors	1273
Prayer Partners	188
Ministry Support Teams	26
MST Members	145
Countries	13
transForm long-term workers	44
transSend ministry interns	11
Total number of workers	55

(as of December 31, 2021)

SHARING NEW LIFE IN JESUS CHRIST: MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS



Rafael Tartari, serving in Shkodër, Albania, shared about Jonidi, who recently came to faith. "Our city of Shkodër is the city of bicycles in Albania. Recently, on a simple bike ride with a young man from the church who invited a friend, we had the opportunity to share the plan of salvation. Jonidi is a soldier at a military base in a nearby village. This was his day off, so he not only accepted the invitation for a bike ride, but was touched to hear the word and accepted Jesus as his Savior. Coincidentally, he who comes from a Muslim background, confessed Jesus in front of a mosque, which was at the end of the road where we stopped to rest! We believe in our hearts that 'The gospel is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes' (Romans 1:16). After that day I still had the opportunity to meet and have a coffee with Jonidi's brother too, and that's how we are expanding our circles of friendship and contacts and taking the opportunity to preach the gospel through relationships with different people."



In the U.S., the Anabaptist Biblical Institute (IBA) continues to provide theological education to Latino leaders so they can be equipped to serve within their local congregations and beyond. In April, five students graduated from the program after several years of commitment and hard work. They received a Biblical and Theological Studies diploma, which provides a solid foundation for their development as missional leaders. A graduation ceremony was held at Iglesia Enciende una Luz, where students testified about the impact that IBA has had on their spiritual life and calling. A time of celebration followed as the students, families and friends enjoyed a meal and a wonderful time of fellowship. VMissions is grateful for this group of leaders!

BOARD (2021-2022 term)

Lavonne Lehman, Eastern, Chair (2022)
Paul Yoder, Central, Vice-Chair (2022)
Reuben Horst, Member at Large, Secretary (2023)
Shelley Abline, Member at Large, Treasurer (2022)
Chris Conley, Tennessee/Carolina/Kentucky

Luz Contreras, Member at Large
Liz Driver, Member at Large
Lauren Francisco, Calvary
Clair Good, Southern
Johnny Hsu, Potomac

Chris Johnson, Member at Large
Juan Carlos Malvaez, Member at Large
Becky Roberts, Harrisonburg
David Yutzy, Northern

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David Gingerich, Church Relations Associate
Abe Hartzler, Associate Director of Advancement
Lizzette Hernandez, Latino Ministries Coach
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Jason Showalter, Global Ministries Director
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Skip Tobin, Ministry Coach - USA

Jon Trotter, Communications Associate
Todd Van Patter, Director of Operations
Karen Yoder, Ministry Support Coach and Global Assistant
Tom Yoder, Ministry Coach - Balkans

Report to Virginia Mennonite Conference

AMBS serves the church as a learning community with an Anabaptist vision, educating followers of Jesus Christ to be leaders for God's reconciling mission in the world.

Our programs integrate academics, spiritual formation and practice. Join us — in person or at a distance, full time or part time — and deepen your understanding of Scripture, faith and Anabaptist theology!

Degrees and programs

Study on campus

- Master of Divinity Campus
- Master of Arts in Christian Formation
- Master of Arts: Theology and Peace Studies
- Graduate Certificate in Theological Studies (customizable)

Study at a distance

- Master of Divinity Connect
- Master of Arts: Theology and Global Anabaptism
- Graduate Certificate in Spiritual Direction
- Graduate Certificate in Theological Studies
- Journey Missional Leadership Development Program (nondegree)

We offer generous need-based financial aid, scholarships and matching grants for both full- and part-time graduate students. You *can* afford seminary!

ambs.edu/degrees-and-programs

Leadership and enrichment

Grow your ministry skills and gain Anabaptist approaches to today's leadership challenges through our nondegree offerings.

Short-term options

- Anabaptist Short Courses: online, four to six weeks, discussion based, noncredit
- Invite AMBS: request a speaker (in person or virtual) on a topic of your choice
- Pastors & Leaders conference: Feb. 13–16, 2023
- !Explore: A Theological Program for High School Youth (summer)

Yearlong offerings

- Spiritual Direction Seminars
- Transition to Leadership: program for new pastors
- Integrity Circles: reflect theologically on leadership within a group

ambs.edu/leadership-and-enrichment



(Credit: Jason Bryant)

Virginia Mennonite Conference connections

- **Stephen Lowe** (Harrisonburg) is a Master of Divinity Campus student.

AMBS statistics

- In 2021–22, 116 students were enrolled in graduate-level degree or certificate programs at AMBS; 11 were guest students. Sixty-four were from the U.S., nine were from Canada and 54 were international students.
- In 2021–22, 18 students were part of the nondegree Journey Missional Leadership Development Program in the U.S., Canada, Southeast Asia and Uganda.
- In April 2022, 14 women and seven men from seven countries — Canada, Ethiopia, Honduras, Indonesia, Nigeria, Tanzania and the U.S. — graduated from AMBS. Ten completed part or all of their studies at a distance.

Want to try out seminary?

- Sign up for an online Anabaptist Short Course (no grades, no papers!):
 - Exploring Peace and Justice in the Bible
 - Exploring Anabaptist History and Theology
 - Understanding Anabaptist Approaches to Scripture
 - Transforming Congregational Conflict and Communication
 - Resisting Christian Nationalism with the Gospel of Peace

ambs.edu/online-short-courses

- Take a graduate-level course — online or on campus. Nonadmitted students get 50% off their first three credit hours! ambs.edu/upcoming-courses
- Schedule a virtual or in-person visit. Talk with students, faculty and staff and learn what AMBS has to offer! ambs.edu/visit
- Stay connected: facebook.com/followAMBS • twitter.com/ambs_seminary • ambs.edu/subscribe



*Prepared to serve and
lead in a global context*

SUMMER 2022

VIRGINIA MENNONITE CONFERENCE

EMU ANNUAL REPORT

President Susan Schultz Huxman sends warm greetings to the Virginia Mennonite Conference

We have many “leaves of springtime” to savor this time of year at EMU. In concert with our campus community, I am honored and humbled to serve EMU—a world- renowned faith-informed peace and justice university. We have an inspiring mission: “*to prepare students to serve and lead in a global context*” in the spirit of Micah 6:8: “*to do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with God.*”

Here are some examples of our fortitude, resilience and reliance on our faith-informed values (Christian discipleship, community, service and peacemaking) in these challenging times:

In Academics—We received a “clean slate” from our accreditation bodies in the last year (Engineering, Nursing, Teacher Education, Social Work, Seminary) including the biggest and the most important of all: the Southern Association of Colleges and Universities (SACS). In all major categories, we received superb reviews: finance, governance, academics, faculty, student outcomes, and campus engagement.

In Advancement—We are so very thankful that philanthropic giving is up over last year—and we had a good year last year! We are thrilled to see growth in special giving categories in the area of student scholarships, tuition relief, and estate gifts, even as our “bread and butter” the university annual fund continues to grow as well.

In Enrollment—Our retention from Fall to Spring remained strong in the midst of layers of COVID challenges. Deposits are on pace with last year (which was a very good year!) for Fall 22.

In Budget—We are very pleased to announce that we will close out the 2022 budget with margin (significant income) again for the 4th year in a row.

Thank you for your support in prayers, advocacy and giving. What a gift our churches and conferences are to EMU! Our Mennonite students comprise a strong component of our overall student body success. And it is still true: students who attend Mennonite schools are more likely to join or stay connected to the Mennonite Church than those who attend elsewhere. Recently a sophomore student shared with me: “*I thought since I had already attended a Mennonite high school, I should go somewhere else; but I am so glad I gave EMU a second look. It has made all the difference!*”

In gratitude, Susan Schultz Huxman, Ph.D.

How can EMU serve you?

Contact the church relations office to schedule the president or a faculty guest speaker:
540-432-4597 or
ChurchRelations@emu.edu

Virginia Mennonite Conference Connections to EMU

Undergraduate Students

Sixty-two undergraduate students, fourteen graduate students and five seminary students from Virginia Mennonite Conference were enrolled in the spring 2022 semester.

Giving

Virginia Mennonite Conference churches gave \$62,425 in matching church grants during 2021-2022.

- ▶ **Susan Schultz Huxman**, *president*
- ▶ **Kirk Shisler**, *vice president for advancement*
- ▶ **Braydon Hoover**, *director of advancement & annual giving*
- ▶ **Matthew Ruth**, *director of admissions*

Our Vision

We will open new pathways of access and achievement for all students who aspire to grow as unifying leaders equipped with intercultural competence, oriented toward peace and justice, and rooted in an active faith modeled on the life and teachings of Jesus.

New Associate Dean and New Director of Curriculum and Assessment

Rev. Dr. Sarah Ann Bixler, assistant professor of formation and practical theology, has taken on the role as associate dean of the Seminary in addition to teaching at EMS. She oversees the seminary's graduate degree programs, guides the development of new programs for pastors and laypersons involved in a wide range of ministries, and serves as director of the seminary's formation program. Old Testament associate professor, Dr. Andrea Dalton Saner has taken on the new role of director of seminary curriculum and assessment. Dr. Saner is an Old Testament scholar who has taught in the seminary and undergraduate Bible, religion and theology program since 2013.

Spring Graduation

EMS awarded five Master of Arts in Christian Leadership, four Master of Divinity degrees and one Theological Certificate to the graduating class of 2022. MDiv graduates included two members of VMC churches, Steven Pardini from



Harrisonburg Mennonite Church and Furst Jenkins from Park View Mennonite Church. As part of the graduation requirement each presented a capstone presentation. Steve's was on "Teaching the Bible in Communities of Faith" and Furst's was on "The Church of What's Happening Now." Seminary



Baccalaureate was held on Saturday, May 6 with the theme "Finding Your Voice" with the scripture focus of Ephesians 4:11-13. Speakers included Dorothy Jean Weaver, professor emeritus; Lonnie Yoder, professor emeritus; and David Evans, associate professor of history and mission.

Visit <https://emu.edu/now/news/2022/seminary-candidates-present-capstones/>

New Graduate Certificate

We are offering a New Graduate Certificate in Faith Based Peacebuilding. This certificate is designed for faith community leaders who want to more effectively respond to social conflicts as they arise in their community and those who seek faith-informed social engagement in the complex justice issues of their communities. Overall requirements are 9-10 SH from the Seminary and 8-9 SH from Center for Justice and Peacebuilding, for a total of 18 credits.

Seminary Options

All master's students from VMC congregations are receiving scholarship aid toward their seminary studies. With EMS's church matching grants and additional conference funds, attending EMS is more affordable than you think!

Visit <https://emu.edu/seminary/courses/> for more information about Fall classes.

Statement of Purpose

Eastern Mennonite Seminary prepares servants of Christ to minister together locally and globally. In response to God's gracious call, we invite students to embody and bear witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ in the power of God's Spirit as wise interpreters, mature practitioners, discerning communicators, and transformational leaders.

- ▶ **Susan Schultz Huxman**, president
- ▶ **Sue Cockley**, seminary dean
- ▶ **Sarah Ann Bixler**, associate dean
- ▶ **Veva Mumaw**, director of seminary student services & church relations

For the most up-to-date information on EMS, give us a call, visit us on the web, "Like" us on Facebook!

emu.edu/seminary
540-432-4257



Family Life Resource Center is an independent, faith based, 501c3 non profit group counseling practice located in downtown Harrisonburg. We're proud to serve our community through a range of counseling services offered by a dedicated team of counseling staff. It's no secret that the need for counseling and greater psychosocial

support within our communities has increased over the past few years. As a result, we've felt blessed with the addition of new counselors at the practice to help address this greater need from the community. We've also improved our efficiency this year by moving to an Electronic Health Record as an agency, an undertaking that has had its own unique growing pains. As we move into our 35th year as an agency, FLRC continues to strive to grow with the community we serve. We've been excited to consistently offer accessible individual, couples, and family counseling services through our scholarship program. Those eligible for the scholarship program are able to engage with affordable counseling services through financial assistance. We're currently working with 275 active clients and give approximately 6000 counseling hours per year. During 2021 we've given away \$10,500 in financial aid through this program to reach those who may otherwise find counseling unaffordable. Our total operating cost for 2021 has been \$594,500, 10% of which has been covered by fundraising. We are extremely thankful for the Virginia Mennonite Conference and its member congregations for their support and encouragement. We are appreciative of the many counselors, office support, board of directors, and donors that work diligently to keep FLRC successful. It is with your support that we are able to continue to offer counseling for hope, health, and healing.

Matthew Swartzentruber

Clinical Director



2022 REPORT TO VIRGINIA MENNONITE CONFERENCE



For the second year in a row, uncertainty clouded much of our planning: What restrictions were looming, and when would they change? How could we budget and financially plan? Could we find the staff necessary to serve over the summer? All these questions would be answered in time. God and His people supported Highland through all the questions and uncertainties to a place of health and vitality.

Despite additional complexities, being able to serve summer campers again last year was our greatest joy! Highland Summer Camps had only 60% of a 'normal' summer attendance, but even with fewer campers overall, we were at capacity in most sessions. Capacity was lower than usual due to a shortage of summer staff, and we wondered at times how we would serve even the smaller number of campers. But God provided, and volunteers stepped up. More than a dozen volunteers joyfully served in the summer kitchen last year, with one couple serving close to 140 hours – the equivalent of 3 and a half weeks! Extra volunteers in the kitchen meant that counseling staff were free to spend more time lovingly serving campers.

Group reservations were up and down this past year, often correlating to the season or new COVID variants. Groups were much more comfortable gathering when they could spend time outdoors, so we ended up having a fuller summer

and fall season than we expected. This was a real blessing for us after so much closure! But when winter and a new variant rolled in, we again experienced significant cancellations for several months. God's provision in those quiet months came in the form of deposits for a full summer schedule that continued to roll in, and by April our groups began to return, bringing us back to a healthy spot. Amazingly, we completely paid off our line of credit for the first time in two years. Many times this year I have said, "It doesn't add up. Why are we financially OK right now? Praise be to God . . . we are!"

Even in the seasons when our regular income has fluctuated in unexpected ways, a surprising number of improvements to our facilities and grounds have been happening behind the scenes. This was possible due to the financial provision of restricted donations from this year and past years, which allowed for amazing progress on special projects. Here are some highlights:

- Guests staying in across the stream can again drive directly to their cabin because the Tabernacle bridge is complete! Highland staff and volunteers alike have easy access to the pond, cabins, and well house.
- Guests staying in the Mountain View Retreat Center will have a larger and more commercial kitchen AND enjoy an attractive remodeled dining area.

- We can't wait for the female campers to enjoy the new showers in the pool house. The girls' shower room at the pool house has been gutted and rebuilt and female campers will finally have hot and cold running water — no pull chains!

As summer approaches more than 350 campers have already registered for summer camp. We're excited to offer them meaningful encounters with God, friends, and nature. Furthermore, there are 60 group reservations on the books for July, June, and August including extended families, friend groups, churches, college ministries and more!

The months ahead still pose challenges, particularly attracting a full team of ministry-minded summer staff and offsetting unprecedented wage and cost increases. But we remain certain that we can fully rely on God's loving provision through his people. We hope to use the creativity and lessons we learned these past two years to help us refocus on doing what we love: serving campers and guests in the name of Jesus!

Kent Kauffman
Executive Director



2022 REPORT TO VIRGINIA MENNONITE CONFERENCE

Here at the Williamsburg Christian Retreat Center we believe that when our guests and campers experience God's Creation, explore God's Word, and fellowship with God's people, amazing things are simply bound to happen.

We provide a place for the Holy Spirit to work in the lives of kids and adults through camping and retreats. Our vision is every life changed by Jesus, welcomed into His family and serving Him. We are so blessed to be celebrating our 37th year of ministry.

One of the best words I can think of to describe 2021 at WCRC is atypical. Other descriptions could include roller coaster, limbo, and challenging.

We were delighted to see our summer camp enrollment surpass 2019 "pre-COVID" levels. But we were disappointed to see our guest group bookings remain around 70% of a normal year.

We were excited to see our RV Campground performing at 50% over previous years, but we were frustrated that we were still unable to hold a fundraising banquet.

We were joyful over a record breaking turnout for our Family Harvest Fest, but we were saddened by the departure of some key staff members. Through the ups and downs of 2021, we are learning what it means to be hopeful and "cautiously optimistic". The Lord is continuing to show us how to rely on Him.

As we move forward, I've been doing my best to stay hopeful and to trust God. My encouragement to those on our staff, those on our board, and to our many giving partners and volunteers is the following:

First, get excited about learning and growing. We've all been challenged to learn new ways to get along these days. Whether you are acquiring Zoom skills or figuring out new ways to drive your car less, there's always something new to be learned. But, most importantly, keep learning to hear God's voice.

Jesus says, "My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me." Ask God to show you the connections

as you immerse yourself in His Word, spend time in community, and allow the Holy Spirit to guide you in evaluating your circumstances to discern His will. Then, say "YES!" to God.

Second, stay in community. In fact, look for ways to increase your involvement, specifically with your church family. These days, we need each other more than ever. Resist the urge to get comfortably isolated. Instead give yourself fully the goal of encouraging others during these turbulent times.

Third, stand firm. The evil one wants us to become discouraged, disheartened, and overwhelmed. But, as Ephesians 6 says, "...our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms." Don't try to fight spiritual battles with earthly weapons. Meditate on scripture, spend even more time in prayer, and as 1 Peter 5:7 says, "Cast all your anxiety on Him because he cares for you."

As the world around us is changing in ways we never dreamed of, we can remember that Jesus never changes. Our Alpha and Omega is the same, yesterday, today and forever. He is our fortress and deliverer. He is our rock and our salvation. From all of us at WCRC, our hope for you in the coming year is that you and yours will be blessed by God in ways you never imagined as you continue to seek Him with all your heart.

Bob Briscoe
Director





Mennonite Disaster Service

2022 REPORT

This year brought changes to both the Eastern and the Shenandoah Valley MDS units with the resignation of their respective directors Ken Kurtz and Richard Rhodes. We extend thanks and appreciation to both for their years of leadership and commitment to MDS. New directors Ivan Lehman (Eastern) and Woody Driver (Shenandoah Valley) transitioned into these positions in the new year.

The Eastern Virginia unit reports little activity over the past year due to Covid. However, we look forward to assisting in Region One projects. We have provided assistance with an investigation team to the Crisfield, MD area after a coastal flooding event on October 30, 2021. Hurricane Sandy caused damage to this same area in 2013.

Although Covid also slowed the work of the Shenandoah Valley unit, our volunteers investigated some local fires and the flood in Hurley, VA. We assisted Region One building two houses in Clendenin, WV and several WV bridges. We also helped with parking and traffic control at local Covid vaccine clinics.

Volunteers from our area traveled to binational sites including Jennings, LA, Mayfield, KY, Marianna, FL, and Paradise, CA. Recovery efforts at these sites were in response to damage caused by hurricanes, tornadoes, and fires.

Every spring Eastern Mennonite School provides a week long E-term learning for it's students. Experiential learning brings students out of the classroom into various settings for learning by participating. In early April, MDS and EMS teamed together to place 11 students and 4 adults in an Appalachian experience in Hurley. The group's work project was for a family of seven whose home was flood damaged in August 2021. Repairs included removing and replacing flooring, installing vinyl siding, and finishing drywall. Students also had the opportunity to listen and hear the family's story of their flood experience.

Participants expressed although the experience was new for most of them, it was a positive, memorable, and even life-changing week. MDS and EMS look forward to continuing this partnership in years to come.

Woody Driver
MDS of Virginia President





For the last two years, the individuals served by Pleasant View have experienced isolation and loss when their day supports, churches, and other community activities shut down almost overnight. During this time, we also experienced immense loss through the death of beloved friends, staff members, and family members. Pleasant View followed the stay-at-home protocols, but tried to stay connected through Faith and Light zoom services, zoom parties, and periodic distanced outdoor activities.

This fall, we reopened our Harrisonburg Day Program and resumed community activities. We are hungry for opportunities to reconnect with each other in-person and renew our community relationships.

Harrisonburg Day Program

Our Harrisonburg Day Program has once again become a hub of activity. We support individuals with a variety of gifts and needs who enjoy activities such as:

- helping in the backyard gardens,
- cooking for their friends,
- participating in various sports,
- walking with friends,
- creating art for themselves or to share with others, and
- reading together



In June we will begin regularly scheduled activities through the week including Tuesday Aktion Club, Wednesday Spiritual Formation, and Thursday Walking Club. Small groups will also leave the day program to go to area parks, businesses, and the arboretum.

Congregate Living Supports

In our residential programs, we support individuals to live as they choose. This past year we:

- continue to support individuals in reaching their goals for more independent living
- completed home improvement projects to address accessibility issues at Turner, Brenneman, and Lee High.
- enjoyed group trips to concerts, movies, fishing, and sporting events.



Community Outreach

In a deliberate effort to facilitate individuals with disabilities to build meaningful relationships, we have increased our community outreach.

- Twice a month, Faith and Light services are held in-person and on zoom. Community members are invited to join in this wonderful faith community whenever they can.
- Our Aktion Club is once again meeting at the Harrisonburg Day Program at 1:00 PM on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month. The club's primary focus is on building leadership and volunteering to benefit children. The club is open to anyone who is 18 or older and has a developmental disability.
- We are also hosting Frienship and Accessibility Ally walks at area parks with accessible walking trails on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month (information can be found on Facebook or at www.pleasantviewinc.org/newsevents.html)



The commitment to quality care and what is best for the individuals we support drives the mission, vision, and decisions Pleasant View makes. In the wake of a pandemic and the current economy, employment market, and industry staffing crisis, we acknowledge that we need to continue to self-assess and transform for the best of all. Pleasant View continues to navigate the process of strengthening the quality of its programs and services. Our current day supports include Supported Employment and the Harrisonburg Day Program services. Congregate supports include residential settings in Broadway (Turner House, Louk House, and Lee High) and Harrisonburg (Harrison House ICF, Brenneman House, and Moyers Apartments). Additionally, as staffing allows, Pleasant View will be offering community-based and less-restrictive supports such as Community Engagement, Supported Living, and In-Home Supports.

It's been more than 50 years since the Virginia Mennonite Conference, John R Mumaw, and his committee started exploring creating community supports for individuals with disabilities. We are grateful for your strong partnership through the years, especially during the pandemic. Our community continues to need Pleasant View to provide opportunities for individuals with disabilities to live-in and enrich their communities. Without Pleasant View, individuals with disabilities may not be able to stay close to their often-aging families. We ask for your prayers in the coming year as we continue to navigate the smaller workforce. Beyond prayers, we humbly ask for involvement in any way you can: get to know one person at Pleasant View, invite a person who lives at Pleasant View to your church and provide transportation, join our Board of Directors, and/or come to work at Pleasant View.

Blessings to you all.

Pleasant View would like to thank the delegates of Virginia Mennonite Conference for joining with others from Mennonite Church USA to unanimously adopt the Accessibility Resolution at the recent delegate assembly in Kansas City. We would love to offer our assistance to the congregations of VMC as they seek to implement the resolution, including with disability/accessibility awareness & education, library resources, training, and assistance with the congregational accessibility assessment. Please do not hesitate to text or call Pam Miller at 540-560-1134 or pmiller@pleasantviewinc.org. You can also contact our pastor, Derek Yoder, at derek@pleasantviewinc.org



MENNONITE WOMEN OF VIRGINIA: Engaging and Encouraging Women

Mennonite Women of Virginia (MWV) exists to encourage women to deepen their relationship with the Lord and to empower them to build Christ-centered relationships with other women through fellowship, leadership, mission and service. We typically have three annual events: our Annual Missions Day in the spring, a prayer breakfast in conjunction with conference assembly in the summer, and a fall retreat.

Because of COVID, we were not able to have all of these events in 2020 and 2021, but we found innovative ways to connect with women despite social restrictions. On Saturday, July 17, 2021, we had a wonderful gathering outside under the oak trees at Weaver's Mennonite Church. We had a time of praise and worship led by Jerilyn Schrock, then were challenged by Diane Marin as she shared with us on the topic of "It is Well." Food donations were collected and given to the Lacey Spring Community Food Pantry. We had a bagged lunch and enjoyed fellowshiping together in the cool shade. What a delightful time to connect with other women and to worship together.

Since we were not able to have the fall retreat in 2020, we were so excited to be able to have one in 2021. We had a great turnout with over 90 women attending! Our speaker, Dawn Mast, from Grace Mennonite Fellowship, encouraged us to become more aware of God's faithfulness in our lives through scripture, humor, and sharing personal stories. It was a wonderful weekend together with plenty of time to connect with old and new friends as well. A highlight of our retreat has become a silent auction of items donated by the ladies attending, the majority of which are handmade. The proceeds help to keep registration costs lower and give scholarships, as needed. We are looking forward to this year's fall retreat November 11-13, 2022.

On Saturday, March 5, 2022, we had our Annual Missions Day which was hosted by Waynesboro Mennonite Church and Iglesia Cristiana Shalom. Our speaker is serving in a sensitive area in the world, so we cannot mention her name, but we were blessed by her open and heart-felt sharing about the joys and struggles of being a woman serving the Lord in a different part of the world. We got to taste cultural bread and tea, along with many other delicious foods prepared by the hosting churches. We eagerly participated in the Mission Needs Auction, raising over \$6,000 to give as 'love gifts' to missionaries and churches affiliated with Virginia Mennonite Missions. It is beautiful to see how we can accomplish so much when we join our gifts together.

We are looking forward to the prayer breakfast Saturday, July 16, 2022 6:45 a.m. at Trissels Mennonite Church's fellowship hall. We will enjoy breakfast together and then spend some time learning about and praying for the ministries in Peru that Elena Buckwalter de Satalaya and her husband, Freddy, are involved in. Please join us!

WEEKEND RETREAT FOR ALL AGES:

Join us at the Richmond Marriott
Short Pump, Glen Allen, VA,
November 11-13, 2022.

More information to come.



ROBERTA WEBB

Early Education Center

Since the establishment of The Roberta Webb Child Care Center in 1994, we have strived to represent our namesake of Roberta Webb, an African American woman who resided in the Northeast Community of Harrisonburg, Virginia. Roberta Webb was a certified teacher who had a love for learning and cared deeply about the needs of the children in her neighborhood. She established a childcare center in her home and provided a safe, loving, and nurturing environment where the holistic positive development of children was a priority. It is on this strong foundation that the legacy of learning continues.

While the past two years included much uncertainty, we also experienced significant growth. New leadership was hired to support staff and families. External funding partnerships were expanded and during the 2021-22 school year Roberta Webb provided 100% tuition free services to all families. We committed to paying a living wage to our staff and earned certification with the Harrisonburg Rockingham Living Wage Campaign. The physical center also underwent much needed renovations to include new flooring and refurbishing of our three classrooms. Shade structures were erected on the playground and new play equipment was installed.

With all these positive changes the Board of Directors re-evaluated and revised our mission statement, vision, and goals. A new logo was also designed to better reflect our updated statements. Finally, the center name was reimagined. We are now officially Roberta Webb Early Education Center (RWEEC)!

Amid these changes our priority continues to be the children and families of RWEEC. Family engagement in early education is particularly important to create consistency between the home and school environments. Understanding this value, but also respecting the need to keep our families and staff safe, RWEEC created virtual family nights during the 2021-22 school year. RWEEC hosted six family nights and provided dinner and supplies centered around a variety of activities for family members to enjoy together- family game night, family art project, family cookie night, etc. In addition, we provide a virtual Friday night read along and information about resources available in our local community. Recent notifications included information on mental health services, parent education classes and the Undercover Pantry. We also began a partnership with Costco to provide a bread and pastries weekly to each of our families.

While we don't know what uncertainties the upcoming year may bring, we intend to remain focused on building upon the positive. We are so grateful for the many individuals and churches who support our mission to "to partner with families to provide rich educational experiences that prepare children for a lifetime of learning."



VMRC Welcomes New President and CEO



Troy Snyder has joined the VMRC Community as the President and CEO. Troy succeeds Judith Trumbo who retired at the end of March after a nearly nine-year tenure.

Troy has more than 29 years of experience in strategic planning, project management, community oversight and master planning in the senior living and health care industries. Most recently, he has been the CEO of Brethren Care Village in Ashland, Ohio, since 2013.

“My family and I are super excited to join the VMRC family. We look forward to joining the community and embarking on this next season together,” said Troy.

During his tenure, Brethren Care Village opened a licensed child daycare, maintenance-at-home service, Wellness & Community Center and the Greens Bistro. He is known in the Ashland business community for his leadership and collaboration.

Prior to leading Brethren Care Village, Troy served as Executive Director of Ohio Living, a CCRC in Cortland, Ohio, where in addition to full operational oversight, he impacted operating margin, Foundation contributions, employee retention and resident occupancy. He has served in leadership roles in senior living facilities in Ohio and Pennsylvania and holds the License of Nursing Home Administrator in Ohio and previously in Pennsylvania, Michigan and West Virginia. He earned a B.S. in Health Policy Administration from Penn State University.

“After a national search, the Board has found in Troy an ideal candidate who shares VMRC’s vision and brings experience, enthusiasm and compassion with him,” said Teresa Boshart Yoder, chair of VMRC’s Search Committee. “Troy’s achievements and character pair well with VMRC’s brand and reputation.”

Racial Reconciliation: Finding Hope, Meaning and Growth

Independent Living residents embarked on a first-of-its-kind service-learning trip early in May to Richmond, VA.

The trip, Racial Reconciliation: Finding Hope, Meaning and Growth, allowed participants to explore African American history, be inspired by current leaders in racial reconciliation and volunteer alongside one another as a service to the community.

Arts and Education program manager and trip facilitator, Lolly Miller said, “Our initial reasons for planning a trip of this kind were to respond to the racial climate nationally and on a more local level with intentionality so that we could develop a deeper understanding through active learning and hands-on service.”



Participants made new connections and learned tangible ways to work toward racial equity and social justice.

“I’m grateful to VMRC for organizing and leading us in gaining awareness of the social injustice and racial inequity in the state of Virginia. It was sobering and inspirational. Added to facing Virginia’s unjust racial history, was a positive time of relationship building with other participants,” said resident Lois Beck.

Over several days, the group was immersed in history and hands-on learning. They traveled the Trail of Enslaved Africans with local historian Reverend Ben Campbell and had a learning session with Coming to the Table RVA. There was a service project at historically black Woodland Cemetery where the group worked to unearth buried headstones, took a guided tour of the Black History Museum and spent time examining racial reconciliation issues with social worker, activist and consultant Chelsea Higgs Wise.

Thank you to sponsor Everence Financial for helping to make this meaningful trip possible.

Staff Announcements



VMRC Hires New Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Boris Ozuna has been named VMRC's Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.

He brings over twelve years of experience in the nonprofit sector in the fields of peacebuilding, community organizing and coalition building for social justice.

Boris will provide leadership and oversight of VMRC's Diversity Committees and will be tasked with creating an effective Diversity, Equity and Inclusion program that aligns with VMRC's values and business objectives.

Boris grew up in Colombia where he studied Bible and Anabaptist Theology at the Colombian Mennonite Biblical Seminary. He holds a B.A. in Peacebuilding and Development, and an M.A. in Restorative Justice from Eastern Mennonite University and the Center for Justice and Peacebuilding.



Melinda Noland Appointed Vice President of Wellness and Community Based Services

Melinda Noland has been appointed Vice President of Wellness and Community Based Services.

In her new role, Melinda will provide leadership to the Wellness and Community Based Services team which serves to engage the VMRC community by promoting multi-dimensional well-being for VMRC residents and stakeholders.

Melinda has served as the director of the VMRC Wellness Center for nearly eight years. Prior to her time at VMRC, she spent nine years at Sentara RMH where she served as both director of Volunteer Services and director of the Wellness Center.



Terry Martin Named HR/Safety Manager

Terry Martin has joined the VMRC Community as HR/Safety Manager. In his role, Terry handles the day-to-day management of various human resource processes and VMRC's safety and compliance program.

He brings to the role more than 10 years of experience in healthcare, manufacturing and human resource management. Terry's areas of expertise include employee relations, performance management, workplace safety, FMLA, recruiting and hiring.

VMRC Foundation Highlights - FY2021

Philanthropist of the Year



Carolyn Nowlin was named by the VMRC Foundation as the 2021 Philanthropist of the Year.

"Carolyn leads with a compassionate heart and represents our community in her service to others and through her volunteer work," said Les Helmuth, VMRC Foundation executive director.

Carolyn is an active supporter and volunteer of resident campaigns including the most recent fundraising campaign, Reinvesting in Our Community.

VMRC FOUNDATION IMPACT GRANTS

April 1, 2020 – March 31, 2021 Unaudited

\$2,815	The Shenandoah Valley Lyceum
\$5,150	Staff Training
\$11,225	COVID Emergency Fund
\$15,135	John & Evelyn Nixon Heltzel Rehab
\$19,470	The Medical Nutritional Therapy
\$54,190	Memory CARE
\$102,055	Reinvesting Campaign Pledges
\$115,400	Park Village Solar
\$183,594	Miscellaneous Restricted Gifts
\$498,772	Good Samaritan Fund and Compassion Fund
\$1,007,806	Total Impact Grants

GET READY FOR THE 2022 VIRGINIA MENNONITE RELIEF SALE

The 2022 Virginia Mennonite Relief sale will take place at the Rockingham County Fairgrounds on September 30 and October 1. The auction will be again both online and in person. Forms for donating items are available at <https://vareliefsale.com/> but paper forms can be picked up at the Virginia Mennonite Conference office, 601 Parkwood Drive, Harrisonburg. We can always use more donations of wood, quilts, meals, or art items.

We will once again have a range of ethnic foods, as well as the traditional Friday night supper, Saturday breakfast, and barbequed chicken. Strite's donuts will be back. Apple butter boiling, always a great family event, will take place on September 17. If you don't want to buy anything at the sale, you can always give to Share our Surplus and My Coins Count. We will take up a special offering during the auction for the Valley Mission and the Roberta Webb Child Care Center.

The Relief sale is wholly dependent on volunteer labor and donations—we have no paid staff. As always, we will need people to help set up on Thursday and Friday, September 29 and 30, and to take down on Saturday, October 1 after the sale. We have a particular need in addition this year for a food committee helper, a church or youth group to collect trash, a bouncy house volunteer coordinator, and children's auction and children's activities coordinators. We badly need more pies and baked goods. Last year donations of baked goods were down, and we ran out quickly. Please get back to baking this year!



THE 2021 RELIEF SALE: A GREAT SUCCESS

The 2021 Relief Sale was our most successful ever. We raised \$484,300 in income and after covering expenses were able to donate \$400,189; \$386,709 to MCC and the rest to People Helping People, WARM, and Virginia Mennonite Missions. Total income was over \$100,000 more than our pre-pandemic totals. Having a dual in-person and online auction worked well, with the auction bringing in almost \$147,000, well above 2019 pre-pandemic totals. Food items sold well, with the Friday supper bringing in more than in previous years. Particularly important to the relief sale's success were the Singing Light Concert in December featuring the Walking Roots Band, which brought in almost \$66,000 and the Share Our Surplus project, which raised almost \$49,000 (in addition to almost \$16,000 in other cash donations to the sale). We thank God for your generosity in a time when there is much need in the world.

We love our volunteers!



Thanks to Tim Jost, for writing and compiling this report.



Appendix

Other VMC Leaders

Conference Related Ministries Giving to VMC

Individual Giving and Estate Benefactors

Congregational Giving

Conference Membership Statistics

Conference Financial Summary

OTHER VMC LEADERS (NON-VOTING)

CREDENTIALLED LEADERS NOT ASSIGNED TO A VMC CONGREGATION OR CLUSTER

Central

Micah Caleb Hurst

Eastern

Eric S Musser

Merlin Miller

Harrisonburg

Shawn Green

Stephen Horst

Nicholas Meyer

Christopher Riddle

John Stoltzfus

Bethany Tobin

Tyler Yoder

Northern

Kinley Simmers

Bradley Kolb

David A. King

K. Dawn Monger

Gary Koontz

James Musser

Potomac

Del J. Glick

Christina J. Kraybill

Eugene D. Kraybill

Southern

Ronald Baker

TCK

Vernon Moyer

John Myer

RETIRED CREDENTIALLED LEADERS

Central

Floyd Blosser

Richard L. Bowman

E. Richard Good

Roy F. Good

Paul Kratz

Dennis R. Kuhns

Wilmer Lehman

Carolyn J Lyndaker

David F. Miller

Clayton O. Shenk

Edith Shenk Kuhns

Amos P. Witmer

Chaplains Cluster

Phoebe G. Hershey

J. Melvin Janzen

John Paul Lehman

Carl L. Smeltzer

Shirlee Kohler Yoder

Eastern

Kenneth S. Brunk

J. Harold Buckwalter

Randy Coblentz

Ernest M. Godshall

John T. Kreider

Robert W. Mast

James B. Meador

Merlin L. Miller

Harrisonburg

A. Don Augsburg

Myron S. Augsburg

G. Edwin Bontrager

J. Daryl Byler

Timothy Green

Phillip N. Helmuth

Kenneth R. Horst

Alvin M. Huyard

David S. Huyard

Rose L. Huyard

Richard F. Keeler

Mark Keller

Mark N. Lehman

Catherine Longenecker

Edmond F. Miller

Frederic A. Miller

Barbara Moyer Lehman

John R. Petersheim

Erwin H. Rempel

Ben Risser

Dorothy J. Shank

Orval M. Shank

Raymond W. Shenk

Eugene K. Souder

James K. Stauffer

Edward B. Stoltzfus

Paul L. Swarr

Anna B Williams

Lawrence M. Yoder

Shirley Yoder Brubaker

Leadership/Admin.

Janet K. Blosser

Russell Eanes

Loren E. Horst

Loren Swartzendruber

Gordon Zook

Northern

Donald Bare

Owen E Burkholder

Otis Dove

Richard Early

Anna M Engle

Margaret "Peg" Engle

Harley D. Good

Lowell W Haarer

Daniel A. Hoopert

Lloyd R. Horst

Thomas E. Kauffman

Milford E. Lyndaker

Arthur McPhee

Donald P. Mishler

Clifford S. Poirot, Sr.

Elwood G. Schrock

Rowland Shank

H. Michael Shenk II

Hazel Shirk

Omar V. Showalter

Ervin R. Stutzman

Bonita Stutzman

Marvin Stutzman

Irvin D. Weaver

Samuel O. Weaver

Angie B Williams

Kathy D. Yoder

Potomac

Earl S. Zimmerman

Southern

James S. Delp

Bruce W. Hankee

Glenn M. Steiner

Marion C. Weaver

Teaching Cluster

Joseph E. Bontrager

George R. Brunk III

TCK

David W. Bartow

Duane E. Beck

Willis G. Hunsberger

Floyd Rogers Matteson

James W. Mellinger

Arthur E. Smoker

CONFERENCE MINISTRIES

Eastern Mennonite School
easternmennoniteschool.org

A K-12 school that joins home and church in calling students to faith in Jesus Christ, academic excellence, personal integrity, and compassionate service in the world.

Virginia Mennonite Missions
vmmissions.org

VMissions equips the church to share new life in Jesus Christ with neighbors near and far. VMissions envisions a Spirit-filled church of many cultures living out God's kingdom in every sphere of life.

CONFERENCE ENDORSED MINISTRIES

Eastern Mennonite University
emu.edu

EMU educates undergraduate, graduate, and seminary students to serve and lead in a global context for the common good, grounded in the enduring biblical values of community, service to others, sustainability, peacemaking and discipleship.

Family Life Resource Center
flrc.org

A nonprofit counseling agency meeting the behavioral health needs of individuals, couples and families, working from a Christian faith perspective and committed to helping people pursue health and wholeness as individuals and in their relationships.

Highland Retreat
highlandretreat.org

A year-round Christian camp and retreat center developed to provide a place where people meet Jesus Christ and explore His creation.

Mennonite Disaster Service of Virginia
mds.mennonite.net

The state chapter of Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS), which coordinates volunteers from Anabaptist churches for disaster response.

Mennonite Women of Virginia
virginiaconference.org/mennonite-women-of-virginia/

Empowered women creatively building Christ-centered relationships through fellowship, leadership, mission and service.

Mennowood Retirement Community
mennowood.com

An oasis of peace on 12.5 wooded acres in the midst of a cosmopolitan city, providing independent and assisted living to 100 residents.

NewBridges Immigrant Resource Center
newbridgesirc.org

Through extensive training and experience, NewBridges works diligently to engage immigrants, connect cultures, and build community with a vision for a thriving community that everyone can call home.

Pleasant View, Inc.
pleasantviewinc.org

Pleasant View supports individuals who have disabilities through a variety of residential, day, and spiritual supports needed for individuals to not only live in the community, but become a part of and enrich the community.

Roberta Webb Early Education Center
robertawebb.org

Partnering with families to provide rich educational experiences that prepare children for a lifetime of learning.

Virginia Mennonite Relief Sale
vareliefsale.com

Held annually on the first Saturday in October at the Rockingham County Fairgrounds to raise money for Mennonite Central Committee.

Virginia Mennonite Retirement Community
vmrc.org

A vibrant continuing care retirement community offering a full spectrum of living options in the city of Harrisonburg. VMRC strives to be a community of hope, meaning and growth where people can age well and live fully.

Williamsburg Christian Retreat Center
wcrc.info

Williamsburg Christian Retreat Center provides a place for the Holy Spirit to work in the lives of kids and adults through camping and retreats.

INDIVIDUAL GIVING

Virginia Mennonite Conference is grateful for our contributors' generous financial support. Below is a list of voluntary financial contributors from September 1, 2021 to June 3, 2022. An asterisk (*) indicates that the donor is a Philippiian level donor who gave \$500 or more in the same time period. Thank you!

James and Emily Åkerson*
 Richard and Louise Alderfer
 Ruth Alger*
 Devon and Teresa Anders*
 Scott Beachy
 Harold Bergey*
 James Blauch
 Trisha Blosser
 Sylvia Bowman
 John and Hazel Bowman*
 Richard and Elsie Bowman*
 Anna Brenneman
 Daryl and Rebecca Brubaker*
 George and Ruthann Brunk III
 Owen and Ruth Ann Burkholder
 Ruth Burkholder
 Steven and Christine Carpenter*
 Clyde and Eunice Kratz*
 Davi and Joanna Moyer-Diener
 Ellis and Caroline Detwiler
 Russell and Cathern DeYoung*
 DeYoung Family Trust*
 Nelson Driver
 Allen Early*
 Richard and Kay Early
 Karen Eberly*
 Linford and Rebecca Gehman*
 Richard Good
 Ray and Sandra Good*
 Bruce and Janey Hankee
 Gerald and Jeanette Hershey*
 Robert and Marie Hertzler
 Kenneth and Susie Horst
 Alice Hostetter
 Greg and Joyce Hutchinson

Beryl and Margo Jantzi*
 Melvin Janzen
 David Kindy
 David and Debra King
 Rosemary King
 Walter King
 Arlan and Alda Kratz*
 Eugene and Christina Kraybill
 Lois Kreider
 Norman and Dorothy Kreider
 Dennis and Edith Shenk Kuhns
 Glen and Carol Landis
 Pearl Lantz*
 N Can Le
 David and Lavonne Lehman
 Galen and Gloria Lehman
 Wilmer and Mary Louise Lehman*
 Bishop Leslie and Natalie Francisco III*
 Erma Brubaker Martin
 Estate of Virginia Martin*
 Roger and Cheryl Yoder Mast
 Wendell and Lois Maust
 Carl Mericle*
 Craig and Lois Miller*
 Merlin and Linda Miller
 David and Marian Mininger
 Eleanor Mininger
 Vernon Moyer
 Odessa and Carroll Moyers
 Gerald Nauman
 Peter Nguyen*
 Edward and Carol Parks
 Joe and Valerie Reinford
 James and Geraldine Rush*
 Rebecca Shank

Michael and Ramona Shenk III
 Alan and Sharon Shenk
 Henry Shenk
 Jonathan and Sheryl Shenk*
 Norman Shenk
 Glennys Shouey
 Donald Showalter
 Evonne Showalter
 Nelson and Gloria Swope
 Estate of Doris Trumbo*
 Carol Van Donk
 Michael and Rachel Weaver*
 Lowell and Janet Wenger
 Linda Wenger

ESTATE BENEFACTORS

The following persons have included Virginia Mennonite Conference in their estate planning. Thank you!

Michael Beckler
 Glendon Blosser
 Steven and M. Christine Carpenter
 John and Mary Ann Heatwole
 Kenneth Heatwole
 Raymond and Betty Hertzler
 Elizabeth Hostetter
 Lila Mae Janzen

Rosie Jones
 Paul and Evelyn Kratz
 Pearl Lantz
 Wilmer and Mary Louise Lehman
 Joe Longacher
 Bertha Showalter
 Eugene and Alice Souder
 Ken Weaver

CONGREGATIONAL GIVING

*Virginia Mennonite Conference is grateful for the financial support from our member congregations. Below is a list of congregations and their financial contributions per member from September 1, 2021 to June 27, 2022. **Thank you!***

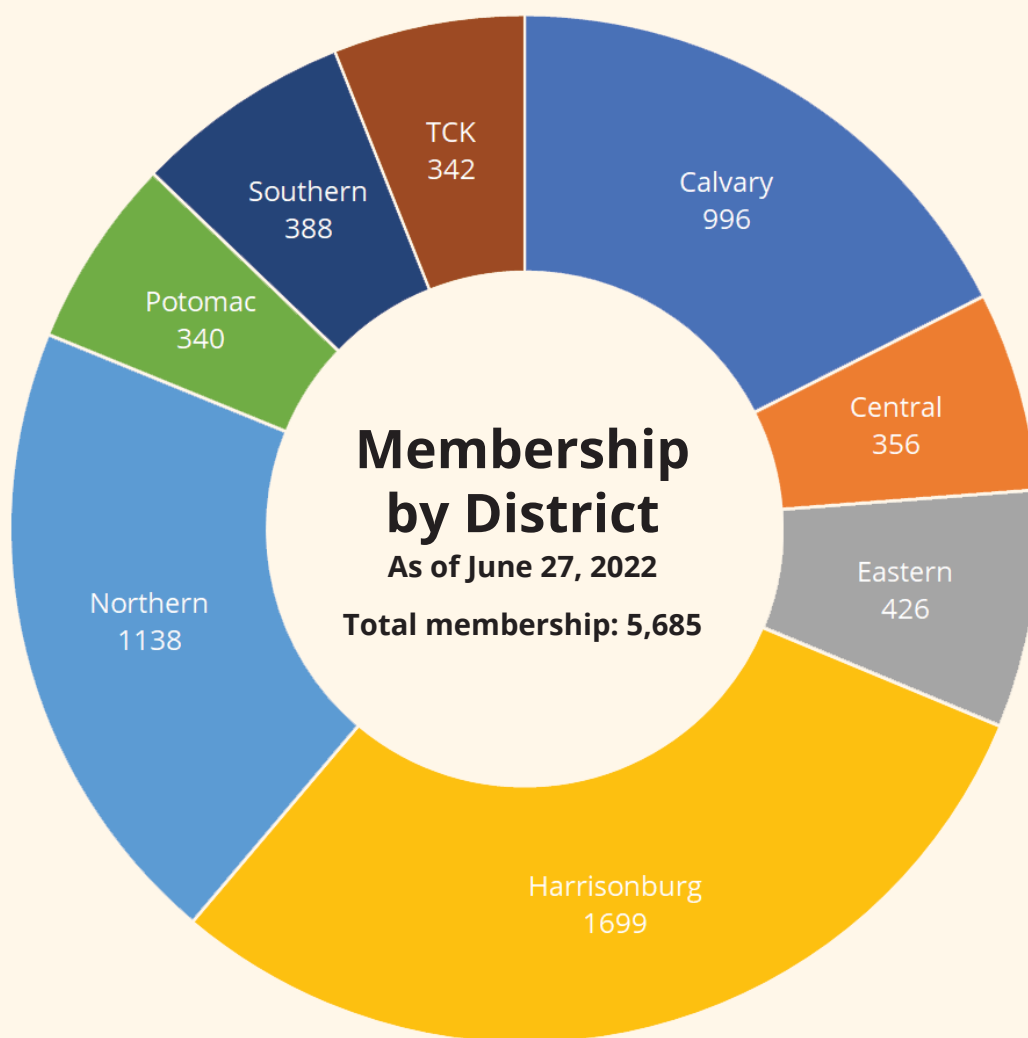
More than \$35 per member

Big Spring Mennonite Church
 Concord Mennonite Church
 Mount Clinton Mennonite Church
 Daniels Run Peace Church
 Lindale Mennonite Church
 Mt Clinton Mennonite Church
 Ridgeway Mennonite Church

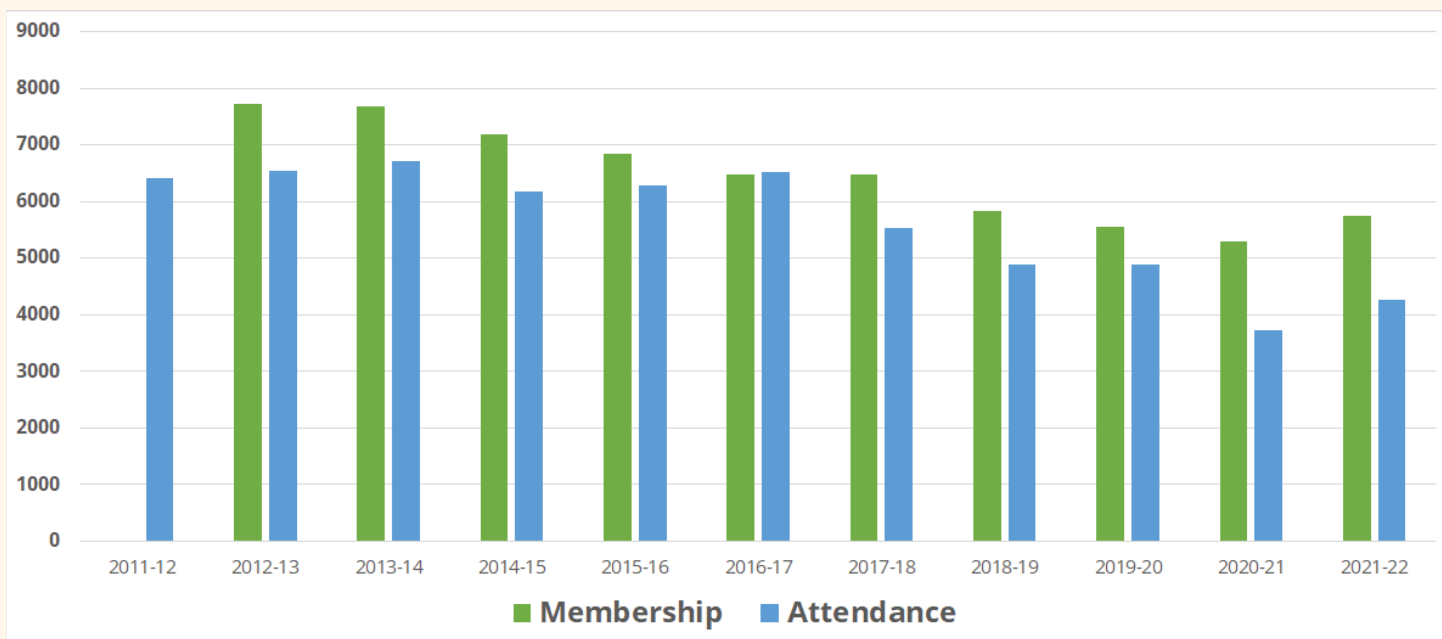
Up to \$35 per member

Asheville Mennonite Church
 Calvary Community Church (C3)
 Crest Hill Community Church
 Durham Mennonite Church
 First Mennonite Church – Richmond
 Grace Mennonite Fellowship
 Greensboro Mennonite Fellowship
 Harrisonburg Mennonite Church
 Huntington Mennonite Church
 Immanuel Mennonite Church
 Knoxville Mennonite Church
 Lynside Mennonite Church
 Mountain View Mennonite Church
 New Song Anabaptist Fellowship
 Park View Mennonite Church
 Providence Mennonite Church
 Springdale Mennonite Church
 Staunton Mennonite Church
 Stephens City Mennonite Church
 Trissels Mennonite Church
 Valley View Mennonite Church
 Waynesboro Mennonite Church
 Weavers Mennonite Church
 Williamsburg Mennonite Church
 Zion Mennonite Church

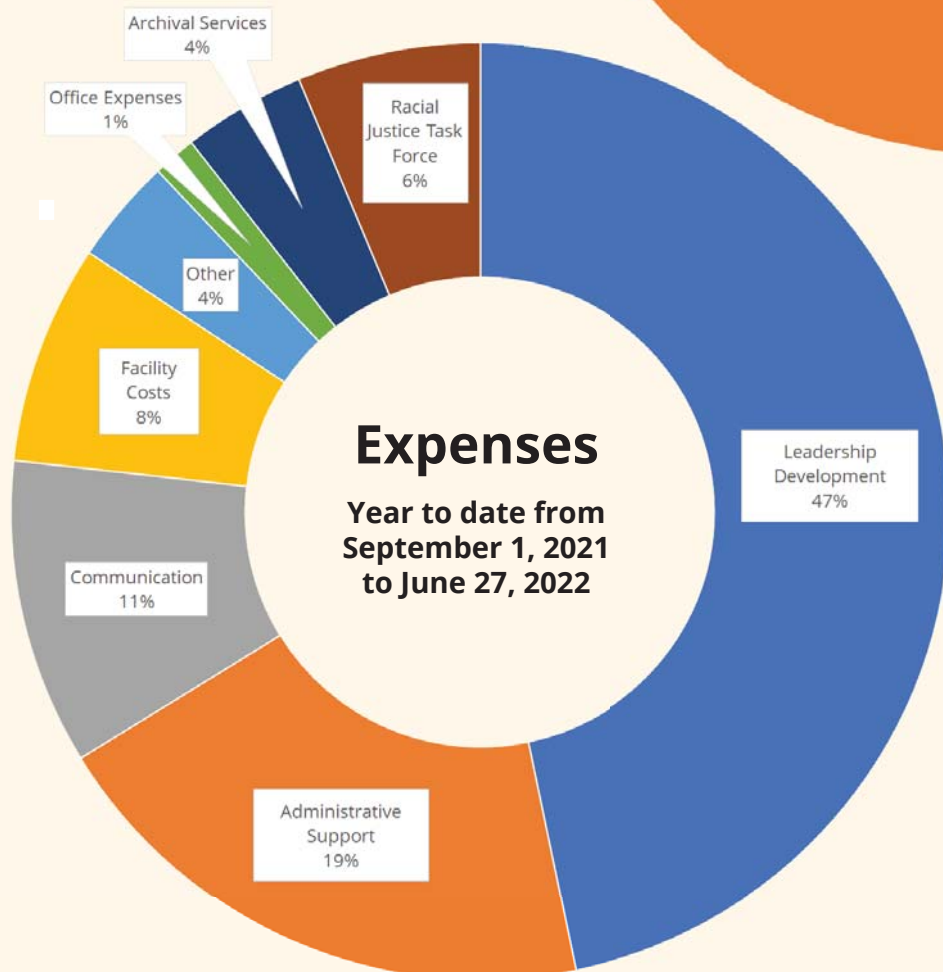
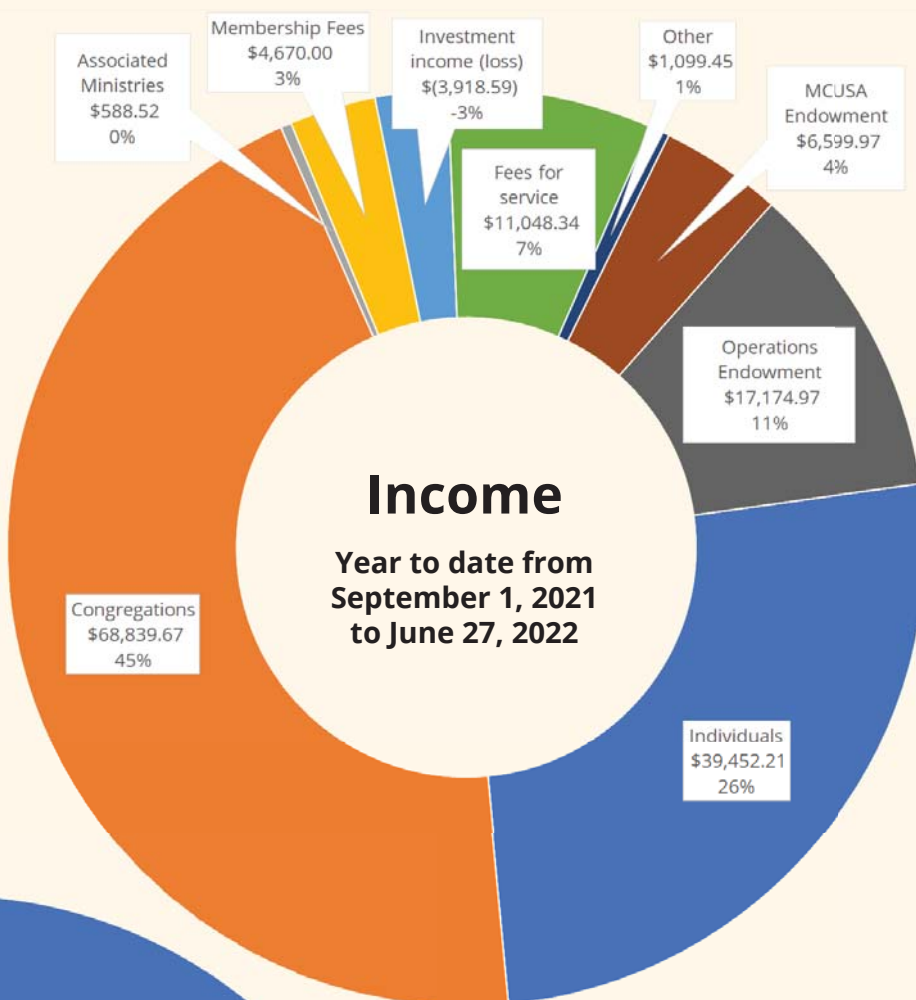
CONFERENCE MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS



Membership and Attendance (10 Year)



VMC FINANCIAL SUMMARY — OPERATIONS



VMC FINANCIAL SUMMARY — OPERATIONS

Virginia Mennonite Conference Unrestricted Operations Financial Plan for the Year Ending August 31, 2022

		PLAN	YTD	
		FYE 8/31/2022	Sep '21 - Dec '22	
		Budget	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Income				
1	Contributions - individuals	\$ 58,000	39,452.21	43,500.01
2	Contributions - congregations	93,000	68,839.67	69,750.00
3	Contributions - associated ministries	3,000	588.52	2,250.00
4	Congregation membership fees	19,000	4,670.00	14,250.01
5	Investment income (loss)	1,800	(3,918.59)	1,350.00
6	Fees for services	9,900	11,048.34	7,425.00
7	Other		1,099.45	-
8	Transfer from Conference Assembly			
9	Transfer from MCUSA Endowment	10,732	6,599.97	8,049.01
10	Transfer from Operations Endowment	27,544	17,174.97	20,658.01
11	Total income	222,976	145,554.54	167,232.04
12				
Expense				
14	Leadership development	103,850	74,898.93	77,887.51
15	Administrative support	35,600	31,223.26	26,699.99
16	Communication	23,950	16,912.50	17,962.49
17	Facility costs	15,400	12,120.75	11,550.01
18	MCUSA-related expenses	4,300	-	3,225.01
19	Other	10,580	5,815.52	7,935.02
20	Office expense	5,750	2,388.61	4,312.49
21	Archival services	7,000	6,798.00	5,250.01
22	Racial justice task force	15,500	10,125.00	11,625.02
23	Consulting & legal fees	-		
24	Total expense	221,930	160,282.57	166,447.55
25				
26	Net income (loss)	\$ 1,046	(14,728.03)	784.49