

Welcome to the Delegates from the CDC Board President

Welcome to the Goshen College campus in Goshen, Indiana, for the 62nd Central District Conference annual meeting. We hope you—whether returning or new conference participants—will enjoy this time together. On behalf of our Board of Directors, Conference Minister Doug Luginbill, and Conference Administrator Emma Hartman, I am glad you have chosen to attend the conference.



Our theme this year is “Come walk with us. Tell us your story!” and our speakers and the story-telling will help us connect with that theme. Our three worship sessions will feature Nina Lanctot, John Powell, and Jonathan Larson. Nina was most recently pastor at Florence Church of the Brethren/Mennonite (MI); John Powell is a member of Shalom Community Church in Ann Arbor, MI, and currently serves on the Missional Church Committee; Jonathan Larson resides in Atlanta, GA, and previously served in various countries in Africa and has authored two books--MennoMedia characterizes him as a storyteller.

Something new this year! Instead of a single plenary sessions we have invited four storytellers to share a story four different times with each session being 25 minutes. After 25 minutes, the participants will rotate to another storytelling station. We have allowed 10 minutes to transition from station to station. Times are 1:45-2:10p; 2:20-2:45p; 2:55-3:15p; 3:25-3:50p. The stations are:

- *Short-term Transitional Housing with Kay Bontrager-Singer
- *International Guest House - a thriving hospitality ministry of Allegheny Mennonite Conference in Washington, DC with Jonathan and Betty Schrag
- *A quintessential Story of Jesus-like Mission with Jonathan Larson
- *Get Home Safe: African Americans' Rules for Survival in an Age of Hate and Guns with Cyneatha Millsaps

Our host congregations who have planned this event are Assembly Mennonite Church, Eighth Street Mennonite Church, Faith Mennonite Church, Hively Avenue Mennonite Church, Open Table Mennonite Fellowship, Silverwood Mennonite Church, Southside Fellowship. We appreciate the generosity of College Mennonite Church here on the Goshen College campus for enabling us to use their facilities for our program. And we give thanks to Dr. Rebecca Stoltzfus, president of Goshen College, and her staff for making this space available to us for this conference.

Blessings to you as you gather here,

Arman Habegger