

**#1 – Faith & Life Gathering March 6, 2021 via Zoom** – We affirmed – **five people** to serve in various roles within our conference, **a tithe distribution** of \$135,000 from the sale of the IGH building, and a **new budget** to begin July 1 – the diligent work of some 50 delegates from 11 congregations. Thank you to our leaders and our delegates for the thoughtful deliberations!



Leadership Council (from L-R) – Joyce Hall (University), *CLC Representative*; Karrie Peterson (Hyattsville) & Lester Lind (Philippi) *Regional Representatives*



Nominating Committee (from L-R) – Tim Johnson (West Philadelphia), Jason Gerlach (Community)

**#2 - Distribution of a firstfruits tithe from the proceeds of International Guest House property –**



**Mennonite Church USA**

The tithe distribution, honoring the legacy of IGH's hospitality, peace and justice ministry, is in the being sent to various ministries of Mennonite Church USA as follows:

- \$60,000 – MC USA Justice Fund (\$45,000 as a direct gift; \$15,000 to encourage matching funds)
- \$35,000 – Immigration ministry support to San Antonio Mennonite Church, as recommended by Mennonite Mission Network
- \$30,000 – to be divided between a direct payment to a first nations people group, still under negotiation (\$20,000), and support for the Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery Coalition (\$10,000)
- \$10,000 – to Gulf States Mennonite Conference (two payments of \$5,000 each over two years), honoring the gifts from Central District Conference and Indiana Michigan Mennonite Conference for their past assistance to Allegheny
- \$135,000 – TOTAL Firstfruits Tithe (one tenth of the proceeds from the sale)

**#3 – Leadership Council to begin Anti-racism training** – As part of the church wide effort to increase awareness and understanding of issues related to systemic racism, Allegheny leadership council and staff are taking part in MC USA recommended training materials over the next 6 months. The training is also available to congregations wishing to participate in such training. The Leadership Council represents seven of our fourteen congregations, so there will be ample feedback for your congregation to consider.

**#4 – Notes on current event planning** – a) The MC USA event planning team has made a decision to hold the delegate portion of **MennoCon21** as a **virtual-only meeting**. Registration for the MennoCon21 will open April 6 for both the in-person and virtual portions of the event. Allegheny Conference is eligible to send two delegates and each congregation is eligible to send one delegate for each 100 persons or percentage thereof. Make plans now to be part of the important and inspirational happening in Mennonite Church USA. b) **Laurelville has made a decision to hold in-person Summer Camps for children and youth**. Registration is open and applications are being received with restrictions at 50% capacity. Joy Cotchen, Conference Minister of Children and Youth and the summer camp planning team are hard at work to deliver an Anabaptist-focused camping experience for summer campers. Check out the full details for attending summer camp on Laurelville's website. Allegheny conference youth are eligible for conference-related discounts. Stay tuned for more information as the shifting sands of COVID are still with us!



c) **Everence** announces plans for its annual **Development Conference**. See the details with this link: <https://www.everence.com/everence-events/corporate/everence-development-conference-2021-coming-in-september>