

#1 – “Celebration” only five weeks away!



Registrations are coming in for Allegheny’s annual Celebration of Congregations and Conference scheduled for August 4-6, 2023, at Laurelville Retreat Center, Mt. Pleasant PA. West Philadelphia Mennonite Fellowship will lead our worship experiences around the theme “The Wind of Transformation.” **Glen Guyton, Mennonite Church USA Executive Director, will be the featured speaker.**

Everence will again sponsor an upgraded breakfast package and evening snacks.

We are planning for children and youth activities, including childcare. We are also planning for Zoom options for both the delegate meeting and worship services. Rooms are filling up! Get your registration in soon! Here is the registration form with a deadline of July 14th [2023 Registration Form](#).

#2 – Pastors/Leaders Appreciation Dinner

A special event is scheduled to kick-off the annual Celebration festivities for Pastors and Leaders of Allegheny. Beginning at **3:00 PM Friday afternoon,**

Aug. 4, Glen Guyton will join conference pastors and leaders for an informative conversation about the future vision for Mennonite Church USA, using his recent book – ***reawakened*** – as background. At 5:15, the group will share in an “Appreciation Dinner” to honor and celebrate those who are leading our congregations. Because of several generous donations, the dinner is fully funded (that means FREE!) for leaders and guest from each congregation. Leadership Council members and a guest are also invited to attend. Invitation letters have been sent with an RSVP requested so we can get a firm count for dinner reservations.



#3 – Financial Update – Year End Status

As we approach the end of our fiscal year – June 30 – Allegheny is reporting a mixed picture of our financial condition. Individual donations have surpassed budget expectations. Congregational giving is significantly behind budget expectations. Because of holding operating expenses in check, we expect to come moderately close to a break-even income and expense statement on June 30.

As we begin a new fiscal year on July 1, just a reminder that, in order to spread basic costs for conference operations across our 17 congregations, ***the Leadership Council has raised the annual Administrative Fee from \$500 to \$750***, the first increase of this fee since its inception six years ago. Your congregation will receive a notice about this annual fee in early July, with the balance due by the end of August. Thank you for your ongoing support of the ministry of Allegheny Mennonite Conference!

#4 – Confirmed – 2024 Spring Study Resource Person – Safwat Marzouk

Mark your calendars for next year’s Spring Bible Study at Laurelville Retreat Center, April 22-25, 2024. Safwat Marzouk, PhD, Associate Professor of Old Testament, Union Presbyterian Seminary, Richmond VA (formerly OT Professor at AMBS) will be bringing his perspective on Exodus. This foundational story for Christian, Jewish and Muslim traditions is of great interest as Christians seek bridges in our intercultural world.



#5 – Conference Minister Search to begin by year’s end

AMC’s Leadership Council has appointed Randy Kolb, Karrie Peterson and Lee Good to begin preliminary work towards putting a search committee together for Allegheny’s next conference minister. David Mishler is planning to retire from his current position by the end of June 2024. Background informational documents are being created for use by a yet to be named Search Committee. You will be hearing more about this process over the coming months. Direct any questions or comments to Randy Kolb, Moderator.