

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:

James Stuckey Weber (Assembly)
Shelby Burge (Eighth Street)
Emma Hartman (Faith)
Sueann VonGunten (Hively Avenue)
Open Table (Susan Setiawan)
Ardean Friesen (Silverwood)

Local Worship Committee:

Carmen Horst (Assembly)
Brenda Sawatzky Paetkau (Eighth Street)
Margaret Sawatzky (Hively Avenue)
Sally Weaver Glick (Open Table)
Donna Mast (Silverwood)
David Moser (Southside)

A big thanks to Cynthea Good Kauffman (Assembly), Goshen College Events Coordinator, for her help in logistical details. 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 and Bike/Run/Walk

A special thanks goes to Lloyd Miller (Southside) and Brenda Sawatzky Paetkau (Eighth Street) for planning the 2018 golf outing and to James Stuckey Weber (Assembly) for coordinating the Bike/Run/Walk event. Thanks to all who sent donations or donated prizes for the golf outing this year.

The proceeds from both events will go to help fund the Leadership Development Fund. This fund provides resources for our pastors, such as helping new pastors engage in the Transitioning into Ministry program provided by MC USA. The fund also helps provide the Healthy Boundaries Training program that trains all credentialed persons to identify the complexity of relationships in ministry and provides essential understandings and practical ways to manage these relational and ethical boundaries with integrity and faithfulness.

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/information table located in lobby across from the fellowship/delegate hall.
- * Visit the information table to make a contribution in memory or honor of a loved one.
- * Visit the bookstore. The location will be shared during announcements. Thanks to Lois Kaufmann-Hunsberger, our MC USA Resource Advocate, for providing 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 behind the sanctuary.
- * 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 Goshen area.
- * The hosting congregations have selected Hope House, a ministry of Faith Mennonite Church to receive the Giving Back to the Community Donation from the conference. Hope House, along with Faith House, provides short-term transitional housing for people moving out of homelessness. You may donate online or by check. Please make checks payable to Central District Conference and designate "Hope House" in the memo line. Checks may be placed in the offering on Friday night.
- * Grade 6-12 youth will be assembling MCC Relief Kits using items you have donated. Please take your donations to Rooms 131-132. You are welcome to join them with the assembly of the kits during the seminar time, 4:15-5:15pm.
- * 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)
 Anita Amstutz
 Bluffton University (BU)
 Camp Friedenswald (CF)
 Eastern Mennonite Seminary (EMS)
 Eastern Mennonite University (EMU)
 Everence
 Goshen College (GC)
 Journey
 Mennonite Central Committee Great Lakes (MCC GL)
 Mennonite Mission Network (MMN)
 Mennonite Men
 Mennonite Women

Thanks to all these folks for sharing their time with us. The displays are located around the perimeter of the sanctuary.