

**#1 – Mennonite Convention 2019 in Kansas City**

MennoCon19 is history. By most measures, it was something of a watershed event. Significant Bible study with Tom Yoder Neufeld, inter-generational worship services with a wide variety of music, inspirational speakers, timely workshops. If my observations are correct, Allegheny had eight of our twelve congregations represented in Kansas City. We had Step-Up youth delegates participate. A new Spirit of visioning our future, led by Executive Director Glen Guyton and his staff seems to be serving MC USA well as we navigate the current journey forward. Keep the future of Mennonite Church USA in your prayers.

**#2 – Summer Celebration at Laurelville – August 2-4!**

**Much Fruit!** Yes, it is always a busy summer every other year when national convention is followed shortly by our Summer Celebration of Congregations and Conference. Our new access to the PayPal payment system is up and running, so you will be able to pay your conference fees with a credit card on site at Laurelville (or by check as normal).

Dave Mishler (Scottdale), Kate Heinzel (University) and Wes Bergen (Morgantown CoB) will be preaching. What is your vision for the “much fruit” Allegheny should be planting, tending, harvesting and enjoying? I look forward to worshipping, fellowshiping, laughing and contemplating with you! Check your email for the conference “booklet” materials for your review and preparation. Shana Peachey Boshart will be joining us from MC USA along with numerous representatives from the larger church. Let’s come to tune in to one another for inspiration, collaboration and discernment in our place-based ministries. See you soon!

**#3 – Summer Camp – “I AM” – who Jesus is and who I am**

Well done - to all the staff at Laurelville and our Allegheny summer camp staff! Many memories and discipleship connections were made over the six weeks of Laurelville/AMC jointly-sponsored camps for **some 190 children and youth 6 to 17 years old**. Many thanks and congratulations to Jeanette Lahm (Laurelville executive director), Kimmie Stradling (Laurelville program director), Joy Cotchen (conference minister of children and youth) and Leah Rittenhouse (summer camp director) for their work.

**#4 – New minister report**

We recognize newly licensed minister – **Naomi Tice** – whose credentialing was requested by Springs Mennonite Church and Mennonite Mission Network. Naomi has been on assignment with MMN in the United Kingdom. Her License for Specific Ministry (LSM) will assist in retaining proper visas and enable her to expand her work with the several organizations she works with. Congratulations Naomi!

Springs Mennonite Church has also recently called **John Verburg** – pastor, mission worker and college professor – to become their pastor beginning September 1. Currently seeking housing and transitioning from his work in Alabama, John and his wife, Faith, are anticipating cooler temperatures, if not longer and colder winters! Keep Springs and the Verburgs in your prayers as they begin their new assignment.

**#5 – Fiscal year-end better than budget!**

Thank you to all congregations, conferences and individuals who helped propel AMC to stay on track to reach a balanced budget by 2021. You can review the financial reports on our website and delegates can counsel together at Celebration as we plan to achieve our financial goals in the coming years.

*Please respond with your questions, comments, hopes and dreams to this post. If you are viewing this post in your email account, use your email “reply” as one way to respond. Or if you are reading this post on our website, post a comment here. All online comments are screened before they go live.*