

Mennonite Heritage Center
565 Yoder Rd, Harleysville, PA 19438
mhep.org; phone: 215-256-3020

Our mission is to educate, inspire and witness to the church and community by collecting, preserving and sharing the Anabaptist/Mennonite story.

Visit the Mennonite Heritage Center to discover the people, stories and events that connect one generation to another. The MHC preserves and cares for over 500 feet of paper records from Mosaic Mennonite Conference and congregations, in addition to digital records, personal papers, rare books and artifacts. Library staff monitor access and environment in our secure storage area, and work continually to catalog items and post finding aids online so that conferences, congregations and researchers will have access to the history of our community. During this historic time, Joel Alderfer, Collections Manager, is inviting individuals and congregations to submit their accounts of the pandemic. You may contact Joel at alderferjoel@mhep.org.

Because of the pandemic, we were closed from March 12 until July 1, 2020. We have been featuring posts on our website; mhep.org, our Facebook page and the Pa Dutch at Home Companion blog, a joint project of the MHC, the Goschenhoppen Historians, and the Schwenkfelder Library & Heritage Center. In a more typical year, the MHC features exhibits and programs on Anabaptist and local history topics. We are now back to our regular hours of Tuesday through Friday, 10 am to 5 pm and Saturday from 10 am to 2 pm. You are invited to use the historical library and see exhibits and register for Saturday workshops – please wear a mask and maintain social distancing. Saturday workshop participants enjoy learning traditional crafts such as grain painting, basket weaving, and fraktur drawing.

We have been holding revised events since we were able to open. The Whack & Roll Croquet Tournament that usually happens in spring, was held on Saturday, August 29 and was a fun competition with teams from dozens of area nonprofit organizations vying for cash prizes. We are not planning on our typical Apple Butter Frolic, our community fall harvest festival for this year but are working on an event with pick up sales of delicious traditional foods on Saturday, October 3. The MHC will be sharing a portion of the proceeds from this revised October event for local food insecurity needs. We are planning for our December Christmas Market for December 5th and 6th.

The board and staff appreciate the congregational and individual financial support that is essential to our ongoing work of preservation and storytelling. Thank you!

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Staff:

Joel Alderfer, Collections Manager, Ivan Derstine, Custodian, Sarah Heffner, Acting Executive Director, Forrest Moyer, Archivist, Rose Moyer, Office Manager