



# July 6-10, 2021 Cincinnati, Ohio





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### Table of Contents

Welcome	
Shared Expectations for Convention Attendees	5
MennoCon21 COVID 19 Protocols	5
Maps	6
Tuesday Schedule	
Wednesday Schedule	16
Thursday Schedule	24
Friday Schedule	30
Saturday Schedule	38
Worship Speakers	. 42
Worship Team	43
Thank Yous	44
Offerings	44







Scott Hartman

Shana Peachey Boshart

Sarah Chase

Welcome to MennoCon21! Planning this convention has been an adventure, as the planning team did not have any experience planning a convention amid a pandemic. We have had to be flexible, not knowing what protocols would look like from week to week, and we have needed to make many changes to our plans throughout this process. We ask for God's grace when things don't go as planned.

The purpose of convention is to gather Mennonite Church USA (MC USA) congregants and organizations for community, worship and faith formation. This week, we are a family that has come together from the various parts of MC USA. With a smaller number of people gathering in person, this convention will feel more intimate and personal. We have put together worship services that will inspire you and seminars that will equip you. This program book contains quick-glance schedules, as well as detailed descriptions of all the seminars.

We, the convention planning staff, encourage you to have fun this week, meet new friends and seek the peace of God that passes all understanding.

# Dear #MennoCon21 registrants,

I want to welcome each of you to #MennoCon21. It's an exciting time for Mennonite Church USA (MC USA), as we come out of the COVID-19 pandemic. As a denomination, we continue to grow and adapt, always remaining adaptable, motivated and responsive to the needs of our members and the communities we inhabit.

Our church is confronting many changes, and we're meeting these changes during a time of larger national and global change. The intersection of our Anabaptist faith traditions and our theological diversity is an exciting challenge that we must face head-on. We'll continue to meet and bring inspired people together in forums like this to ensure our denomination remains strong and has a bright future.

Due to the pandemic, we're transforming the way we operate to continuously improve our ability to gather as the body of Christ. Our staff and partners have continued to meet the challenges of holding a convention; they have excelled, despite many setbacks. We should all be thankful for the opportunity to gather in person and virtually.

Before I close, I'd like to thank each of you for attending our convention and bringing your energy to our gathering. As leaders, delegates, members, family and friends, you are a crucial part of keeping the vision of MC USA alive. You bring the wherewithal, the faith and the experience needed to help us pave our way into the future. You are truly our greatest asset today and tomorrow, and we could not accomplish what we do without your support and participation. You are MC USA. Throughout this conference, I ask you to stay engaged, stay prayerful and help us shape the future of MC USA.

Thank you, and may God's grace abide in us all.



Glen Guyton, executive director, Mennonite Church USA

### Shared expectations for convention attendees

As planners, we want convention to be safe and enjoyable for all our attendees, and we are counting on you to help make this possible. While we may not always agree with one another, we should always treat each other with respect. In order to make convention a positive experience for everyone, here are some of our expectations for all convention attendees:

- Convention attendees should not engage in language or behavior that threatens the safety or personhood of another convention attendee. This includes racist speech, hate speech, threats, sexual harassment and any other behaviors that could be understood as threatening. If you experience language or behaviors like this at convention, please report the offender to the convention office.
- Blocking of hallways, fire exits and means of egress is prohibited at all times. Gatherings that, in any way, violate fire code regulations will be dispersed.
- No literature (fliers, brochures, handouts, books, etc.) may be passed out beyond the exhibit hall area. However, seminar and workshop leaders may distribute handouts, as necessary, during their session.
- No promotional materials may be hung on convention center walls without the written approval of MC USA convention planning. This includes posters, postcards, pictures, etc.
- Disagreements should be resolved peacefully. In any and all disagreements, we ask that you treat your conversation partners with the respect they deserve as beloved children of God.
- Respect the instructions of the convention planning staff and volunteers on-site. We are here to serve you and to help make convention a good experience for everyone in attendance. If you have a disagreement or complaint about the behavior of any staff or volunteers, please come to the convention planning office to report this behavior.
- All protocols and procedures related to COVID-19 will be observed throughout the event. We are following local and national guidance for these protocols and procedures. This is one way we can practice mutual aid.

### MennoCon21 COVID-19 protocols (as of June 4)

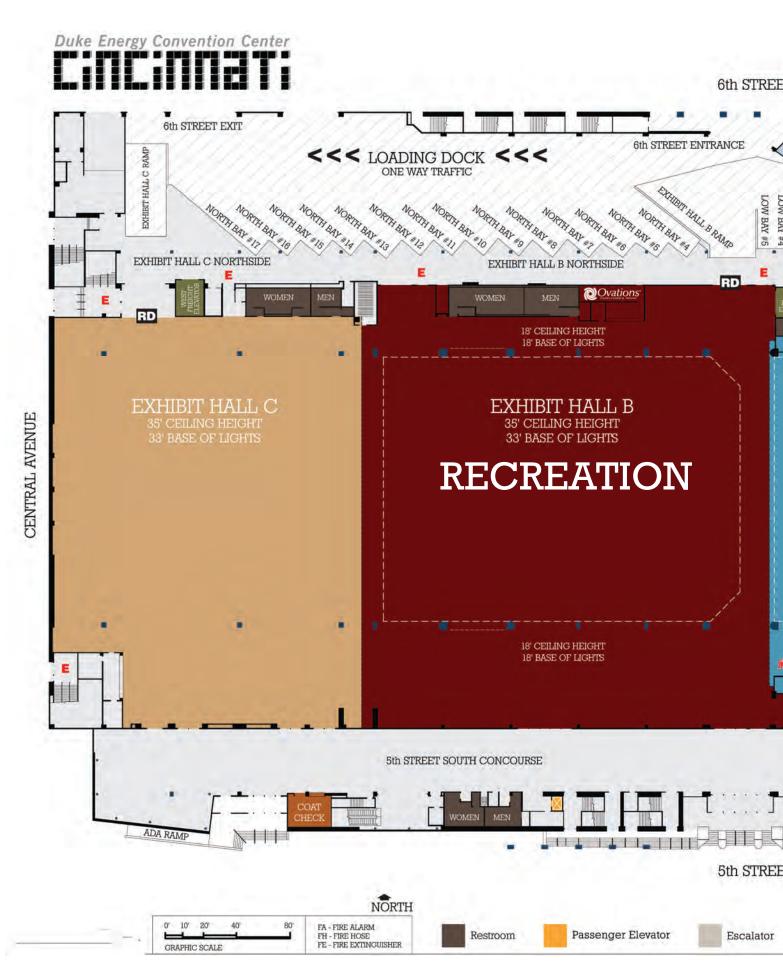
The Duke Energy Convention Center requires that its staff and vendors adhere to a thorough set of protocols that include temperature checks, masks and rigorous cleaning standards. The Duke Energy Convention Center was the first organization in the Ohio Region to obtain the GBAC STAR<sup>TM</sup> Accreditation. Under the guidance of the Global Biorisk Advisory Council (GBAC), a division of ISSA, the worldwide cleaning industry association, Duke Energy Convention Center has implemented the most stringent protocols for cleaning, disinfection and infectious disease prevention in its facility. As the cleaning industry's only outbreak prevention, response and recovery accreditation, GBAC STAR<sup>TM</sup> helps organizations establish protocols and procedures, offers expert-led training, and assesses a facility's readiness for bio-risk situations. The program verifies that Duke Energy Convention Center implements best practices to prepare for, respond to and recover from outbreaks and pandemics.

Per the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the state of Ohio guidance, masks and social distancing are no longer mandatory. However, attendees are free to wear a mask and continue to social distance from other participants, if they wish. Anyone not fully vaccinated is encouraged to wear a mask.

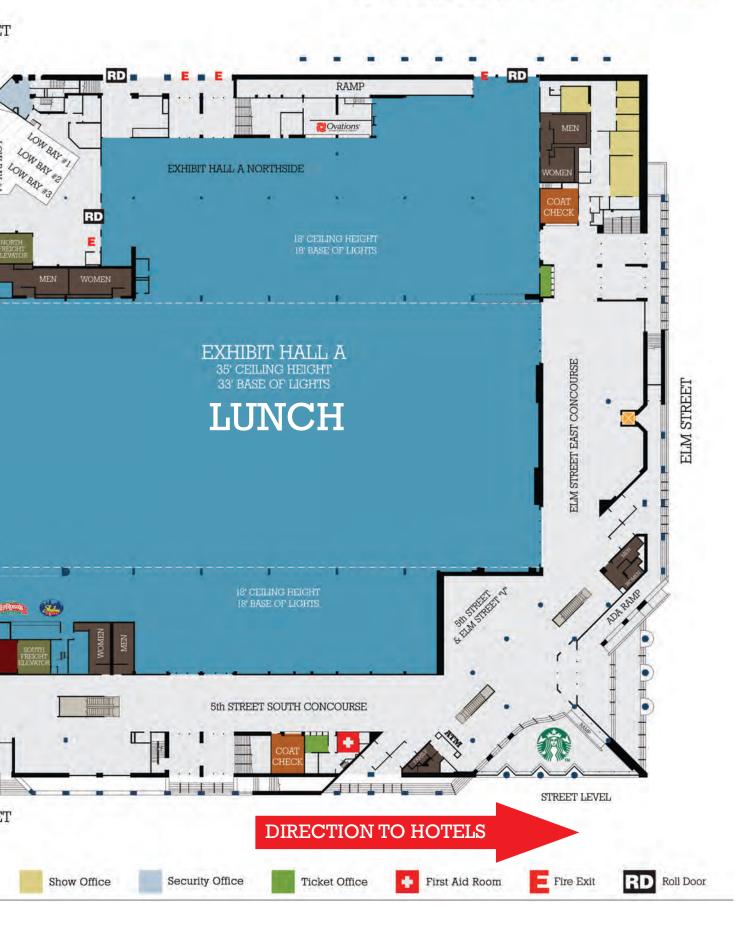
The worship hall will be set up in two sections. The section closest to the stage will be for individuals and groups that are comfortable sitting closer to one another. The back of the room will be for individuals and groups that would like to continue practicing social distancing. Feel free to block seats to provide extra space around you or your group.

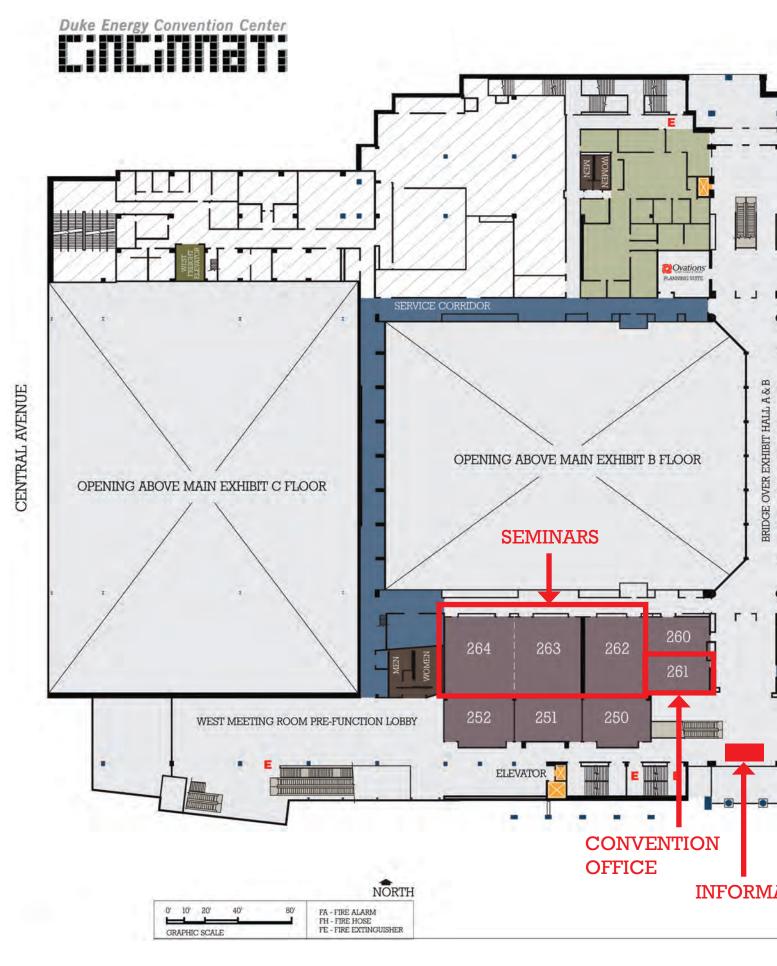
Seminar rooms will not be filled to full capacity. To practice social distancing during seminars, block off chairs with an article of clothing or another marker.

Meal functions will follow the guidelines set forth by local, state, federal officials and agencies, the CDC, and support and recommendations from Spectra and industry organizations. These guidelines allow for banquet seating of up to 10 chairs per table. Meals will be buffet style.

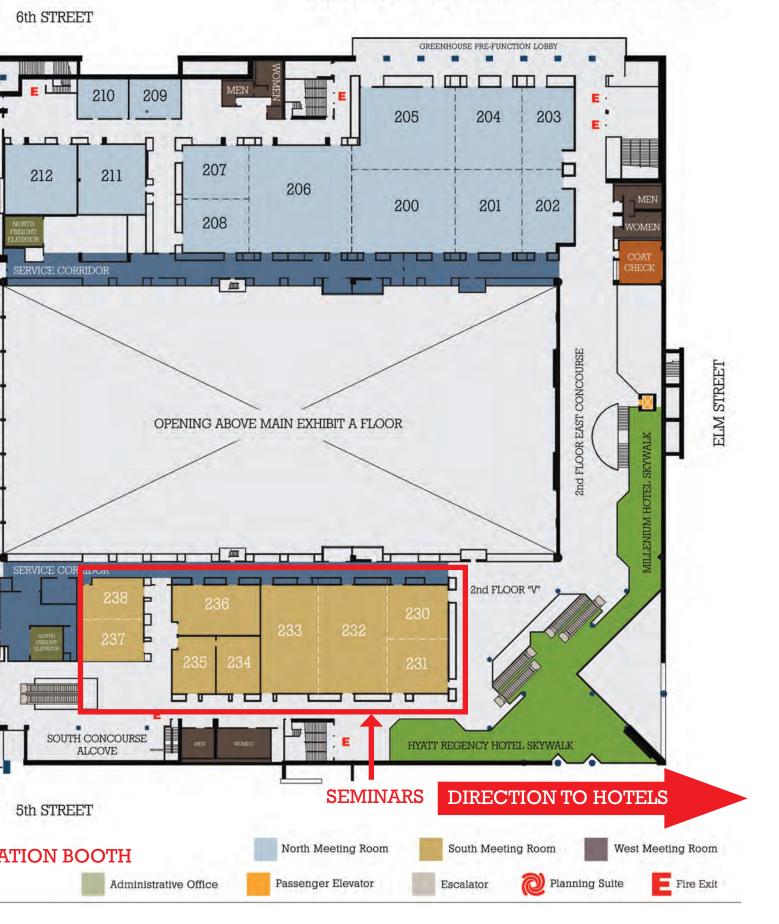


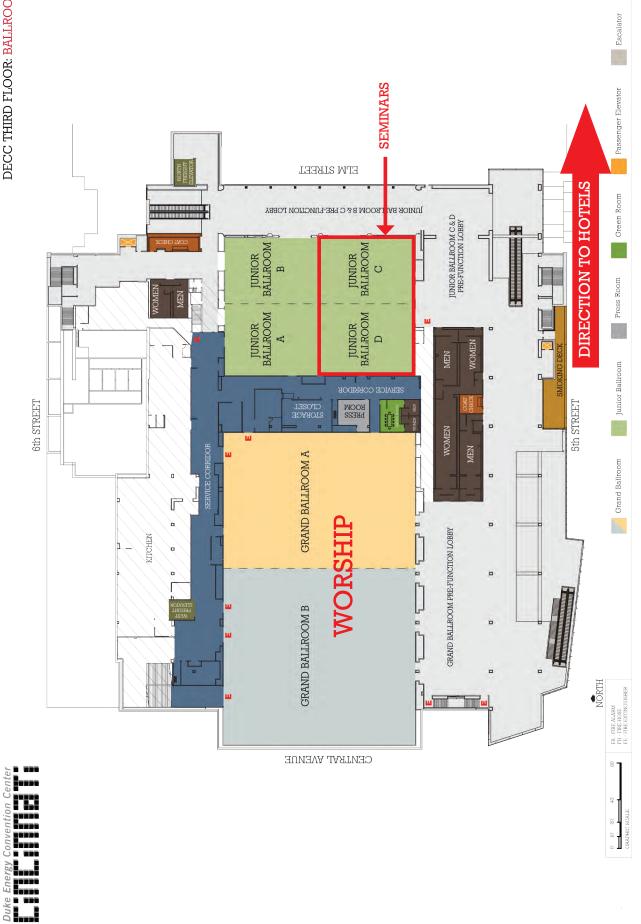
### DECC FIRST FLOOR: EXHIBIT HALL LEVEL





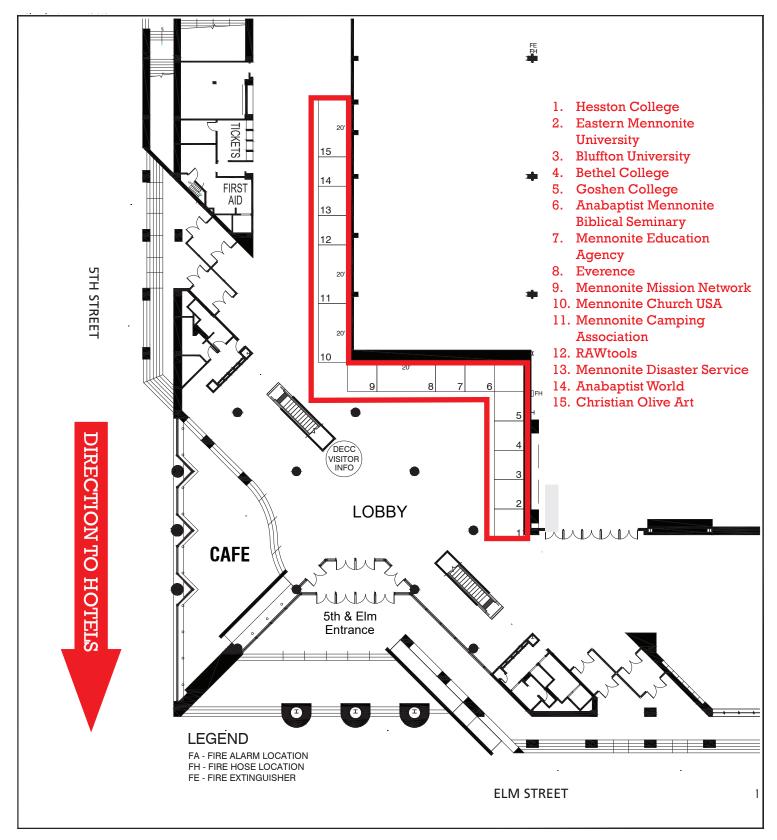
### DECC SECOND FLOOR: MEETING ROOM LEVEL





Fire Exit

### EXHIBIT HALL







Hope for the Future gatherings bring together BIPOC leaders from across the church to explore the ways that power, privilege and racism function in our denomination. These gatherings provide spaces of retreat, opportunities for networking and more for people of color across Mennonite Church USA.

> Hope for the Future 2022 January 21-23 "Collective Trauma and Resilience" MennoniteUSA.org/HopeForTheFuture

### DEEP FAITH 2020 LEADING IN THE WILDERNESS

Deep Faith is a conference for faith formation leaders in Mennonite Church USA and beyond. Starting in 2020, the Deep Faith conference will be held jointly every other year with the Pastors and Leaders gathering at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary (AMBS).

> Join us February 21-24, 2022, MennoniteUSA.org/deepfaith



# HOW NONVIOLENT CREATES CHANGE

EA

Watch the nine short episodes with a church group or binge at home.
MennoniteMission.net/stir

MENNONITE MISSION NETWORK presents a series created by SARAH & JONATHAN NAHAR produced by FAITH BELL • JASON BOONE • TRAVIS DUERKSEN • DAVID FAST SARAH & JONATHAN NAHAR



### **Cincinnati** At A Glance

### TUESDAY, JULY 6, 2021

7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

#### Worship - Peace from Roots to Fruits

Grand Ballroom

8:30 - 10:00 p.m.

Exhibits Open Recreation Open 5th St Concourse

### **Journey Forward MC USA Study**

Journey Forward is a churchwide renewal process of engaging in scripture, storytelling and sharing how God is at work in the lives of people and congregations across Mennonite Church USA (MC USA). To inform the direction of MC USA, we have partnered with Springtide Research Institute to conduct a comprehensive membership survey and focus groups to ensure that your voices are heard in this process. The survey and focus groups are steps in gathering stories from around the denomination. Springtide will be joining us throughout the conference to offer you opportunities to take the survey and share your thoughts so that we may gain a deeper understanding about you and your experiences as part of MC USA. Please see the Springtide counter next to the Information Booth to sign up to participate in one of the focus groups being offered throughout the conference and to grab the link to the survey. The survey will take approximately 20-30 minutes to complete. Focus groups will be offered during morning seminars and during the afternoon of Thursday, July 8. We truly value your voices and need to hear what you have to say in order to Journey Forward together.

### Tuesday, July 6

### Worship

Peace From Roots to Fruits 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Lesley Francisco McClendon and Caleb McClendon Grand Ballroom



Lesley Francisco McClendon is senior pastor and Caleb McClendon is assistant pastor of C3 – Calvary Community Church, Hampton, Virginia. The dynamic duo teaches with vigor and passion, but aims to deliver powerful, life-altering messages with their simple, easy to comprehend delivery. Lesley has a passion for bridging generational gaps and loves speaking to a broad range of audiences, although she often says that mid-twenties to mid-life crisis is her sweet spot. Caleb's laid-back approach in ministry is more similar to motivational speaking, encouraging and probing the minds of people who simply just want to live victoriously.

### **Exhibits and Recreation Open**

### 8:30 – 10:00 p.m.

Visit the exhibits or burn some energy in the recreation hall. Exhibits are in the main lobby of the convention center. The recreation is in Exhibit Hall B.

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# Cincinnati At A Glance

### $WEDNESDAY,\ JULY\ 7\ ,\ 2\ 0\ 2\ 1$

7:00 a.m.	Morning Run	Hotel Lobby
Adult Seminars		
9:00 - 10:00 a.m.	Abuse in Your Church: Who Should Know What, When and How?	234
	Adapting the Meaning of a Mennonite College Education	262
	Can the Church Be Prophetic and Nonpartisan?	263
	Mennonites in Ukraine: "Self-Defense" and Antisemitism	238
	Reimagining Our Economic Relationships	236
Youth Seminars		
9:00 - 10:00 a.m.	Ask Us Anything: A Health Professions Career Roundtable	233
	Can I Be a Rich Christian?	232
	Dying to Live: Being Young and Changing the World	Jr Ballroom C
	What You Do Next Matters	230/231
	When \$#@! Happens: What the Bible Says About Pain, Trauma and Us	Jr Ballroom D
10.00 11.00		
10:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Bible Study With Safwat Marzouk and Voices Together	Grand Ballroom
10:30 - 11:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m 12:00 p.m.		Grand Ballroom Convention Center
11:30 a.m 12:00 p.m.	Youth Small Groups Lunch	Convention Center
11:30 a.m 12:00 p.m. 11:30 a.m 1:00 p.m.	Youth Small Groups	Convention Center Exhibit Hall A
11:30 a.m 12:00 p.m. 11:30 a.m 1:00 p.m.	Youth Small Groups Lunch Exhibits Open	Convention Center Exhibit Hall A 5th St Concourse
11:30 a.m 12:00 p.m. 11:30 a.m 1:00 p.m. 11:30 a.m 2:00 p.m.	Youth Small Groups Lunch Exhibits Open Recreation Open	Convention Center Exhibit Hall A 5th St Concourse Exhibit Hall B
11:30 a.m 12:00 p.m. 11:30 a.m 1:00 p.m. 11:30 a.m 2:00 p.m. 1:30 - 2:30 p.m.	Youth Small Groups Lunch Exhibits Open Recreation Open	Convention Center Exhibit Hall A 5th St Concourse Exhibit Hall B
11:30 a.m 12:00 p.m. 11:30 a.m 1:00 p.m. 11:30 a.m 2:00 p.m. 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. Adult Seminars	Youth Small Groups Lunch Exhibits Open Recreation Open Midday Mixer	Convention Center Exhibit Hall A 5th St Concourse Exhibit Hall B Grand Ballroom
11:30 a.m 12:00 p.m. 11:30 a.m 1:00 p.m. 11:30 a.m 2:00 p.m. 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. Adult Seminars	Youth Small Groups Lunch Exhibits Open Recreation Open Midday Mixer Always My Child/Forever My Parent	Convention Center Exhibit Hall A 5th St Concourse Exhibit Hall B Grand Ballroom 238
11:30 a.m 12:00 p.m. 11:30 a.m 1:00 p.m. 11:30 a.m 2:00 p.m. 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. Adult Seminars	Youth Small Groups Lunch Exhibits Open Recreation Open Midday Mixer Always My Child/Forever My Parent Church Is Not a Building	Convention Center Exhibit Hall A 5th St Concourse Exhibit Hall B Grand Ballroom 238

Adult Seminars		
2:45 - 3:45 p.m.	Addiction: What the Church Should Know	263
-	Anabaptist History Today Storytelling Workshop	236
	Biblical Interpretation and Antisemitism	262
	Conversatorio 1: Re-imaginar, Revitalizar y ser Relevantes	261
	Plant Trees To Slow Climate Change and Restore God's Earth	237
	Songs and Stories of Peace, Hope and Justice	238
Youth Seminars		
2:45 - 3:45 p.m.	Changing the Narrative: Climate What?	233
	Creating a Meal Scene in Corinth: A Bible study	232
	Quarterback, Class Clown and Homecoming Queen —	Jr Ballroom D
	But Who's the Leader?	
	What You Do Next Matters	230/231
	You Got Booked	Jr Ballroom C
Adult Seminars		
4:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Mennonite Higher Education Is Affordable	236
	Poverty, Spirituality and Work	238
	Reawakened: How Your Congregation Can Spark Lasting Change	263
	Worship for All	262
Youth Seminars		
4:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Ask Us Anything: A Health Professions Career Roundtable	233
	Daring To Make Peace: The M.J. Sharp Story	232
	So, What Is Your Spirituality Type?	230/231
	When \$#@! Happens: What the Bible Says About Pain,	Jr Ballroom D
	Trauma and Us	
	You Got Booked	Jr Ballroom C
		5
7:00 - 8:30 p.m.	Worship - Jesus is the Peace	Grand Ballroom
8:30 - 10:00 p.m.	Exhibits Open	5th St Concourse
	Recreation Open	Exhibit Hall B
9:00 - 10:00 p.m.	Team Trivia Night	230/231
9:00 - 10:30 p.m.	She, Her, They, Us: Mennonite Women USA Reception	Jr Ballroom D

### Wednesday, July 7

#### **Morning Run**

#### 7:00 a.m.

Hotel lobby

Join others from your hotel for a morning run. Meet in the lobby at 7:00 a.m. and head out in small groups depending on the distance you want to cover that day.

### **Adult Seminars**

9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

### Abuse in Your Church: Who Should Know What, When and How?

Nancy Kauffmann and Carol Knieriem, and other Dove's Nest board members

234

At some point, most churches will experience an abuse situation in which either the victim(s) or the offender(s) are a part of the church community. In these situations, church leaders tend to struggle primarily with how to communicate about the situation to the faith community and respond to concerns. Come hear practical input and encouragement from Dove's Nest representatives, who have experience consulting with churches experiencing this type of situation.

### Adapting the Meaning of a Mennonite College Education

Breanna J. Nickel, teaching fellow in the Augustana College religion department and Goshen College graduate 262

In this seminar we will explore the meaning of denominationalbased college education. The seminar will include stories about church-college relations in the last century, but the main subject is the recent approach of U.S. Mennonite colleges. Questions include: 1) How has Mennonite education changed over time? 2) How do colleges embody a denominational identity? 3) What makes a beneficial church-college relationship? and 4) How will college missions keep changing in light of growing non-Mennonite student bodies?

### Can the Church Be Prophetic and Nonpartisan?

Ryan Ahlgrim, pastor, First Mennonite Church of Richmond (Virginia)

263

During this time of hyper-partisanship in the U.S., congregations are finding it difficult to be politically nonpartisan. Can the church speak boldly about our society's political, economic, environmental and social problems without aligning itself to a partisan agenda or identity? Should the church remain nonpartisan?

#### Mennonites in Ukraine: "Self-Defense" and Antisemitism

John Kampen, professor of Jewish history and New Testament, Methodist Theological School 238

My grandfather was a local leader of the Selbstschutz in Russian Ukraine in 1920. Trained by the German army, these were groups of Mennonites who mobilized to protect their communities against local violence. This experience reinforced a German identity that led to an ongoing acceptance of antisemitic attitudes and propaganda. This seminar will discuss the responsibilities that legacy leaves with us as we confront antisemitism today.

### **Reimagining Our Economic Relationships**

Marlene Kroeker, stewardship consultant at Everence, and Cyneatha Millsaps, executive director of Mennonite Women USA

236

In this seminar, we will explore our economic relationships in light of our faith. Most often, conversations concerning money are in regards to how we handle it, whether we spend too much, save too little, have too much or do not have enough. Instead, we will focus on the relationships we have with others through our finances. Through biblical study and conversation, we will consider and re-imagine our economic relationships.

### **Youth Seminars**

9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

### Ask Us Anything: A Health Professions Career Roundtable

Clair Hochstetler and other members of Mennonite Healthcare Fellowship

233

Participants interested or involved in health careers are invited to share their experience and explorations, with an emphasis on how faith may guide vocational discernment in the healing professions.

# Wednesday Schedule

### Can I Be a Rich Christian?

Lyle Miller and Mitch Stutzman, stewardship consultants, Everence

### 232

Whether you're getting your first job or heading off to college, you might be wondering, what does being a Christian have to do with managing money? How do you make choices about how best to save, spend and share while following Jesus? Learn the Four Financial Fundamentals that are 94.32% of the key to success when it comes to managing money.

### Dying to Live: Being Young and Changing the World

Michele Hershberger, author and professor of Bible and youth ministry, Hesston College

Jr Ballroom C

Some adults dismiss youth because they're too young or too inexperienced. Others fear that if youth hear how much discipleship might cost, it will scare them away. But what if that's a wrong way of thinking? What if many of us are dying to have something we love so much we'd die for it? What if it's true that if we don't have anything we'd die for, then maybe we don't really have anything to live for? What if Jesus is dying to change the world — through us?

### What You Do Next Matters

Eric Frey Martin, recruiter and church relations representative for Mennonite Mission Network, and representatives from Mennonite colleges

230/231

This seminar will be for high schoolers contemplating what comes next, after graduation. We will talk about the different options youth have to connect their faith and vocation. For example, what are the advantages of a "gap year," and what could you do during that year? Our aim is to set up an inviting space, where youth can hear about the many possibilities available to them through Mennonite programs and schools after high school.

### When \$#@! Happens: What the Bible Says About Pain, Trauma and Us

Susannah Larry, assistant professor of biblical studies, Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary

### Jr Ballroom D

Life can be really tough ... and reading the Bible is no picnic either! In this seminar, youth will look at how Scripture deals with some of the toughest aspects of life. We'll focus on three key themes — family conflict, identity and loss — through studying 1 Samuel 20 and Judges 11.

### **Bible Study**

### Pandemic, Lament and Repentance 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Safwat Marzouk and Voices Together Grand Ballroom

The Bible study will open with worship selections from Voices Together, the new Anabaptist hymnal and worship resource from MennoMedia. Safwat Marzouk, associate professor of Old Testament/Hebrew Bible at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Indiana, will share on the topic, "Shalom Justice Amidst Pandemic and Racism."

### Exhibits and Recreation Open 11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Visit the exhibits or burn some energy in the recreation hall. Exhibits are in the main lobby of the convention center. The recreation is in Exhibit Hall B.

### **Midday Mixer** 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

Grand Ballroom

Worship leader Chris Cox will lead this time designed specifically for youth. The midday mixer will start with some games as well as opportunities to get to know youth from other congregations. The second part of midday mixer will be an opportunity to interact with the worship speaker from the previous service. Bring any questions that developed during the message.

### **Adult Seminars**

1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

### Always My Child/Forever My Parent A panel of parents and their LGBTQ children 238

Learning that your child is LGBTQ may or may not be a surprise, but it will still have a profound impact upon your family. Studies show that accepting families provide an essential foundation for the long-term wellbeing of that child, as well as the family itself. This session will feature parents and their LGBTQ children, as they reflect together upon the multitude of ways that coming out impacted their relationships with each other, their extended families, their churches and their spiritual identities.

### Church Is Not a Building (and Your Pastor's Not the Only Minister)

Michele Hershberger, author and professor of Bible and youth ministry, Hesston College

### 230/231

A hidden gift of the COVID-19 pandemic was the rediscovery of some biblical truths: Church is not a building, we can and do gather at times other than 10 a.m. on Sunday, AND all of us are missionaries. Rediscovering these truths can help breathe new life into our congregations; it can be a conversion experience. But how do we help people get there? Join Hesston College's Center for Anabaptist Leadership and Learning (CALL) leaders as they give guidelines that open the door to this conversion.

### **Reading the Bible Through the Lens of Climate Change**

Jennifer Schrock, leader, Mennonite Creation Care Network 236

You may think the Bible has nothing to say about climate change because it is a modern problem. But what if we ask, "Was there ever a time when biblical people could see disaster coming but felt powerless to stop it?" Suddenly, the whole book is about climate change! Find hope and nourishing spiritual roots for an uncertain future.

### Stir Up Peace: How Nonviolent Direct Action Creates Change

Sharon Norton, Co-director for Africa and Europe, Mennonite Mission Network; Jonathan Nahar, former Israel Palestine Partners in Peacemaking Coordinator, MC USA; and Sarah Nahar, PhD student in Religion and Environmental Studies

262

Following Jesus means seeking God's Kingdom and righteousness. But we can't use violence to do it. It takes deep love, creativity, and faithfulness to commit to seeking change nonviolently. Nonviolent direct action is a strategic response to violence, oppression, and injustice that uses tactics that don't depend on the threat of violence to achieve justice. Find out how to directly seek change in your community using tactics that carefully consider timing, context, and public perception. This is also your chance to get a sneak peek at the new video series that goes deeper into the nuts and bolts of nonviolent direct action.

### Adult Seminars

2:45 – 3:45 p.m.

### Addiction: What the Church Should Know

D.J. Mitchell, author and founder, Healing Refuge Fellowship 263

This seminar will help participants move their understanding of addiction beyond the conventional models of morality (choice)

and biology (disease). Over time, a person's drug of choice provides identity, purpose, structure for life, and morality all characteristics of a religion. The problem of addiction is complex and includes this religious component, which is too often overlooked by professionals. By better understanding the problem, the church will be uniquely positioned to help those who suffer.

### Anabaptist History Today Storytelling Workshop

Jason Kauffman, director of Mennonite Church USA archives, and Jean Kilheffer Hess, executive director of Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society 236

Join the cocreators of Anabaptist History Today, and discover how storytelling can enrich our lives together and leave a legacy for future generations. Participants in this interactive makers' session will learn more about Anabaptist History Today and create a story for the community-built archive. Leaders will provide art supplies and question prompts to guide participants as they reflect on the connection between their Anabaptist faith and lived experiences during the remarkable events of the past year.

### **Biblical Interpretation and Antisemitism**

John Kampen, professor of Jewish history and New Testament, Methodist Theological School

262

The antisemitic impulse of Christian theology has been well documented. For Anabaptist Mennonites, reading the Bible is a central theological activity. The study of the Bible has been influenced by this same antisemitic impulse. In this seminar, we will explore how the Mennonite reading of the Bible has been subject to these influences and some of the particular ways in which it is expressed in our own heritage. We will, then, explore some options as to how to begin addressing this issue.

### Conversatorio 1: Re-imaginar, Revitalizar y ser Relevantes

Sandra Montes Martinez, associate conference minister, Western District Conference

261

Cuando pensamos en la iglesia, generalmente tenemos un marco de ideas que se derivan de nuestras experiencias con las estructuras eclesiales. Las prácticas y ritos de nuestra comunidad de fe nos dan identidad y nos ayudan a enfocar la misión de la iglesia. Con esta conversación comunitaria reflexionaremos en como la iglesia asertivamente puede evaluar su trabajo para Revitalizar la comunidad de fe y ser Relevantes en el ministerio de la iglesia en los tiempos que vivimos.

### Plant Trees To Slow Climate Change and Restore God's Earth

Steve Thomas, U.S. coordinator, Mennonite Men 237

Find out what you can do to slow climate change, by participating in the Mennonite Men 'Join'Trees' campaign to plant one million trees. Learn about trees in God's design for creation and how you can participate in this campaign to help restore the earth. This seminar will be led by Steve Thomas, certified arborist and U.S. coordinator of Mennonite Men.

### Songs and Stories of Peace, Hope and Justice

Tony Brown, artist-in-residence, Hesston College 238

Using songs and stories from his international travels, Tony Brown illustrates how song and story are powerful tools for bringing people together. And, using pictures from his travels, he emphasizes the oneness of the human family and encourages all of us to be promoters of peace and justice wherever we live. This emotionally riveting seminar engages the audience, inviting them to sing some selections.

### **Youth Seminars**

2:45 – 3:45 p.m.

### **Changing the Narrative: Climate What?**

Jane and Jerrell Ross Richer, Mennonite Mission Network mission workers

233

"Fear not!" the angels still say. Come hear stories about Indigenous youth who are leading the way with creative solutions in the Ecuadorian rain forest. The Cofán in the village of Zábalo live off the land and take conservation into their own hands. Human impact on the climate has changed the current upon which the economy, human rights and the natural world rides, creating opportunities for collective action and community empowerment. Join a conversation with Jane and Jerrell Ross Richer, who serve in Ecuador with Mennonite Mission Network, and hear how ordinary people like you are changing the world.

### Creating a Meal Scene in Corinth: A Bible Study

Reta Halteman Finger, author of Creating a Scene in Corinth 232

Group Bible study can be both fun and a deep learning experience. The Apostle Paul planted several house churches in the city of Corinth, then he left to do further mission work. Later, he heard about the Corinthians' church fights — even at meals when they celebrated the Lord's Supper. We will role-play different views about eating together, after hearing 1 Corinthians 11:17-34. What can we learn about getting along when we don't agree? This seminar is for audiences of any age.

### Quarterback, Class Clown and Homecoming Queen — But Who's the Leader?

Rachel Swartzendruber Miller, vice president of advancement, Hesston College

Jr Ballroom D

So many assume that being a leader requires a specific position, status or popularity. In reality, none of these are ingredients of true leadership. Come explore a new definition of leadership — through stories and examples — one that flips the term "leadership position" on its head. Similar to how Jesus showed us an "upside-down kingdom," we can offer the world an upsidedown way of leading. This kind of leadership is something you can do anytime, anywhere.

### What You Do Next Matters

Eric Frey Martin, recruiter and church relations representative for Mennonite Mission Network, and representatives from Mennonite colleges

230/231

This seminar will be for high schoolers contemplating what comes next, after graduation. We will talk about the different options youth have to connect their faith and vocation. For example, what are the advantages of a "gap year," and what could you do during that year? Our aim is to set up an inviting space, where youth can hear about the many possibilities available to them through Mennonite programs and schools after high school.

### You Got Booked

Jes Stoltzfus Buller, peace education coordinator, and Krista Dutt, program coordinator, Mennonite Central Committee (MCC)

Jr Ballroom C

You Got Booked is an interactive tool developed by MCC that allows people to dive into the experience of mass incarceration in the United States. Come, learn and get a taste of what issues are involved in mass incarceration.

### **Adult Seminars**

4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

### **Mennonite Higher Education Is Affordable**

Lawrence Matthews and other directors of financial aid at Mennonite colleges

236

Too often, students and parents rule out Mennonite higher education because of the sticker price and/or the assumption that it is less expensive to attend a public university in your home state. This seminar, led by and with input from the directors of financial aid from our Mennonite colleges and universities, is intended for parents of junior high and high school students, youth leaders and church members who serve on college/church scholarship committees.

### **Poverty, Spirituality and Work**

Tim Penner, former board chair, and Bethany Nussbaum, senior development officer, Mennonite Economic Development Associates

238

Addressing poverty is complex, and many organizations tackle specific aspects of poverty. MEDA creates business solutions to poverty; we believe this to be a spiritual, missional undertaking. When people living in poverty are supported in expressing their entrepreneurial gifts, they are able to unleash their God-given potential to earn a livelihood. We believe business is a holy calling and can be a means to creating a more just world. We will share examples of this along with how firms have stepped up to the challenges of COVID-19.

### Reawakened: How Your Congregation Can Spark Lasting Change

Glen Guyton, author and executive director of Mennonite Church USA

263

Does your church have gummed-up gears, or are you activated for ministry? Are you relevant in the community where you serve? More and more people are moving away from the church — not because they lack faith in God, but because the church is no longer relevant to their lives. The church — not God — is the problem. Glen Guyton presents on his eight keys to unlocking the power of relevance in your ministry, from his new

book Reawakened. Come explore these keys and learn practical suggestions to help churches.

### Worship for All

Jeanne Davies, executive director, Anabaptist Disabilities Network

262

Instead of trying to adjust worship services to include people with disabilities, why not plan services with them in mind from the beginning? In this seminar, we will talk about how to plan worship services based on universal design — worship that includes all people in planning, leading and worshiping together.

### **Youth Seminars**

4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

### Ask Us Anything: A Health Professions Career Roundtable

Clair Hochstetler and other members of Mennonite Healthcare Fellowship

233

Participants interested or involved in health careers are invited to share their experience and explorations, with an emphasis on how faith may guide vocational discernment in the healing professions.

### Daring to Make Peace: The M.J. Sharp Story

John Sharp, author, retired professor and father of M.J. 232

Is peace more than theology? More than history? For centuries, we have sharpened "our" peace theology and honed our storytelling of Anabaptist martyrs. But have we put our theology into practice? Have the stories of history motivated us to active peacemaking? M.J. Sharp felt called to build peace in dangerous places, such as the Democratic Republic of Congo, where he was abducted and shot March 12, 2017. What can we learn from his life, service and death?

### So, What Is Your Spirituality Type?

Brian Martin Burkholder, university chaplain, Eastern Mennonite University

230/231

Perhaps we're not accustomed to sharing our spirituality type while relating to one another in the church, but much of our critique of church or worship styles certainly reflects it! Would you like to better understand yourself as a spiritual being maybe freeing yourself to more fully express yourself spiritually? How might knowing more about several spirituality types nurture understanding, compassion and curiosity across our differences? Let's explore together!

### When \$#@! Happens: What the Bible Says About Pain, Trauma and Us

Susannah Larry, assistant professor of biblical studies, Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary

Jr Ballroom D

Life can be really tough ... and reading the Bible is no picnic either! In this seminar, youth will look at how Scripture deals with some of the toughest aspects of life. We'll focus on three key themes — family conflict, identity and loss — through studying 1 Samuel 20 and Judges 11.

### You Got Booked

Jes Stoltzfus Buller, peace education coordinator, and Krista Dutt, program coordinator, Mennonite Central Committee (MCC)

### Jr Ballroom C

You Got Booked is an interactive tool developed by MCC that allows people to dive into the experience of mass incarceration in the United States. Come, learn and get a taste of what issues are involved in mass incarceration.

### Worship

### Jesus is the Peace 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Meghan Good Grand Ballroom



Dr. Meghan Larissa Good is Teaching Pastor at Trinity Mennonite Church in Glendale, Arizona and author of The Bible Unwrapped: Making Sense of Scripture Today. She is a graduate of Portland Seminary, Duke Divinity School and Gordon College. Meghan is a

frequent preacher and lecturer at churches and universities across the country, speaking on subjects such as biblical hermeneutics, emerging Anabaptism, and contemporary preaching. She lives in Phoenix with a prized dinosaur bone and a ridiculously large book collection.

### **Exhibits and Recreation Open**

### 8:30 – 10:00 p.m.

Visit the exhibits or burn some energy in the recreation hall. Exhibits are in the main lobby of the convention center. The recreation is in Exhibit Hall B.

### **Team Trivia Night**

### 9:00-10:00 p.m.

### 230/231

You won't want to miss what has become a convention tradition! Join the Mennonite Colleges and Universities (MCU) staff and put your random knowledge to the test for a night of Team Trivia. Youth are invited to form teams of six or fewer and come ready to compete. Prizes will be awarded to the top teams. You just might know more than you think!

### She, Her, They, Us: Mennonite Women USA Reception

### 9:00 – 10:30 p.m.

### Jr Ballroom D

Enjoy a chance to mingle with women from all walks of life and learn what MW USA is up to and how you might fit in to that. And don't forget your dancing shoes! We've graduated from sewing circles to dancing circles - let's move together!

# **Cincinnati** At A Glance

### THURSDAY, JULY 8, 2021

7:00 a.m.	Morning Run	Hotel Lobby
Adult Seminars		
9:00 - 10:00 a.m.	Be a (Good) Man: Characteristics of Healthy Masculinity	262
	A Conversation on Palestine With Jonathan Kuttab	237
	How ACEs Affect Youth and How You Can Respond	236
	How Much Is Enough?	238
	Reclaiming the Bible With Survivors of Sexualized Violence	234
	What's the Story? Narrative Lectionary — Sunday and Everyday	261
Youth Seminars		
9:00 - 10:00 a.m.	Bible Study: Creating a Meal Scene in Corinth	232
	Changing the Narrative: Climate What?	233
	I Fight Authority, Authority Always Wins	230/231
	Jesus, Violence and Peace	Jr Ballroom D
	Put Your Body Into It: Using Theater to Practice Peace-Building	263
	So, What Is Your Spirituality Type?	Jr Ballroom C
10:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Bible Study With Safwat Marzouk and Voices Together	Grand Ballroom
11:30 a.m 12:00 p.m.	Youth Small Groups	Convention Center
11:30 a.m 1:00 p.m.	Lunch	Exhibit Hall A
11:30 a.m 2:00 p.m.	Exhibits Open	5th St Concourse
	Recreation Open	Exhibit Hall B
	Free Afternoon	
7:00 - 8:30 p.m.	Worship - Feel the Peace	Grand Ballroom
	•	Grand Ballroom 5th St Concourse
7:00 - 8:30 p.m. 8:30 - 10:00 p.m.	Worship - Feel the Peace Exhibits Open Recreation Open	
	Exhibits Open	5th St Concourse
	Exhibits Open	5th St Concourse

# MENNONITE WOMEN USA

she/her/they US - Each one of us is a unique individual with their own identities, dreams, and gifts. Together we're US - a space for healing, a place to be challenged, a force for change, Join US and be part of our Sisterhood.

Mennonite Women USA entered 2021 a transformed organization with a vision for the future. We have created a new Leadership Circle, consisting of our staff - including our new Regional Representatives - and three Trustees. Praise God for all the wonderful women who have decided to join our team. Thanks to JustPax for providing resources for training and our formation.





### We want to connect with you!

We're hosting a reception here at convention and we'd love to see you there! Not only do we want to meet all of you, but we want to have fun and fellowship together. We've graduated from sewing circles to dancing circles, so be sure to bring your dancing shoes! Check the schedule in this program book for information on time and location.



🜀 @mennowomenusa 🚹 facebook.com/mwusa

### We asked our Regional Representatives what drew them to join the team at MW USA. Here is what they had to say:

Cyneatha was drawn to MW USA because of its history and the power it exemplified of women making a way out of no way.

Erica is excited to serve MW USA because she believes a community of empowered women is unstoppable in our collective quest for peacebuilding and equity. Lord, send a revival and let it begin with women!

Suzanne is here for the chance to work with the women who have brought MW USA to this point; to help vision and cross boundaries of geography, denominations and otherwise for bringing more women together; and to improve all of her communities by growing herself. She feels it's an incredible opportunity to walk with women, learn from them, and facilitate their learning from each other.

### **Thursday, July 8**

#### **Morning Run**

#### 7:00 a.m.

Hotel lobby

Join others from your hotel for a morning run. Meet in the lobby at 7:00 a.m. and head out in small groups depending on the distance you want to cover that day.

### **Adult Seminars**

9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

### Be a (Good) Man: Characteristics of Healthy Masculinity

Steve Thomas, U.S. coordinator, Mennonite Men 262

Boys and men are sometimes told to "be a man." But what does this mean? Through the interactive "man box" exercise, we will compare the traits of dominant masculinity with healthy masculinity, from an Anabaptist Christian perspective. Come learn what God's Spirit is forming us to be as men following Jesus. This seminar will be led by the U.S. Coordinator of Mennonite Men, co-editor of Peaceful at Heart: Anabaptist Reflections on Healthy Masculinity, and co-author of the new book Strong, Loving, and Wise: Joining Conversations for Men.

### A Conversation on Palestine With Jonathan Kuttab

Jonathan Kuttab, devoted Mennonite and Palestinian Christian Human Rights attorney

237

Hear firsthand stories and an analysis of the latest occurrences in Palestine, including the plight of the Palestinian Christians, the humanitarian crisis in Gaza and what your Mennonite church can do about it.

### How ACEs Affect Youth and How You Can Respond

Bonita Bontrager Schrock, LCSW, and chief clinical officer, Oaklawn Psychiatric Center

236

Youth leaders know that their students bring a variety of difficult experiences with them into youth group activities and discussions — and they've often experienced more than what they are willing to share. Some have histories of living in homes or communities with abuse, violence, drug use, mental illness, death and more. In this seminar Bonita Bontrager Schrock will discuss research surrounding the effects of specific adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) on youth and, then, talk about ways in which leaders can bring the healing waters of our faith to their experience.

#### How Much Is Enough?

Mitch Stutzman, stewardship consultant, Everence 238

Do I have enough ... to feel secure ... to support my family ... to retire ... to be generous? These are the questions that we think about as we shop, check our account balances or meet with the financial professionals in our life. They are difficult questions to ask and even more difficult questions to answer. During this highly interactive workshop, we will spend our time together exploring the idea of finding enough in our daily walk.

#### **Reclaiming the Bible With Survivors of Sexualized Violence**

Susannah Larry, assistant professor of biblical studies, Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary

234

For many survivors of sexualized violence, the Bible has been a source of pain. However, the living word of Scripture also offers the possibility of healing and hope, as we reclaim its sacred words for all of God's people. This seminar will give participants the opportunity to consider traumatic Scripture passages and possibilities for community-based interpretation that empower survivors and those who walk alongside them in ministry.

### What's the Story? Narrative Lectionary — Sunday and Everyday

Jennifer Davis Sensenig, lead pastor, Community Mennonite Church, Harrisonburg, Virginia 261

"I didn't grow up in the church, so I don't really know the whole biblical story." "I grew up in the church and I know some Bible stories and have some favorite verses, but how does it all come together?" This seminar for preachers, worship leaders and Christian formation leaders (of all ages) will introduce participants to the Narrative Lectionary — an alternative to the Revised Common Lectionary — which aims to tell the whole BIG STORY of Scripture each year.

### **Youth Seminars**

9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

### **Bible Study: Creating a Meal Scene in Corinth**

Reta Halteman Finger, author of Creating a Scene in Corinth 232

Group Bible study can be both fun and a deep learning experience. The Apostle Paul planted several house churches in the city of Corinth, then he left to do further mission work. Later, he heard about the Corinthians' church fights — even at meals when they celebrated the Lord's Supper. We will role-play different views about eating together, after hearing 1 Corinthians 11:17-34. What can we learn about getting along when we don't agree? This seminar is for audiences of any age.

### **Changing the Narrative: Climate What?**

Jane and Jerrell Ross Richer, Mennonite Mission Network mission workers

233

"Fear not!" the angels still say. Come hear stories about Indigenous youth who are leading the way with creative solutions in the Ecuadorian rain forest. The Cofán in the village of Zábalo live off the land and take conservation into their own hands. Human impact on the climate has changed the current upon which the economy, human rights and the natural world rides, creating opportunities for collective action and community empowerment. Join a conversation with Jane and Jerrell Ross Richer, who serve in Ecuador with Mennonite Mission Network, and hear how ordinary people like you are changing the world.

### I Fight Authority, Authority Always Wins

Eric Frey Martin, recruiter and church relations representative, Mennonite Mission Network

### 230/231

Many authority figures that we were brought up to respect — police, pastors, political leaders — sometimes turn out to be untrustworthy. Furthermore, as we dig into history, our economic systems, the lands that we live on, and even laws we must obey are fraught with injustices and often based on systems of white supremacy, classism and nationalism. What do we do with all of that? How do people of faith interact with the authorities in our lives, especially the ones that seem to be carrying out injustice? When we look at how Jesus approached power, authority and injustice in his own life, we can find hope and guidance.

### Jesus, Violence and Peace

Jes Stoltzfus Buller, peace education coordinator, and Krista Dutt, program coordinator, Mennonite Central Committee Jr Ballroom D We might all agree that Jesus calls us to be peacemakers, but we don't necessarily agree on what that means. Can we engage in protests? Own guns? How do we decide if, or when, we should call the police? What if we remain silent while others are harmed? These questions, like many scenarios in our lives, ask us to define our understanding of violence and nonviolence, and they challenge how we live out our peace theology. Join this seminar to reflect on and identify what peace means in your daily life.

### Put Your Body Into It: Using Theater to Practice Peace-Building

Michele Hershberger, author and professor of Bible and youth ministry, Hesston College

263

Have you ever looked back on a situation and said, "Wow, I wish I would have done something to stop that bully," or "Why didn't I respond to that racist comment?" It takes practice to train our minds, mouths and bodies to speak out against injustice, to stand in solidarity when people are getting hurt. Join Michele Hershberger and actors in an interactive forum theater experience. You will get to be part of improv theater, learning and practicing a technique that can train you to respond in the moment.

### So, What Is Your Spirituality Type?

Brian Martin Burkholder, campus pastor, Eastern Mennonite University

Jr Ballroom C

Perhaps we're not accustomed to sharing our spirituality type while relating to one another in the church, but much of our critique of church or worship styles certainly reflects it! Would you like to better understand yourself as a spiritual being maybe freeing yourself to more fully express yourself spiritually? How might knowing more about several spirituality types nurture understanding, compassion and curiosity across our differences? Let's explore together!

### **Bible Study**

### Justice and Reconciliation in the Joseph Story 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Safwat Marzouk and Voices Together Grand Ballroom

The Bible study will open with worship selections from Voices Together, the new Anabaptist hymnal and worship resource from MennoMedia. Safwat Marzouk, associate professor of Old Testament/Hebrew Bible at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Indiana, will share on the topic, "Shalom Justice Amidst Pandemic and Racism."

### **Exhibits and Recreation Open**

### 11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Visit the exhibits or burn some energy in the recreation hall. Exhibits are in the main lobby of the convention center. The recreation is in Exhibit Hall B.



Feel the Peace 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Ana Hinojosa Grand Ballroom



Ana Alicia Hinojosa is from Brownsville, Texas and works for Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) Central States as Immigration Education Coordinator, where she is committed to the work of educating immigrants of their rights and bridging congregations to the work of MCC. She is a single, adoptive mother of three young adults, who have inspired her to pursue her doctoral degree in Education.

### **Exhibits and Recreation Open**

### 8:30 – 10:00 p.m.

Visit the exhibits or burn some energy in the recreation hall. Exhibits are in the main lobby of the convention center. The recreation is in Exhibit Hall B.

### **Goshen College Alumni and Friends Reception**

### 9:00 – 10:30 p.m.

Hilton Netherland Hotel - Rookwood Room We will have a college update from President Stoltzfus, food, fellowship, and some GC swag give-aways.

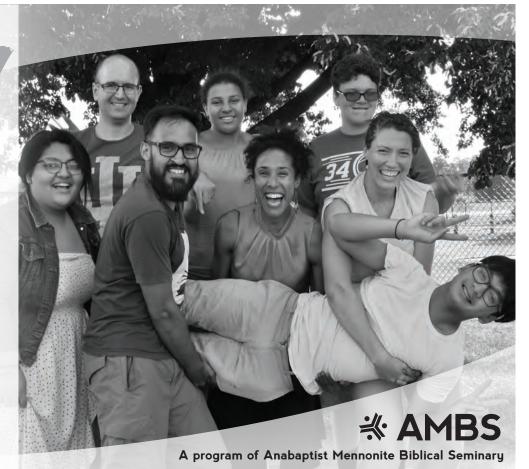


**!Explore: A Theological Program for High School Youth** provides a space for young people to strengthen their leadership skills and deepen their faith.

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VISIT: ambs.edu/explore



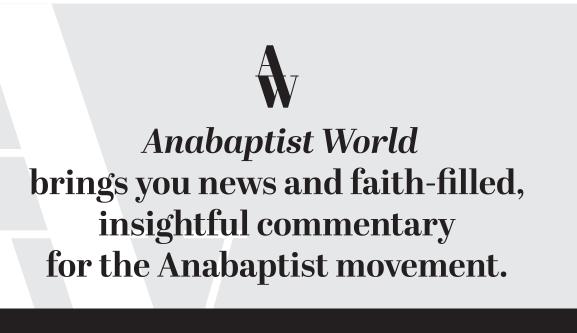


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# Cincinnati At A Glance

### FRIDAY, JULY 9, 2021

7:00 a.m.	Morning Run	Hotel Lobby
Adult Seminars		
9:00 - 10:00 a.m.	Disabilities and Mutual Care	262
	Disabling Gun Violence: The RAWtools Network	236
	The Messy Struggle of Anti-Racism	234
	Peacemaking in Africa With Muslims and Christians	238
	Sisterhood Decalogue: 10 Women of 10 Decades Talk	233
	About the 10 Commandments	
Youth Seminars		
9:00 - 10:00 a.m.	Daring To Make Peace: The M.J. Sharp Story	232
	I Fight Authority, Authority Always Wins	230/231
	Improv: Walking in a Palestinian's Shoes	Jr Ballroom D
	Making Peace With Conflict	263
	Put Your Body Into It: Using Theater to Practice Peace-Building	Jr Ballroom C
10:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Bible Study With Safwat Marzouk and Voices Together	Grand Ballroom
	Bible Study With Safwat Marzouk and Voices Together n. Youth Small Groups	Grand Ballroom Convention Center
	n. Youth Small Groups	
11:30 a.m 12:00 p.1	n. Youth Small Groups . Lunch	Convention Center
11:30 a.m 12:00 p.n 11:30 a.m 1:00 p.m	n. Youth Small Groups . Lunch	Convention Center Exhibit Hall A
11:30 a.m 12:00 p.n 11:30 a.m 1:00 p.m	n. Youth Small Groups . Lunch . Exhibits Open	Convention Center Exhibit Hall A 5th St Concourse
11:30 a.m 12:00 p.t 11:30 a.m 1:00 p.m 11:30 a.m 2:00 p.m	<ul> <li>n. Youth Small Groups</li> <li>Lunch</li> <li>Exhibits Open Recreation Open</li> </ul>	Convention Center Exhibit Hall A 5th St Concourse Exhibit Hall B
11:30 a.m 12:00 p.t 11:30 a.m 1:00 p.m 11:30 a.m 2:00 p.m 1:30 - 2:30 p.m.	<ul> <li>n. Youth Small Groups</li> <li>Lunch</li> <li>Exhibits Open Recreation Open</li> </ul>	Convention Center Exhibit Hall A 5th St Concourse Exhibit Hall B
11:30 a.m 12:00 p.m 11:30 a.m 1:00 p.m 11:30 a.m 2:00 p.m 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. Adult Seminars	<ul> <li>n. Youth Small Groups</li> <li>Lunch</li> <li>Exhibits Open Recreation Open</li> <li>Midday Mixer</li> </ul>	Convention Center Exhibit Hall A 5th St Concourse Exhibit Hall B Grand Ballroom
11:30 a.m 12:00 p.m 11:30 a.m 1:00 p.m 11:30 a.m 2:00 p.m 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. Adult Seminars	<ul> <li>n. Youth Small Groups</li> <li>Lunch</li> <li>Exhibits Open Recreation Open</li> <li>Midday Mixer</li> <li>The Multicultural Future of the Mennonite Church</li> </ul>	Convention Center Exhibit Hall A 5th St Concourse Exhibit Hall B Grand Ballroom
11:30 a.m 12:00 p.m 11:30 a.m 1:00 p.m 11:30 a.m 2:00 p.m 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. Adult Seminars	<ul> <li>n. Youth Small Groups</li> <li>Lunch</li> <li>Exhibits Open Recreation Open</li> <li>Midday Mixer</li> <li>The Multicultural Future of the Mennonite Church Neighboring: How Churches Can End Family Homelessness</li> </ul>	Convention Center Exhibit Hall A 5th St Concourse Exhibit Hall B Grand Ballroom 262 238

Adult Seminars		
2:45 - 3:45 p.m.	Congregations Caring for Creation: Starting Points	236
	Contemplative Photography: Seeing as a Way to a Greater Awareness of God	233
	Conversatorio 2: Sanarse y avanzar hacia el COVID-19	261
	How Your Financial Decisions Can Create Social Change	232
	Practical Steps To Becoming a Welcoming Congregation	237
Youth Seminars		
2:45 - 3:45 p.m.	Becoming an Effective Bystander: Sexual Assault Intervention and Prevention	262
	Being a Competitive Athlete AND a Mennonite	Jr Ballroom D
	Designing Your Life in Complicated Times	230/231
	Making Peace With Conflict	263
	Quarterback, Class Clown and Homecoming Queen — But Who's the Leader?	Jr Ballroom C
	The Bible and Christian Nationalism	238
Adult Seminars		
4:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Future Driven Partnership: Pursuing God's Call at Mennonite Mission Network	263
	Out of the Pit of Despair	234
	Pursuing Happiness: A Wisdom Conversation	236
	Seeking Economic Justice in Communities of Color	262
Youth Seminars		
4:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Living Like the Lilies: Three Paths to a Simpler Life	233
	People on the Move: What Would You Choose?	232
	The Struggle Is Real: A Tool for Navigating Life's Difficult Challenges	Jr Ballroom C
	Trevor Noah Visits Sunday School	Jr Ballroom D
	Using Ancient Wisdom to Stop Destructive Communication	230/231
7:00 - 8:30 p.m.	Worship - Trust the Peace	Grand Ballroom

### Friday, July 9

#### **Morning Run**

#### 7:00 a.m.

#### Hotel lobby

Join others from your hotel for a morning run. Meet in the lobby at 7:00 a.m. and head out in small groups depending on the distance you want to cover that day.

### **Adult Seminars**

9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

#### **Disabilities and Mutual Care**

Jeanne Davies, executive director, Anabaptist Disabilities Network

262

Individuals and families with disabilities carry some additional burdens in life. Well-meaning people often remind them to "take care of themselves." Instead of taking care of ourselves, how might we shoulder burdens and share joys together, based on the Anabaptist practice of mutual care?

#### **Disabling Gun Violence: The RAWtools Network**

Mike Martin, executive director, RAWtools, Inc. 236

This seminar equips individuals and churches with creative approaches to reducing gun violence in their community. From unwanted firearms to firearms in evidence boxes, RAWtools creates garden tools and art from disabled firearms throughout the country, with the help of over 50 nationwide volunteers. The tools and art help people heal from trauma related to gun violence. Attendees will learn how to integrate prophetic and transformative practices to engage their community in conversation and practice.

### The Messy Struggle of Anti-Racism

Jeanne Zimmerly Jantzi and Joel Gaines, Mennonite high school administrators

#### 234

Mennonite education, centered in Jesus, embraces the dignity of each person created in the image of God. God-given diversity among people and cultures is embraced. Students are taught that the world is bigger than their communities, and they are given the tools needed to see diversity as a rich blessing to be sought out and to learn from. Not all differences among people are God-given gifts, though. In a context of racial injustice and inequity, an Anabaptist education should enable students to practice shalom through global awareness, cultural sensitivity, anti-racism and compassionate living.

#### **Peacemaking in Africa With Muslims and Christians**

Sharon Norton, Co-director for Africa and Europe, Mennonite Mission Network, and panel 238

Hear stories of peacemaking in Africa, through sports, midwifery and day-to-day interactions between Muslims and Christians. The panel includes Nehemiah Chigoji, pastor, Upland Peace Church and Executive Director of Nigerian Anabaptist Resource Center; Christy Harrison, RN, mission worker with Mennonite Mission Network; and Peter Sensenig, PhD, mission worker with Mennonite Mission Network.

### Sisterhood Decalogue: 10 Women of 10 Decades Talk About the 10 Commandments

Cyneatha Millsaps, pastor and executive director, Mennonite Women USA

233

This Bible study exemplifies how a diverse sisterhood of Anabaptist women can offer rich inspiration for living, by weaving their stories into the greater biblical narrative. Composed of 13 lessons, this study focuses on the Ten Commandments.

### **Youth Seminars**

9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

#### Daring to Make Peace: The M.J. Sharp Story

John Sharp, author, retired professor and father of M.J. 232

Is peace more than theology? More than history? For centuries, we have sharpened "our" peace theology and honed our storytelling of Anabaptist martyrs. But have we put our theology into practice? Have the stories of history motivated us to active peacemaking? M.J. Sharp felt called to build peace in dangerous places, such as the Democratic Republic of Congo, where he was abducted and shot March 12, 2017. What can we learn from his life, service and death?

### I Fight Authority, Authority Always Wins

Eric Frey Martin, recruiter and church relations representative, Mennonite Mission Network

### 230/231

Many authority figures that we were brought up to respect — police, pastors, political leaders — sometimes turn out to be untrustworthy. Furthermore, as we dig into history, our economic systems, the lands that we live on, and even laws we must obey are fraught with injustices and often based on systems of white supremacy, classism and nationalism. What do we do with all of that? How do people of faith interact with the authorities in our lives, especially the ones that seem to be carrying out injustice? When we look at how Jesus approached power, authority and injustice in his own life, we can find hope and guidance.

### **IMPROV: Walking in a Palestinian's Shoes**

Jonathan Brenneman, former Israel Palestine Partners in Peacemaking Coordinator, MC USA, and friends Jr Ballroom D

If you like improv, or just enjoy watching others do improv, join us for this simulation to see what happens when two teenagers — one Palestinian and one Israeli — are caught in the same act of throwing stones at a vehicle. We'll take some time after the simulation to debrief and talk about ways that youth and their leaders can be advocates to address the situation in Palestine and Israel.

### **Making Peace With Conflict**

Jes Stoltzfus Buller, peace education coordinator, and Krista Dutt, program coordinator, Mennonite Central Committee 263

When faced with difficult conflicts or aggression, how should we respond? Conflict is a normal part of life and learning how to manage difference, or aggression from others, is important. Conflict has the ability to rip apart communities and relationships ... or it can be transformative. This seminar will teach the basic skills of dealing with conflict, including communication skills, problem solving and ideas for stopping violence, without harming others. Come join us and learn to make peace with conflict by practicing these skills!

### Put Your Body Into It: Using Theater to Practice Peace-Building

Michele Hershberger, author and professor of Bible and youth ministry, Hesston College

Jr Ballroom C

Have you ever looked back on a situation and said, "Wow, I wish I would have done something to stop that bully," or "Why didn't I respond to that racist comment?" It takes practice

to train our minds, mouths and bodies to speak out against injustice, to stand in solidarity when people are getting hurt. Join Michele Hershberger and actors in an interactive forum theater experience. You will get to be part of improv theater, learning and practicing a technique that can train you to respond in the moment.

### **Bible Study**

### Strategies to Resist Xenophobia

10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Safwat Marzouk and Voices Together Grand Ballroom

The Bible study will open with worship selections from Voices Together, the new Anabaptist hymnal and worship resource from MennoMedia. Safwat Marzouk, associate professor of Old Testament/Hebrew Bible at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Indiana, will share on the topic, "Shalom Justice Amidst Pandemic and Racism."

### Exhibits and Recreation Open

### 11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Visit the exhibits or burn some energy in the recreation hall. Exhibits are in the main lobby of the convention center. The recreation is in Exhibit Hall B.

### Midday Mixer

### 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

Grand Ballroom

Worship leader Chris Cox will lead this time designed specifically for youth. The midday mixer will start with some games as well as opportunities to get to know youth from other congregations. The second part of midday mixer will be an opportunity to interact with the worship speaker from the previous service. Bring any questions that developed during their message.

### **Adult Seminars**

### 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

### The Multicultural Future of the Mennonite Church

Joseph Manickam, president, Hesston College 262

The Mennonite Church USA (MC USA) of today is not the same church it was 18 years ago, at its re-birth, let alone 30 years ago in its former forms. And the global marketplace isn't the same either. As multi-directional travel around the world continues to increase, and the sharing of ideas and values are being communicated further and further from their points of origin, new voices in leadership are reshaping the identity of MC USA. This seminar will examine Hesston College as a case study of a 113-year-old Mennonite educational institution, led by Dr. Joseph A. Manickam, Hesston College's president, who is an immigrant and was raised outside of the Mennonite church. He will examine key themes, such as faith, identity, culture and race, for developing an understanding of the multicultural future of MC USA.

#### **Neighboring: How Churches Can End Family Homelessness**

Edith Yoder, CEO, Bridge of Hope National 238

Family homelessness intersects with housing, racial and gender inequity, as well as the lack of social supports. How can churches neighbor homeless families? Families who are homeless have often exhausted their support networks and can benefit from added support and advocacy. Through the life-changing opportunity called "Neighboring," the church can answer the call to provide support networks to help families build strong and resilient lives for themselves and their children. Neighboring helps the body of Christ demonstrate God's love and goodness in new ways that honor our calling to love others.

#### **Reading the Bible, Hearing God's Word**

Tim Penner, former board chair, and Bethany Nussbaum, senior development officer, Mennonite Economic Development Associates

230/231

As the "essential book of the church" (Confession of Faith in a Mennonite Perspective, Article 4), the Bible is both a collection of ancient texts that offers a cross-cultural encounter with a strange world and the source of God's word that speaks with current relevance to our own world. This seminar focuses on how Mennonite Church USA congregations cross the distance between the absent world of the Bible and the present voice of God, through a variety of church performance practices, such as sermons, public reading of Scripture and group Bible studies. Participants will be invited to discuss how the Bible is used as a performance script for hearing God's word in their own congregational settings.

### **Teaching Tools for Church Contexts**

Suzanne Ehst, professor of education, Goshen College 236

Wish you could become a better teacher in your church? In this seminar, we will consider various instructional strategies that could be adapted for any age group. This seminar is designed to equip those who do not have formal teaching training but who teach in church contexts, like Sunday school, Bible school or camp. Specific topics will include 1) ways to facilitate discussion to promote balanced participation and active listening; 2) structures for interpreting and responding to texts; 3) learning strategies that involve the body and movement for all ages; 4) the value of "backward design," or developing your plan in light of your desired outcome.

#### **Two-Way Mission**

Jane and Jerrell Ross Richer, Mennonite Mission Network mission workers

263

Many of us have had eye-opening experiences, through living in other countries or relating to people whose contexts are different from our own. How can we integrate what we have learned from one setting into another? Jane and Jerrell Ross Richer migrate between the Global South and Global North each year, being in the Ecuadorian rain forest with Indigenous people, as well as doing life in Goshen, Indiana. In this seminar, learn how our diverse experiences in varied contexts can help us see, hear and live with authenticity wherever we may be.

### **Adult Seminars**

2:45 – 3:45 p.m.

#### **Congregations Caring for Creation: Starting Points**

Jennifer Schrock and Katie Isaac, MCCN and CSCS 236

The scope of environmental damage feels overwhelming. What do churches have to offer, and where do they start? Katie Isaac, a former research fellow with the Center for Sustainable Climate Solutions, spent a year listening to a wide range of congregations and then designing a series of plans to guide them. Katie Isaac and Jennifer Schrock, of Mennonite Creation Care Network, will introduce you to these resources and others.

### Contemplative Photography: Seeing as a Way to a Greater Awareness of God

J. Tyler Klassen, photographer with a Master of Arts in Christian formation

233

Contemplative photography is a spiritual practice that uses photography as a tool to allow God to guide us to a greater understanding of God's presence in the ways we experience our world. Through practices framed by photography, we will explore how God can lead us to a greater visual sensitivity and awareness of our world. God's presence and leading are with us day by day, moment by moment. Contemplative photography is a practice of listening that may help us to be better attuned ourselves to God's voice.

#### Conversatorio 2: Sanarse y avanzar hacia el COVID-19

Marco Güete, director of Hispanic ministries education, Mennonite Education Agency 261

Es común que los pastores, líderes y miembros de la iglesia hispana experimenten un aumento en los niveles de angustia y ansiedad, particularmente como resultado del aislamiento social. Los pastores y otros líderes de la iglesia son particularmente vulnerables a los efectos negativos en la salud mental y espiritual mientras se esfuerzan por equilibrar el servicio y el ministerio de cuidar a sus miembros con preocupaciones sobre su propio bienestar y el de sus familiares y amigos.

### How Your Financial Decisions Can Create Social Change

Mark Regier, vice president of stewardship investing, and Marlene Kroeker, stewardship investing consultant, Everence 232

Bringing about social change requires more than just passion for a cause — it requires the ability to integrate the desired change into the way our world works. Economics have become the new focus for many seeking to increase justice and peace in our world. The financial tools you use every day can be part of that change and impact the future. Join us for an exploration of the many ways we can make a difference for others today, while managing our financial resources for the future.

### **Practical Steps to Becoming a Welcoming Congregation**

A panel of pastors of welcoming congregations 237

Churches that welcome LGBTQ people fully into the life of the congregation often experience impactful transformation in their congregation's ministry and life. This seminar offers the opportunity to learn some practical steps that will help lead your congregation toward a more welcoming posture. Pastors from Welcoming Congregations will offer insights about successful welcoming processes, including unexpected barriers and surprises, as well as opportunities for new ministry outreach and growth.

### **Youth Seminars**

2:45 - 3:45 p.m.

### **Becoming an Effective Bystander: Sexual Assault Intervention** and Prevention

Katie Baer, Talia Miller, Laura Miller, Emma Nouri, Samantha Shank, student educators, Goshen College 262

Student educators from Goshen College's Prevention Intervention Network (PIN) will introduce what it means to be a prosocial bystander who is able to intervene in a range of instances related to sexual assault and misconduct. They will discuss the concepts related to sexual violence, with the goal of equipping participants with an understanding of how they can intervene before, during and after an incident, in order to create healthy, survivor supportive communities.

#### Being a Competitive Athlete AND a Mennonite

Rustin Nyce, head coach of track and field, Goshen College Ir Ballroom D

Find out how athletics can be a conduit to share Mennonite history and values, as we consider the ways we win, compete and lose. We'll discuss how strength and power can be perceived as positive attributes for Mennonite athletes.

### **Designing Your Life in Complicated Times**

Marathana Prothro, assistant professor of communications, Bluffton University 230/231

Scripture tells us, "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed," (Romans 12:2 NASB), but sometimes it's hard NOT to conform to the path you think you should follow to make your family, church, friends and community proud. The right electives. The right clubs. The right GPA. The right college. The right major. The pressure to "stay on the right path" is immense for youth, and it isn't necessarily helpful in empowering you to truly follow Christ and make a difference in the world. Come explore 'design thinking' as a way to discover, embrace and pursue the many ways you might continually be transformed, as you join God's work in the world.

#### Making Peace With Conflict

Jes Stoltzfus Buller, peace education coordinator, and Krista Dutt, program coordinator, Mennonite Central Committee 263

When faced with difficult conflicts or aggression, how should we respond? Conflict is a normal part of life and learning how to manage difference, or aggression from others, is important. Conflict has the ability to rip apart communities and relationships ... or it can be transformative. This seminar will teach the basic skills of dealing with conflict, including communication skills, problem solving and ideas for stopping violence, without harming others. Come join us and learn to make peace with conflict by practicing these skills!

### Quarterback, Class Clown and Homecoming Queen — But Who's the Leader?

Rachel Swartzendruber Miller, vice president of advancement, Hesston College

#### Jr Ballroom C

So many assume that being a leader requires a specific position, status or popularity. In reality, none of these are ingredients of true leadership. Come explore a new definition of leadership - through stories and examples - one that flips the term "leadership position" on its head. Similar to how Jesus showed us an "upside-down kingdom," we can offer the world an upsidedown way of leading. This kind of leadership is something you can do anytime, anywhere.

#### The Bible and Christian Nationalism

Drew Strait, assistant professor of New Testament, Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary 238

In this seminar, youth will grapple with the challenges that patriotism and Christian nationalism present to discipleship, in an Anabaptist perspective. Through personal stories and engagement with biblical texts, this seminar will empower youth to become an alternative global community of love, peace and justice that bears witness to Christ's peaceable kingdom by embracing human difference, rather than fearing it.

### **Adult Seminars**

4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

### Future Driven Partnership: Pursuing God's Call at Mennonite Mission Network

Mike Sherrill, executive director, Mennonite Mission Network 263

Mission Network is responding to the present and innovating for the future. We exist to equip and empower the church to be a holistic witness to Jesus Christ, across the street and around the world. "For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline" (2 Timothy 1:7 NIV). This truth draws us toward inclusion and partnership, as we put God's love into action for people of all cultures. We are all pilgrims on a sacred journey. Together, let's discover God's urgent call for each of us and our church.

### Out of the Pit of Despair

Jill Hofer and Michelle L Hofer, advocates for survivors of spiritual abuse

### 234

God graciously offers refuge and renewal amid the trauma and depression that often occur following spiritual abuse. This session, led by individuals who are themselves spiritual abuse survivors, offers insights and spiritual practices for journeying with God on this path of long-suffering and slow recovery. Note: The information shared in this seminar is not intended to be a substitute for professional advice, diagnosis or treatment of abuse, trauma or depression.

### **Pursuing Happiness: A Wisdom Conversation**

Dr. Jackie Wyse-Rhodes, assistant professor of religion, Bluffton University

236

What does it mean to live a good life in the face of human mortality, political instability and theological doubt? This is an ancient and global question. Old Testament wisdom literature speaks to such questions, exploring topics related to purpose, community, finances and embodiment. How can our daily decisions be motivated by seeking the divine presence and will? How can our relationships with one another offer us the strength, humor and accountability we need to persevere? How can our relationship with money serve as a diagnostic tool to better understand our persistent anxieties? And how can we look to our own bodies and the natural world and find wisdom there? This seminar will explore wisdom traditions, with a special emphasis on the tri-fold tradition in the biblical canon: Proverbs, Job and Ecclesiastes.

#### Seeking Economic Justice in Communities of Color

Leonard Dow, vice president of community and church development, and Mark Regier, vice president of stewardship investing, Everence

262

Advancing economic racial justice and equity requires an honest assessment of historic discriminatory practices, while developing strategies to help address what has been lost. Racist practices, like redlining, predatory lending and housing discrimination, have led to a massive loss of generational wealth for people of color. Discover some of the innovative efforts underway, seeking to address past injustice and promote equity and inclusion. Bring your own stories to share.

### Youth Seminars

4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

### Living Like the Lilies: Three Paths to a Simpler Life

Gerald J. Mast, professor of communications, Bluffton University

233

Mennonite youth today face a complex world, profoundly altered by industrial and digital technologies that impact the way we organize, plan and connect our lives. This seminar offers practical guidance for following Jesus' call to live like the lilies (Matthew 6:28), with less worry about tomorrow and more delight in the present. Youth will be challenged to simplify their relationship to space, time, and communication to align their lives with God's peaceable and joyful design for the cosmos.

#### People on the Move: What Would You Choose?

Jes Stoltzfus Buller, peace education coordinator, and Saulo Padilla, immigration education coordinator, Mennonite Central Committee

232

Get up! Feel what it's like to be a person on the move. This interactive learning experience will help you develop a practical understanding of immigration issues, through an exercise that will move you around the room and illustrate the consequences of your choices — using real-world examples.

### The Struggle Is Real: A Tool for Navigating Life's Difficult Challenges

Rachel Swartzendruber Miller, vice president of advancement, Hesston College

Jr Ballroom C

No matter your age, life can get messy, tough and, at times, seemingly more than we can handle. Expand your tools for navigating life's challenging situations by attending this seminar and learning the Peer Consultation Process. Students and youth sponsors will gain awareness of the specific steps of Peer Consultation, as well as observe one in action — step-by-step, with an opportunity to speak into the process. This will give you, your group of friends, your youth group or your family a new option for navigating those messy moments of life.

### **Trevor Noah Visits Sunday School**

Michele Hershberger, author and professor of Bible and youth ministry, Hesston College

### Jr Ballroom D

Explore how we can use secular books and movie clips as a way to open our eyes to injustice. Trevor Noah, host of The Daily Show, won't be hosting this seminar, but he may show up in other ways, to talk about his life, his faith and what it was like to live in post-Apartheid South Africa. His story, combined with the teachings of Jesus, can be an open door to our own racism and how to move toward being more anti-racist.

### Using Ancient Wisdom to Stop Destructive Communication

Marathana Prothro, assistant professor of communications, Bluffton University 230/231

From broken relationships to deep political and theological divides, destructive communication pervades much of our experience today. Drawing from ancient wisdom and contemporary psychology, this seminar provides youth a practical way to recognize these patterns of communication and offers a path toward healing and hope in their personal relationships.

### Worship

**Trust the Peace 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.** Jon Carlson

Grand Ballroom



Jon Carlson serves as Lead Pastor of Forest Hills Mennonite Church. A reluctant millennial, Jon is fascinated by the intersections of faith, culture, technology, and tradition. He and his wife are raising three young children in Lancaster County, Pa. When he's not

chauffeuring kids around, Jon enjoys a good cup of espresso, a dense book, or a long-distance run.

# Jesus calls us to love our neighbors.

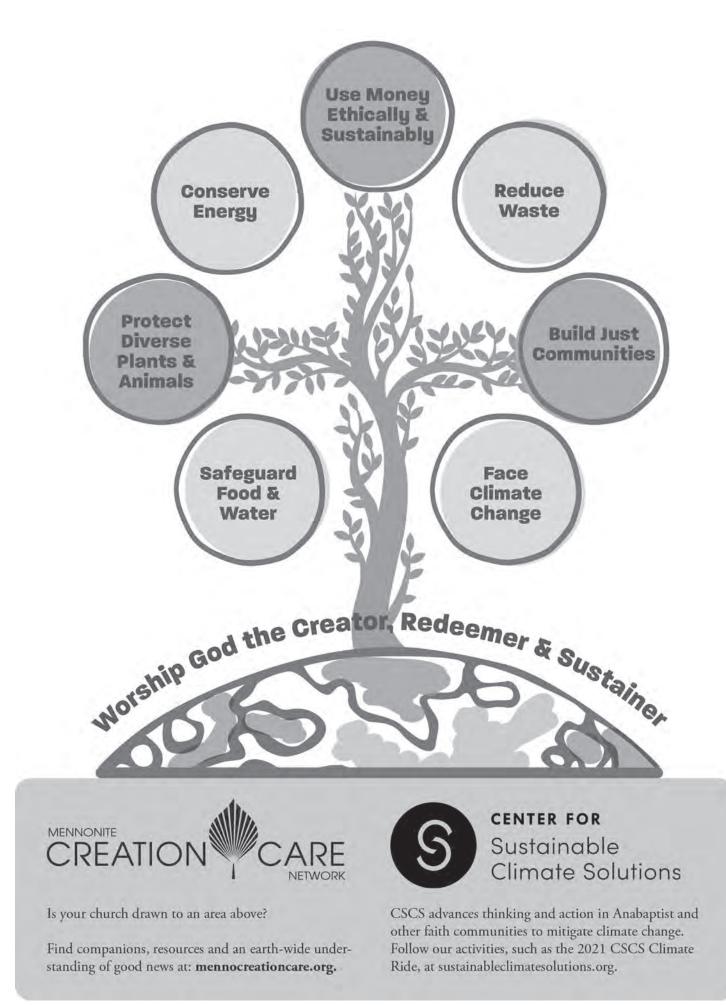
Since 1953, MEDA has worked with neighbors-near and farto equip entrepreneurs with the tools they need to thrive in business, lift their families out of poverty, and support their communities. Your support ensures hardworking people around the globe can earn a decent living wage and fulfill their God-given potential to earn a livelihood.

Visit www.MEDA.org and join us as we work to eliminate poverty through business.

# Cincinnati At A Glance

### SATURDAY, JULY 10, 2021

7:00 a.m.	Morning Run	Hotel Lobby
Adult Seminars		
9:00 - 10:00 a.m.	The Bible and Christian Nationalism	234
	Becoming Carbon Positive	262
	Congregational Financial Resources	238
	Daring to Make Peace: The M.J. Sharp Story	237
Youth Seminars		
9:00 - 10:00 a.m.	Being a Competitive Athlete AND a Mennonite	Jr Ballroom D
	Friendship and Community in the Digital Age	233
	People on the Move: What Would You Choose?	232
	Shaping Our Stories; Sharing Our Stories	230/231
	Trevor Noah Visits Sunday School	Jr Ballroom C
10:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Worship - Bring the Peace	Grand Ballroom
1:00 - 3:30 p.m.	Virtual Delegate Session	Zoom



### Saturday, July 10

#### **Morning Run**

#### 7:00 a.m.

Hotel lobby

Join others from your hotel for a morning run. Meet in the lobby at 7:00 a.m. and head out in small groups depending on the distance you want to cover that day.

### **Adult Seminars**

9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

### **Becoming Carbon Positive**

Jerrell Ross Richer, professor of economics, Goshen College 262

We live in an interconnected world, one where the actions we take affect people all over the globe. How can those of us living in the industrialized nations of the Global North become proactive when it comes to climate change? Environmental economics students at Goshen College are developing mechanisms to do just that. Equip yourself to become carbon positive by learning how to onset greenhouse gas emissions and take better care of God's creation.

### The Bible and Christian Nationalism

Drew Strait, assistant professor of New Testament, Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary

234

This seminar will profile Christian nationalism and patriotism and offers a biblical response, in Anabaptist perspective. In conversation with texts from the Old and New Testaments, we will discuss the significance of the political metaphor of idolatry in ancient Jewish and Christian communities. Special attention will be given to how rulers, ethnic reasoning, militarized state power and financial economies could become idolatrous in the mind of the worshiper. After this, the seminar will pivot to how contemporary Christian congregations can faithfully negotiate Christian nationalism, leverage state power for the common good, and resist the systems of domination that Christian nationalism amplifies.

### **Congregational Financial Resources**

Beryl Jantzi, director of stewardship education, Everence 238

Tending the financial viability of your congregation is a key pastoral and lay leader responsibility. Learn about a variety of resources that are available to support your church and individual members with finances and stewardship.

#### Daring to Make Peace: The M.J. Sharp Story

John Sharp, author, retired professor and father of M.J. Sharp 237

Is peace more than theology? More than history? For centuries, we have sharpened "our" peace theology and honed our storytelling of Anabaptist martyrs. But have we put our theology into practice? Have the stories of history motivated us to active peacemaking? M.J. Sharp felt called to build peace in dangerous places, such as the Democratic Republic of Congo, where he was abducted and shot March 12, 2017. What can we learn from his life, service and death?

### **Youth Seminars**

9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

#### Being a Competitive Athlete AND a Mennonite

Rustin Nyce, head coach of track and field, Goshen College Jr Ballroom D

Find out how athletics can be a conduit to share Mennonite history and values, as we consider the ways we win, compete and lose. We'll discuss how strength and power can be perceived as positive attributes for Mennonite athletes.

### Friendship and Community in the Digital Age

Robert Brenneman, professor of criminal justice and sociology, Goshen College

233

This seminar will examine some of the threats to community, mental health and friendship posed by the proliferation of screens and media's competition for our attention. The COVID-19 pandemic has further weakened our "social muscles," after months of avoiding contact with those outside our bubble. We'll consider the threats we face — both physical and social — and how we can rebuild our social muscles as individuals and communities.

#### People on the Move: What Would You Choose?

Jes Stoltzfus Buller, peace education coordinator, and Saulo Padilla, immigration education coordinator, Mennonite Central Committee

232

Get up! Feel what it's like to be a person on the move. This interactive learning experience will help you develop a practical understanding of immigration issues, through an exercise that will move you around the room and illustrate the consequences of your choices — using real-world examples.

### **Shaping Our Stories; Sharing Our Stories**

Eric Frey Martin, recruiter and church relations, Mennonite Mission Network

### 230/231

In this seminar, we will look at how we tell stories — not just the verbal ones that we relay to our friends — but the narratives we shape around who we are and how we project ourselves to others. We will take a look at how the stories we tell and project shape who we are and how our stories can impact others. We will look at sharing our stories as a way of sharing God with others.

### **Trevor Noah Visits Sunday School**

Michele Hershberger, author and professor of Bible and youth ministry, Hesston College

### Jr Ballroom C

Explore how we can use secular books and movie clips as a way to open our eyes to injustice. Trevor Noah, host of The Daily Show, won't be hosting this seminar, but he may show up in other ways, to talk about his life, his faith and what it was like to live in post-Apartheid South Africa. His story, combined with the teachings of Jesus, can be an open door to our own racism and how to move toward being more anti-racist.

### Worship

#### Bring the Peace 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Glen Guyton Grand Ballroom



Glen Guyton currently serves as the Executive Director of Mennonite Church USA. He has over a quarter century of experience serving in the denomination at various levels. Glen has a wonderful ability to share difficult and complex

information with diverse groups. Organizations, professional associations, and educators praise Glen for his quick-witted humor and relatability. Glen has authored two books, IDEAL ME: Discovering your call in a cluttered world and Reawakened: How your congregation can spark lasting change. Glen holds a Bachelor of Science in Management from the United States Air Force Academy and a Master of Education from Regent University. Glen currently resides in San Antonio, Texas with his wife and two adult children.

### **Virtual Delegate Session**

**1:00 – 3:30 p.m.** Zoom

### 

SCRUPLES ON THE LINE A Fictional Series Set During the American Civil War



"An evocative portrait of ordinary people in extraordinary circumstances." —STEVEN NOLT, co-author of Mennonites, Amish, and the

Book III coming soon!

American Civil War

EOYALTIES EVER YODER MILLER

CRUPLES ON THE LINE

"Tensions build between North and South: of race, of loving those we disagree with, of keeping family and property safe, of being true to understanding what God asks of followers." —ETEMAN GINGERICH

-FIRMAN GINGERICH, retired Mennonite pastor

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February 3-5, 2023 Cincinnati, Ohio www.mennoniteartsweekend.org Celebrate the Contributions of Mennonite Artists.

### **Worship Speakers**





Wednesday



Thursday



Friday



Saturday

#### TUESDAY

**Lesley Francisco McClendon** is the senior pastor and **Caleb McClendon** is the assistant pastor of <u>C3 – Calvary</u> <u>Community Church</u>, Hampton, Virginia. The duo teaches with vigor and passion and aims to deliver powerful, life-altering messages with their simple, easy-to-comprehend delivery. Lesley Francisco McClendon has a passion for bridging generational gaps and loves speaking to a broad range of audiences, although she often says that mid-20s to mid-life crisis is her sweet spot. Caleb McClendon's laid-back approach in ministry is more like motivational speaking, encouraging and probing the minds of people who simply want to live victoriously.

#### WEDNESDAY

**Dr. Meghan Larissa Good** is the teaching pastor at <u>Trinity Mennonite Church in Glendale, Arizona</u>, and author of *The Bible Unwrapped: Making Sense of Scripture Today*. She is a graduate of Portland Seminary, Duke Divinity School and Gordon College. Good frequently preaches and lectures at churches and universities across the country, speaking on subjects such as biblical hermeneutics, emerging Anabaptism and contemporary preaching. She lives in Phoenix with a prized dinosaur bone and a ridiculously large book collection.

#### THURSDAY

Ana Alicia Hinojosa is from Brownsville, Texas, and works for <u>Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) Central</u> <u>States</u>, as an immigration education coordinator. She is committed to the work of educating immigrants about their rights and bridging congregations to the work of MCC. She is a single, adoptive mother of three young adults, who have inspired her to pursue her doctoral degree in education.

#### FRIDAY

Jon Carlson serves as the lead pastor of Forest Hills Mennonite Church in Leola, Pennsylvania. A reluctant millennial, Carlson is fascinated by the intersections of faith, culture, technology and tradition. Carlson and his wife are raising three young children in Lancaster County. When he's not chauffeuring kids around, Carlson enjoys a good cup of espresso, a dense book or a long-distance run.

#### SATURDAY

**Glen Guyton** currently serves as the executive director for <u>Mennonite Church USA</u>. He has more than a quarter century of experience serving in the denomination at various levels. Guyton has a wonderful ability to share difficult and complex information with diverse groups. Organizations, professional associations and educators praise Guyton for his quick-witted humor and relatability. He has authored two books, *IDEAL ME: Discovering Your Call in a Cluttered World* and *Reawakened: How Your Congregation Can Spark Lasting Change*. Guyton holds a Bachelor of Science in Management from the United States Air Force Academy and a Master of Education from Regent University. He currently resides in San Antonio, Texas, with his wife and two adult children.

### Meet the MennoCon21 worship team

#### **Worship band leader**



**Seth Thomas Crissman** is an educator, musician and pastor in Mennonite Church USA, who has lived in Harrisonburg, Virginia, for 16 years, though he still says, "Western Pennsylvania," when people ask where he's from. He is a follower of Jesus who has spent the past 10 years helping churches work together to better give and receive God's love in their neighborhoods and local communities. He is also a songwriter and musician for the folk group, <u>The Walking Roots Band</u>. Crissman and his wife, Theresa, have three small children and another on the way, coming in April. He says he loves and appreciates Theresa's sense of adventuring and

commitment to following Jesus. Crissman has served at convention for many years and is excited to help again this year.

#### **Worship leaders**



Chris Cox was born in Texas, raised in Alabama, previously served in ministry in Georgia, and is now serving as youth and young adults pastor at C3 Hampton (Virginia). He has devoted his life to mentoring, molding and maintaining relationships with youth and young adults. Cox has traveled the nation for over a decade, speaking to students and student leaders. He is the creator of "The Collective," a leadership development community for youth pastors and leaders. Cox has a heart for discipleship and spends most of his time developing and creating discipleship strategies for leaders and their teams. You also may remember Chris Cox from MennoCon19, where he served as a worship leader and the host of squads for youth groups. For more information or to connect with Cox, visit his website at chriscoxspeakz.com.



Hendy Matahelemual was born in and grew up in the city of Bandung, Indonesia. He graduated from Parahyangan Catholic University in Bandung, with a bachelor's degree in Law. He worked in the music entertainment industry and at a law office before being called to full-time ministry. Matahelemual served as a pastor in Elshaddai Creative Community in Bandung before coming to the United States. Matahelemual received a Master of Arts in Christian Leadership from Eastern Mennonite Seminary in 2019. He serves with the Mosaic Mennonite Conference as associate pastor for community engagement.



Kay Schroeder was born into a family of six and lived in the country, not far from the small town of Goessel, Kansas. Schroeder has a Master of Arts in Christian Formation, with an emphasis in Worship, from Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary in Elkhart, Indiana, and a Bachelor of Arts in Speech and Drama, Communication Arts, and Music from Bethel College in North Newton, Kansas, She has served and led in the local church setting since 2001. She has loved planning and being involved in worship as far back as she can remember and has served in many settings. Schroeder currently serves as pastor of congregational life at Hesston (Kansas) Mennonite Church. Kay Schroeder and her husband, Joel, have two sons.

#### Worship band

Seth Crissman — Harrisonburg, Virginia Onan Alvarez — Houston, Texas Hillary Harder — Goshen, Indiana Emily Grimes — Lancaster, Pennsylvania Greg Yoder — Penn Laird, Virginia Jermaine Figueroa — Houston, Texas Worship planning coordinator Shannon Dycus – Harrisonburg, Virginia

Technical director Tim Blaum – Goshen, Indiana

### Mennonite Church USA (MC USA) would like to thank the following sponsors for their generous donations to MennoCon21:

#### **Convention App**

Everence

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Everence, Mennonite Mission Network, Anabaptist World, Mennonite Central Committee, Mennonite Disaster Service

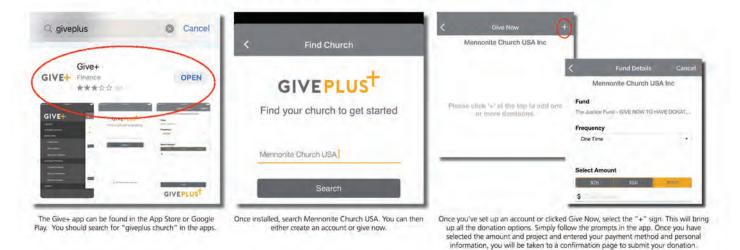
#### **Offerings**

Offerings at MennoCon21 will benefit the MC USA Justice Fund. Amid significant social unrest in the United States, MC USA launched the Justice Fund to provide a way for individuals and congregations to support MC USA churches that are actively involved in dismantling racism, addressing police brutality, reimagining policing in our society or combating poverty.

The Justice Fund will use donations to provide grants for MC USA congregations that are engaging in their communities to dismantle racism and to build peace. Congregations may also use these funds for seed money to begin work in their justice work.

Offerings will be collected before and after worship on Tuesday evening. Checks may also be dropped off at the convention office, room 260. Please make checks payable to "Mennonite Church USA."

### Mobile Giving at #MennoCon21



For a more detailed walkthrough and direct links to apps go to mennoniteusa.org/mobile-giving-mennocon21





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Search for "Mennonite Church USA"

# Laboring Toward Wholeness

### **DISMANTLING PATRIARCHY**

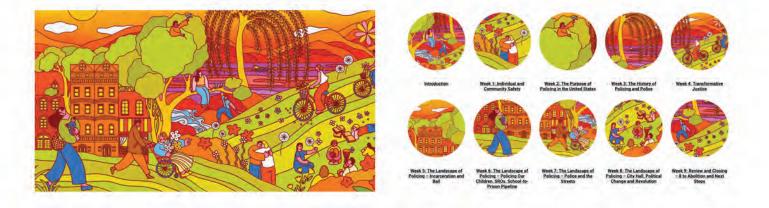
Through this training curriculum, we'll explore the history and roots of patriarchy and how it got entangled with our faith. We'll unpack the church's role in perpetuating it as well as our responsibility to dismantle it. We'll search the Bible for truths about who we are created to be. And we'll learn to recognize and respond to sexism and patriarchy in our own lives and contexts.

> You can see this and all other resources here: mennoniteusa.org/resource-portal

### "DEFUND THE POLICE?" AN ABOLITION CURRICULUM

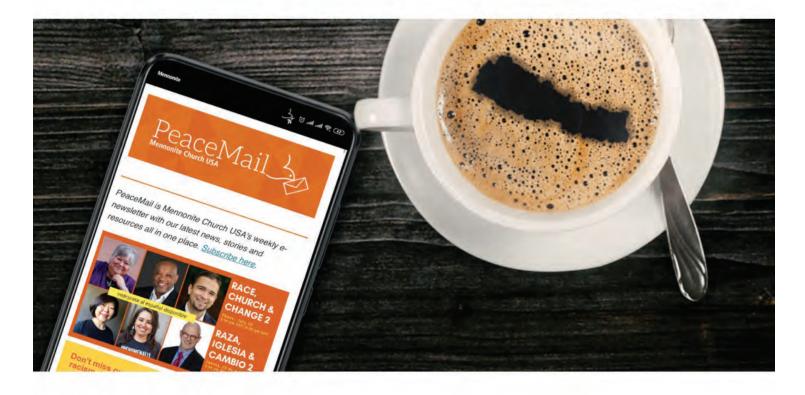
An Anabaptist grounded resource for clergy and congregations to engage in learning about the call for police abolition. This curriculum is an initial guide for congregations who are desiring to begin or continue their reflection on what it means to engage the forces of state, their commitments to non-violence and how to reimagine policing.

MennoniteUSA.org/Abolition-Curriculum



### Have you subscribed to PeaceMail?

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**PeaceMail** is the only source for all the news and blogs from **Mennonite Church USA** in one, easy-to-read weekly email.





Support peace initiatives across the denomination by giving to the **#BringThePeace** fund. Mennoniteusa.org/give