



**Mennonite
World Conference**

A Community of Anabaptist
related Churches

**Congreso
Mundial Menonita**

Una Comunidad de
Iglesias Anabautistas

**Conférence
Mennonite Mondiale**

Une Communauté
d'Eglises Anabaptistes

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To: All Mennonite, Brethren in Christ, and Anabaptist related churches in the world

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Greetings from Kitchener, Ontario, Canada!

It is with great joy that we share the materials for **Anabaptist World Fellowship Sunday** (AWFS) with all of you. Each year, we encourage Anabaptist-related churches across the globe to use a common theme in a worship service to connect with our global Anabaptist family. Many churches choose to celebrate on the Sunday closest to 21 January (in 2020: January 19). On this date in 1525, the first baptism took place in Zurich, Switzerland.

You may have noticed a change to the name this year. We've added the word "Anabaptist" to the title to help explain who we are calling to fellowship together.

AWFS is an opportunity to remind our communities of faith that we are all part of one body made up of many tribes, languages and nations (Revelation 7:9). It is an invitation to visibly proclaim that now there is no discrimination among us on the basis of race, social status or gender (Galatians 3:28). It is a special day on which to show that we are living a new life in a new society where we mutually support one another, carry those who suffer, serve the world and interdependently learn from one another what it means to follow Jesus. On this day, we celebrate that, in Christ, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, the cultural and national boundaries that separate us have been overcome by the cross.

Each year, part of our global communion prepares material that can be used for AWFS. The theme for AWFS 2020 is "Jesus Christ: Our Hope", prepared out of the experience of our churches in Canada and the USA. In 2020, Anabaptist World Fellowship Sunday will be on Sunday 19 January, or any Sunday that is convenient for your congregation. Even in the midst of deep troubles, we come together from around the world to follow Jesus, who gives us hope.

The materials contain biblical texts, prayers, song suggestions, sermon ideas, stories and other resources. We hope that these materials enable the preparations for AWFS in each local congregation.

We encourage each national church to choose and adapt these materials in a way that will be useful in your local congregations and translate them where necessary. Please share and distribute this resource to all your local congregations, encouraging them to celebrate

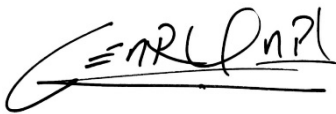
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Anabaptist World Fellowship Sunday at some time in 2020. Additional resources for celebrating AWFS are available at www.mwc-cmm.org/awfs.

At MWC, we welcome your comments, photos and reflections about AWFS so that we can share these with other members of our global faith family. Photos and stories can be shared via the email address photos@mwc-cmm.org. Offerings received on this day and shared with MWC contribute toward each member church's Fair Share contributions and help our global community to continue as a foreshadowing of the Kingdom of God in the midst of our society.

Grace and peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "César García". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "C" and a horizontal line underneath the name.

César García
General Secretary