



**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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Dear Young Anabaptists,

Grace and peace to you on behalf of the YABs (Young Anabaptists) Committee!

Last year we held our first annual YABs Fellowship Week, building on the opportunity to connect and fellowship cross-culturally with youth and young Anabaptists through Bible discussion, worship, prayer and testimonies. This was initiated in order to continue fostering the community experienced through the Global Youth Summit (GYS) held in Pennsylvania in 2015.

As the YABs committee, our vision is that on the foundation of our Anabaptist identity, through global and local networking, we can walk together, empowering and supporting each other as young Anabaptists in fellowship, decision making and peacemaking initiatives. Our Anabaptist community is small enough that often we don't realize we have a global community that shares our same roots in Anabaptism.

This year, we are excited to organize our **2nd annual YABs Fellowship Week**, with the focus on strengthening our global sense of Anabaptist identity and community within the young adult context. It will be a week during which youth and young adult groups from all over the world can join by sharing praise and prayer requests with each other and discussing Scripture based on a certain theme. It will take place during the third week in June (18–25 June 2017). We decided it will be a week instead of a day since we know many youth and young adult groups meet different days during the week and not exclusively on Sundays. A week gives more flexibility for the different contexts and schedules of young adult groups around the world.

As young people, we are not just the future of the church; we are the present. During GYS 2015 we learned and discussed our different gifts that we all have to offer in our local and global church, both as individuals and collective cultures. Consider this **an official invitation to participate** in YABs Fellowship Week by sharing your stories, songs and prayer requests with other young Anabaptists around the world so that we can teach and encourage each other. Although we can't be together physically, we can take the time and opportunity to worship together in spirit and in truth as we strive to live kingdom-focused lives in our respective cultures and countries.

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How can you participate? Good question. Here are some suggestions below!

- **Use and adapt the materials** (Scripture, songs, discussion questions, prayer requests, testimonies, media, etc.) to your respective youth or young adult group that week. Watch for these materials to be available via Facebook and our [website](#).
- **Share with us!** It could be the impact of GYS, **a story** of how God is working in your local context, a meaningful worship **song**, a **prayer or prayer request**, etc. We want to be able to share these things on a broader scale so please send these to us via [Facebook](#) or by email at yabs@mw-cmm.org
- **Organize a YABs Fellowship Week event** in your local community with other youth/young adult groups! Take advantage of the opportunity to enjoy fellowship within the broader Anabaptist community in your area/region. It doesn't have to be complicated; just get together to worship, play, discuss and pray together.
- Participate in the **live, online video chat** at the end of the week to meet other YABs from around the world face-to-face!
- **Follow us** on Facebook and Instagram to stay engaged via social media! **#YABs**
- Send us **feedback** on YABs Fellowship Week, after the event, and submit future input here: <https://goo.gl/forms/I0QOAYwwDX9ymq3B3>.

Thank you for joining us in this endeavour! We eagerly anticipate hearing from you and are so grateful that God has blessed us with you all as a part of our global family! Please feel free to contact your regional YABs representative with any questions you may have.

May the peace of Christ be with you and may his Word dwell in you richly,

The YABs Committee

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