



2026 DELEGATE ASSEMBLY

WE LOVE THE LORD

*I love the Lord because he hears
my requests for mercy.
I'll call out to him as long as I live,
because he listens closely to me.*

PSALM 116:1-2

ANNUAL DOCKET

Saturday, November 7, 2026 • Souderton Mennonite Church

TABLE OF CONTENTS

2	Table of Contents	
3	Conference Board Report	
	Conference Board Members	3
	Executive Committee Members	4
	Conference Board Report	5
7	Ministerial Committee Report	
	Ministerial Committee Members	7
	Credentials Committee Members	8
	Ministerial Committee Report	9
11	Finance Committee Report	
	Finance Committee Members & FMC Properties Directors	11
	Financial Reports	12
	Finance Committee Report	14
	FMC Properties Report	15
17	Intercultural Committee Report	
	Intercultural Committee Members	17
	Intercultural Committee Report	18
19	Nominating Committee Report	
	Nominating Committee Members	19
	Nominating Committee Report	20
21	CRM Committee Report	
	CRM Committee Members	21
	CRM Committee Report	22
23	Vibrant Mosaic Report	
25	Delegate Affirmation Ballot	
26	Welcoming New Communities	
27	2025 Assembly Minutes	
30	2026 Assembly Schedule	

CONFERENCE BOARD MEMBERS

THE CONFERENCE BOARD supervises the business of the conference, including conference committees. Through strategic planning, the Board ensures that the Conference maintains alignment with its vision and follows the Spirit's leading in all areas of growth and change.



Roy Williams

Moderator
College Hill Mennonite
(Tampa, FL)



Janet Panning

Assistant Moderator
Plains Mennonite
(Hatfield, PA)



Jim Musselman

Board Secretary
Zion Mennonite
(Souderton, PA)



Cory Longacre

Finance Committee Chair
Souderton (PA) Mennonite



Michael Howes

Ministerial Committee Chair
West Swamp Mennonite
(Quakertown, PA)



Emmanuel Mwaipopo

Intercultural Committee Chair
Nueva Vida Norristown (PA)
New Life



Lindy Backues

*Conference-Related Ministries
Committee Chair*
Philadelphia (PA) Praise Center



Maati Yvonne

Member-at-large
Nueva Vida Norristown (PA)
New Life



Lucy Hannanto Parsono

Member-at-large
International Worship Church
(Alhambra, CA)



Jenny Alderfer

Member-at-large
Blooming Glen (PA) Mennonite



Haroldo Nunes

Member-at-large
Resplandece Mennonite
(Pembroke Pines, FL)



Stephen Kriss

Conference Executive Minister
Philadelphia (PA) Praise
Center

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE works on behalf of the Board between meetings and reviews and grants approval for Missional Operations Grant proposals.



Roy Williams

Moderator
College Hill Mennonite
(Tampa, FL)



Janet Panning

Assistant Moderator
Plains Mennonite
(Hatfield, PA)



Cory Longacre

Finance Committee Chair
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Stephen Kriss

Conference Executive Minister
Philadelphia (PA) Praise
Center

Embracing fresh relationships and forming reimagined shared behaviors

During 2026, Mosaic leadership has been working at cultivating mutual partnerships and nurturing community bonds both externally with global Anabaptist groups and internally among member congregations and Conference-Related Ministries.

At the Spring listening sessions, staff highlighted ongoing collaboration with Anabaptist colleges and seminaries, Mennonite Church USA leadership development initiatives, Everence, Mennonite Mission Network, Mennonite Central Committee, MennoMedia, Mennonite World Conference, GRACE, and others.

By introducing restorative circles across age and leadership levels, we reimagined how we communicate. These circles created space for deep listening and authentic sharing, allowing us to not only envision our path forward but also identify how to equip ourselves for the journey.

Additional ways in which Mosaic actively equipped our community this past year include:

- **The Second Vibrant Mosaic Cohort:** Launched a new cohort of pastoral and lay leaders from four diverse congregations— College Hill Mennonite (Tampa, FL), Indonesian Light Church (Philadelphia, PA), Jemaat Kristen Indonesia Anugerah (JKIA) (Sierra Madre, CA), and Zion Mennonite (Souderton, PA)—for an intensive year of formation, missional growth, and intercultural learning. Simultaneously, the inaugural 2025 cohort committed to their second year of the program to deepen cross-cultural relationship-building and missional collaboration.
- **The Marie Detweiler Fund for Next Generation Ministry:** Approved by the Board Executive Committee, this newly established ongoing fund nurtures emerging leaders. Created through a generous estate gift in memory of Marie Detweiler, the fund directly equips youth and young adults by sustaining pivotal leadership development programs, such as the Summer Ambassadors initiative.
- **The "Well-Watered Women" Gathering:** Brought together 150 women from 24 diverse congregations across Texas, Pennsylvania, California, and Florida. Facilitated by Pastor Letty Cortés, this hybrid event utilized Zoom and localized regional spaces to equip women through shared worship, deep teaching, and cross-congregational fellowship.
- **Interpreters' Ministry Group:** Sixteen interpreters from eight congregations, representing seven languages, gathered with a team from the Kaleidoscope Institute for a Sacred Listening training session. The purpose is to grow support for our interpreters and to hear directly about the joys and struggles of their work. The interpreters are forming a learning cohort who will receive additional training opportunities periodically.
- **Ambassadors:** Equipped sixteen next-generation leaders through a leadership development initiative that brings young adults into immersive spaces of missional service, mutual learning, and cultural exchange. Ambassadors empowers young leaders with practical tools to impact their congregations and ministries. This was the first year with international participants, three in Columbia and two in Mexico. In September, a year-round extension of the program was launched for five participants, supported in part by MCC East Coast.

Membership and Congregational Transitions

- Four congregations have withdrawn from Mosaic Mennonite Conference. Both Perkiomenville (PA) Mennonite and Swamp Mennonite (Quakertown, PA) shifted their membership to LMC. Iglesia Cristiana Peña de Horeb in Philadelphia, PA has discerned a call to build an independent network of congregations. Deep Run West Mennonite in Perkasio, PA has chosen to separate citing theological concerns about Mosaic's approach to affirming congregations.
- Three requests for membership have been approved by Board; two congregations, Hope Chapel in Temecula, CA and Iglesia Menonita Casa de Oracion (House of Prayer Mennonite Church) in Garcia, Nuevo Leon, Mexico, and a Conference-Related Ministry, Destiny's Daughters in Harrisonburg, VA,

Finance

- Approved a 2026-2027 budget
- Congregational giving has remained steady
- Updated Missional Operations Grant (MOG), Vibrant Missional Operations Grant (VMOG), and Church Plant grant request forms
- Processed and Approved MOGs, Church Plants, and Next Gen grants, as reflected in the finance report
- The Bishop's Fund has been retired and merged into a retirement fund for credentialed leaders

Staff Transitions

- Brendan Sagastume has replaced Sue Conrad Howes as Assembly Registrar
- Dr. Calenthia Dowdy has replaced Margaret Zook as Director of Collaborative Ministries
- Javier Márquez has become the Associate for Community Cultivation and Leadership Development.
- Jeff Wright has become the Leadership Minister for Special Projects.

Moving Forward with Patience, Confidence and Readiness

By anchoring our hearts in Jesus, may we grow to become a fully functional body and faithfully walk the path ahead. Amen.

MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

THE MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE is responsible for policies related to the calling, credentialing, training, and disciplining of credentialed leaders within Mosaic Mennonite Conference. The Ministerial Committee is responsible for approving and granting ministerial credentials in keeping with A Shared Understanding of Ministerial Leadership and its designations for the status of credentialed leaders.



Michael Howes

West Swamp Mennonite
(Quakertown, PA)*

COMMITTEE CHAIR



Kevin Opett

Church of the Good
Samaritans (Holland, PA)



Helen Eastburn

Souderton (PA) Mennonite



Angelia Susanto

Nations Worship Center
(Philadelphia, PA)



Effiem Obasi

Faith Chapel
(Los Angeles, CA)



Josh Meyer

Souderton (PA) Mennonite



Rose Bender Cook

Whitehall (PA) Mennonite



Marta Castillo

MOSAIC STAFF, NON-VOTING

**Michael Howes concluded his pastoral role at West Swamp in August 2026 but has agreed to continue serving as the Ministerial Committee Chair through the end of 2026.*

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE MEMBERS



MOSAIC

THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE interviews and recommends persons for credentialing. The Ministerial Committee develops policies for the work of the Credentials Committee that reflect the standards of faith and practice for credentialed leaders in the Conference and act on recommendations from the Credentials Committee.



Kevin Opett

Church of the Good Samaritans (Holland, PA)

COMMITTEE CHAIR



Lisa Quinones

Garden Chapel (Victory Gardens, NJ)



Aldo Siahaan

Philadelphia (PA) Praise Center



Sonya Stauffer Kurtz

Zion Mennonite (Souderton, PA)



Viviana Ávila

Resplandec Mennonite (Pembroke Pines, FL)



Ertell Whigham

Nueva Vida Norristown (PA) New Life



Rigoberto Negrón

Iglesia Menonita del Cordero (Brownsville, TX)



Hilda Vincas

Ebenezer (Souderton, PA)



Tomas Ramirez

Luz y Vida (Orlando, FL)



Marta Castillo

MOSAIC STAFF, NON-VOTING

MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

2026

Actions taken December 2025 – September 2026 by the Ministerial Committee include:

RENEWED FOR A THREE-YEAR LICENSE TOWARD ORDINATION:

- Sherilee Samuel – College Hill Mennonite and North Tampa Christian Fellowship (Tampa, FL)
- Joseph Brooks – College Hill Mennonite (Tampa, FL)

RENEWED FOR A THREE-YEAR LICENSE FOR SPECIFIC MINISTRY:

- Kirby King – Souderton (PA) Mennonite

APPROVED ORDINATION FOR:

- Joe Paparone – Bethany Mennonite (Bridgewater Corners, VT)
- Beverly Benner Miller – Plains Mennonite (Hatfield, PA)
- Sherilee Samuel – College Hill Mennonite and North Tampa Christian Fellowship (Tampa, FL)
- Dave Moyer – Zion Mennonite (Souderton, PA)
- Eszter Bjorkman – Neffsville Mennonite (Lancaster, PA)
- Andrew Zetts – Salford Mennonite (Harleysville, PA)

APPROVED A THREE-YEAR LICENSE TOWARD ORDINATION FOR:

- Cindy Angela – Philadelphia (PA) Praise Center
- Mark Boorse – Salford Mennonite (Harleysville, PA)
- Karen Bennett – Bally (PA) Mennonite
- Henny Vina Krisnadi – Whitehall (PA) Mennonite (church planter)
- Yesenia Casas (Perez Morales) – Iglesia Evangelica Menonita Shalom (Tampa, FL)
- Jacob Wibowo – Philadelphia (PA) Praise Center
- Laura Alderfer – Salford Mennonite (Harleysville, PA)
- Joeven Mesadieu – College Hill Mennonite and North Tampa Christian Fellowship (Tampa, FL)
- Dody Atmajaya – Bethany Elevation (Elmhurst, NY)

APPROVED WITHDRAWAL OF CREDENTIALS

- Dania Hernandez (Peña de Horeb)
- Mike Spinelli (Perkiomenville)
- Bob Helverson (Salem)
- Bruce Eglinton-Woods (Salem)
- Carlos Sanchez (Medellín, Colombia)

APPROVED TRANSFER INTO MOSAIC CONFERENCE:

- Rigoberto Negrón – Iglesia Menonita de Cordero (Brownsville, TX)
- Maria Alma Solis – Iglesia Menonita Fuente de Agua Viva (Los Fresnos, TX)
- Jose Alejo Solis – Iglesia Menonita Fuente de Agua Viva (Los Fresnos, TX)
- John Holsey – Providence Mennonite Church (Collegeville, PA)

APPROVED TRANSFER FROM MOSAIC CONFERENCE:

- Nathan Good (Swamp Mennonite to LMC)
- Tracy Commons (Swamp Mennonite to LMC)

ADJUSTED TO ACTIVE WITHOUT CHARGE:

- Steve McCloskey (Taftsville, VT)
- Hunter Hess (Neffsville, PA)
- Mary Nitzsche (since 2024 when she resigned her conference minister role)
- Randy Heacock (Doylestown, PA)

ADJUSTED TO ACTIVE:

- Gwen Groff – Taftsville (VT) Chapel Mennonite Fellowship
- Nicolás Sandoval – Iglesia Evangélica Menonita de Oración y Adoración (Philadelphia, PA)
- Maribeth Benner – Blooming Glen (PA) Mennonite

ADJUSTED TO INACTIVE:

- Daniel Tran (formerly at Vietnamese Gospel [Allentown, PA])
- Jessica Miller (formerly at Perkasio (PA) Mennonite)

OTHER PASTORAL TRANSITIONS:

- Sandy Drescher Lehman retired from Methacton Mennonite (Eagleview, PA)
- Manuel Garcia moved from pastoring Resplandec Mennonite (Pembroke Pines, FL) to Esencia (church plant in Barranquilla, Colombia)
- Michael Marpaung returned to Indonesia due to immigration issues, but he continues to lead in a limited capacity at Ark of Christ (Westminster, CA)
- Karen Bergey transferred to Perkasio (PA) Mennonite
- Michael Howes concluded his pastoral role at West Swamp Mennonite (Quakertown, PA)

OTHER COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS FOR THIS YEAR:

- Michael Howes will serve as committee chair through the end of 2026.
- Wayne Nitzsche has agreed to serve as committee chair, beginning in 2027, pending board approval.
- Credentialing procedure updated to reflect the change in relationship with Mennonite Church USA.
- Centering Document guided practical application in Ministerial Committee and Credentials Committee
- Credentialing Profile for Leaders (replaces MLI) was established to gather and record information on pastoral candidates. This profile includes questions on Mosaic vision and mission, priorities, and Centering Document, Anabaptist theology and scripture, faith story and call to ministry, sabbath, self-care, leadership styles, and dealing with conflict. This profile is accessible for individuals to complete when seeking a position. Once submitted, the conference will maintain these profiles and make them available to congregations upon request.
- Mosaic Misconduct Policy - Mosaic has partnered with GRACE (netgrace.org) to process misconduct claims and investigations and develop new policies.

Submitted by Marta Castillo, Associate Executive Minister, September 1, 2026.

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

THE CONFERENCE BOARD FINANCE COMMITTEE (CBFC) provides leadership on fiscal matters pertaining to the Conference and its property and assets. The committee also develops a budget based on the vision of the Conference Assembly, for Conference Board approval.



Cory Longacre

Souderton (PA) Mennonite

COMMITTEE CHAIR



Sid Ruth

Souderton (PA) Mennonite



Jessica Clopton-Robinson

College Hill Mennonite
(Tampa, FL)



Patricia Lugo Figueroa

Centro de Alabanza
(Philadelphia, PA)



Chidi Ihezuoh

Los Angeles (CA) Faith Chapel



Charlotte Hunsberger

Blooming Glen (PA)
Mennonite

RESOURCE PERSON



Paulus Thalathoti

MOSAIC STAFF

PROPERTIES BOARD MEMBERS

FMC PROPERTIES acts as a holding corporation for properties owned by Mosaic Mennonite Conference, and manages all of the property matters on behalf of the Conference Board through the CBFC.



Glenn Nemath

Director of Real Estate
for FMC Properties

MOSAIC STAFF



Bryan Hunsberger

Souderton (PA) Mennonite
Secretary / Treasurer



Cory Longacre

Souderton (PA) Mennonite
Finance Committee Rep.



Jeff Wright

Mosaic Leadership
Minister

FINANCIAL REPORTS

2026

Executive Summary for 2025-26

Revenue

Mosaic Mennonite Conference operating revenue generally comes from two main sources: conference congregations and rental income from the Conference-owned properties (including the Souderton Shopping Center and the Indian Creek Road Farm):

- Congregational giving - \$386,293
- Subsidy from properties - \$1,029,637
- Noncash contribution (property) - \$3,575,141
- All other revenue sources - \$856,466

Note that estate gifts (included in other revenue) received by the Conference do not go into the operating budget, but into Ministry Resource investment funds, which are used mostly for Missional Operations Grants.

Expenses

Expenses are divided into two basic categories, program or ministry expenses and support services expenses. The industry standard for nonprofit organizations is a breakdown of 75%-25%, respectively, and this past year, the Conference was above the standard, at 83%-17%, respectively.

Missional Operations Grants (MOGs) totaled \$119,400.

Last year, 14 MOGs and 10 church plant grants were disbursed to congregations and ministries of Mosaic Conference:

- Methacton Mennonite (Norristown, PA): To invest in development of young leader
- Alpha Mennonite (NJ): To support a part-time pastor
- Zion Mennonite Church (Souderton, PA): To support Indonesian Light Church in the purchase of their building
- Indonesian Light Church (Philadelphia, PA): To support the purchase of their building
- Iglesia Menonita Luz y Verdad (Lakeland, FL): To support a restart of their congregation
- Iglesia Evangélica Menonita de Oración y Adoración (Philadelphia, PA): evangelism outreach
- Mosaic Conference Ambassadors: new neighborhood initiative - several congregations involved
- Iglesia Menonita Shalom (Tampa, FL): Children's camp ministry and married couple's ministry
- Salford Mennonite (PA): Create educational guide for congregations on how to engage persons with autism and intellectual disabilities in worship and community life
- Whitehall Mennonite (PA): Multilingual community and leadership development (Spanish, English, Karen)
- Souderton Mennonite (PA): To support Makinto as an intern (music advisor)
- Blooming Glen Mennonite (PA): Vibrant Mosaic congregational experiment related to identity discernment and local outreach
- Iglesia Menonita Encuentro de Renovación (Miami, FL): Vibrant Mosaic congregational experiment for workshops on Anabaptist history and values
- Iglesia Peña de Horeb (Philadelphia, PA): Vibrant Mosaic congregational experiment for discipling and pastoral care to people struggling with alcoholism and other addictions

Church Plant Grants (CPGs):

- Redemption Church of Bristol (PA): Hiring a children's ministry director to do outreach in the community
- Resplandence Mennonite (FL): To continue to grow this hybrid community based in Pembroke Pines, FL and online
- Shores of Hope (FL): To continue to grow this outreach to Slavic refugees in southeastern FL
- Redeemed Church of Philadelphia (PA): To grow outreach to young people in the Fairhill community
- Peace Proclamation Ministries International, Inc. (PA): For extension of church planting ministry
- Iglesia Menonita Seguidores de Cristo (Sarasota, FL): Leadership development training in Honduras and Colombia
- Citizens of the Celestial City: To launch an online faith community for Haitian migrants
- Iglesia Anabautista Shalom (Cartagena, Colombia): To expand the "Discover Your Purpose" program to provide academic, spiritual, and nutritional support to over 50 at-risk children and youth.
- Comunidad Anabautista de Medellin (Colombia): To grow their outreach in under-resourced neighborhoods
- Centro de Alabanza Mission Tijuana: To grow this church plant in Mexico

17 leadership training scholarships totaling \$23,153 were distributed for leaders in Conference congregations nationally and internationally. They are students at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Eastern Mennonite Seminary, SeBAH (Hispanic Anabaptist Biblical Seminary), and Palm Beach Atlantic (FL) University.

Program services – Leadership equipping and development: \$1,145,313

Program services – Conference-wide ministries and communication: \$231,259

Program services – Collaborative and regional ministries: \$136,409

Total supporting services: \$475,586

Net assets at the end of the year: \$11,316,674

NOTE: Reviewed Financial Reports are available at the Conference Center and at:

https://mosaicmennonites.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/09/2025-2026_Mosaic-FMCP-FINANCIALS_FINAL.pdf

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

2026

2025-26 Updates/Activities

The Conference Board Finance Committee (CBFC) spent considerable time:

1. Examining the various investment funds of the conference and FMC Properties. The funds which enable the Missional Operations Grants (MOGs) as well as the FMC Properties Capital Reserve Fund investments are held with SEI Investments and Everence Federal Credit Union.
2. Ensuring the financial activities are aligned with the vision and mission of the conference and are within the established budget.
3. Determining cash flow needs (amounts and timing) for the conference and the properties, including future capital expenditure.

CBFC members routinely reviewed Mosaic Conference's financial reports, and provided reports to the Conference Board regularly, monitoring operating expenses and ensuring adequate cash flow. We spent several meetings developing a budget for the current year in line with the Conference's vision and mission. We looked at recent years' trends for clues about the future.

CBFC members are committed to ensuring that conference staff are good stewards of the assets and resources entrusted to Mosaic Conference by congregations and constituents.

Mosaic Conference received a clean financial review report and maintain funds and reports with good accounting practices. For the complete financial review report for fiscal year 2025-2026, visit mosaicmennonites.org, look under "Resources" then "Stewardship" then "Congregational Treasurers Information" and click "[Reviewed Financial Report](#)".

Ministerial Retirement Fund Subcommittee

This subcommittee met once to review the financial needs of the pastors and spouses eligible for assistance under the Ministerial Retirement Fund guidelines. In 2025-26, this fund assisted one person (\$3,875 distributed). The committee members are: Marvin Anders (Salford Mennonite [PA]) and Conrad Martin (Blooming Glen Mennonite [PA]).

FRANCONIA MENNONITE BOARD OF MISSIONS & CHARITIES REPORT

2026

Year in Review

During 2026, our real estate work focused on responsible stewardship of the properties entrusted to the organization. Our priorities included property management, maintenance, leasing, ministry use, financial sustainability, and long-term planning.

A continuing goal has been to move from reactive property management toward a more proactive approach—anticipating property needs, planning for future occupancy, and evaluating how each property can best support the mission of the organization.

Souderton Shopping Center

- Souderton Shopping Center was a major focus during 2026.
- After several years of efforts to retain Care & Share, including consideration of building modifications, financial incentives, and favorable lease terms, Care & Share decided not to exercise its option to remain at the Shopping Center. The transition of its space has now begun.
- We have been proactively planning for this change and exploring a broad range of future uses, including retail, grocery and food, service businesses, and medical and healthcare use.
- Our goal is not simply to fill space, but to create the right tenant mix to strengthen the Shopping Center, serve the community, and improve its long-term financial sustainability. Specific prospective tenants and negotiations remain confidential.

Highland Park (Levittown, PA)

- Work at Highland Park focused on ministry occupancy, property responsibilities, tax-exempt use, maintenance, and longer-term planning.
- We also continued exploring partnerships and potential future uses that could increase the property's community impact while remaining consistent with our mission.

Whitehall (PA) Mennonite Church

- At Whitehall, attention focused on accessibility, safety, maintenance, and future capital needs. Accessibility improvements were evaluated during the year, and we continue to identify maintenance needs before they become larger and more costly problems.

Alpha Church - New Jersey

- Work continued the transition and long-term oversight of the Alpha Church property.
- Our focus remains on establishing appropriate governance and property responsibilities while supporting the congregation transition.

Living Hope Farm (Harleysville, PA)

- At Living Hope Farm, the primary focus has been balancing the property's important ministry purpose with financial sustainability, operating expenses, maintenance, and future capital needs.
- We will continue working toward a sustainable long-term operating model for the property.

Main Street (East Greenville, PA)

- The Main Street property in East Greenville was sold during 2026, with the organization retaining the mortgage.
- This allowed us to transition the property to new ownership while creating an ongoing financial asset and reducing the organization's day-to-day property-management responsibilities.

Looking Ahead

Our real estate priorities remain straightforward: protect our properties, plan, strengthen financial sustainability, and ensure that each property continues to support the mission of the organization.

In 2027, we will continue focusing on proactive leasing, preventative maintenance, capital planning, clear occupancy agreements, and thoughtful evaluation of the long-term future of each property.

Good stewardship means looking beyond today's needs and positioning these properties to continue serving our ministries and communities for years to come.

INTERCULTURAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS



MOSAIC

THE INTERCULTURAL COMMITTEE provides leadership in the areas of undoing racism, sexism, and cultural bias, and in facilitating and supporting mutual transformation in intercultural contexts.



Emmanuel Mwaipopo

Nueva Vida Norristown
(PA) New Life

COMMITTEE CHAIR



Samuel Charles

Bethel Worship
and Teaching Center
(Levittown, PA)



Marina Gailane

Homestead (FL) Mennonite



Josue Gonzalez

Encuentro de Renovación
(Miami, FL)



Wendy Kwong

Souderton (PA) Mennonite



Jordan Luther

Methacton Mennonite
(Norristown, PA)



Stephen Zacheus

JKI Anugerah
(Sierra Madre, CA)



Danilo Sanchez

MOSAIC STAFF

INTERCULTURAL COMMITTEE REPORT

2026

“If they don’t give you a seat at the table, bring a folding chair.”

— Shirley Chisholm, educator and first Black woman elected to the U.S. Congress in 1968.

This quote helps to summarize the past year of our intercultural work as we examine power dynamics within Mosaic Mennonite Conference. We continue to live into our intercultural priority by recognizing that while there is more cultural representation on staff and the board, the same power systems that create barriers for BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) people still operate in the conference.

According to the Continuum on Becoming an Antiracist Intercultural Organization, we are likely in the Identity Change stage where there is growing understanding of racism as a barrier to effective diversity, programs and classes for antiracism training, and accountability to racially oppressed communities within the conference, yet institutional structures and culture that maintain white power and privilege are still intact.

In the work at intercultural transformation, we must recognize the power dynamics and barriers that might be upholding inequality across the conference. The next stage is Structural Change, which would require us to examine our power structures and work at power sharing and views diversity as an asset.

At our committee meetings, we did a SWOT analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) and Power Mapping activity to analyze the ways power functions, is used, and located in the conference. We were grateful to the staff team for leading a webinar about belonging that highlights intersectionality, power and influence, and the type of community we are creating. Our intercultural work is not just relational but is also to create a culture and community that is aware how power operates, appreciates differences, and adapts to include other voices.

Christ has given us the ministry of reconciliation (2 Cor. 5:11-21) which calls us to love each other, forgive and bear with one another, break down dividing walls, and ultimately to be reconciled in him who is our peace. As Christ’s ambassadors, we witness to the power of reconciliation in Mosaic’s intercultural priority.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE vets and discerns new Conference Board and Committee members. They ensure that those who fill these roles are balanced in terms of the gender, racial, cultural, geographic, and historic diversity of the Conference, reflect the diverse giftings represented in the Conference, and exhibit a high level of intercultural capacity.



Janet Panning

Plains Mennonite
(Hatfield, PA)

COMMITTEE CHAIR



Michael Howes

West Swamp Mennonite
(Quakertown, PA)



Marco Güete

Seguidores de Cristo
(Sarasota, FL)



Wendy Kwong

Souderton (PA) Mennonite



Calenthia Dowdy

MOSAIC STAFF



Marta Castillo

MOSAIC STAFF



NOMINATE SOMEONE!

The Nominating Committee welcomes your nominations for persons who would serve well on Mosaic's committees and board.

<https://mosaicmennonites.org/nominating>

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

2026

2025-26 Updates/Activities

- At the beginning of the year, the committee identified Board and committee members' terms that were ending at the end of 2026. If eligible, committee members contacted people to see if they wanted to continue for an additional 3-year term.
- Committee chairpersons were consulted to identify the specific gifts and skill sets needed on their respective committees, to build balanced and effective teams.
- The Nominating Committee seeks to have balance in geographical, language, gender, congregational, and cultural representation.
- Members were identified and confirmed for the Conference Board, Ministerial, Credentialing, and Conference-Related Ministries committees. New Ministerial Committee, Credentialing, and Finance Chairs were named and affirmed.
- Mosaic's Moderator, Roy Williams, resigned as moderator (effective December 31, 2026) citing health concerns. Pending delegate affirmation, Janet Panning will move into the role of moderator in January 2027. The committee, in collaboration with the Board and Executive Minister, worked to name and affirm a new assistant moderator.
- We continued to encourage all Mosaic members to submit nominations through the Mosaic website for individuals who have skills and gifts to share on a Mosaic committee. We commit to inviting people to our committees who are willing to serve, faithful, and gifted.

We are grateful for the many volunteer hours that are offered by members who share their gifts on behalf of the vision and mission of Mosaic Mennonite Conference.

Please continue to pray for those volunteering on our Mosaic committees, that they may have wisdom and joy in their offerings as they represent Christ, their congregations, and their own faith journeys for the benefit of the conference.

CONFERENCE-RELATED MINISTRIES (CRM) COMMITTEE MEMBERS



MOSAIC

THE CRM COMMITTEE provides relationship accompaniment to Conference-Related Ministries (CRMs) providing conference presence and support through resourcing, visibility, and relationships as organizations continue in their ministries of providing care, hope, healing and resources to their communities.



Lindy Backues

Philadelphia (PA) Praise Center

COMMITTEE CHAIR



Charlene Smalls

Ripple Church
(Allentown, PA)



Joel Horst Nofziger

Methacton Mennonite
(Norristown, PA)



Calenthia Dowdy

MOSAIC STAFF

CONFERENCE-RELATED MINISTRIES (CRM) COMMITTEE REPORT

2026

2025-26 Updates/Activities

Accompanying and Strengthening Relationships

Throughout the year, Margaret Zook and Calenthia Dowdy met with representatives of numerous Conference-Related Ministries, including Amohoro International (Uganda), Indian Creek Foundation (Souderton, PA), Liberty Ministries (Schwenksville, PA), the Mennonite Heritage Center (Harleysville, PA), and St. Luke's Penn Foundation (Sellersville, PA), among others. They also met with two ministries exploring membership with Mosaic.

On May 18, 2026, the committee hosted a Conference-Related Ministries reception to recognize Margaret Zook as she retired as Mosaic's first Director of Collaborative Ministries and to welcome Dr. Calenthia Dowdy as the new Director of Collaborative Ministries.

Welcoming a New Conference-Related Ministry

Destiny's Daughters (Harrisonburg, VA) was approved for membership as a Conference-Related Ministry.

Exploring the Purpose and Expectations of CRMs

The committee met twice to revisit the purpose of the CRM Committee and consider what qualifies an organization to be recognized as a Mosaic Conference-Related Ministry. The committee discussed questions including the degree of explicit Christian or Mennonite identity expected of a CRM, alignment with Mosaic's mission and values, participation in Conference life, governance and accountability, willingness to collaborate, and evidence of meaningful community engagement.

The committee understood this work as an initial step toward a clearer and more consistent framework for discerning, endorsing, relating to, and reviewing Conference-Related Ministries. The committee agreed to continue developing preliminary CRM discernment criteria organized around three values: endorsement, relationships, and networks.

Committee Leadership and Membership

In January 2026, Lindy Backues transitioned into the role of CRM Committee Chair, succeeding Haroldo Nunes, who moved into an at-large position on the Conference Board. The committee also welcomed Joel Horst Nofziger, Executive Director of the Mennonite Heritage Center (Harleysville, PA), as an at-large member.

Through its meetings, visits, and ongoing conversations, the committee continues to provide direction and support to Mosaic staff as they strengthen relationships between Mosaic Conference and its Conference-Related Ministries.

Submitted by Calenthia Dowdy, Director of Collaborative Ministries, and Lindy Backues, CRM Committee Chair, September 16, 2026

VIBRANT MOSAIC REPORT

2026

Healthy, vibrant Mosaic congregations are shaped into the image of Jesus (our formational priority), transformed by relationships with others (our intercultural priority), and engaged in the healing of our world (our missional priority).



Vibrant Mosaic is a multi-year initiative of Mosaic Conference supported by a grant from the Lilly Endowment's Thriving Congregations Initiative. It helps congregations deepen their rootedness in the Anabaptist tradition while strengthening their capacity for formational, missional, and intercultural transformation.

Vibrant Mosaic provides opportunities for congregations and their leaders to increase congregational health, build common mission, and foster community by integrating our conference priorities into church life.

Our learning community cohorts bring together around four leaders from congregations from varied cultural, geographic, theological, and congregational contexts. Together, they participate in two classes per year, for up to two years. Each class includes a weekend in one of the conference hubs. During the second half of each year, participants focus on how to implement change within their congregation and apply for up to \$5,000 annually to help pay for a relevant learning experience or missional experiment.

Participating Congregations:

- **Cohort 1 (2025):** Ambler (PA) Mennonite, Blooming Glen (PA) Mennonite, Iglesia Menonita Encuentro de Renovación (Miami, FL) and LA (CA) Faith Chapel (Spanish-English)
- **Cohort 2 (2026):** College Hill Mennonite (Tampa, FL), Indonesian Light Church (Philadelphia, PA), JKIA (Sierra Madre, CA), Zion Mennonite (Souderton, PA) (Indonesian-English)
- **Cohort 3 (2027):** Centro de Alabanza de Filadelfia (PA), Iglesia Menonita del Cordero (Brownsville, TX), Redemption Church of Bristol (PA), Whitehall (PA) Mennonite (Spanish-English)

Several participants share reflections of their experiences:

"Before attending these classes, I had little exposure to churches outside of my own congregation. It was encouraging to hear the stories, experiences, and perspectives of fellow believers from different churches who share the same faith and values... I left feeling more connected to the broader Mennonite family and grateful for the relationships and conversations that took place throughout the classes."

- **Carlyn Desiani, Indonesian Light Church (Philadelphia, PA)**

"This program has been an incredible experience because it has given us the opportunity to meet people from other churches, share our experiences, learn from one another, and build meaningful relationships. We have been able to walk together, support one another, grow in our faith, and recognize that, united in Christ, we are part of the same family."

- **Jocelyn Mendoza, Iglesia Menonita Encuentro de Renovación (Miami, Florida)**

"Even though my congregation is 1200 miles away from [another in the cohort], and we worship in different languages, these interactions helped me see that we are sister churches, part of Mosaic together, working for the Gospel together."

- **Pastor Jacob Curtis, Ambler (PA) Mennonite**

To explore joining a future cohort, contact Danilo Sanchez, Vibrant Mosaic Director.



Oasis is a retreat created especially for leaders of color within Mosaic. The gathering, hosted every two years, offers space for rest, spiritual renewal, relationship-building, and leadership formation in a culturally grounded community. In 2027, Oasis will be held at a retreat center in the Philadelphia, PA area, June 3-6.

As Vibrant Mosaic continues, we are learning alongside participating congregations about what helps communities of faith become more interculturally engaged and equipped for mission. We are grateful for the congregations who have committed to and invested time in this initiative and look forward to continuing to learn together.

*Submitted by Danilo Sanchez, Vibrant Mosaic Director, and Jennifer Svetlik, Associate Director,
September 2, 2026*

DELEGATE AFFIRMATION BALLOT

2026

Board Members and Committee Chairs

The following individuals will be presented for delegate affirmation at Assembly. Delegates will be asked to affirm each nominee listed below. Each term is for three years, beginning in January 2027.

Position	Nominee	Congregation
Moderator	Janet Panning	Plains Mennonite (Hatfield, PA)
Ministerial Committee Chair	Wayne Nitzsche	Plains Mennonite (Hatfield, PA)
Board Treasurer & Finance Committee Chair	Jessica Clopton- Robinson	College Hill Mennonite (Tampa, FL)
Member-at-Large	Georgette Koutie-Perez	Ark of Christ (Westminster, CA)
Member-at-Large	Ron White	Church of the Good Samaritans (Holland, PA)

Assistant Moderator

At this time, there is no nominee for Assistant Moderator. The Board does not anticipate having a nominee in time for the Delegate Assembly. Time will be provided during the Delegate Assembly for names to be submitted to the Nominating Committee.

WELCOMING NEW COMMUNITIES

2026



NEW MEMBER CONGREGATION

Iglesia Menonita Casa de Oración

📍 *García, Nuevo León, México*

Iglesia Menonita Casa de Oración (House of Prayer Mennonite Church) in García, Nuevo León, Mexico, grew through the guidance of Iglesia Menonita Fuente de Agua Viva in Los Fresnos, Texas, and has built its own church building through sacrificial giving and volunteer labor. Today, Casa de Oración serves its community through worship, pastoral care, evangelism, and practical outreach in an area experiencing significant economic and social challenges. The congregation continues to grow in Anabaptist theology, discipleship, peacebuilding, and servant leadership.



NEW MEMBER CONGREGATION

Hope Chapel

📍 *Murietta, CA*

Hope Chapel Temecula is an Indonesian church serving the Murrieta and Temecula area of Southern California. The congregation gathers for Sunday worship at 12:30 PM at the Awakening Event Center in Murrieta and is led by Senior Pastor Edwin Mandey. Hope Chapel Temecula is seeking to grow and serve its local Indonesian community through worship, fellowship, and ministry.



NEW CONFERENCE-RELATED MINISTRY

Destiny's Daughters, Inc.

📍 *Harrisonburg, VA*

Destiny's Daughters Inc., is a therapeutic and spiritual mentoring organization based in Harrisonburg, Virginia. Under the passionate direction of its founder and CEO, Dr. Melody M. Pannell, this ministry combines Anabaptist theology with social work and restorative justice to offer holistic healing to young Black women and their communities. In a world marked by deep social disparities and health inequities, this ministry seeks to transform the lives of young women and girls through faith, justice, and community love.

2025 DELEGATE ASSEMBLY MINUTES

November 1, 2025

Souderton (PA) Mennonite Church

165 delegates were present. About 300 people attended throughout the day, including guests and Mosaic staff and board members.

Morning Delegate Session

Mosaic Leadership Minister Josh Meyer welcomed everyone and opened in prayer. Executive Board member Maati Yvonne shared the process that delegates should follow in sharing at the tables. She introduced the Respectful Conversation Guidelines and explained mutual invitation sharing. Platts invited delegates to introduce themselves to each other at the tables.

Board member and pastor Haroldo Nunes and Leadership Minister of Formation Rose Bender Cook prayed before communion. Bender Cook read from I Corinthians 11.

After communion, Mosaic Conference Moderator Angela Moyer Walter and Assistant Moderator Roy Williams asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the 2024 Assembly. Jeff Wright made a motion to approve the previous year's minutes. Haroldo Nunes seconded the motion. Delegates approved by a show of hands.

Williams invited Mosaic board members, committee members, and Conference-Related Ministry representatives to stand to be recognized.

Moyer Walter introduced an affirmation vote for new board members and committee chairs. Charlene Smalls made a motion to approve the new members. Jordan Luther seconded the motion. Delegates filled in their ballots, and Mosaic staff collected envelopes of ballots from each table.

Executive board members Platts, Moyer Walter, Williams, Jim Musselman, and Cory Longacre discussed the history, reasoning, and issues that went into the board's recommendation to discontinue membership in Mennonite Church USA (MC USA) and cultivate healthy mutual partnerships with MC USA, Mennonite World Conference, and other Anabaptist communities. The board wanted a partnership with MC USA and didn't make this recommendation lightly, but with fasting, prayer, and significant prior efforts. They shared that existing structures within MC USA have caused division, and that discontinuing membership is best for Mosaic as a whole.

Delegates discussed these questions at tables for thirty minutes: *What do you hear that resonates? What do you hear that is a challenge? What would you like to offer to the conversation?* Five table numbers (21, 2, 13, 10, 11) were chosen at random for table leaders to summarize their table's conversation. Responses from facilitators Sonya Kurtz, Mike Derstine, Jeannine Adams, Tomás Ramirez, and Jeff Wright included acknowledgment of difficult conversation but willingness to trust leadership; questions about the deeper issues at play in this decision; recognition that it's time to move forward with a decision and concerns about language; an observation that even though Paul and Barnabas separated, they still continued preaching; recognition of the pain and struggle experienced by the executive board, but also noting that only Mosaic's side of the conversation was voiced here, not MC USA's; recognition of problems in both Mosaic and MC USA; and struggles with Mosaic's Grace and Truth document.

Leadership Minister of Administration Brooke Martin made some announcements about logistics, and Pastor Beny Krisbianto prayed before lunch.

Afternoon Delegate Session

Makinto and Mukarabe Makinto led delegates and guests in chanting words and phrases from Acts 1:6-8 and drumming the rhythms of those words and phrases.

Leadership Minister Ertell Whigham opened in prayer, desiring that everyone live into the power of the Holy Spirit and love each other.

Moyer Walter clarified that no one from MC USA was disinvited from Mosaic's assembly. Mosaic was planning to host MC USA representatives until Thursday, when MC USA announced they would not be sending anyone.

Moyer Walter invited the Vibrant Mosaic cohort to stand for recognition.

Delegates at tables engaged in ten minutes of conversation around this question: *As you prepare for the vote, are there final questions or comments you would like to share with each other?*

Moyer Walter described the process of voting. The vote will change Mosaic's bylaws. She explained that red means, "No, I don't affirm the recommendation"; yellow means "I yield to the recommendation"; and green means, "Yes, I affirm the recommendation." Yellow will be counted as a yes; abstaining votes will be counted as a "no."

Delegates voted and the ballots were collected in envelopes by Mosaic staff. Moyer Walter invited delegates to write feedback for the board on comment cards at the tables. Rodger Schmell invited delegates to remember Pentecost and to say the Lord's Prayer together, in the language of their choice.

Leadership Minister for Strategic Priorities Emily Ralph Servant and Leadership Minister for Intercultural Transformation Danilo Sanchez discussed the new Centering Document developed and affirmed by the board earlier this year. They explained that board continues to learn about and discern how centered-set model, which focuses on Jesus as the center, can be core to Mosaic's identity. This model has high expectations and accountability, as well as high acceptance and welcome. The document engages these goals and desires: to honor one another's journeys toward Jesus; to be patient and respectful with differences; to be honest with one another; and to allow conversations to shape us into the image of Jesus.

Ralph Servant invited tables to discuss questions related to Mosaic's centered set posture: *In what ways does the description of Mosaic reflect your experience of the conference? In what ways do you appreciate this posture of Mosaic conference, and what are the potential challenges? What would keep you or your congregation/ministry from being able to commit to engaging conference life as described in the document?*

Five table numbers were chosen randomly for table leaders to summarize their groups' discussions (the virtual group, 4, 17, 16, and 18). Table leaders Danilo Sanchez, Ron White, Michael Howes, Eden Strunk, and Beny Krisbianto shared that Christ-centered work overrides culture and allows welcoming to happen; the Centering Document describes who Mosaic aspires to be; the role of love in differing opinions and how to love and be transparent; affirmation for Jesus as the center but wondering if LGBTQ issues are not being named specifically; and wondering about the fruits of the conference and how to be centered amid difference.

Nominating Committee member Margaret Zook recognized board members who have or will be finishing their terms this year: Angela Moyer Walter, Herman Sagastume, Kiron Mateti, and Rodger Schmell. Roy Williams thanked the outgoing members and offered a prayer and blessing for them.

Leadership Minister for Missional Transformation Noel Santiago prayed before the results of the vote were announced. He and Associate Executive Minister Marta Castillo invited a sacred pause and reminded everyone that a prayer room is available. They encouraged everyone to offer God whatever is in their hearts.

Executive Minister Steve Kriss brought greetings from Gulf States and Allegheny Conferences. He thanked other Mennonite organizations for being present and for their work, including Anabaptist Disabilities Network, Mennonite Mission Network, Mennonite Central Committee, Mennonite Disaster Service, Eastern Mennonite Missions, the board president of Goshen College, Eastern Mennonite University, and MennoMedia. Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary and Anabaptist World were also present.

Incoming Assistant Moderator Janet Panning prayed and gave thanks for God's movement in the world.

Board member Jim Musselman announced the result of the votes. All the new board members and committee members were affirmed from the morning's vote. In the afternoon vote, 64% of delegates voted green, to affirm the recommendation to leave MC USA. 10% voted yellow, or yielded to the recommendation. 23% voted red, or no; and 3% abstained from voting. The recommendation passed by 74%.

Williams announced that even though he was a board member of MC USA when the denomination was formed in the 1900s, he feels called to serve with Mosaic Conference.

Kriss acknowledged the gravity and historical significance of the moment. He committed to Mosaic being a space where all Mosaic communities and individuals can flourish. He clarified that Mosaic's discontinuation of membership takes effect Monday morning, November 3, and Mosaic's website will be changed immediately. Kriss committed to personally helping congregations that want dual affiliation with another conference, even though Mosaic does not have this provision currently. He recognized that some people in the room felt deep grief and others felt liberation. He asked everyone to withhold their responses. He stated that Mosaic will work for healthy mutual partnerships, by the grace of God.

Moyer Walter expressed gratitude for the assembly planning team, host Souderton Mennonite Church, childcare providers, interpreters, worship leaders, and table leaders.

The Assembly finished twenty minutes early. Ralph Servant and Makinto led the group in a closing song, "Prepare Ye a Way," and Ralph Servant offered a benediction.

ASSEMBLY SCHEDULE

November 7, 2026
Souderton (PA) Mennonite Church

8:30 AM Registration and Exhibit Hall open
Coffee and tea served until 9 AM

9:30 AM Celebration Worship Service

11:00 AM Community Time
Exhibit Hall
Refreshments

11:20 AM Morning Delegate Session

12:30 PM- Lunch
1:50 PM Community Time
Exhibit Hall

Note: There is no childcare during this time

2:00 PM- Afternoon Delegate Session
4:30 PM