

**#1 – Faith & Life Gathering, March 5, to be held via Zoom**



The AMC Leadership Council has determined to hold the upcoming delegate meeting as a virtual only meeting. Based on the varied experiences of the communities our congregations serve, and that the agenda is expected to be amenable to a virtual meeting, for reasons of safety and with an abundance of caution the LC made this decision. Be

looking for an invitation from our Moderator, LeAnne Zook (Hyattsville), budget and YTD financial information from our treasurer Karin Miller (Springs), and other accompanying materials from the conference office in the next several days.

Significant agenda items include – final decision on distribution of IGH sale proceeds to congregations, the 2022-23 budget, affirmation of volunteers for the coming year, and receiving a new congregation into AMC.

**#2 – Leadership Council acts on recommendation to receive Pittsburgh congregation into Allegheny**

Conference Minister, David Mishler and the **Asian Indian Christian Church of Pittsburgh (AICCP)** have been in conversation for several months to determine if affiliating with Allegheny could be mutually beneficial for our ministries. AICCP and Allegheny have had a relationship since the congregation's inception in 1998.

**Asian Indian Christian Church of Pittsburgh**  
Worship. Word. Prayer.

Back then the Mennonite Board of Missions and Allegheny co-sponsored the beginnings of a “ministry among the vast Indian population” in and around Pittsburgh, PA. Thinagar Sittler was commissioned and ordained in Mennonite Church through Allegheny to lead this ministry. Because the congregation which came together originated from many different denominational backgrounds, AICCP had not made a decision until now to affiliate formally with AMC. With a new pastor, Pratik Bagh, who received his MDiv at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary and is an ordained minister from the General Conference Mennonite Church in India (BGCMC), the desire of both the congregation and Pastor Pratik is to establish broader relationships for fellowship and accountability, the congregation made a decision to join Allegheny in January. We will welcome the congregation with a brief recognition during our March Faith & Life Gathering, with a more formal reception and celebration at our “Celebration of Congregations and Conference” when we meet in-person at Laurelville, August 5-7, 2022. Welcome AICCP!



**#3 – Youth of AMC – Registration for Summer Camping is now open!** Go to

Laurelville's website to get details, dates, costs, etc. Allegheny and Laurelville co-sponsor the overnight camps each year, so expect an unapologetic Anabaptist flavor for your children. We look forward to learning with you this year – “Climbing the Mountain: Reaching for Wholeness” <https://laurelville.org/program-events/youth/church-camp-pa/>

**Junior Youth Retreat - March 18-20, 2022** (for grades 5-8) is also open for registration. Click here for the brochure and registration information. This year's theme - “Here I Am?” Bible teacher, Jayne Byler (Stahl). <https://www.alleghenymennoniteconference.org/event/jr-youth-retreat/>



**#4 – Registrations coming in!** Elaine T. James, PhD will join pastors and leaders for a Spring Study at Laurelville Retreat Center, **April 25-28, 2022** (Mon. afternoon to Thur. noon). **“Embodiment and Holism,”** a study of the Song of Songs, will focus on a **biblical perspective of caring for the body, ecology and creation, desire and sexuality, and the art of attention.** Check out the information on our website, where you can also register for this event.

<https://www.alleghenymennoniteconference.org/event/embodiment-and-holism-reading-the-poetry-of-the-song-of-songs/>