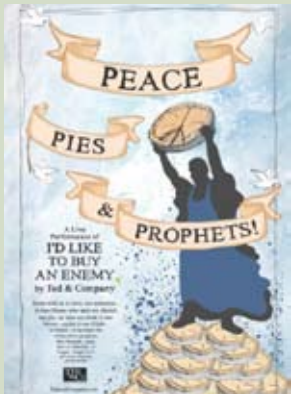


Atlantic Coast Conference Currents

Centered in Christ, Building Connections, Sharing God's Love

Above: Seeds received at ACC's Spring Assembly planted by members at Ridgeview Mennonite Church.

HIGHLIGHTS



3 Peace, Pies, & Prophets



4 Beth and Clair Good



12 Ervin Stutzman



Left: "We planted ACC seeds around our Peace Pole and harvested green beans and kale so far. We missed the radishes, but they are in bloom now. There are still carrots and two stalks of sorghum. We've enjoyed watching and waiting for the harvest, just as we do when we scatter seeds of righteousness!"
~ Julie Sommers, Ridgeview Mennonite



Above: Planting seeds at Manhattan Mennonite Church. Credit: Sylvia Shirk.

Below: Seeds grew into gourds at Zion Mennonite. Credit: Steve Musselman.



ACC's Seed Project!

Currents

Volume 37, Issue 4

Lois Ann Mast
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ACC Moderator's Reflections

John Denlinger,
ACC Moderator

Nevertheless Not my Will but Thine Be Done

These words of Jesus are words that we can trust and rest in as we follow Him in the midst of our busy lives in 2016 and beyond.

Sometimes it seems there are so many uncertainties in life that one can become overwhelmed. In our sense of being overwhelmed or “not in control,” we often attempt to find those places in our lives where things are certain or for sure.

At the same time, there is, or can be, a sense of excitement and life-giving energy of anticipation and hope in the “unknown or uncertain” that keeps us going because we know and believe that God is in control and we can rest in that, right?

As it relates to Atlantic Coast Conference, we believe that God is in control, although at the present we may not know what that looks like exactly. God is clearly at work in the mission and ministry as all of our churches invest in the “messy” kingdom work in our local communities.

Our local communities are being impacted by our Christlike presence as we participate in so many life-giving experiences with our neighbors, both individually and corporately.

At the same time, we have other things happening beyond Atlantic Coast Conference, as several Lancaster Conference and Allegheny Conference churches who are seeking to remain a part of MC USA are inquiring and desiring to become a part of ACC.

As our Conference leaders meet with these churches, we see that they are seeking and discerning God’s will for their future.

We will have an opportunity to meet some of those leaders and members at our ACC Fall Delegate Assembly on October 22 at Ridgeview Mennonite. We as ACC delegates will vote to discern if we receive these congregations as part of ACC.

Beyond ACC, nationally we are in the midst of a very different kind of out-of-control “messy” political chaos. It is much more difficult for me to find hope in any of this. I wonder if our Anabaptist forbearers who frowned on political involvement had it right in that political involvement can take us away from trusting and believing that God is fully in control and creating conflict with members who have different political views.

What does it mean for us to be in the world and yet not of the world? As we hear and learn of God at work in the broader church, we celebrate and yet at the same time we can be overwhelmed with the messages of crisis, war, refugees, martyrdom, and natural disasters that may question God’s presence or control.

Ervin Stutzman will address some of these questions at our Leadership Resource Day on Friday, October 21, where he will share on the theme of *Nurturing the Spirit’s Presence in Anxious Times*.

We hope that many of you will be present for his input and discussion around tables. We hope you come to the Fall Delegate Assembly on Saturday, October 22, and meet some of the people from the inquiring and discerning churches.

I look forward with hope and anticipation of what God is doing and will continue to do, in each of us individually, as churches and Atlantic Coast Conference . . . for such a time as this.

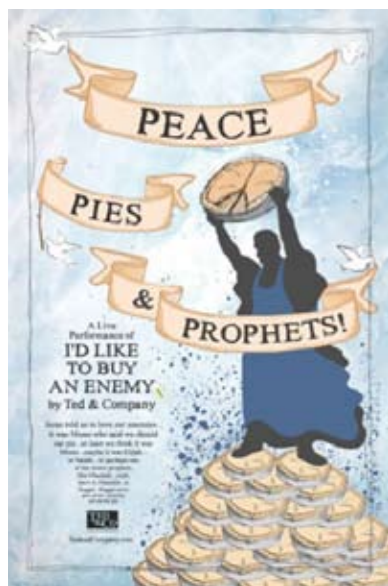
*Come will of God,
be done will of God,
here on earth as it is in heaven.*

**CENTERED IN CHRIST
BUILDING CONNECTIONS
SHARING GOD’S LOVE**

- John Denlinger, ACC Moderator
Ridgeview Mennonite Church

“Peace, Pies, & Prophets”

At Akron Mennonite Church on October 29



The evening includes a hand-crafted pie auction with pie sale proceeds going towards the support of Christian Peacemaker Teams.

As members of the local support group for Christian Peacemaker Teams (<http://www.cpt.org>), we would like to invite you to attend an upcoming event.

“Peace, Pies, & Prophets” is coming to the Akron Mennonite Church on Saturday, October 29. Ted & Company players, Ted Swartz and Tim Ruebke, are bringing a live performance of “I’d Like to Buy an Enemy” for this one-night occurrence.

This interactive event is for people interested in engaging in laughter, thoughtful dialogue and pie. Yes, Peace Pies. . . . Over the past three years, “Peace, Pies, & Prophets” has toured across North America, raising over \$175,000 for Christian Peacemaker Teams!

In this hilarious and poignant satire, we find a talking banana sharing his personal story about fair trade practices, witness the brain response using both

Trouble I’ve Seen—A Book Review

Occasionally, a book is essential reading for congregations who want to understand the path of Christian discipleship in their time. *Trouble I’ve Seen: Changing the Way the Church Views Racism* by Drew G. I. Hart is such a book!

Using stories from his life, including his experience at a Christian college where he experienced significant racism, along with statistics and research, Hart helps persons from the dominant culture understand our racialized society. He articulates how the same event is viewed differently by the dominant culture and oppressed groups, and brings understanding to “white privilege,” “white supremacy,” and current racist code language.

This book brings understanding of the

its rational and impulse-driven parts, and are welcomed into the shop of a persuasive salesperson who insists on our need to buy an enemy to ensure “optimistic living and comfortable maintenance of the American Dream.”

This event gives participants an opportunity to engage in the ongoing story of God’s restorative work in our world and our neighborhood.

Find a preview of the show on the Ted & Company website: www.tedandcompany.com. The first “Peace, Pies, & Prophets” tour of 2012 in eastern Pennsylvania was a three-day event in Akron, Philadelphia, and Souderton. Subsequent tours have taken Ted & Company and CPT to the US Midwest, the west coast, and north into Ontario, Canada.

“Ted and Company remind us that laughter is a prophetic art, ‘loving our enemy’ is a fine art, and critical thinking is [too often] a lost art. ‘I’d Like to Buy an Enemy’ is not simply a lament of how much fear has yet to be cast out of our cultures, it’s a call to lovingly exorcise this fear from ourselves and our world, by laughing at it!” (Jarrod McKenna, Australian Peace Award Recipient)

~ H.A. Penner, John Stoner and Jim Gibbel
Lancaster County CPT Support Group

challenges before the dominant culture in confronting structural racism. If taken seriously, it may also help Mennonite Church USA be the anti-racist church with intercultural competence envisioned in our “Purposeful Plan.”

Hart draws deeply from the Biblical narrative and ends the book with seven helpful “Jesus-Shaped Practices” for the Anti-racist Church. I hope every ACC congregation will find a way to interact with this important book written by this rising Anabaptist scholar. This challenging book has the potential to transform our congregations to more fully walk the path of authentic Christian discipleship.

~ Richard Thomas, Ridgeview Mennonite

This is an event that speaks across denominations, generations, and backgrounds, for people who aim to be the change we seek.



Herald Press
(2016)
paperback
\$16.99



Dr. Beth Good and Pastor Clair Good enjoying a dish of ice cream.

ACC
Leadership
Transitions

Off to Africa

Meet Pastor Clair Good and Dr. Beth Good, whose ministry credentials were recently transferred to ACC

from the Lancaster Mennonite Conference. They will be moving their church membership to the Blossom Hill congregation.

Clair and Beth have begun a three-year assignment with Mennonite Central Committee (MCC), and will move to the eastern region of DR Congo in early October where Clair will serve as program coordinator, working with 12 additional MCC-related persons in agricultural development, refugee camps, health and water projects and education. Beth will continue as Global Health Care Coordinator, a MCC position that relates to other projects world-wide.

Clair has a MA in Church Leadership and Missions from Eastern Mennonite Seminary, and Beth has her BSN from Eastern Mennonite University and MS and PhD. from Widener University.



Living in Africa is not new for Clair and Beth. In 1984-85, they lived in DR Congo (then named Zaire) as independent missionaries. They lived in Kenya for ten years, working with the Maasai people in an assignment with Eastern Mennonite Missions. They traveled to eastern DR Congo in 2014 for Beth, a nurse, to do research for her doctoral dissertation related to gender-based violence in conflict areas. They recognize that their current assignment with MCC will put them in the midst of an area that has endured major conflict for decades.

During their time in Pennsylvania, Clair served as pastor, as Bishop in Lancaster Conference, and most recently as church planter in Vision Columbia. Clair describes their experience in Columbia as "a wonderful time" learning to know people who never attended church before, and helping build a dynamic congregation in the Lancaster County river town.

The Goods have four adult daughters who have enthusiastically endorsed their parents' plan to go to Africa again. They will count on using SKYPE to stay in touch with their children and grandchildren.

~ Nancy Rohrer, Neffsville Mennonite

ACC Leadership Beginnings

Joanne Dietzel (Dan) was approved for ordination in August for her role as Conference Minister for ACC. Joanne began with ACC in February and works half-time in her role. Joanne and her husband Dan attend Ridgeview Mennonite Church.

Clair Good (Beth) was approved for a transfer of credentials from Lancaster Mennonite Conference in August. He and his wife Beth are pursuing membership with Blossom Hill Mennonite Church, and are preparing for assignment in the Democratic Republic of Congo with Mennonite Central Committee in October.

Dawn Ranck Hower (Bryan) was approved for a transfer of credentials from Lancaster Mennonite Conference to ACC in July. She is the pastor of New Holland Mennonite Church, a congregation that has requested membership with ACC.

Sue Conrad Howes (Michael) was approved for a transfer of credentials from Lancaster Mennonite

Conference to ACC in July. She is a member of Blossom Hill Mennonite Church, but currently attends Lancaster Church of the Brethren where Michael serves as Youth Pastor. Sue is currently working for the Lancaster-Lebanon IU13.

Robert Keener (Rhoda) was approved for a transfer of credentials from Franklin Mennonite Conference in August. He and his wife Rhoda attend Hebron Mennonite Church.

Robert Martin was approved for a transfer of his retired credentials from Lancaster Mennonite Conference to ACC in July. Bob is the congregational chair of New Holland Mennonite and has served as Associate Pastor of River Corner Mennonite Church and New Holland Mennonite Church, and as Pastor of Green Terrace Mennonite Church.

Liliana Potes Echeverry was approved for a License Toward Ordination credential in August. Liliana is a potential candidate at First Mennonite Church in Brooklyn.

~Brook Musselman, Conference Coordinator

Youth serving in the church

For me, serving the church in any capacity helps me grow closer to God. I can only imagine that the feelings I have after a really great meeting are similar to a runner's high (but don't take my word for it, I rarely ever run).

I feel like I can change MC USA or ACC for the better after an event or meeting. Serving the church is important, and we absolutely need to make sure we are preparing the next generations to lead the Mennonite Church.

I believe that one of the reasons why youth are not as involved in our churches today is that they are not given the guidance or opportunities to serve. Church leaders ask youth to help serve in large ways, but forget to guide.

Surprisingly enough, youth do not have things totally figured out. So when you ask an upstanding young person in your church to lead worship, make sure you give them all of the resources they would need to do a good job. Give your young people the things they need to succeed. And trust your youth. Send them to an assembly meeting. Let their voice be heard.

My first Atlantic Coast Conference assembly was in the spring of 2013. Delegates spoke of budgets, curriculum, and other things that went right over my 15-year-old head. I will be honest and say that a lot of the topics covered at the meeting did not interest me. But I am incredibly glad I went.

During that assembly, I met Lyn Carlson. Seeing I was the only youth at the meeting, she wasted no time and encouraged me to join the ACC Youth Committee. Fast forward six months and I sat in Neffsville's youth house, discussing the upcoming youth retreat. From there, I helped plan three more retreats, including this year's (although I will

not be able to attend as I'm currently living eight hours away in Goshen, Indiana).

My time as a member of the ACC Youth Committee* has been enjoyable, and has really helped me with my leadership skills. Being a member on the Youth Committee has also helped me realize how much I love the church, and how I want to continue participating as a member of the Mennonite Church.

And because of ACC, I get to do so. As a member of the Youth Planning Committee for MC USA Convention 2017, I get to dive headfirst into helping the youth of MC USA grow in their faith. I can now say, without hesitation, that I want to work in the church one day.

So I encourage pastors, church leaders, and others to invest in your youth. Invite them to be youth delegates at ACC's assemblies, ask them to lead worship and help them prepare, and help a young

adult lead a children's Sunday school lesson. Put time and effort into our youth, and I promise they will become MC USA's next leaders.

~Abigail King
Ridgeview Mennonite

*Put time
and effort
into our
youth,
and I
promise
they will
become
MC USA's
next
leaders.*



Abigail King is a freshman at Goshen College in Goshen, Indiana, and is a member of Ridgeview Mennonite Church. She serves on the Youth Planning Committee for Mennonite Convention 2017.

*The Atlantic Coast Conference Youth Committee is currently looking for youth members! If you consider yourself a mature young person, or if you know a mature young person please reach out! Message ACC Youth on Facebook if interested!

News, notes, and announcements may be sent to Currents editor: currents@atlanticcoastconference.net



Anabaptist Disabilities Network has published three books in the “Supportive Care Series” that congregations can order from MennoMedia for \$8.99 each on their website at www.adnetonline.org:

- *Circles of Love*: Stories of congregations caring for people with disabilities and their families
- *Supportive Care in the Congregation*: Providing a congregational network of care for persons with significant disabilities
- *After We’re Gone*: A Christian perspective on estate and life planning for families that include a dependent member with a disability.



Mennonite Women are gathering from all across the country to recognize that doing theology is something that happens daily, as our personal experiences form our faith and personal views of God. Flyer, schedule, registration and more available at mennoniteusa.org/what-we-do/peacebuilding/women-in-leadership-project/women-doing-theology-conference/

David King, college athletics director, and award-winning author Margot Starbuck, a mom of three teens who play volleyball, basketball, soccer, and baseball, team up to reclaim youth sports from the questionable culture that has grown up around it. They advocate the kinds of sports experiences that can positively shape kids’ lives in their new book, *Overplayed: A Parent’s Guide to Sanity in the World of Youth Sports* (Herald Press, \$15.99 paperback).

Service and Learning Experiences take place every two years at Lancaster Mennonite School when all high school students participate in a week-long out-of-classroom experience. Both educators and students work collaboratively to express beliefs through actions. They become a community of learners, going beyond the classroom to engage with the world.

In May 2016, twelve sophomores served the community of Neffsville Mennonite Church, by working to weed, mulch, and beautify the church grounds as an expression of care for God’s creation. This diverse group of students put their hands into the dirt—and their faith formation into practice. In serving the church, they modeled and practiced the servant posture of Jesus.

Service in the context of community is one of the hallmarks of Mennonite faith and practice. As Lancaster Mennonite plays its part in passing these values along to future generations, we’re reminded that some of our values can only be taught experientially, and that true beliefs always express themselves in visible ways.

Bible Quizzing Season for 2017 is on Galatians, Ephesians, Colossians, Daniel 1-6, Ruth, Judges 6-7 (Gideon), and Judges 13-16 (Samson). Sounds like another exciting season of quizzing for ACC’s youth and young adults!



40th Anniversary edition of *More-with-Less Cookbook* by Rachel Marie Stone is hot off the press! New features include a new size, lay-flat binding, new recipes containing fresh and healthy ingredients, updated nutritional information,

and expanded cooking techniques. Stone worked with an advisory group that included representatives from MCC and Ten Thousand Villages. Filled with colorful pictures of people and food from around the world, as well as recipe photos, the new volume still includes much of Doris and Paul Longacre’s original writings, including chapters on the idea of having less with more, making changes as an act of faith, tips on building a simpler diet, and eating with joy. (319pp. \$22.99. www.mennomedia.org)

~~UNI~~FORMITY

ACC’s Youth Retreat took place September 16-18, 2016, at Refreshing Mountain with Ryan and Emily Ralph Servant, Becky Degan, and the worship team from Forest Hills—all studying the theme of “Uniformity.” An article with photos will appear in the next *Currents*.



Spiritual Abuse

ACC leaders took action this summer to make our churches a *safer space* by enhancing the accountability of its' credentialed leaders.

On June 5, 2016, a letter was sent to all ACC credentialed leaders informing them that each one needed to renew their ministry credential. The letter to these 33 congregations stated, "Because the Credentialed Leaders Covenant and the Child Safety Affirmation Statement help ACC fulfill its legal obligation under Pennsylvania's Child Protective Services Law, those out of compliance with this policy will have their credentials suspended effective July 9."

The required forms included the Sexual Mis-conduct Policy, MCUSA-ACC Code of Ethics, and either the Credentialed Leaders Covenant (Pennsylvania residents) or the Child Safety Affirmation Statement (non-Pennsylvania residents). Ministers were reminded that "when suspended, the pastor's credential is laid aside and will not be valid for performing ministerial functions."

In the end, all except four of the 75 credentialed ACC leaders met the July 8 deadline. Of those whose credential was suspended, two have since completed the forms and reinstated their credential. Of the remaining two, one has not been active in ACC, and the other has left the conference and would face the credentialing contractual requirements of any new network or conference.

Because I personally am aware that sexual abuse by church leaders deeply wounds the church, I applaud this initiative of the Atlantic Coast Conference's Ministerial Leadership Committee. Credentialed leaders must be warned regularly of the serious consequences of our misbehavior, and held accountable for our actions.

Anyone who has been targeted for abuse by church leaders can reach out for support as they seek restoration and healing.

Both "Our Stories Untold," an independent network of survivors of sexualized violence and their supporters, and an organization called "Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests (SNAP)," have specially-trained Anabaptist-Mennonite advocates available via Director Hilary Scarsella (hjs.osu@gmail.com) or Barbra Graber (540-214-8874, mennonite@snapnetwork.org).

According to SNAP Executive Director, David Clohessy, "Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests (www.survivorsnetwork.org) is a self-help group that supports people who have been victimized

by clergy, and helps them try to pick up the pieces of their lives, heal and move forward. We also try to cooperate with the news media and provide reliable information when we can, as a way to help ourselves recover and prevent future abuse." (http://www.snapnetwork.org/q_a_about_snap)

~ Sylvia E. Shirk, Pastor at Manhattan Mennonite Fellowship and Conference Minister in New York City for ACC

Spiritual abuse is the misuse of a position of power, leadership, or influence to further the selfish interests of someone other than the individual who needs help. Sometimes abuse arises out of a doctrinal position. At other times, it occurs because of legitimate personal needs of a leader that are being met by illegitimate means.



ACC *Currents* accepts advertising from ACC members and Anabaptist-related organizations at these rates:

2" x 2" size = \$50.00

3" x 3" size = \$75.00

4" x 4" size = \$100.00

Camera-ready artwork should be sent to currents@atlanticcoastconference.net along with your name and address so that an invoice can be mailed.

ACC
AT WORK

For the
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SNAP,
contact:
Barbra Graber
at
[mennonite@
snapnetwork.
org](mailto:mennonite@snapnetwork.org)
or call
540-214-8874

Chatter (fellowship) Chow (soup to share) & Cheerful Service (work at MCC)



Laura Bomberger (left) with Myra Ray (right)

Each year the ACC Women's Committee hosts a morning of *Chatter, Chow and Cheerful Service* at the Mennonite Resource Center. It is a morning when women from all walks and seasons of life join together to contribute to something greater—and, for some of us, it is also the one time of year we sit behind a sewing machine!

This year, my morning of sewing turned into a morning of deep conversation with a young Karen woman who fled from Burma—a conversation that has given me both a new perspective on life and MCC's work.

With the hum of the sewing machines in the background, she graciously shared her story with me. At the age of 10, life as she knew it was turned completely upside down. In a raging war between ethnic groups (a war which still continues to this day), the Burmese soldiers completely obliterated her family's home and village, forcing her family and the other villagers to flee for the jungle. The jungle was thought to be the only "safe" place to live, but life was difficult and sources of food were scarce (not to mention the intense fear of the soldiers finding them). Eventually they found shelter in a refugee

camp in Thailand—a seven-day journey by foot—which became their home for 13 years. As they built their "home" in a foreign land, she fondly remembers the joy and appreciation she felt upon receiving the comforters, school kits, and newborn kits which were given by various relief agencies. This extension of love and hospitality was a reminder that someone halfway around the world cared about them. Now, after being in the U.S. for six years, she continues to pay it forward by sewing comforters and kit bags for MCC.

As I reflect on our morning of *Chatter, Chow and Cheerful Service*, I am convinced more than ever that while it is a morning of service, it is more importantly a morning of connection! It is an opportunity to connect with people who have walked starkly different lives from us, yet share a common faith in our Lord Jesus Christ—a Savior and friend who walks right beside us in every season and experience of life.

May we continue to create time to listen and hear one another's stories—and be forever changed. ~ Laura Bomberger

EVENTS

Save these dates.

Friday, October 21, 2016

ACC Leadership Day, (9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)
"Nurtured by the Spirit's Presence in Anxious Times" by Ervin Stutzman. Contact Brook Musselman at 717-394-8107; atlanticcoastconference@gmail.com; or atlanticcoastconference.net/leadership.

Friday, October 21, 2016

ACC Women's Banquet, (6:00-9:00 p.m.)
"Seasons of Life"
Contact Brook Musselman at 717-394-8107; atlanticcoastconference@gmail.com; or atlanticcoastconference.net/woman.

Saturday, October 22, 2016

ACC Fall Assembly Celebration
(9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.)
"Naming Fears, Claiming Family, Living Faith"
Contact Brook Musselman at 717-394-8107; atlanticcoastconference@gmail.com; or atlanticcoastconference.net/assembly.

\$\$\$ CURRENCY CORNER \$\$\$

I have some good news to report!!!

Due to your faithful and generous financial support and the close monitoring of expenses by our staff, we ended our fiscal year on June 30, 2016, with a smaller deficit than what we had budgeted.

You may recall that we were projecting a deficit of \$2,962.00 for the year, but our actual deficit was \$1,869.16.

This means we have a reserve of approximately \$30,000 in our general fund as we begin the new year.

Thank you to all of the congregations and individuals who continue to financially support the work of our conference.

I am excited as we begin the new fiscal year with our new staff on board and the potential for some new congregations joining our family. We continue to covet your prayers and support.

- Ken Martin, ACC Treasurer
Forest Hills Mennonite

What Does Ministry Look Like at Black Rock Retreat?

A camper enjoys a night swim, a sweet treat at the snack shop and creates a craft, discovering their camp counselors to be “some of the nicest people I have ever met; they were both so kind, patient, and caring. They made me feel like they wanted to be my friend.” Through this experience, the camper comments, “God spoke more things to me than I ever would have dreamed.”

A mom with two young boys is concerned about the world in which we live. “I think it is especially significant for boys to have male Christian role models who love and serve God and who are young and fun and cool. The media and the world’s culture stigmatizes Christians (including Christian youth) as boring, uptight, self-righteous and lame...the staff at Black Rock Retreat are FAR from that! You are able to demonstrate that cool, fun, and hip guys, love and serve Jesus and are not embarrassed to share it!”

A pastor discovers, “when I entered my room and saw a solitary desk with the chair invitingly tilted toward me and an open Bible laid on it, I almost cried tears of joy . . . it immediately hit me with a sense of rest, joy and communion with Jesus! You have an invaluable ministry and your love and appreciation for pastors is clear in your respectful and caring demeanor. Thank you SO much!”

A youth leader is pleased, “The low ropes [experience] definitely helped in building our team as everyone was given opportunity to speak and lead in different ways. The high ropes course definitely helped



each individual as we sought to step outside our comfort zone and take the plunge! All in all many goals were met and exceeded through the day. As the leader, I was very proud of how both the students and adult leaders handled themselves and pushed one another!”

A teacher from a Christian school attends Outdoor Education for the first time and says, “This was my first experience with an overnight camp like this. I loved it! I know these kids will come away from this with an incredible love for God and His creation. This will be one experience they will never forget, and their relationship with God has grown by leaps and bounds, along with their appreciation for nature. Thank you for taking care of us and for having some really clean cabins!”

A woman’s retreat coordinator expresses her thanks, “The room was very accommodating, and the grounds were peaceful and beautiful, conducive to prayer and breathing a big breath away from the normal daily demands. Thank you for having the room set up exactly as we hoped. Everything worked well and it was appreciated! Our speaker was quite pleased with all the technical set up to make her presentation to us so much easier. We were extremely well fed that day and the ladies swooned over the scones! Every single person on the prayer walk was inspired by the beauty of the grounds and the silence to listen to our Great Creator as we viewed His Creation. The hostess was truly an example of showing patience, love and tender guidance through our check-in and with any questions. Blessings to you all as you serve those who cross your threshold.”

At Black Rock Retreat, we pray that each guest who enters our grounds can *RELAX* and rest in God’s peace, *REJOICE* in God’s beautiful creation—whether it is warming by a fire on a snowy winter’s day, walking in crunchy fall leaves, smelling spring flowers or taking a cool swim on a warm summer’s day—becoming rejuvenated to return home with renewed focus and energy to serve God by serving others.

CONFERENCE RELATED MINISTRIES

Black Rock Retreat

1345 Kirkwood Pike
Quarryville, PA
17566

800-858-9299

“Come
with
me to a
quiet place
and get
some rest.”

Mark 6:31



Lancaster
Mennonite
Historical
Society

2215 Millstream Road
Lancaster, PA 17602
717-393-9745

Visit <http://www.lmhs.org/research/archives/> to find a list of our archival holdings including ACC collections. To learn more about upcoming events, visit www.lancasterroots.org



That Future Generations May Know: Preserving and Interpreting History

The words of the psalmist are inscribed on the date stone mounted high on the exterior wall of the Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society: “that future generations might know” (Psalms 78: 5-7). This passage comes in the context of a reminder of God’s works, so that God’s people might continue to find hope in the Lord. As the Society preserves and interprets the culture and context of the Anabaptist faith communities connected to Lancaster, we also create space for exploring history as a tool for how we should be faithful disciples of Christ.

One essential component of our work is the collection and preservation of congregational records. These can range from bulletins and church directories to calendars, newsletters, and more. These resources are available to patrons visiting our library, Tuesday through Saturday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. There is no charge for Atlantic Coast Conference pastors or church workers of affiliated congregations or institutions doing research in connection with their work assignments.

Another way we help future generations to know is to show them the past through our museums. At the Millstream Road facility, we have an exhibit from our permanent collection displaying Lancaster Mennonite history of home, land, church, and school. At the 1719 Hans Herr House & Museum, we showcase the life of the earliest Mennonite settlers in Lancaster up through the early industrial era, as well as the Native American populations they encountered when arriving. These resources are not just for tourists looking at the county’s past, but also for church members looking to understand their heritage.

History is not limited to vaults nor trapped on designated sites; with our Lancaster Roots programming, we have been intentional about bringing history into the community. This year, our calendar of events includes over 50 folk art classes, presentations, field trips, and more. In April, we welcomed Nelson Kraybill, president of Mennonite World Conference, who reflected on the growth of global Anabaptism and what that means for the church in North America. In May, Harvard historian Ben Goossen stimulated a discussion on what we mean by Mennonite ethnicity through his presentation, “In Our Blood: Nazism, MCC, and the Invention of Mennonite Ethnicity.” But we are not done yet;



coming at the end of the year is Christmas Candlelight Tours at the 1719 Hans Herr House & Museum, an exciting way to celebrate Christmas and to learn about the past. Looking ahead to next May, John Ruth will give the keynote address at the Family History Conference on “New Arrivals in a New Land.”

The Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society is grateful to ACC congregations who support us through congregational offerings, by opening their doors and hosting our special events, by sending us board members, or by encouraging participation in our programs.

~ Joel H. Nofziger, Director of Communications



ACC Conference Related Ministries . . .

Black Rock Retreat

1345 Kirkwood Pike
Quarryville, PA 17566
Phone: 800-858-9299
Fax: 717-786-6022
info@blackrockretreat.com
www.blackrockretreat.com
Retreat facilities for churches and other Christian organizations, a summer camp program for youth, an outdoor education program for public & Christian schools, a challenge ropes course, and road scholar programs for seniors.

Camp Deerpark, Inc.

200 Brandt Road, P.O. Box 394
Westbrookville, NY 12785
Phone: 845-754-8669
Fax: 845-754-8217
info@campdeerpark.org
www.campdeerpark.org
A ministry of the New York City Mennonite churches, founded in 1969. Mission is to empower youth to serve Christ in the city. Summer children's camps.

Camp Hebron

957 Camp Hebron Road
Halifax, PA 17032
Phone: 800-864-7747
Fax: 717-896-3391
hebron@camphebron.org
Web site: www.camphebron.org
Changing lives since 1957, this camping and retreat ministry offers a variety of overnight camps and year-round events for all ages where people connect with God, nature, and each other.

Choice Books PA

121 S. Main Street
Manheim, PA 17545
Phone: 717-665-3933
Fax: 717-665-3059
info@pa.choicebooks.org
Web site: www.choicebooks.org

Eastern Mennonite Missions

53 West Brandt Blvd., P.O. Box 458
Salunga, PA 17538-0458
Phone: 717-898-2251
Fax: 717-898-8092
info@emm.org
www.emm.org
Equips, sends and supports almost 200 workers in 39 countries, focusing particularly where the church is weak or nonexistent.

Friendship Community

1149 East Oregon Road
Lititz, PA 17543
Phone: 717-656-2466
Fax: 717-656-0459

office@friendshipcommunity.net
www.friendshipcommunity.net
A non-profit, Christian ministry serving people with developmental disabilities. Since 1972, Friendship has offered residential services, training in daily living skills, and social services.

Garden Spot Village

433 South Kinzer Avenue
New Holland, PA 17557
Phone: 717-355-6000
Fax: 717-355-6006
info@gardenspotvillage.org
www.gardenspotvillage.org
Carriage Homes, Cottages, Apartments, Assisted Living, Memory Support, Skilled Nursing Households, Adult Day Services, Garden Spot Village At Home, Center for Health.

Germantown Mennonite Historical Trust

6133 Germantown Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19144
gmht@meetinghouse.info
www.meetinghouse.info
Site of the first permanent settlement of Mennonites in America called "The Gateway of American Mennonitism," through which most North American Mennonites have symbolically passed.

Harmonies Music Ministry

34 W. Eby Road
Leola, PA 17540
Phone: 717-656-2749
office@harmonies.org
www.harmonies.org
Committed to creating new Christian music resources for the church worldwide through performance, resource development, leadership training, and product creation.

Kairos: School of Spiritual Formation

2160 Lincoln Highway East #13
Lancaster, PA 17602
Phone: 717-669-2957
office@KAIROSjourney.org
www.kairosjourney.org
Provides programs in spiritual formation and spiritual direction from September to May in weekend retreats. Other opportunities include day retreats and experiential prayer sessions in congregational settings.

Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society

2215 Millstream Road
Lancaster, PA 17602

Phone: 717-393-9745

Fax: 717-393-8751

lmhs@lmhs.org

www.lmhs.org

Educates, inspires, and promotes the history, beliefs, and lifestyle of the Mennonite expression of the Anabaptist tradition. Offers educational programs and a library/archives, bookstore, and museum.

Lancaster Mennonite School (LMS)

2176 Lincoln Highway East
Lancaster, PA 17602
Phone: 717-299-0436
Fax: 717-509-4088
thomasjr@lancastermennonite.org
www.lancastermennonite.org
Serves over 1,500 students at:
• Hershey Campus, K-12
• Kraybill Campus, PreK-8
• Lancaster Campus, 6-12
• Locust Grove Campus, PreK-6
• New Danville Campus, PreK-5

Landis Communities

1001 E. Oregon Road
Lititz, PA 17543
Phone: 717-381-3500
Fax: 717-569-5203
info@landishomes.org
www.landiscommunities.org
Following God's call to creatively serve the diverse needs and interests of older adults by developing opportunities and collaborative relationships.

Laurelville Mennonite Church Center

941 Laurelville Lane
Mt. Pleasant, PA 15666
Phone: 800-839-1021
info@laurelville.org
www.laurelville.org
Conference center specializing in retreat services and innovative programming.

Mennonite Home Communities

1520 Harrisburg Pike
Lancaster, PA 17601
Phone: 717-393-1301
Fax: 717-509-2823
mhash@mennonitehome.org
www.mennonitehome.org
A continuing care retirement community (CCRC) providing care to senior adults with a tradition of care spanning 100 years. Services include cottage and apartment residences, assisted living, health care, and rehabilitative therapies.

New Person Ministries

P.O. Box 223
Reading, PA 19607
Phone: 610-777-2222
info@newperson.org

www.newpersonministries.org
Helps ex-offenders build new lives and provides community reentry services.

No Longer Alone Ministries

630 Janet Ave.
Lancaster, PA 17601
Phone: 717-390-4891
office@nlam.org
Inspired by Christ's love, No Longer Alone Ministries provides professional services that build hope and empower individuals and families experiencing mental illness.

Reservoir Hill House of Peace

2401 Eutaw Place
Baltimore, MD 21217
An outreach ministry of the North Baltimore Mennonite Church that includes a Brethren Voluntary Service unit, Asylum Seekers Housing Network, New Lens, as well as housing for residents committed to the mission of RHHP.

Tabor Community Services

308 East King Street
P.O. Box 1676
Lancaster, PA 17608-1676
Phone: 717-397-5182
info@tabornet.org
www.tabor.net
Celebrating 45 years of rebuilding lives and community by teaching skills to solve housing and financial problems.

Tel Hai Retirement Community

1200 Tel Hai Circle, P. O. Box 190
Honey Brook, PA 19344
Phone: 610-273-9333
Fax: 610-273-4141
info@telhai.org
www.telhai.org
Tel Hai is a nationally accredited, nonprofit provider of services for senior adults. For over 60 years, they have provided health care, housing, and services to enhance residents' quality of life in cottage and apartment residences, personal care, Adult Day Services, health care, and rehabilitative therapies.

The City School (formerly Philadelphia Mennonite H.S.)

860 North 24th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19130-1996
Phone: 215-769-5363
kwieder@cityschool.org
http://cityschool.org/
The City School's mission is to train students' minds, disciple their hearts and bring light to the city—one child at a time. Since 1978, our commitment to this mission has guided us as we prepare students to thrive in school, in college, at home and in all of life. Founded in 1997 for grades 9-12.

Naming
FEARS

Claiming
FAMILY

Living
FAITH

ACC
Annual
Assembly
2016



ACC's Annual Fall Assembly Weekend

Ridgeview Mennonite Church
Friday-Saturday, October 21-22, 2016

Friday, October 21

Leadership Resource Day (9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.) on the theme "Nurtured by the Spirit's Presence in Anxious Times" with Ervin Stutzman. atlanticcoastconference.net/leadership

Women's Banquet (6:00-9:00 p.m.) on the "Seasons of Life." atlanticcoastconference.net/woman

Saturday, October 22

Annual Assembly Celebration (9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.) on the theme "Naming Fears, Claiming Family, Living Faith." atlanticcoastconference.net/assembly

Whether you are a non-delegate, delegate, pastor, or Conference-Related Ministry representative—everyone is invited to attend **ACC's Annual Assembly Celebration** on Saturday, October 22, at Ridgeview Mennonite Church, 3723 Ridge Road, Gordonville, PA 17529.

The theme of this year's Assembly is *Naming Fears, Claiming Family, Living Faithfully*. To fully live as followers of Christ, we seek to name and release ourselves from our fears and to claim our community of faith as a place of belonging, support, and action.

We will hear stories from our sister congregations and from our Conference Related Ministries about how they have overcome fear to live faithfully because of being claimed by family. The focus text for the day will be Luke 12:22-34.

All attendees are encouraged to register by October 18 at atlanticcoastconference.net/assembly. Delegate documents will be available on the website.

Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. on October 22 with the program running from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Leadership Resource Day
October 21, 2016

Nurturing the Spirit's presence in anxious times
With Ervin Stutzman



Today's global, cultural, and theological concerns present many challenges for Anabaptist leaders. At this year's Leadership Resource Day, Ervin Stutzman will guide reflection on these concerns and the tension and expectations they often place on leaders. Through times of input, story-telling, and mutual sharing, we will explore what spiritual tools can be used to practically express hope and convey a non-anxious approach to leading change. The cost of \$25 per person includes lunch, refreshments, and registration materials. Please register on or before October 14.



SPONSORED BY ACC MENNONITE WOMEN. INVITING ALL WOMEN TO

Seasons of Life

THROUGH MUSIC AND STORYTELLING WITH FRANCES AND HELEN MILLER
ORIGINAL POETRY BY EMILY HERR

October 21, 2016 at 6pm

RIDGEVIEW MENNONITE CHURCH 3723 RIDGE RD., GORDONVILLE, PA

Banquet \$15 (DINNER INCLUDED)

RSVP BY OCTOBER 15 @ ACC OFFICE 717-394-8107
OR ONLINE @ [HTTP://ATLANTICCOASTCONFERENCE.NET/WOMEN](http://atlanticcoastconference.net/women)

