

21 News

Mennonite World Conference Assembly
Asamblea del Congreso Mundial Menonita
Rassemblement de la Conférence Mondiale Mennonite
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, USA

Tuesday 21 July 2015



Highlights



The Farm Show Complex arena is ready for the opening worship service of PA 2015. Photo by Devin Manzullo-Thomas



Vocalists rehearse for the opening worship service of PA 2015. Photo by Liesa Unger



Mennonites and Brethren in Christ from around the world arrive for PA 2015. Photo by Karla Braun



General Council members use a consensus method of making decisions by using different coloured cards. Photo by Merle Good

General Council meets before Assembly

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, USA—Just prior to the Assembly – from July 16-20 – the Mennonite World Conference General Council met for four days to hear reports and stories from member churches and to find ways to foster interdependence in the global communion. In three teaching sessions, the General Council reflected on the challenge of being an Anabaptist world communion amidst considerable diversity across cultures and traditions.

The General Council consists of over 120 representatives from 102 member churches. Four commissions – Faith and Life, Mission, Deacons and Peace – shared how they have resourced the global faith family in the past

six years since they were formed. And they outlined visionary plans for the future. The General Council also approved some revisions to a Fair Share formula designed to fund the ministries of MWC.

In an evening gathering, the General Council expressed appreciation for Danisa Ndlovu of Zimbabwe, who is completing his six-year term as the MWC president at this Assembly. The incoming president, Nelson Kraybill of the USA, will begin his term as president immediately following the Assembly. In its deliberations, the General Council also elected Rebecca Osiro of Kenya as MWC vice-president, to succeed Janet Plenert of Canada following this Assembly.

Updates

Assembly News on the Web

Want to know more about the events, activities and personalities at PA 2015? Stay up to date with the latest about Assembly by visiting the MWC website (pa2015.mwc-cmm.org), liking us on Facebook (facebook.com/MennoniteWorldConference) and following us on Twitter.

#mwcmm

If you're tweeting, Facebook-ing or Instagram-ing about PA 2015, please use the hashtag #mwcmm. We're using this tag across social media platforms.

Visit the MWC Tent

Come and recharge your relationships and your phones/mobiles in the Mennonite World Conference Tent in the Global Church Village. We have comfortable couches, lots of electrical outlets for your phones/mobiles, interesting reading material and friends old and new with whom you can relax.

Half-Day Tour Reminder

If you have signed up for an afternoon tour, please arrive at least 15 minutes before your departure time in the Expo Hall (A). Tours will leave promptly at their appointed times.

Join for Prayer

All are welcome to attend a time of morning prayer in the Mennonite World Conference prayer room (Farm Show

Complex, Erie Room) each morning from 8:30 to 9:15.

Tour Changes

Afternoon tour tickets are still available. The Tour Table will be open from 12:00 to 16:00 Wednesday, Thursday and Friday in the Cameron Street Lobby, and there are still tour tickets available. Please stop by the table with questions and to purchase tickets for afternoon tours.

Workshop Changes

The workshop "Developing Leadership Skills in Children in Marginal Communities" (Wed., 13:30) has been canceled.

The workshop "Anabaptist Witness: Walking with God into the Future of Anabaptist and Mennonite Missiology" (Wed., 13:30) will also be offered in Spanish.

Translators Needed

The Assembly Communication team is looking for people to translate written English text into Spanish and French. If you can volunteer for one or more four-hour shifts, mornings or afternoons, Wednesday through Saturday, contact jnofziger@lmhs.org or text 717-917-2701. The Assembly Communication team is also looking for a French editor who could devote about one hour per day to review translated text.

City Island Trips

An MWC bus will make trips to Harrisburg's City Island

each day. There are a variety of family-friendly activities on City Island, including a steam train, miniature golf, walking and more. If you would like to ride the bus to City Island, purchase a ticket at the tour desk. Each trip is \$5 per person. The trips run either from 13:30 to 15:00 or 15:30 to 7:00, Wednesday to Saturday.

Healthcare Workers Dinner

All healthcare workers are invited to a dinner meeting, Thursday, 23 July 23, 17:00-18:30 in the Monongahela Room. Evening meal provided free. Hear reports on healthcare

ministries around the world. Sponsored by Mennonite Healthcare Fellowship, Mennonite Central Committee and International Mennonite Health Association. More information by texting name to 1-574-383-9398.

Calling All Quilters!

If you love quilts and quilting, come to Mennonite Central Committee's quilt-making workshops, held each workshop time slot throughout the week in North Hall. Share your enthusiasm with others as you work on MCC quilts together.



Volunteers help prepare bags that PA 2015 participants will receive at registration. Photo by Liesa Unger

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