

THE CMC NEWSLETTER

COLLEGE MENNONITE CHURCH

A CONGREGATION OF MENNONITE
CHURCH USA



Hello from the Board!

Hello from your church board!!

September is the beginning of the new church year and Merle has started his second year as our interim pastor. As your board prepares for the upcoming congregational meeting, most of our thoughts revolve around assembling a pastoral team to best fit and fulfill the ministries & needs of our community. What is the right FTE? Sometimes I wonder if FTE is a marker for church work?

Over the course of many years (decades), CMC has reduced its pastoral team significantly, and most recently during my term, went from five to three (continuing) pastors (head count), with a full time interim pastor (four total). So what's the right balance, the best fit for what we expect at CMC fulfilling what the Spirit requires of each of us? How many people are we serving?

I'd like to start the conversation with enabling our pastors to pastor. I think that is a good place to start. The size and complexity of CMC requires some significant coordination and administrative work, is that a good usage of a pastor's time?

Peace of Christ,

Patrick Vendrely

CMC Board Chair 2025-2027

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| This Sunday in Worship

September 13, 2026 @ 9:30 am
& CMC en Español @ 11:00 am



Merle Hostetler



Cristian Alemán

| Links

[Watch e-worship](#)

[Online Giving](#)

| Sunday Schedule

Sunday, September 13

9:20 am - Gathering songs

9:30 am - We Worship Together

10:30 am - Children's Sunday School

10:45 am - Sunday School

11:00 am - CMC en Español

Updates and News



From the Board, Staff, Worship Commission and Discipling Commission:

Don't forget about our new Sunday morning schedule.

9:30 Worship

10:30-10:45 or 11 Fellowship

(Adult SS classes can exercise autonomy on specifically what time their class begins and ends)



11:00 Worship (Español)



There are a couple of reasons for this change:

- When we moved our second worship service from 11:11 to 11:30, we lost some of the natural fellowship time that happened between people who went to different worship services. This has been explicitly named as a loss, by people who attend both services.
- This change makes it easier for families who attend the 11:00 service. It will be easier to bring children to Sunday school, and children will still be able to join for the second half of worship.

Thank you for your flexibility as we continue to experiment and find our way together!



We hope all children and youth can come and find belonging and be nurtured in their faith walk. **PreK-Kinder, 1st-3rd grade, and 4th-5th grade, all meet from 10:30 - 11:30a.m. while Genesis (6th-8th), and MYF (9th-12th) meet from 10:45 - 11:30a.m.**

We need more teachers, leaders, and hosts for this important ministry!
Substitute teachers for 1st-3rd and 4-5th classes (Curriculum materials provide preparation for teaching that are spiritually rewarding. Training can be provided.)

MYF Sunday teachers/speakers (Share your witness, a story of faith, lead a series, teach a skill, etc. The youth want to get to know you and learn from you!)

MYF hosting for a Wednesday evening (usually 7 - 8pm)

Hosts for Genesis youth and families social gatherings.

Participants interested in serving alongside our youth in monthly service projects.

Contact Director Ben Graber @ ben@collegemennonite.org or 674-535-7284. Thank you!

Updates and News



591 School Kits — Thank You, CMC!

What a wonderful response to this year's MCC School Kit Drive! Thanks to the generosity and willing hands of our CMC congregation, we exceeded our goal and delivered 591 completed school kits to the MCC Resource Center!

This truly was a congregation-wide effort. Thank you to everyone who donated supplies, filled bags, helped with our work night, participated in the commissioning, moved and counted kits, and supported this project in so many different ways.

A special thank you goes to our Genesis and MYF youth, who joined Mennonite Women for our final work night. They helped add metal pencil sharpeners to the kits, completed our final count, and helped prepare all 591 bags for their journey to the MCC Resource Center. Each of these school kits will eventually find its way into the hands of a child somewhere in the world who needs it. What may seem like simple supplies—a notebook, pencils, colored pencils, pens, ruler, an eraser, and a pencil sharpener—becomes a tangible expression of care, hope, and encouragement.

Thank you, CMC, for helping us turn our goal into 591 gifts of love!

CMC Student Aid Committee

This note is a gentle reminder that our students back at school or heading there shortly. We appreciate your continued generous support. We are planning a meet-the-students event sometime in September. This will be after the first service. We hope everyone will take the time to drop by for a treat and to meet the students we are supporting.

It's My Coins Count time again this year!

Your coin collections will help provide WATER, FOOD and EDUCATION to children and families around the world through Mennonite Central Committee and its partners by supporting farmers with animals and new techniques to maximize their yields to feed their families. Funds will also be used for emergency food for families in refugee camps or in crisis. Coins will be gathered during worship on August 30, September 6, 13 and 20, to take to the Michiana Relief Sale on Sept. 25-26, 2026. Adults can support the children by matching the coins totals! Thank you for making a difference in the world through MyCC and Mennonite Central Committee!



On Sunday, September 6, we were encouraged to talk with each other - which is sometimes easier said than done! If you missed it, here is a printable version of the "Talk Prompts" that were handed out in worship.



As we continue our "Six Practices" worship series, here is an article from MennoMedia's Mitch Stutzman about some of the practicalities of worshiping with children.

Children in Worship

TIPS AND BEST PRACTICES

by Mitch Stutzman

Updates and News



An invitation to a non-violent protest to wars and other violence around the world: Mennonite Action prayers, Tuesday, September 15, from noon until 1 p.m. in the CMC sanctuary. Join a group to pray for people and situations around the world where violence continues--including in the U.S. We pray with songs and silence, scripture, spoken prayers, and candle lighting. All are welcome. Join us for a short time or for the full hour.

The Coalition to Dismantle the Doctrine of Discovery invites you to our upcoming event:

National Day of Remembrance Webinar (Orange Shirt Day) - September 30 at 7:30pm ET

The National Day of Remembrance on September 30th is a day to remember and honor those who attended Indian Boarding Schools, to tell the truth about this history and how it continues to impact Native communities today. Many boarding schools were supported and run by Christian denominations and churches. As we remember this legacy, Christians have a responsibility to engage in the work of truth telling. Join the Coalition to Dismantle the Doctrine of Discovery for a panel discussion about how churches are working towards truth telling and repair, and how you can join in this work. [Register for the Zoom link](#)

Martin Doblmeier, an award-winning documentary filmmaker whose new film explores the changing face of Christianity in the United States, will deliver the Yoder Public Affairs presentation at Goshen College on **Tuesday, Sept. 15, 7 to 8:30 pm in the Umble Center.** The event includes a preview short screening (which will release on October 1), a panel discussion, with Q&A and refreshments to follow. The panel conversation is scheduled for 40 minutes directly following the screening of a 30-min excerpt of the two-part documentary. Here is the [link](#) to the trailer for the film, and here is the [link](#) to the press release.



September is Suicide Prevention Awareness Month. Find ways below to support the cause here at GC.



Dear CMC'ers, we are in dire need of drivers for the CMC transportation WhatsApp group.

If you are able to assist our immigrant sisters and brothers in this manner please scan the QR code and add yourself to the group. Thank you!



Transporte de CMC/CMC Ride Sharing

WhatsApp Group Invite

WhatsApp.com

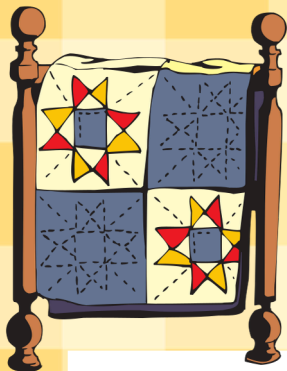


CLICK HERE

SCAN



OR



2026 Michiana Mennonite Relief Sale Information and Links:

CMC MEMBERS:

Pastor Madeline Maldonado is requesting volunteers to make arepas for the relief sale. If interested in helping, please use the link below to sign up!

[SIGN UP](#)

How can you be a blessing to others? Bid on an item at the Quilt Auction at the Michiana Mennonite Relief Sale. Come and view the comforters and quilts of all sizes, quilted wall-hangings, plus knitted and crocheted afghans on Friday evening, Sept. 25. Then bid either in person or online on Saturday morning, Sept. 26 beginning at 8:00 am. See the website for information about how to bid on an item - <http://www.mennonitesale.org/quilt-auction>. For more information contact Gail Shetler, 574-333-7142.

2026 Run for Relief registration and sign up is also open now! Email or text/call Roger Nafziger at rogeran@goshen.edu or (574) 536-6248 if you have any questions.

[REGISTER NOW](#)

[SIGN UP](#)

Help make the Children's Carnival at the Relief Sale a fun experience for all! Volunteers are needed for games and activities Friday 5:30-8 and Saturday 9-11:30. To volunteer or learn more, contact Michelle Rubo at michelle.rubo@yahoo.com or 574-304-6036.

Pickleball at the Relief Sale! Sign up your team for the Pickleball Tournament - Mixed Doubles 60+ is Friday night beginning at 5 pm, Mixed Doubles <60 begins Saturday at 9 am. Cost is \$40 cash at check-in. Register your team at www.mennonitesale.org/pickleball-tournament by September 21.

If you love to bake, consider making something to donate to be sold at the Relief Sale. You can find information for obtaining packaging and food requirements on the website.

<https://www.mennonitesale.org/donate#baked-goods>

It takes hundreds of volunteers to make the Relief Sale a success!
Look for an opportunity you can help with on the website:
<https://www.mennonitesale.org/volunteer>



| Looking Ahead

Monday, September 14

6:00 pm - ISMG

6:30 pm - Stephen Ministry Supervision

Tuesday, September 15

12:00 pm - Mennonite Action Prayers

Wednesday, September 16

4:00 pm - Stewardship Committee

5:00 pm - Prayer Choir

7:00 pm - MYF

Thursday, September 17

10:00 am - CMC Volunteer Day

Sunday, September 20

9:20 am - Gathering songs

9:30 am - Worship Service

10:30 am - Fellowship Time and Children's Sunday School

10:45 am - Adult Sunday School

11:00 am - CMC en Español



SEPTEMBER



Check your Literature Boxes!

Reminder: The CMC Office will be placing documents in your church mailbox instead of mailing them through USPS. If you are out of the area for a period of time and would prefer we mail them to you, please contact us at

cmc@collegemennonite.org

| CMC LINKS

[Click to view future events.](#)

[Click to see community and church-wide news.](#)

[Click to see the most recent prayer concerns.](#)