

Mennonite Heritage Center

565 Yoder Rd. Harleysville PA 19438

Tuesday through Friday, 10 AM to 5 PM, Saturday, 10 AM to 2 PM



The Psalmist understands the importance of historical work when he meditates, “I will call to mind the deeds of the Lord; I will remember your wonders of old. I will meditate on all your work and muse on your mighty deeds” (Ps. 77:11-12). As the Mennonite Heritage Center works to educate, inspire, and witness to our church and community by collecting, preserving, and sharing Anabaptist-Mennonite stories, we help the church to remember and rediscover God's work in the world.

This summer the Mennonite Heritage Center successfully piloted the Congregational Oral history Project with Zion Mennonite Church and Swamp Mennonite Church. By teaching youth how to conduct interviews, this project introduces awareness of Mennonite history through engaging stories of faith in local context, cultivates meaningful relationships across generational divides in congregations, celebrates belonging, and generates a meaningful archive for future research. We look forward to partnering with new congregations on this project in the coming year.

MHC hosted twenty educational programs on topics of Mennonite and local historical interest, including a seminar on telling family stories, a celebration of Groundhog Day, the Life & Times of Isaiah & Susan Landes—a prominent local Mennonite business family—as well as the Apple Butter Frolic, an annual celebration of agricultural life and Pennsylvania German foodways. We hosted an additional fourteen workshops on traditional art such as sgraffito pottery, fraktur, and grain painting. To learn about upcoming events at the Mennonite Heritage Center, visit our website, mhpc.org.

Currently on display in the Mennonite Heritage Center are two major exhibits. Mennonite Faith and Life is an exploration of cultural and spiritual heritage from sixteenth-century European Anabaptism to the diversity of Anabaptist-descended traditions around the world today. Peace and Plenty: Life in the Perkiomen Valley is a local history exhibit that explores the broader context that shaped the communities that form what is now Mosaic Mennonite Conference.

The John L Ruth Historical Library located in the Mennonite Heritage Center is an excellent resource for researchers and pastors, with a fine collection of Anabaptist materials. The archival collection contains over five hundred linear feet of documents related to Mosaic, Franconia, and Eastern District Mennonite conferences and associated congregations, in addition to digital records, personal papers, and rare books.

Our collection was enriched by several significant donations this year. One new addition to our archives are the diaries of Elizabeth Rachel Clemens Kulp (1883-1952), of Bally, PA, 1925-1949. She was the wife of Preacher Elias W. Kulp of the Bally Mennonite congregation, and though this is her diary, she records a lot of her husband's ministerial activity. We also received a significant collection of fraktur, rare books, family registers, drawings, and historic oil paintings, donated by long-time Mennonite Heritage Center benefactors, Henry L. and Charlotte Graber Rosenberger of Blooming Glen, PA.

Only by your generous support is the Mennonite Heritage Center able to educate, inspire, and witness to the church and community by collecting, preserving, and sharing Anabaptist Mennonite stories.

Educating, inspiring, and witnessing to the church and community by collecting, preserving, and sharing the Anabaptist/Mennonite story

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