

# Mennonite Church USA

## Nominees for churchwide boards



*Elect as moderator-elect for two years (2025-2027) followed by a term as moderator for two years (2027-29)*



### **Todd Lehman, Hesston, KS (Elected by the Delegate Assembly)**

Todd Lehman was raised in a Mennonite church in Kidron, Ohio, where he attended with his parents and two older brothers. As an adult, he said he chooses to stay within the Mennonite faith because he “has not been drawn to any other tradition that is more in line with scripture than Anabaptism.”

One of the Mennonite values that is close to Lehman’s heart is restorative justice. Lehman is the executive director of [Offender/Victim Ministries, Inc.](#) (OVM), a non-profit focused on community-based restorative justice,

where he volunteered for more than 15 years. OVM serves both victims and offenders impacted by conflict, trauma, crime and incarceration through programs such as Immediate Intervention services for juveniles, Restorative Family Programming and its M-2 prison visitation program.

Prior to joining OVM in 2020, Lehman was the campus pastor at [Hesston College](#), a two-year Mennonite liberal arts college in Hesston, Kansas, for 11 years. Before that, he served as a youth pastor for two local Mennonite churches, Trinity Mennonite Church (now closed) and [First Mennonite Church](#) in Hillsboro, a shared position that he held from 2001-2007.

Lehman holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Culture, Religion and Missions from [Eastern Mennonite University](#), Harrisonburg, Virginia, and a master’s degree in Christian Ministry from Friends University, Wichita. He also has earned a certificate in Faith-based Peacemaking from Eastern Mennonite University and has studied at [Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary](#), Elkhart, Indiana.

Reflecting on his service with the Executive Board, Lehman said a highlight for him was the recent meeting with MC USA’s Racial Ethnic Council in November 2024 (See news release [here](#)). “Being part of a body that has varying expressions feels more like how the church is described in scripture,” he said.

Lehman acknowledged that there are challenges ahead for the Executive Board, including discussions about what structures will serve MC USA best moving forward. He explained that these conversations will be impacted by “hyper localization” trends, in which churches of many faiths are increasingly focused on their immediate local community, rather than connecting or reaching a broader regional or national audience.

“If the local church is an expression of the local body, then what role does the denomination play? How important are these relationships?” he asked.

Lehman and his wife, Julie, have two daughters, ages 9 and 12. They attend [Hesston Mennonite Church](#), which was recently welcomed into MC USA’s [Western District Conference](#).

## Slate of Nominees to be approved by Delegates at the 2025 Assembly:

- **Todd Lehman** as moderator-elect for two years (2025-2027) followed by a term as moderator for two years (2027-29).
  - **Richard Aguirre**: Reappointment for 2025-2029 on the MC USA Executive Board.
  - **Randall Justice**: Reappointment for 2025-2029 on the Mennonite Mission Network Board.
  - **Kelsey Hochstetler**: Reappointment for 2025-2029 on the Mennonite Mission Network Board.
  - **Horace McMillon**: Reappointment for 2025-2029 on the Mennonite Mission Network Board.
  - **Nelson Okanya**: Reappointment for 2025-2029 on the MennoMedia Board.
- 

**EXECUTIVE BOARD** The membership of the EB shall be comprised of up to 21 people. Two members shall be the moderator and moderator-elect; up to four members are appointed by the EB; the four recognized Racial/Ethnic groups shall each appoint one member; and the remaining members are elected by the Delegate Assembly. Members are eligible to serve two full four-year terms. The outgoing moderator is eligible to serve two years as past moderator if he or she chooses to serve and the incoming moderator agrees. The types of terms are noted as either DA or EB. Nominees elected by the DA will be voted on by Delegates on July 11 for reappointment.

---

### MC USA Executive Board Members for Reappointment (2025-2029 Term)



**Mitch Kingsley** (elected by EB) – Bluffton, Ohio, First Mennonite Church, Central District Conference. Mitch is employed as an Attorney Associate by Samuel W. Diller, CO, LPA. in Bluffton.



**Susan Hart** (elected by EB) El Reno, Okla., Koinonia Mennonite Church, Western District Conference, representative of Native Mennonite Ministries. Susan is the Pastor of Koinonia Mennonite Church.



**Karen Zehr** (elected by EB) – Wichita, Kan., Hope Mennonite Church, Western District Conference. Karen is employed by Builders, Inc., as their controller.



**Richard R. Aguirre** (elected by **DA**) – Goshen, Ind., Berkey Avenue Mennonite Church, Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference. Richard is employed by the City of Goshen as the Clerk-Treasurer.

## MC USA Executive Board New Appointments (2025-2029 Term), Elected by the Executive Board



**Fernando Ramos** (1<sup>st</sup> term, 2025-29, EB) – Rock Island, IL., Casa de Oración Emanuel, Central Plains Conference, representative of the Iglesia Menonita Hispana. Fernando is the Pastor of Casa de Oración Emanuel.

### Full listing of MC USA Executive [MC USA Executive Board Members](#)

---



**Randall Justice**, Board Chair (elected by **DA**) – Lititz, PA., Akron Mennonite Church, Atlantic Coast Conference. Randall is an Owner/Attorney at Haggerty, Silverman & Justice, P.C.



**Rachel Springer Gerber** (elected by EB) – Bloomington, IN., Mennonite Fellowship of Bloomington, Indiana-Michigan Conference. Rachel is the Associate Director of Career Exploration & Student Employment at Indiana University.

### Mennonite Mission Network Board Members for Reappointment (2025-2029 Term)



**Horace McMillon** (elected by **DA**) – Chicago, IL., Open Door, Jackson, MS, Gulf States & Community Mennonite of Markham, IL, Central District Conference. Horace is the Regional Sales Manager of Serta Simmons Bedding.



**Kelsey Hochstetler**, Secretary (elected by **DA**) – Millersburg, OH., Berlin Mennonite Church, Ohio Conference. Kelsey is the Digital Strategy Manager at TKG.

### Mennonite Mission Network Board New Appointment (2025-2029 Term)

**Charles Baraka** (elected by EB in November as a midterm appointment) Madison Mennonite Church, Madison WI, Central District Conference.

**Roxanne Gehring**, (elected by EB) – Alamosa, CO., Anabaptist Fellowship of Alamosa, Mountain States Conference. Roxanne is the Restorative Justice Diversion Program Coordinator at the Center for Restorative Programs.

### Full listing of [Mennonite Mission Network Board Members](#)

## MennoMedia Board Members for Reappointment (2025-2029 Term)



**Nelson Okanya**, Vice Chair (elected by **DA**) – Lancaster, PA., James Street Mennonite Church, Atlantic Coast Conference. Nelson is the President of the Center for Serving Leadership in Pittsburgh, PA.

Full listing of [MennoMedia Board Members](#)

---

## MHS Association Board Members for Reappointment (2025-2029 Term)



**Larry Miller**, Chair, MHS Consulting Board (elected by EB) – Harrisonburg, VA., Community Mennonite Church, Allegheny Conference. Larry is retired.



**Roy Teramoto** (elected by EB) – Phoenix, AZ., Trinity Mennonite Church, Pacific Southwest Conference. Roy is retired.

Full listing of [MHS Association Board Members](#)

---

## Everence Board Members for Reappointment (2025-2029 Term)

*Note that Everence will vote and make final approval on board members*



**Kate Nafziger Leichty** (elected by EB) – Goshen, IN., Eighth Street Mennonite Church, Central District Conference. Kate is a Tax Partner at Kruggel Lawton.



**Ruth Suter** (elected by the EB) – Brisbane, CA., First Mennonite Church of San Francisco, Pacific Southwest Conference. Ruth is the Head of Global Portfolio Strategy, Epilepsy and Rare Syndromes at UCB, Inc.

Full listing of [Everence Board Members](#)