



Allegheny Mennonite  
Conference

A conference of Mennonite Church USA



## Annual Report, August 2013 Allegheny Conference News

Allegheny Conference News is being published on-line at the conference website with new articles usually being posted weekly. Evie Christner from Pinto Mennonite Church serves as the news and information editor for these items. Articles and photos have been obtained from Mennonite Church USA news services, sent by various conference churches and members, and written by attendees of conference events. Churches are encouraged to share their activities with the wider conference in this way. Contact information for the news editor is listed on the website.



“Flat Al”, an idea taken from the children’s book “Flat Stanley” and adapted by several other conferences, was introduced at the Spring Faith and Life Gathering in March. This cardboard figure is being passed from congregation to congregation and photographed as he joins in their events and fellowship. These photos are then posted on the news site. This has proven to be a popular and fun incentive for congregations to share the happenings in their church with the entire conference.

The website also includes a “subscribe” button for those who wish to receive an e-mail each time a new article is posted. Items for the conference calendar and those specifically for pastors and leadership council are posted in a separate area on the website by the conference office.

Since many churches and individuals in our conference do not have readily available e-mail or computer access, a compiled selection of the news articles is being made available in a pdf file that may be photocopied by churches for their use. This is being done approximately bi-monthly and essentially covers reports on past events rather than upcoming ones. It is hoped that more and more availability and use of the on-line capabilities will soon eliminate the need for this type of communication.

Allegheny Conference News is an important piece of building and maintaining relationships between people in the churches of the conference. Please share the special events, missional activities, and service opportunities of your church with the entire conference as an encouragement to us all.

**Evie Christner**, *News and Information Editor*