



Mennonite Church USA

Organizational Chart

MennoniteUSA.org

THE DELEGATE ASSEMBLY AND THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

AREA CONFERENCES

Allegheny Mennonite Conference
Atlantic Coast Conference
Central District Conference
Central Plains Mennonite Conference
Gulf States Mennonite Conference
Illinois Mennonite Conference
Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference
Mosaic Mennonite Conference
Mountain States Mennonite Conference
New York Mennonite Conference
Ohio Conference
Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference
Pacific Southwest Mennonite Conference
Virginia Mennonite Conference
Western District Conference

**477
CONGREGATIONS**

CHURCHWIDE AGENCIES



MINISTRY PARTNERS



RACIAL ETHNIC GROUPS

African American Mennonite Association
African, Belizean, Caribbean Mennonite Mission Association
Asian Mennonite Ministries
Iglesia Menonita Hispana
Indonesian Mennonite Association
Native Mennonite Ministries

CONSTITUENCY GROUPS

Mennonite Women USA
Mennonite Men
Queer Constituency Council (working title)

CONSTITUENCY LEADERS COUNCIL (CLC)

The CLC is an advisory group comprised of representatives from each of MC USA's area conferences, racial/ethnic groups and constituency groups. They meet to listen, discern and advise the denomination on issues facing the church. It is the primary forum for conversation among area conferences in Mennonite Church USA.

An introduction to Mennonite Church USA

Mennonite Church USA is an Anabaptist denomination with roots in the Radical Reformation of 16th-century Europe. From its beginnings in mostly German-speaking parts of Europe, the Mennonite Church today is growing rapidly in many parts of the world. In fact, more Mennonites currently reside in the southern hemisphere than in the northern. In the United States, people from various faith traditions, ethnicities, nationalities and backgrounds are also identifying with the vision and mission of Mennonite Church USA.

Sharing a vision of healing and hope

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.

That's where it starts: the individual follower of Jesus Christ. Mennonite Church USA wouldn't exist without the individual people who respond to God's call. Local congregations are communities in which these individuals can find support for their efforts to live out their faith, share their joys and sorrows with each other, learn about and discuss biblical teachings, and discern together what it means to be faithful followers of Jesus Christ.

In local congregations, individuals can pool their resources of time, abilities and money to join in God's work in the world in ways they could not do alone.

Likewise, through participating in area conferences, congregations can connect with each other and pool their resources so that they are able to do more than they would be able to do alone. All Mennonite Church USA congregations belong to one of 15 area conferences, each of which has its own distinct culture. Some conferences are organized as regional districts, while others are organized based on historical ties or theological similarities. Conferences help congregations share resources for Christian nurture and worship, pastoral and lay leadership, witness and evangelism, justice-making, peace-building and church planting.

Conference gatherings also offer opportunities for individuals representing congregations to hear from each other and see the bigger picture of God's activity in the wider church, as well as to discern together with ways to be engaged in what God is doing. A visual design to unite us and remind us of who we are time after time, the Spirit in the form of a dove announces the coming of God to us.

As Mennonites, we recognize the centrality of Christ as proclaimed in Scripture, revealed through the Holy Spirit and discerned in a Christian community. The dove represents Jesus and the missional calling to follow him into the world — gracefully, joyfully and peacefully.

The area conferences make up the denominational body of Mennonite Church USA and provide congregations with a direct link to the larger ministries and constituency groups of the denomination, which exists to help local faith communities embody the message of Christ's love, peace and reconciliation.

Mennonite Church USA is part of Mennonite World Conference, a global faith family that includes more than 1.4 million baptized believers in 108 national conferences of churches in 60 countries.

Renewed Commitments for MC USA

God invites us to experience and bear witness to the belovedness of all creation. We yearn to know and share in the mystery of God's unending love.

We confess that sin fragments our wholeness and strains our relationships with God, each other and the world. Confronted with the misuses of power in our lives, communities and institutions, we seek to tell the truth and repent.

The Holy Spirit beckons us toward the restoration of all things in Christ. God continually calls us beloved. On this journey together, we commit to:

Follow Jesus

As an Anabaptist community of the living Word, we listen for God's call as we read Scripture together, guided by the Spirit. Through baptism, we commit ourselves to live faithfully as Jesus' disciples, no matter the cost.

Witness to God's peace

We are called to extend God's holistic peace, proclaiming Christ's redemption for the world with our lives. Through Christ, God frees the world from sin and offers reconciliation. We bear witness to this gift of peace by rejecting violence and resisting injustice in all forms, and in all places.

Experience transformation

The Holy Spirit dwells in and among us, transforming us to reflect God's love. Through worship, the Spirit gathers the body of Christ, where our diversity reveals God's beauty. The Spirit empowers our communities to embody the grace, joy and peace of the gospel.

Denominational organization

Mennonite Church USA was formed in 2001 by the merger of the General Conference Mennonite Church and the Mennonite Church, both of which were bi-national (U.S. and Canada) denominations. Mennonite Church USA has approximately 50,000 members in about 477 congregations and 15 area conferences. It is one of the largest of numerous Mennonite groups in the United States.

Mennonite Church USA organizational structures are relatively “flat” compared to many other denominations. A volunteer Executive Board guides the denomination and is accountable to congregational and area conference delegates, who meet every two years at a national assembly. The Executive Board supervises the executive director.

Delegates are representatives from Mennonite congregations, area conferences, Executive Board members and racial/ethnic groups who attend the national Delegate Assembly. Their role includes processing statements and resolutions related to Mennonite belief and practice, reviewing and offering feedback on the programs and priorities of the Executive Board, and giving guidance to general organizational policies and programs.

The Constituency Leaders Council, a group consisting of area conference leaders, constituency group representatives and agency and Executive Board staff, meet at least annually to listen, discern and advise the denomination on issues facing the church. It is the primary forum for conversation among area conferences in Mennonite Church USA. Each conference is invited to send up to three representatives.

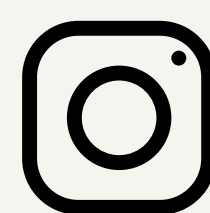
Executive Board staff members work at carrying out the priorities identified by the delegates and board. They also support interconference connections and collaboration, coordinate the denomination’s biennial conventions, provide communication services for the denomination, and oversee the denominational archives. The executive director is the job title for the Chief Administrative Officer. Glen Guyton is the current executive director of MC USA. The Executive Director oversees the work of the staff.

Racial Ethnic Council: The Racial Ethnic Council is an advisory council formed by representatives from each of the racial/ethnic groups across MC USA. The council works together to voice common concerns and ideas that advance equitable access to church programs and resources. Racial/ethnic groups and constituency groups are able to appoint representatives to CLC; racial/ethnic groups can appoint delegates to the Delegate Assembly.

Constituency groups: Constituency groups work to serve the needs of their members across Mennonite Church USA and connect them to the larger vision and mission of the church. Constituency groups are able to send representatives to Constituency Leaders Council meetings. The Executive Board may, at its discretion, identify new constituency groups and determine the number of representatives to the Constituency Leaders Council.

Leadership Discernment Committee (LDC). The Leadership Discernment Committee prepares slates of nominees for the boards of churchwide program agencies and the Executive Board. The committee consists of up to eight members, half of whom are appointed by the Executive Board and half of whom are nominated by the Constituency Leaders Council and elected by the Delegate Assembly. Members may serve one four-year term, with possible reappointment or re-election for one additional four-year term.

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