



Re: Official Meeting Notice of the MC USA Delegate Assembly, July 11

Five hundred years ago, groups of Christians began meeting together in Zurich and other parts of Europe. These people would come to be known as Anabaptists. Throughout its history, the Anabaptist movement has been characterized by an ongoing commitment to believer's baptism, community, and living peaceably. As we celebrate the 500th anniversary our shared tradition, I'm struck by how our spiritual forebears were seeking to follow Jesus together—and how we are seeking the same thing today. That's why I am so excited to begin planning for the 2025 Delegate Assembly on July 11 (8:30am to 5:00 p.m. EST) at the Koury Convention Center in Greensboro, North Carolina.

The Delegate Assembly is a time for our MC USA family to come together in prayer, praise, fellowship, prophecy, relationship building, understanding and deepening our commitment to Christ and each other.

In 2025, we'll reflect together on how God is at work in our church and consider ways we might more faithfully follow Jesus together. MC USA's bylaws say that delegates "discuss and decide major issues of policy for the national conference and discern the voice and the Spirit in the midst of the Delegate Assembly." Your voice plays an important part in this process! By serving as a delegate, you help bring the wisdom, insight, perspective, and local understanding of your congregation, area conference, or racial/ethnic group in ways that benefit the entire church.

Join in helping our denomination live into its call. Meet Mennonites from all over the United States and learn how they are living into our Renewed Commitments to follow Jesus, witness to God's peace and experience the transformation of the Holy Spirit.

Isaac Villegas, author of *Migrant God: A Christian Vision for Immigrant Justice*, will lead us in a Bible Study during our time together. What does it mean to turn to Jesus for strength in living out the gospel of life in a world of crucifixions?

As your congregation, area conference, or racial/ethnic group prepares for this gathering, please note that the bylaws of MC USA state:

- a. Each congregation of the Mennonite Church USA is eligible to send one (1) delegate for each one hundred (100) congregational members, or fraction thereof. Also, congregations may send an additional youth delegate (ages 16-21).
- b. Each area conference of the Mennonite Church USA is eligible to send one (1) delegate for each one thousand (1,000) area conference members, or fraction thereof. Also, conferences may send an additional two youth delegates (ages 16-21).

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c. Each Racial/Ethnic group, which has been officially recognized by the Executive Board, may send three (3) delegates plus one (1) delegate for each one thousand (1,000) members of such recognized Racial/Ethnic group. Also, Racial/Ethnic groups may send an additional two youth delegates (ages 16-21).

d. Each member of the Executive Board is automatically a delegate.

e. Each Executive Board or Delegate Assembly appointee to a program agency board is automatically a delegate.

f. Subject to the limitations contained herein, each appointing body shall itself determine the criteria and term of its delegate(s), by what method its delegates are selected and whether and how it wishes to achieve continuity through its delegates. Each area conference delegate to the Delegate Assembly shall be a member of a congregation in that area conference. All delegates shall be members of congregations which are members (through area conferences) of Mennonite Church USA.

g. Member area conferences shall be responsible to notify the denominational offices of the identity of area conference delegates.

Please contact Leah Hoffner if you have any questions.

Email: LeahH@MennoniteUSA.org Phone: (574) 523-3027

I look forward to being together in Greensboro this summer!

Grace + Peace,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jon W. Carlson".

Jon Carlson
Moderator
Mennonite Church USA

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