



**Allegheny
Mennonite
Conference**

A conference of
Mennonite Church USA

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Philippians 4 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

4 ⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. ⁸ Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹ Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

Greetings, Sisters and Brothers of Allegheny Mennonite Conference!

We greet you with the heartfelt words of the Apostle Paul to his beloved congregation in Philippi - inviting you also to embrace a spirit of rejoicing and gentleness, of gratitude and thanksgiving - entrusting all things to the God of peace.

You are invited to gather on Saturday, November 4, for our fall gathering of AMC delegates and guests at Hyattsville Mennonite Church, 4217 East-West Highway, Hyattsville, MD.

Our time together will include morning worship led by Hyattsville Mennonite; stories from 3 AMC congregations - sharing joys and challenges, along with hopes and dreams for the future; discerning a Moderator-elect; a financial update and implications for longer term staffing options; a report from representatives of Central District Conference and the Network Team; laying out a timeline for future conference decisions; an offering designated for the AMC budget/operating expenses; fellowship around the lunch table and a sending blessing inviting the God of peace to continue to be present within all our AMC congregations.

I (Marv) wish to express my deepest gratitude and thanks for each of you as I will be unable to attend this gathering due to our impending move back to Canada. I am so grateful for the gift and privilege of journeying with you these past 7 years and for life-long friendships made. I wish you God's abiding love and grace in the journey ahead. A special thanks to our AMC staff members - Dave, Joy and Kathy - who so faithfully serve the church in the spirit and love of Christ. Special blessings (and apologies) to Enos Tice as he takes on the role of Moderator earlier than anticipated.

You will be in good hands (although I am a bit concerned with who will keep their eye on our parliamentarian, Dave Swanson, as he is keeping his eye on you with his "Robert's Rules of Order" - and, come to think of it - who will be there to monitor that Enos doesn't share too many "cow" jokes?).

God's blessings to you and over you in the name of Christ,

Marv Friesen (Moderator), Enos Tice (Moderator elect)

Calling people into a transforming relationship with Jesus and His Church