



3752 Giles Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63116
Tel: (314) 773-1155
E-mail: stlmenno@gmail.com
Web site: www.slmf.org

(Sent via email to Doug Luginbill, doug@mcusacdc.org)

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As representatives of St. Louis Mennonite Fellowship (SLMF), we write to the Central District Mennonite Conference (CDC) community to reaffirm our congregation's desire to formally join the CDC and to end our membership with the Illinois Mennonite Conference. We wholeheartedly affirm the posted "Membership Criteria" for the Central District Conference. In reference to the separately posted "Central District Conference Polity," we are struck by how the CDC's approach to relating to its member congregations and to the broader denomination is now the prevailing trend within the Mennonite Church USA. We are thrilled to be part of this journey within the conference and denomination.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your help throughout our process of discernment and transition. We have appreciated the chance to fellowship with you here in St. Louis and also at the 2023 CDC Annual Meeting. Your assistance during our pastoral search last year was immensely helpful, and that support has continued during Josh Richardson's first year as SLMF Pastor. We also would like to state our gratitude to the Illinois Mennonite Conference for their graciousness as we changed conferences.

In sum, we have already been welcomed with open arms into CDC, and we look forward to making it official at the 2024 Annual Meeting, where we will send at least one representative. Thank you for helping us to, as our mission statement reads, "be a sign of God's presence in the world and grow stronger together in faith and compassion."

In peace,

SLMF Governing Board:

Michelle Kaufman, Steven P. Miller, and Mary Beth Neufeld-Wall

Pastor Josh Richardson