



MOSAIC
mennonite
conference

REFLECT

SUMMER 2021

Celebrating God's Call

*Pastor Angelia Susanto is the first Asian woman
to be credentialed by Mosaic Conference.*

*Leadership Minister Marta Castillo (left) anoints Pastor Angelia (Lia)
Susanto of Nations Worship Center (Philadelphia, PA) during Pastor Lia's
credentialing service on June 27, 2021.*

From Banker to Pastor


BY PASTOR ANGELIA (LIA) SUSANTO

PRIOR TO 2015, I was a banker in one of the biggest banks in Indonesia. I had a good life with a very good job, great salary, and excellent benefits. I also enjoyed serving in my church as a youth pastor and worship leader. I thought that I could be a businesswoman while doing ministry in the church. However, God had a different plan for my life.

One day, my pastor introduced me to a young pastor from the US who eventually became my husband. After we got married, I resigned from my bank job. I left everything behind in Indonesia to serve Jesus full time and move to the US to support my husband's ministry.

To be honest, it was hard for me to adjust to a new place, ministry, and culture. It was difficult because I took seminary classes while caring for our home, my husband, and our six-month-old daughter. I was also doing ministry in the church on the weekends. I was so stressed, and I cried a lot. I was ready to give up and go back to Indonesia.

God helped me through that process. God gave me a good support system through my family who cared for us so much. Finally, I graduated from Missio Seminary, in June 2020, with a Master of Arts degree.

 [Read the full version of Pastor Lia's call story.](#)

Mosaic Conference Board Continues to Take Shape

BY STEPHEN KRISS, EXECUTIVE MINISTER



Roy Williams



Dr. Herman Sagatsume

In May 2021, two new board members joined Mosaic's board: Roy Williams of College Hill congregation in Tampa (FL) and Herman Sagatsume of Perkiomenville (PA) congregation. Both joined in their respective positions as chairs of the Intercultural and Conference Related Ministries (CRM) Committees that were set up in the reconciliation structure, approved in November 2019.

ROY WILLIAMS (LEFT), the new chair of the Intercultural Committee, has extensive board and leadership experience within Mennonite Church USA. He brings a sharp attention to issues of finance from his banking background, as well as acuity in asking questions around biblical justice and equity. Roy has been the long-term pastor at College Hill.

DR. HERMAN SAGATSUME (RIGHT) comes to the board as selected from the CRM committee. Herman joined the committee because of his role as executive director of Healthy Niños Honduras, a Conference Related Ministry. Herman is a globally-minded leader with deep compassion and insight. The new CRM Committee is moving forward in strengthening connections and understanding with the Conference's extensive network of diverse ministries.

 [Learn more about Mosaic's Board and Committees.](#)

Church gone wild!



Photo by Nick Wolfe

During the pandemic, Taftsville (VT) Chapel Mennonite Fellowship decided to "go wild." Worshiping outside invites and facilitates a direct connection with the holy. In the photo, Norah Wolfe (age 9) helps at Wild Church's "Share the Harvest table" that attendees can contribute to and glean from.

 [Read more about Wild Church.](#)

Healing from COVID-19

Understanding and Responding to Pandemic-Related Trauma

BY SUE CONRAD HOWES, MOSAIC STAFF

NO ONE has been immune to the COVID-19 pandemic. While some may have experienced great loss, all of us—including church leaders—have experienced some sort of trauma.



▲ Three experts in the field of trauma and trauma healing— (from left to right) Dr. Al Fuentres, Dr. Leah Thomas and John Drescher-Lehman, LCSW, spoke and listened at the workshop. Photo by Cindy Angela.

Pastor Stephen Zacheus (right) of Jemaat Kristen Indonesia Anugerah (JKIA) in Sierra Madre, CA talks with Dr. Leah Thomas of AMBS during a break. Photo by Cindy Angela.



To learn about healing processes for this trauma, twenty-five Mosaic Conference pastors and leaders gathered on June 11-12, 2021 for a hybrid workshop at Swamp (Quakertown, PA) Mennonite Church and via Zoom. Three experts in the field of trauma and trauma healing—therapist John Drescher-Lehman, LCSW, Dr. Leah Thomas, professor of pastoral care at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, and global peacebuilder Dr. Al Fuentres—shared their collective wisdom.

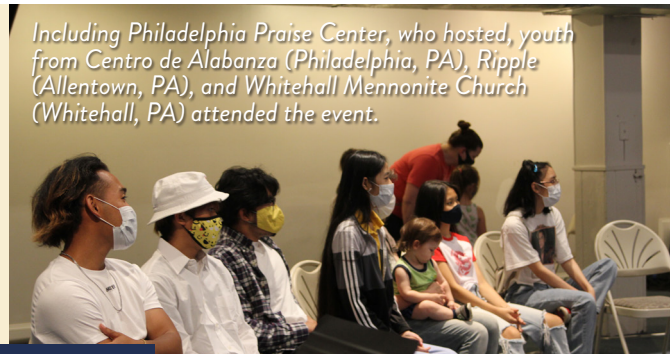
Throughout the weekend, presenters reminded participants that if trauma is not addressed and honored, re-traumatization is likely to occur. As leaders, we want to ensure that our own trauma, and our collective trauma as a congregation, is processed in healthy ways, preventing further traumatization.

[!\[\]\(cf531ed27e91483460120fcc057b3901_img.jpg\) Learn more about this event.](#)

Mosaic youth painted tiles representing Pentecost, the Holy Spirit, and baptism during a youth gathering in June 2021. Photos by Cindy Angela.



Including Philadelphia Praise Center, who hosted, youth from Centro de Alabanza (Philadelphia, PA), Ripple (Allentown, PA), and Whitehall Mennonite Church (Whitehall, PA) attended the event.



Making a Literal Mosaic

Mosaic Youth Day in South Philadelphia

BY CINDY ANGELA, MOSAIC STAFF

ON SATURDAY, JUNE 5, youth groups from several Mosaic congregations gathered at Philadelphia (PA) Praise Center for games, art, and spiritual input.

The gathering started with high energy as participants played several ice-breaking activities. Hendy Matahelemual, Associate Minister for Community Engagement of Mosaic Conference, continued the activities with a short reflection about being the salt and light of the world.

The afternoon was spent with a painting lesson, led by Donna Backues, a local artist. Backues encouraged the youth to paint the tiles using themes of fire, flames, and water, to represent Pentecost, the Holy Spirit, and baptism.

[!\[\]\(bff896c19919791b89ab521f039b410a_img.jpg\) Watch a video about this event.](#)





“Together, by extending God’s generosity to us, we have been a witness of Christ’s peace that surpasses all understanding,”

- STEPHEN KRISS, EXECUTIVE MINISTER

**SHALOM
FUND**

GOAL

\$208,390.67
RAISED

As of July 7, 2021, donations to Mosaic Conference’s Shalom Fund have reached \$208,390.67, surpassing the goal of \$200,000.

The Shalom Fund was created in the spring of 2020 as a direct response to COVID-19 and the ensuing economic crisis experienced in Mosaic Conference and beyond. The fund supports pastors, congregations, and ministries working directly with those affected by COVID-19 or economic challenges caused by the pandemic.

From large gifts to donations of just a few dollars, the Shalom Fund has been able to do more than any of us could ever have imagined.

Photo by Hendy Matahelemual

Reflections on Being Mosaic

BY PASTOR JACOB CURTIS, AMBLER (PA) MENNONITE

ON JUNE 29, five of us from Ambler (PA) Mennonite Church made the hour-long trek to Centro de Alabanza in South Philly. We were there for a candlelight prayer service in solidarity with Asian Americans who are being targeted for hate crimes.

The service was powerful. I’m still trying to figure out exactly how to describe what happened—in the service and inside me—but here are a few of the things I fell asleep thinking about >>>

It is such an honor to be part of Mosaic Mennonite Conference.

Honestly, I don’t know how a beautiful, fragile thing like our conference can exist in the world, or how we are allowed to be a part of it.

Our Conference includes churches like Franconia Mennonite, which built its first log meetinghouse in ... oh, you know, 1748! ... and churches like Nations Worship Center, which purchased its building from a catering business in an Italian neighborhood of South Philly in 2012.

We are Matahelemuals and Krisbiantos and Siahaans, Cortezes and Rodriguezes, as well as Yoders and Millers and Martins. And because of our Conference, we get to sit outside with all sorts of other Mennonites on the breezy, noisy, sunlit corner in South Philly, praying in all our languages to the living God.

 [Read more about Pastor Jacob’s thoughts and dreams for the future.](#)



REFLECT is the quarterly newsletter of Mosaic Mennonite Conference. For more information, contact us at:
1000 Forty Foot Rd, Ste. 100, Lansdale, PA 19446
Phone: 267-932-6050 | Email: office@mosaicmennonites.org