



LMC *a fellowship of anabaptist churches*

Shalom NEWS

APRIL–JUNE 2022



'Come to the Table'

And people will come from east and west, and from north and south, and recline at table in the kingdom of God. – Luke 13:29 ESV



LMC's Celebration of Church Life will be held at Camp Hebron in Halifax PA. The multi-day event is designed for the entire family with activities for all ages. The plenary speakers are Jeremy Miller, President of Rosedale Bible College and Adalberto Santiago, LMC Conference Minister.

The weekend event will feature:

- Activities and resourcing for the entire family. Options for swimming, boating, fishing, hiking, horseback riding*, archery*, and ropes course*
- Various LMC worship teams
- Various lodging options are available
- Seminars for children, youth, and adults
- Youth rally with speakers and worship band
- Children and youth will enjoy resourcing by David Cain, Jugglers for Jesus
- Time to visit with friends, enjoy meals, rest, relax
- Opportunity to browse resource partner organization table displays

Cost for weekend lodging and meals ranges from \$200 (adult) to \$25 (ages 3–17). A Saturday only meal option is available. Those who wish to stay in the campground should reserve their site with Camp Hebron directly at camphebron.org.



Registration is REQUIRED and will close on May 15th
lmchurches.org/celebration-of-church-life-2022/

Questions? Call LMC at 717-293-5246 ext. 100 or email
information@lmchurches.org

**Additional fees for these options. Pre-registration is required.*



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ON THE COVER

Main photo: Andrés and Angelica Prins, EMM, at the table with Bishop Nicolas Angustia, New York City District, at Celebration of Church Life 2018. Photo by Jonathan Charles.

Small photo: Pastor Jorge Canales sharing about the church Jesus el Salvador with a CIES delegation.



God on the Move!

BY STEVE AND BETH GIBBS

How great is the love of Jesus! Out of great love for a world lost in sin, Jesus went to the cross, suffered, and died there to save humanity. Rising from the dead, ascending to heaven, Christ with the Father sent the Spirit to empower those who believe in him. That movement of Christ from heaven to earth and back again initiated a Spirit-led movement of God's Kingdom on earth that continues today. God wants to bring the Good News of his salvation to every nation, tribe, people, and language!

In the Fall of 2020, a study group largely composed of LMC bishops and leaders from EMM joined a Multiplication Cohort facilitated by *Exponential*, a church planting and resourcing network. Participating as a pastor in LMC, along with my wife Beth, an EMM Strategic Coach, we were greatly encouraged, inspired, and challenged. It was amazing to see what we were learning in a cohort that dovetailed perfectly with LMC's new Mission Statement. The mission declares LMC to be a *Spirit-led movement of making disciples, mobilizing every member as a missionary, and multiplying faith communities locally and beyond*. Multiplication as "disciples making disciples who make more disciples" has been a larger-than-life idea for me. For years as a missionary and a pastor, we have been involved in making disciples. The Exponential cohort has inspired us to become involved in making disciplemakers.

LMC and EMM leaders in Nashville attending the *Exponential* conference in the fall of 2020. Pictured left to right: Beth & Steve Gibbs, Daryl Weaver, Lorri Bentsch, Marvin Lorenzana, J. Allen Lehman, Dave Houser, Lloyd Hoover, and Keith Weaver. Photo supplied by the authors.

Before and after photos – above: God provided after a small group prayed over barren land. Right: the house is built on a well-spring of clean water. Photos supplied by the authors.

EXTRAORDINARY PRAYER

A key learning from the Exponential cohort is that a key characteristic of Kingdom Movements is *extraordinary prayer*. Extraordinary means more than ordinary. In other words, how might prayer be beyond what we are currently doing? In response to these kinds of questions, the study cohort formed a Prayer Committee Team of four LMC and EMM staff who initiated a Friday noon Zoom prayer meeting. Additionally, on a Friday evening in May 2021, we gathered at Hub450 for a special LMC/EMM evening of prayer. During the first week of this year, January 4-7, 2022, we participated in a time of Prayer and Fasting where participants gathered at 7:00 a.m. for an hour of prayer at Hub450 and met again at noon for a Zoom prayer meeting. On January 7 at noon, the group celebrated the conclusion of the week with communion and lunch together.

The week of prayer and fasting was a faith stretching exercise. It had been many years since I had prayed and fasted like that. We learned afresh what Jesus meant when he said that we “*shall not live by bread alone but by every word of God*” (Luke 4:4). As challenging as this time was, the satisfaction of completing the week combined with the support, fellowship, and affirmation that I felt from my brothers and sisters, made it all worthwhile. Who knows what the fruit of this time of “extraordinary prayer” will be?

THE POWER OF PRAYER

We must never undervalue the importance of our prayers. About eight years ago the leaders of the church small group that Beth and I are in had subdivided their property and were trying to construct a new home on a piece of that land. There



The power of that answered prayer encourages us to keep asking, seeking, and knocking in prayer.

had been numerous problems with the township permissions, and the land had to be tested for nitrates for the well so they could finally obtain the building permit. Some neighbors on nearby properties had failed their well-water inspections. What was going to happen?

The night prior to the well-water inspection we came together as a small group to pray over the land. As we gathered in a circle around the well and held hands and began to pray, we cried out to the Lord for his mercy and grace.

We asked for nitrate-free water to pass the inspection.

And he did! Now, whenever we meet in the basement of the house that was subsequently built, we remember how the Lord heard our prayer that night and gave us the answer we needed. The power of that answered prayer encourages us to keep asking, seeking, and knocking in prayer.

Unfortunately, the world knows too little of what prayer can do. Last spring the LMC/EMM Exponential cohort traveled to Kansas City, Missouri for a two-day training event. Traveling on the Interstate en route to the airport after the conclusion of the event, we were in a mini-van taxi with some other group members. Twenty miles from the airport our car started to slow down and was obviously having problems. If we broke down, we would miss our flight. Our driver indicated that he didn't know what was wrong with the car. Knowing that we were all praying under our breath, I, Steve, asked him, “Have you ever seen God

answer prayer?" He said, "No, is that a program on TV?" No, I told him as I went on to share a little more about God answering prayers. The three bishops in the back seat kept praying. We continued to limp along and managed to safely make it to the airport. As we exited the taxi at the airport, the driver allowed me to say a short prayer for him.

UNLOCKING 'MOVEMENT DNA'

Several months ago, LMC/EMM formed a study cohort, working through *Movement Accelerator*, a course designed around new ways of doing church. The group of leaders is learning what is needed to propel us (LMC and EMM) towards becoming an organic, "apostolic Gospel-planting transformational" movement that will bear much fruit in the Kingdom of God.

Our first sessions have been on *Metanoia* which is the Greek word for repentance. This type of repentance refers to a whole-hearted change of heart and mind to see and align ourselves with what God is doing. In simpler words, *Metanoia* boils down to the fact that if we always do what we've always done, we'll always experience the same results. For movement to occur, change is needed. Where are we stuck? What are the things that we as the church must unlearn? How can we more closely align ourselves as individuals, as congregations, and as a network with the movement of God? These are some of the questions

The love of Jesus grabs ahold of us and pushes us forward, propelling us into action.

that the study cohort has been grappling with. The most reassuring learning we have had is this – **all that is necessary for the movement to occur is already present within each Christ-follower and congregation!** Our

challenge is to with the help of God's Spirit, unlock the mDNA (movement DNA) that is in each of us.

"For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again" (2 Corinthians 5:14). This Compelling Love of Jesus shouts Movement. The love of Jesus grabs ahold of us and pushes us forward, propelling us into action. The lost will be saved through the propulsion of a Jesus Movement, even in our time and in our society. Not too long ago, God spoke to me and said, "I am on the move. Are you moving with me?" May our answer to that question always be, "Yes, Lord, yes!" ■



Steve and Beth Gibbs enjoy serving others and meeting new people. In 1987, Steve, Beth, and their children moved to Cusco, Peru, South America. They served as part of a missionary church planting team working among the Quechua people and returned to the US in 2000. Today, Steve serves as Lead Pastor at Landis Valley Christian Fellowship and Beth serves as Strategic Coach at Eastern Mennonite Missions.



EXPONENTIAL⁷ Multipliers Learning Communities

Learn more at exponential.org/learning-communities/ or scan the QR code.



¡Dios en movimiento!

POR STEVE Y BETH GIBBS

¡Qué grande es el amor de Jesús! Por el gran amor por un mundo perdido en el pecado, Jesús fue a la cruz, sufrió y murió allí para salvar a la humanidad. Resucitando de entre los muertos, ascendiendo al cielo, Cristo con el Padre envió el Espíritu para capacitar a los que creen en él. Ese movimiento de Cristo del cielo a la tierra y de regreso inició un movimiento guiado por el Espíritu del Reino de Dios en la tierra que continúa hoy. ¡Dios quiere llevar las Buenas Nuevas de su salvación a cada nación, tribu, pueblo y lengua!

En el otoño de 2020, un grupo de estudio compuesto en gran parte por obispos de LMC y líderes de EMM se unió a un Grupo de Multiplicación facilitada por *Exponential*, una red de plantación de iglesias y recursos. Participar como pastor en LMC, junto con mi esposa Beth, Entrenadora Estratégica (Strategic Coach) de EMM, nos animó, inspiró y desafió mucho. Fue increíble ver que lo que estábamos aprendiendo en el grupo encajaba perfectamente con la nueva Declaración de Misión de LMC. La misión declara que LMC es un movimiento dirigido por el Espíritu para hacer discípulos, movilizar a cada miembro como misionero y multiplicar las comunidades de fe a nivel local y más allá. La multiplicación como "discípulos que hacen discípulos que hacen más discípulos" ha sido una idea más grande que la vida para mí. Durante años como misionero y pastor, hemos estado involucrados en hacer discípulos. El grupo Exponencial nos ha inspirado a involucrarnos en hacer **hacedores de discípulos**.

Un aprendizaje clave del grupo Exponencial es que una característica clave de los Movimientos del Reino es la *oración extraordinaria*. Extraordinario significa más que ordinario. En otras palabras, ¿cómo podría estar la oración más allá de lo que estamos haciendo actualmente? En respuesta a este tipo de preguntas, el grupo de estudio formó un Equipo de Comité de Oración de cuatro miembros del personal de LMC y EMM que iniciaron una reunión de oración por Zoom el viernes al mediodía. Además, un viernes por la noche en mayo de 2021, nos reunimos en Hub450 para una noche de oración especial de LMC/EMM. Durante la primera semana de este año, del 4 al 7 de enero de 2022, participamos en un tiempo de oración y ayuno donde los participantes se reunieron a las 7 am para una hora de oración en Hub450 y se reunieron nuevamente al mediodía para una reunión de oración por Zoom. El 7 de enero al mediodía, el grupo celebró la conclusión de la semana con la comunión y el almuerzo juntos.

La semana de oración y ayuno fue un ejercicio de expansión de la fe. Habían lo que Jesús quiso decir cuando dijo que "no sólo de pan viviremos, sino de toda palabra de Dios" (Lucas 4:4). Tan desafiante como fue este momento, la satisfacción de completar la semana combinada con el apoyo, el compañerismo y la afirmación que sentí de mis hermanos y hermanas, hizo que todo valiera la pena. ¿Quién sabe cuál será el fruto de este tiempo de "oración extraordinaria"?

Nunca debemos subestimar la importancia de nuestras oraciones. Hace unos ocho años los líderes del pequeño grupo de la iglesia en el que Beth y yo estamos habían subdividido su propiedad y estábamos tratando de construir una nueva casa en un pedazo de esa tierra. Hubieron numerosos problemas con los permisos del municipio, y el terreno tuvo que ser analizado en busca de nitratos por el pozo para que finalmente pudieran obtener el permiso de construcción. Algunos vecinos de propiedades cercanas habían fallado sus inspecciones de agua de pozo. ¿Qué iba a pasar?

La noche anterior a la inspección del agua del pozo nos reunimos como un pequeño grupo para orar por la tierra. Cuando nos reunimos en un círculo alrededor

del pozo y nos tomamos de la mano y comenzamos a orar, clamamos al Señor por su misericordia y gracia. Pedimos agua libre de nitratos para pasar la inspección.

¡Y él lo hizo! Ahora, cada vez que nos reunimos en el sótano de la casa que se construyó posteriormente, recordamos cómo el Señor escuchó nuestra oración esa noche y nos dio la respuesta que necesitábamos. El poder de esa oración contestada nos anima a seguir pidiendo, buscando y llamando en oración.

Desafortunadamente, el mundo sabe muy poco de lo que puede hacer la oración. La primavera pasada, el Grupo Exponencial de LMC/EMM viajó a Kansas City, Missouri, para un evento de capacitación de dos días. Viajando por la carretera interestatal en ruta al aeropuerto después de la conclusión del evento, estábamos en un taxi mini-van con algunos otros miembros del grupo. Veinte millas del aeropuerto, nuestro automóvil comenzó a disminuir la velocidad y obviamente estaba teniendo problemas. Si nos averíamos, perderíamos nuestro vuelo. Nuestro conductor indicó que no sabía qué le pasaba al auto. Sabiendo que todos estábamos orando en voz baja, yo, Steve, le pregunté: «¿Alguna vez has visto a Dios responder a la oración?» Él dijo: "No, ¿eso es un programa en la televisión?" No, le dije mientras continuaba compartiendo un poco más acerca de Dios respondiendo oraciones. Los tres obispos en el asiento trasero siguieron orando. Continuamos cojeando y logramos llegar al aeropuerto de manera segura. Cuando salimos del taxi en el aeropuerto, el conductor me permitió hacer una breve oración por él.

Hace varios meses, LMC/EMM formó un grupo de estudio, trabajando a través de *Movement Accelerator*, un curso diseñado en torno a nuevas formas de hacer iglesia. El grupo de líderes está aprendiendo lo que se necesita para impulsarnos (LMC y EMM) a convertirnos en un movimiento orgánico, de "transformación apostólica que planta el Evangelio" que dará mucho fruto en el Reino de Dios.

Nuestras primeras sesiones han sido sobre *Metanoia*, que es la palabra griega para arrepentimiento. Este tipo de arrepentimiento se refiere a un cambio sincero de corazón y mente para ver y alinearnos con lo que Dios está haciendo. En palabras más simples, *Metanoia* se reduce al hecho de que si siempre hacemos lo que siempre hemos hecho, siempre obtendremos los mismos resultados. Para que ocurra el movimiento, se necesita un cambio. ¿Dónde estamos atrapados? ¿Cuáles son las cosas que nosotros como iglesia debemos desaprender? ¿Cómo podemos alinearnos más estrechamente como individuos, como congregaciones y como red con el movimiento de Dios? Estas son algunas de las preguntas con las que ha estado lidiando en el grupo de estudio. El aprendizaje más tranquilizador que hemos tenido es este: **¡todo lo que se necesita para que ocurra el movimiento ya está presente dentro de cada seguidor de Cristo y congregación!** Nuestro desafío es, con la ayuda del Espíritu de Dios, desbloquear el *ADNm* (ADN de movimiento) que está en cada uno de nosotros.

"Porque el amor de Cristo nos constriñe, convencidos de que uno murió por todos, y por tanto todos murieron. Y por todos murió, para que los que viven, ya no vivan para sí, sino para aquel que murió y resucitó por ellos" (2 Corintios 5:14). Este Amor Impelente de Jesús grita Movimiento. El amor de Jesús se apodera de nosotros y nos empuja hacia adelante, impulsándonos a la acción. Los perdidos serán salvados a través de la propulsión de un Movimiento de Jesús, aún en nuestro tiempo y en nuestra sociedad. No hace mucho tiempo, Dios me habló y me dijo: "Estoy en movimiento. ¿Te mudas conmigo?" Que nuestra respuesta a esa pregunta sea siempre: "¡Sí, Señor, sí!" ■

God Opens Doors

BY ERIK GIRÓN

My name is Erik Girón, happily married to Minerva Girón. I was born in Guatemala. During my childhood, I witnessed the severe needs of people living in the world, where there is a lot of idolatry. I was interested in the gospel and attended the Christian church.

When I was 13 years old, my family emigrated to the United States. It was an exceedingly difficult, month-long journey through many dangerous paths. God was faithful and took care of us along the way, even though I arrived in the United States without shoes. With complete faith and trust in God, I knew that if God had allowed us to arrive in the States, it was because He had a plan for my family.

In my youth, God spoke to me through other people. He used them to say that He had separated me from my mother's womb for the Pastorate. Although pastoring is a serious responsibility, it is also a privilege to be chosen. As it is written in Ephesians 4:11: "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers."

Many years passed during which God shaped and prepared me. From a small fellowship group, meeting in my parents' living room, I witnessed how God formed a church, Iglesia Restauración en Cristo in Mount Joy, Pa. A church that I would belong to for 19 years. I was able to grow in that church, developing in different responsibilities. In due time, in that same church body, God allowed me to meet the woman who the Lord had chosen to be my wife and my right hand.

In our short time as pastors, we have been able to see the hand of God working in our favor, opening doors. It all started in March 2018, when my pastor, Jose Baez, anointed me. I was able to leave the church in Mount Joy in the correct way, to start my ministry. Together with my pastor, we went to see the church in Lebanon which had been closed for over one and a half years. Little by little, the church building and the congregation have been restored both physically and spiritually.

The church doors are officially open. We continue to meet new people in the Lebanon area who help us, so that the work



Deacon Anita Rios, presents the Pastors with a congregational gift of one of their favorite Bible verses. Photo provided by the author.

continues forward. On Saturday, September 4, 2021, my wife and I were installed as the new pastors at Iglesia Evangélica Altar De Dios. In attendance were my parents, our family, pastors, and congregation members, from Concilio Iglesia Evangelica Shalom (CIES) and brethren from Iglesia Restauración en Cristo.

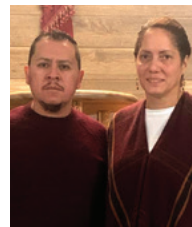
If we have learned anything in this journey, it is that God requires our obedience to Him. To be guided by the Holy Spirit and to submit our life are all needed to be a vessel through which God carries out His purpose.

There are many goals yet to be met, but the most important is that we can continue

To be guided by the Holy Spirit and to submit our life are all needed to be a vessel through which God carries out His purpose.

to take the gospel wherever God may place us, through whatever doors He may open. Upon the start of my call to be a pastor, a word was given to me that many vessels (people) would arrive at the newly opened doors of the Altar De Dios Evangelical Church. I was commanded to welcome them and preach the word. The Holy Spirit would take care of doing the rest. Our job as a church is to obey and trust that when God speaks, we must believe with confidence because He is faithful to His promises. God is the waymaker, opening doors in His

time, not ours. ■



Erik and Minerva Girón have two daughters Hannah, 15, and Erika, 14. They currently pastor the Altar De Dios Evangelical Church in Lebanon, Pa., where God continues to open doors of ministry.

COME TO THE TABLE – Luke 13:29

LMC Resource Page

Welcome to the new LMC resource page! LMC continues to engage its mission as a Spirit-led movement to make disciples of Jesus, mobilize every member as a missionary, and multiply faith communities locally and beyond. *Shalom News* is devoting this page to highlighting resources available to help individuals and congregations in the mission of God. Each issue of *Shalom News* will feature a different scope of LMC ministry resources.

Intercultural Leadership Ministry



Karl McKinney serves as the Intercultural Leadership Minister, a new role focused on the pursuit of justice as followers of Christ in LMC. He serves to help leaders throughout LMC increase their skills to build intercultural relationships. Karl is available for one-on-one meetings and to speak in congregations.

Karl has followed Christ in intercultural relationships within culturally diverse communities since 1983. He has lived among and served people without homes and managed affordable housing for both immigrants to the USA and a diverse clientele. He also served on teams to form new congregations, pastored congregations with long histories, and served leaders in urban, rural, and suburban contexts in the conferences of Mennonite Church USA and LMC. Karl is available to help leaders and leadership teams interested in addressing the challenges of following Christ as a people from every tribe, nation, and tongue.

So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. – Galatians 3:26-28 NIV

To learn more about the Intercultural Leadership Ministry please contact kmckinney@lmchurches.org or call 717-293-5246 ext. 111.



LMC staff are available to provide resources for your congregation. Missing from the photo are Adalberto Santiago and Conrad Kanagy.



Prayer Connections

The Intercultural Leadership Ministry Prayer Team meets at 7:00 p.m. on the third Monday each month. To join contact Aivi Nguyen at Aivi.Nguyen3@gmail.com

The Antiracism Prayer Team of West End Mennonite Fellowship meets at 7:00 p.m. on the second Monday each month. To join contact Daniel Sauder at DLsauder@aol.com.



Intercultural Development Inventory

Young adults, ages 18–35, are invited to join an Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI) Cohort. In small groups or cohorts, participants will begin to identify and relate to the differences between cultures. For more information contact kmckinney@lmchurches.org or call 717-293-5246 ext. 111.

Children's Story

The Mission at the Little Church of the Tree

BY KEILA FLORES

The CIES churches in Mexico celebrate the month of August as the “month of missions.” August is the hottest of the year in Northwest Mexico, with temperatures exceeding 100 degrees. For many years in August, we had no fellowship activities as an Association. In 2015, God disturbed our hearts to carry out evangelistic activities in the neediest sectors where the churches are located. Within the evangelistic activities, we held worship in homes, times of fasting and prayer, and community projects. The hands of love project shared food and clothing with those in need.

In our prayer time in August 2018, God directed us to find a different place to minister. One Friday afternoon, Alexandra Lugo (CIES-Mexico Mission Director) and I visited several neighborhoods in the city. Spirit-led, we finally arrived at Colonia Guadalupe Ríos, remarkably close to the city jail. We spoke with the person in charge of the Community Center and shared the activity we wanted to have in that neighborhood. A week later, on August 25th, we shared food, clothes, and shoes with the people of that neighborhood. We realized how many children there were in that place. God put in our hearts the desire to go and have Bible classes for the children one Sunday a month.

On September 30, 2018, we had our first Bible class with the children. It was a great blessing to sing praises to God, play games, share a Bible story, color, and enjoy a snack with them. At the beginning of this ministry, we sat under the shade of a cotton tree in one of the neighborhood streets. As more and more children were added to this group, the space received the name, *Little Church of the Tree*, by a group from CIES-USA that visited in 2019.

During these years of teaching children, we have learned how important it is to be prepared to serve 15 to 30 children and learned how difficult it is when 40 children arrive. Children come to the table prepared to color their picture, relate to the Bible story, and receive a snack, yet there is not enough food for individual portions. Nevertheless, we continue to meet in the street under the shade of the trees. We pray and trust in God

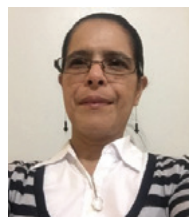


Above: Worshipping God with the kids. Left: Coloring a Bible story picture and memorizing a Bible verse. Photos by Sandra Granthon-Roman.

that a brick-and-mortar church can be established in that neighborhood to continue this beautiful children's ministry.

These three years of service to children have filled us with boundless joy as a church. We have learned to love these children as part of the church and share blessings with them. We receive support from the Churches of the CIES-USA. Our greatest satisfaction is to see the children's desire to learn from God and make changes in their lives. In the last two years, the pandemic has prevented us from in-person meetings with the children. Yet, we continue to be in communication with the children and their families. Very soon, with the help of God, we will start Bible classes for children under the shade of the trees, the mission at the *Little Church of the Tree*!

Our prayer is that God will continue to bless these children to be impacted by the Word of God and grow up to be good men and women who serve God as disciples of Jesus, our Lord, and Savior. Matthew 19:14: "But Jesus said: Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven." ■



Keila Flores is originally from Honduras and serves as a missionary for the Concilio Iglesias Evangélicas Shalom (CIES) — USA in Huatabampo, Sonora, Mexico. In Huatabampo, she is part of the Good Shepherd Evangelical Church. For three consecutive years, they have supported a very poor area of the city.

FROM AROUND LMC

Congregations who would like to report briefly on events in their congregation should send a descriptive paragraph and a high resolution picture to smartin@LMCchurches.org.



CUBA CONCILIO DE IGLESIAS EVANGÉLICAS SHALOM (CIES)*

LMC churches in Cuba held their annual leadership assembly January 20-23. District leaders and delegates in Cuba gathered at Templo Menonita Emmanuel for a time of worship, fellowship, and shared learning. Samuel Lopez, Adalberto Santiago, and Keith Weaver who traveled to Cuba, also ministered in local congregations during Sunday worship services. *CIES is a community of Hispanic churches and a District of LMC. Their vocation and mission is focused on bringing healing and liberation to this world so divided and broken, both physically and spiritually. They believe that the good news of Jesus is totally liberating and redemptive.

INDONESIA GLOBAL YOUTH SUMMIT TRIP

EMM is hosting a trip to attend the MWC Global Youth Summit in Indonesia from June 21 to July 5, 2022. The trip will be led by Troy and Michelle Landis — LMC Pastors at Living Light Mennonite Church and EMM alumni with years of experience in the language and culture of Indonesia. Learn more and sign up at emm.org.

MULTIPLICATION PRAYER GATHERING

Thursday, January 6, 2022, from 7:00–9:00 p.m. forty residents of Landis Homes with ties to the LMC fellowship of churches and EMM, gathered in the West Community room for a time of focused prayer. Prayer centered around missionaries, multiplication, and the advancement of the Gospel. The group interceded for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit on lives, families, and communities. Landis Homes resident, Glenn Hoover, in collaboration with LMC, hosts the quarterly multiplication prayer gatherings.



CIES WELCOMES THE MINISTERING WORD OF GOD

Pastor José Israel from the Dominican Republic preached at Shalom Mennonite Congregation Church in New Columbia. He also visited Jesus Christ Is The Answer Church, in Harrisburg and El Shadai Church, in Reading. It was a great blessing to have Pastor José fellowship with the CIES Churches, where God ministered powerfully.

TIM TRAINING

Spring Courses: Spiritual Formation with Jay Conn, Anabaptist History and Theology with Joe Showalter, Congregational Gift Development with Jon Risner. For more information visit lmcchurches.org/training-in-ministry-opportunities/. Training in Ministry, or TiM, was developed through a collaboration of Rosedale Bible College, CMC, and LMC.

MENTAL HEALTH & THE CHURCH

A four-part video series bringing light to the conversation of mental health and the church. Interviewed by counselor Jenee Beree, Joshua & Monica Jefferson candidly share their journey of the past year. To watch the series visit youtube.com/watch?v=nd8L-GFrWVtc or scan the QR code.



INDONESIA 2022 – MENNONITE WORLD CONFERENCE

Mennonite World Conference assembly is planned for Indonesia from July 5–10, 2022, with a theme of 'following Jesus together across barriers.' The 2022 event will be held on-site and online. To learn more or to register, visit mwc-cmm.org



LMC GLOBAL YOUTH DELEGATE



Lia Kauffman will represent LMC youth as the Global Youth Delegate at Mennonite World Conference. Lia also serves as a worship leader at Capital Christian Fellowship in Lanham, Maryland.

NEWS NOTES

CREDENTIAL ACTIVITY

The following men and women were licensed, ordained, or installed in recent months.

Anthony Garcia was licensed toward ordination as lead pastor at New Holland Mennonite Church in New Holland, Pa.

Eric Lehman (*April*) was licensed toward ordination as lead pastor at Pleasant View Mennonite Church in Chambersburg, Pa.

Scott Garman (*Jodi*) and **Jedidiah Cassel** (*Marcia*) were licensed toward ordination as associate pastor at Metzler Mennonite Church in Ephrata, Pa.

Joshua Mccollough (*Becca*) was licensed toward ordination as associate pastor at Mount Joy Mennonite in Mount Joy, Pa.

Louis Kabamba (*Chantal*) was installed as bishop of the Susquehanna River District overseeing congregations in Pa.

Chris Mummau (*Judy*) was licensed toward ordination as associate pastor at Lost Creek Mennonite Church in Mifflintown, Pa.

Chad Weaver was licensed toward ordination as lead pastor at Lost Creek Mennonite Church in Mifflintown, Pa.

Troy and Michelle Landis were ordained as co-pastors at Living Light Mennonite Church in Washington Borough, Pa.

NEWLY (OR RECENTLY) CREDENTIAL LEADERS ORIENTATION

Invitation for newly appointed pastor or ministry leaders within LMC and credentialed leaders seeking a refresher to attend a leaders orientation on April 7, 2022, 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Conference office staff offer this orientation to help pastors and other credentialed leaders become more fully connected to our shared life in Christ. We hope the orientation will encourage you as a leader in ministry and help you better understand LMC and our shared vision. This event will be held at LMC offices and via zoom. For more information and to register scan the QR code below or visit lmcchurches.org/credential-leaders-orientation/



CCL 2022 REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

Celebration of Church Life (CCL) 2022 will be held at Camp Hebron, June 9–11. This all-ages event will include opportunities for corporate worship, plenary sessions and workshops, fellowship, recreation, and relaxation. The three-day event will not be free. For cost, event details and to register scan the QR code or visit <https://lmcchurches.org/celebration-of-church-life-2022/>



DECORATING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The LMC Celebration of Church Life planning team is looking for several individuals who enjoy and are gifted in the area of decorating. CCL will take place the weekend of June 10–12, 2022 at the beautiful Camp Hebron located near Halifax, Pa. The planning team would like to have theme-related decorations for everyone to enjoy throughout the weekend. If you, or someone you know, is gifted in this area, please reach out to Marcia at email mmylin@lmcchurches.org or by calling 717-293-5246 x114.

BISHOP OPENING

The Great Lakes East District of LMC is receiving applications for the role of a bishop. This will be a part-time, 15%–25% FTE role, with the opportunity to grow. Interested persons should contact Stephen Weaver at sweaver@lmcchurches.org or 717-572-3271. To view all of the LMC pastoral openings, scan the QR code or visit lmcchurches.org/opportunities/pastoral-openings/.



LMC GRANT COMMITTEE

The LMC Education Grants Committee disbursed \$5,900 in funds to LMC students pursuing ministry leadership education in February. Grants are distributed in February and August of each year. The application and requirements for education grants can be found at lmcchurches.org/consolidated-application-for-lmc-education-grants/

WEST AFRICA MISSION TRIP

Tom Eshleman, LMC Global delegate, along with Mike, Karen and Josiah Baker, Joe Showalter, Jerry Sauder, Lori Bentsch, and Lloyd Hoover traveled to West Africa from December 1–11, 2021. The mission trip's vision was to support the move of God through the Mennonite Church of West Africa. The group supported the leaders who have stepped up to carry on the work of Beryl Forester, a pioneer missionary who passed away in February.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Complete calendar and more details available at LMCchurches.org.

Virtual Monday Night Prayer Gathering

Every first Monday of each month
7:00–8:00 p.m. via Zoom
717-293-5246

Women's Prayer Gathering

Every first Friday of each month
8:00–9:00 a.m.

LMC at 450 N. Prince St. Lancaster, Pa.
717-293-5246

Multiplication Prayer Team

April 21, 2022, 7:00–8:30 p.m.

Harvest Room, Landis Homes, Lititz, Pa.
717-293-5246

Newly Credentialed Leader's Orientation

April 7, 2022, 7:00–9:00 p.m.

LMC at 450 N. Prince Street, Lancaster and virtual. Register at LMCchurches.org

Spring Leadership Assembly

April 29, 2022

Willow Street Mennonite Church and virtual

STEP Graduation

May 14, 2022

Gingrichs Mennonite Church
Lebanon, PA

LMC Celebration of Church Life 2022

June 10–12, 2022

Camp Hebron, Pa.

On location and virtual. Register at LMCchurches.org



Mennonite Life

Experience
Mennonite History
& Culture

mennonitelife.org



– LANDIS ADULT DAY SERVICES –
GOLF OUTING

31st Annual Event

– Friday, June 3, 2022 –

Foxchase Golf Club
Stevens, PA

717.381.3580 | LandisAdultDay.org/Golf



Looking for a summer service and discipleship opportunity?

For one week in the summer, your youth group could help run a free summer camp for community kids, play games at an English-language program for refugee youth, or connect in other ways. Sign up today to begin building cross-cultural relationships in your own backyard.

Learn more and apply at EMM.ORG/KTEAMS.



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