

#1 – Faith & Life Gathering, March 5, 2022



Delegates and visitors met this day via Zoom for AMC’s Spring Faith & Life Gathering. Significant items for the day included passage of a distribution plan for proceeds from the sale of the International Guest House (IGH) property, the 2022-23 budget / spending plan, reception of a new congregation – the

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

Asian Indian Christian Church of Pittsburgh (AICCP), and reports from conference ministers, the moderator and a history of the IGH. Volunteers for the coming year were also affirmed.

The historic decision, described as **“radical trust,”** to disburse an equal amount of a portion of IGH proceeds to each congregation - for the purpose of creating or assisting local ministries of hospitality, peacemaking and justice – came after several meetings/months of discernment among the delegates. Hyattsville Mennonite Church, because of the long and primary role in the ministry of IGH, will receive half of the remaining funds (\$466,788) to enhance and develop ministries in the D.C. area. All other congregations will receive just over \$30,000 each. The expectation for congregations receiving funds is to share with other conference congregations, over the next few years during conference gatherings, the ministries assisted or developed with the IGH proceeds. We anticipate fruitful exchanges as we give space for celebrating each congregation’s experiences.



#2 – Registrations coming in for next month’s event! 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/>

We have three conference represented so far – Central District, Virginia and Allegheny. There are only 9 spots yet available. Spread the word! Register today! *(Because of renovations occurring at the Lodge this year - where we normally met to keep costs down - we will be meeting mostly in the Laurel Room, which is attached to the Motel. We are working with Laurelville to find appropriate spaces for cooking and serving our own meals and where overnight lodging can economically happen.)*



#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/>

Many of you have likely already heard of the substantial fire that occurred at Laurelville, taking down the maintenance building on February 12. You can check out the details and the recovery efforts here – <https://laurelville.org/donate-support-laurelville/#fire-recovery>

Also, note that although insurance will cover much of the losses, your contributions are welcome to support gaps in coverage and potential re-design of some of the space to accommodate current needs.



#4 – In memoriam – we note with sadness the untimely death of former Allegheny Conference Youth Worker/Minister (1988-96), Juanita (Tina) Boshart. She died in a car accident on February 14. For her obituary you can visit - <https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/name/juanita-boshart-obituary?id=33111381>