



#1 – Summer Camping Season is Underway!

For many years, Allegheny Mennonite Conference and Laurelville Retreat Center have co-sponsored overnight summer camping for youth of Allegheny Mennonite Conference and also local youth. The number of local youth have been increasing in recent years, which has helped to keep numbers strong and has opened opportunities for relationship building beyond regular channels. The co-sponsorship means Allegheny youth can count on several things: 1) an unapologetic Anabaptist flavor, focusing on discipleship as an alternative to high-pressure campfire conversions; 2) Bible teachers that understand Anabaptist/Mennonite theology in their approach to the Bible study portion of the camping experience; 3) a majority of staff are recruited from Mennonite congregations / colleges / universities (most of whom are former campers!); 4) discounted registration for all campers who are associated with Allegheny congregations. For more information see - <https://laurelville.org/program-events/youth/church-camp-pa/>

#2 – Registrations are coming in for Allegheny’s Annual “Celebration” event – August 5-7 at Laurelville



Retreat Center – This Year’s Theme - “And Be Thankful” Colossians 3:15

Make your reservations soon! Overnight accommodations are limited as Laurelville comes out of pandemic protocols to strong demand for their services.

Deadline for registration is July 11.

This year’s Celebration anticipates distinctive opportunities for festivity as distributions from the proceeds of the International Guest House property will be given to all eligible Allegheny congregations on Saturday. The Walking Roots Band, Community Mennonite Church, Jennifer Davis Sensenig, and Cindy Lapp will be featured in our worship times. We will recognize the 23-year tenure of Conference Minister of Children and Youth, Joy Cotchen. Service projects on the Laurelville campus, good food and fellowship, great accommodations and swimming pool – all help make this the go to event for Allegheny connections this summer! Everence is assisting with meal costs and our ice cream snack as part of their ongoing support to MC USA conference.

#3 –AMC related positions open - for more information contact: davem@alleghenymennoniteconference.org

Lead Pastor - Scottdale Mennonite Church - .5 FTE; open July 1

Interim Pastor - West Philadelphia Mennonite Fellowship - .5 to .75 FTE, open immediately

Settled lead pastor – West Philadelphia Mennonite Fellowship - 1 FTE – open January 1 (estimated)

#4 – Mennonite Church USA Delegate Assembly Summary Report



Allegheny’s CLC representative, Joyce Hall (University), and Moderator-elect, Randy Kolb (Pittsburgh) joined fourteen congregational delegates in representing Allegheny Conference in Kansas City for the recent delegate assembly. Four significant resolutions were processed, three for action and one for study. The Mennonite Church USA website - mennoniteusa.org – contains reports of all actions. [Anabaptist World](http://AnabaptistWorld.org) offers commentary and perspective. Approval of both the “Membership Guidelines” revision and the “Repentance and Transformation” resolutions are historic and affirm the direction Allegheny Conference has been moving: raising congregational autonomy as a primary locus of authority (place-based ministry) and providing a context of respect for congregations who hold to welcoming and traditional beliefs regarding the full inclusion of persons who identify as LGBTQ. We aspire to follow Jesus in love and ministry to all people, including those who have been relegated to the margins in the church and in most societies. May God give us wisdom in living into the vision of Romans 14 and Acts 15.

#5 – Closing the gap into the end of the fiscal year 2021-22!

Thank you to all congregations and individuals who responded to the request for contributions to meet our delegate approved budget ending at the end of this month. We now project that a deficit, which combines under budget receipts with under budget expenses, will be less than \$10,000 because of recent giving. All income received before June 30 will count towards this year’s budget.