

Anabaptist World Fellowship Sunday

Worship Together: Celebrate our Anabaptist Movement

Anabaptist World Fellowship Sunday helps all Anabaptist-Mennonite churches enter more fully into fellowship, intercession and thanksgiving with and for our global faith family.

On January 21, 1525 at least a dozen men in Switzerland gathered to pray together and seek God's direction after the government had forbidden all those in favour of adult baptism to meet together. After the prayer, George Blaurock stood up and asked Conrad Grebel to baptize him with the true Christian baptism upon his faith and knowledge, breaking a thousand-year tradition of church-state union. After his baptism Blaurock proceeded to baptize all the others present. The newly baptized then



“The Anabaptist World Fellowship Sunday celebration was a very special time. Here we are weaving a network that represents our global church united through the love of Christ. We prayed for our churches in Asia and the Pacific and took an offering for the invaluable work of MWC.”

– Sandra Báez, pastor of the Torre Fuerte Mennonite Brethren Church in Bogotá, Colombia

At an Anabaptist World Fellowship Sunday celebration in Leeuwarden, the Netherlands greetings of peace were shared by the youth of Mennonite churches in Indonesia and in Friesland, the Netherlands. “A true feeling of being a global family was expressed by many.”

– From a report by Gerlof Born

pledged themselves as true disciples of Christ to teach the gospel and hold the faith, with five of them suffering a martyr's death for their faith within five years.

Today, that Anabaptist movement has grown to nearly 2 million baptized believers in over 80 countries, in about 250 conferences of churches. We are a global movement with many languages and cultures, all seeking to be true disciples of Christ, teaching the gospel and holding the faith. Some still experience persecution and even martyrdom today. Mennonite World Conference is called to be a communion of Anabaptist-related churches linked to one another in a worldwide community of faith for fellowship, worship, service, and witness.

Each year, Anabaptist-related churches around the world celebrate Anabaptist World Fellowship Sunday. This provides an opportunity to remember our common roots, celebrate our worldwide Anabaptist movement of faith, and to pray for each other. Anabaptist World Fellowship Sunday is usually held on a Sunday close to January 21.

Mennonite World Conference members from different continental regions designate writers and direct preparation of worship material reflecting life and the church in their part of the world for this annual celebration. Planning for this special day rotates among the five continental regions.



Mennonite World Conference

A Community of Anabaptist related Churches

On Anabaptist World Fellowship Sunday, 470 delegates from two national churches met for worship in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo, “to internalize and promote Mennonite identity and to consolidate the fraternal communion between the Mennonite communities of Congo.”

– from a report by Cisca Ibanda and Charlie Malembe

Worship materials for each year are available on the MWC website: www.mwc-cmm.org

Mennonite World Conference is the global community of Anabaptist-related churches. We are called to be a communion (Koinonia) of Anabaptist-related churches linked to one another in a worldwide community of faith for fellowship, worship, service and witness.

We welcome you contacting us for more detailed information at:

Mennonite World Conference

50 Kent Avenue, Suite 206
Kitchener, Ontario N2G 3R1
Canada
Phone: 519 571 0060
Email: Kitchener@mwc-cmm.org
www.mwc-cmm.org



Mennonite World Conference
A Community of Anabaptist related Churches

One Lunch Offering

Mennonite World Conference also invites a special offering to be taken for the global Anabaptist church movement on Anabaptist World Fellowship Sunday. One way to think about this offering is to invite every member to contribute the cost of at least one lunch in their own community to support the networks and resources of our global Anabaptist church family. This could include:

- A special offering for MWC during the worship service
- Shared fasting and prayer during mealtime with an offering for MWC
- Shared congregational meal with an offering for MWC

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Members of Corvallis Mennonite Fellowship in Corvallis, Oregon, United States, observed Anabaptist World Fellowship Sunday by using MWC worship materials. As part of a special offering for MWC, they collected the costs of a single lunch in their community.

“We appreciated the opportunity to remember and celebrate our connections to the global Anabaptist family,”

– Cathleen Hockman-Wert, a member of the congregation



“One Lunch” offering bags from the Anabaptist World Fellowship Sunday celebration at College Community Church Mennonite Brethren in Clovis, California, United States.