



Central
District
Conference

A conference of
Mennonite Church USA

focus

April 2019

KNOWING CHRIST'S LOVE—ANSWERING GOD'S CALL

SENT 2019

Equipping church leaders to seed new churches

More than 80 church leaders from across the country came together for SENT 2019 at Beloved Community Mennonite Church, April 26–28, in Englewood, Colo. The SENT conference, now in its fourth year, is a peace church conference, hosted by Mennonite Mission Network and cosponsored with Everence, that helps connect, inspire, and equip church leaders to seed new churches, as well as reinvigorate legacy congregations.

SENT draws an intercultural cadre of church planters, missional entrepreneurs, denominational and area conference leaders, agency representatives, and seminary and college students. Several members of Central District Conference congregations participated: Carolyn May, Columbus (Ohio) Mennonite Church; Sandy Miller and Dennis and Vert Miller, Silverwood Mennonite Church, Goshen, Ind.; and Karla Minter, Open Table Fellowship, Goshen.

SENT reflections

Dennis Miller

Church planting was unfamiliar territory for me as I attended my first SENT Conference. My expectations were open and it didn't take long to be pulled into the culture of Anabaptist church planting. This three-day event certainly offered life-giving worship times, enlightening teaching sessions, good seminars, as well as learning about the SENT Network support system resources already in place to equip church planters. More than that, it was also the interaction with other attendees that brought deep meaning to this conference. Hearing others' stories on a personal level and hearing about their uncertainties through this process made it very real for me. These uncertainties are the same ones I have. Some common themes I heard interacting with people were courage



Joe Sawatzky shares at the Sent 2019 conference. Photo by Travis Duerksen