

Welcome from the Planning and Worship Committees

There are several groups who have been thinking about, praying for and preparing for this event for a very long time—the Annual Meeting Planning Committee and the Local Planning Committees: Worship, Children’s Programming, and Logistics Planning. We’re excited that everyone is at last gathered to worship, discern, learn and enjoy each other’s company—and we extend a special welcome to this event from us! We have felt God’s leading in our planning and we look forward to the moving of God’s spirit in our gathering.

Coordinators:

Lori Nester (First Bluffton)
Jon/Jill Hilty (Grace)
Greta Holt (Cincinnati)
Anita Rediger (Emmaus Road)
Lydia Breneman (Lima)
Trevor Bechtel (Shalom Community)
Wendy Chappell-Dick (RAWtools)

Local Worship Committee:

Mark Suderman (First Bluffton)
Renee Kanagy (Cincinnati)
Mary Beth Huser (Emmaus Road)
Emily Hedrick (Lima)
Trevor Bechtel (Shalom Community)
Wendy Chappell-Dick (RAWtools)

Many others who have helped in all kinds of ways—from caring for children to setting up chairs and everything in between—to make this event happen. Thanks to all of you.

Golf Outing

A special thanks goes to Jon Hilty and James Rissler for planning the 2017 golf outing. Thanks to all who sent donations or donated prizes for the golf outing this year. The proceeds will go to help fund the Jubilee Fund, a fund that allows conference leadership to direct money to worthy opportunities that somehow did not find their way into CDC’s budget. So, for instance, the Jubilee Fund was used to send seven CDC young adults to Mennonite World Conference in Harrisburg, and to help send one of our fine colleagues, Joel Miller, on a Come and See tour to Israel-Palestine a year and a half ago.

Some Helpful Tips for a Good Experience

- * Keep this book with you. It has schedules, delegate action items, committee reports and other things to guide you through your time at the Delegate Assembly.
- * If you’re lost and confused—or just looking for a friendly face—visit the registration table or the information table located in Marbeck Center in the lower lobby.
- * Visit the information table to make a contribution in memory or honor of a loved one.
- * Visit the bookstore located in Marbeck Commons. Thanks to Lois Kaufmann-Hunsberger, our MC USA Resource Advocate, for working with MennoMedia to provide a great selection of books.
- * Spend some time in the Prayer Room. The worship committee has prepared a prayerful space and resources to guide your quiet time with God. The Prayer Room is located in Marbeck Center in the 1897 Room.
- * An offering for Central District will be taken on Friday evening during the worship service.

- * Care for our environment. Use the reusable coffee mug and water bottle you have brought with you. Use the recycling bins provided around the meeting site. Turn off the lights when you leave a room. Enjoy walking around the town and surrounding Bluffton area.
- * The hosting congregations have selected Guiding Light Ministries of Lima, Ohio to receive the Giving Back to the Community Donation from the conference. Guiding Light is dedicated to providing a safe environment that strives to educate women in learning how to possess qualities needed to be successful but most importantly learning how to effectively care for themselves and their families.
 You may donate online or by check. Please make checks payable to Central District Conference and designate “Guiding Light” in the memo line. Checks may be placed in the offering on Friday night.
- * Scent free policy: In recognition of individuals with asthma, allergies and severe environmental and chemical sensitivities, we ask you to refrain from wearing fragrances and scented personal care products at the Annual Meeting activities. This includes perfumes, colognes, aftershave and scented hair products. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated by those affected.
- * If you need first aid or medical assistance, please go to the information table located just outside the delegate session meeting area.

Displays During the Annual Meeting

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary (AMBS)
 Bluffton University (BU)
 Camp Friedenswald (CF)
 Eastern Mennonite Seminary (EMS)
 Eastern Mennonite University (EMU)
 Everence
 Goshen College (GC)
 Journey
 Mennonite Church USA
 Mennonite Central Committee Great Lakes (MCC GL)
 Mennonite Home Communities of Ohio (MHCO)
 Mennonite Mission Network (MMN)
 Mennonite Men
 Mennonite Women
 The Corinthian Plan

Thanks to all these folks for sharing their time with us. The displays are located around the perimeter of the delegate hall in Marbeck Commons.