



YABs Fellowship Week 2019

Worship Resources

Prepared by the
MWC YABs
Committee for
16-23 June 2019

Theme and texts

a. Theme:
SALT and LIGHT:
Exploring Our Identity Then and Now

b. Why this theme was chosen:

Our Anabaptist identity as salt and light is rooted in Scripture and has been practically lived out over the centuries. Since the inception of the Radical Reformation, Anabaptists have strived to live out the teachings of Jesus in their lifestyle as a testimony to the world of what they believe. This practical faith rooted in believer's baptism, discipleship, community and witnessing came with a great cost, as many died for it.

If you'd like to discover more Anabaptist stories and history, check out the links below:

Bearing Witness Project:
<https://martyrstories.org/>

Anabaptist Witness:
<http://www.anabaptistwitness.org/>

Global Anabaptist Mennonite Encyclopedia
Online: <https://gameo.org>

c. Biblical texts:

Matthew 5:13-16

“You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.”

MWC Shared Conviction #5: “The Spirit of Jesus empowers us to trust God in all areas of life, so we become peacemakers who renounce violence, love our enemies, seek justice and share our possessions with those in need.”

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Discussion Questions

- A. What does it look like to be distinct as followers of Jesus today? What kind of attitudes and behaviours make us “salt”? How can we be sure not to lose our “saltiness”?
- B. Can you think of times where your good deeds did NOT bring glory to God?
- C. How can you stay relevant as a young person in a postmodern and post-Christian society without compromising your faith?
- D. What do you need (resource-wise) to be a light, to become “the salt of the earth” again? [E.g., Bible readings, inspirational stories, worship music or something else?]
- E. As Anabaptists, we consider ourselves peacemakers. Evaluate our witness as peacemakers over the centuries (then and now) [E.g., Share stories, history, or experiences.]



Above: Niteesh Graham
Left: Brayan Javier Marquez





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Songs

These can be sung together or simply listened to and reflected upon. You can find the recordings below:

- A. [Say So](#) (USA)
- B. [Kindle a Flame](#) (Taize)
- C. [Build Your Kingdom Here](#) (Ireland)
- D. [This Little Light of Mine](#) (USA)
- E. [We Are](#) (USA)
- F. [Siyahamba](#) (Zimbabwe)
- G. [Somlandela / Love is Calling](#) (South Africa)
- Chords**
- H. [Hazme un instrumento de tu paz](#) (Bolivia)
- I. [Luz y sal](#) (Ecuador)
- J. [Sencilla](#) (Colombia)
- K. [Shine Your Way](#) (USA)

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Additional resources in this package

• **Prayer Requests:**

Provided below is a list of specific ways you can pray for the local and national churches in other countries.

• **Testimonies:**

Read the stories and testimonies of other young Anabaptists around the world and how they attempt to seek and pursue peace in their contexts. Provided below.



Stephie Reimer



Elzer Anung Anindito

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Share!

Take pictures and share on Facebook and Instagram! #YABs #mwcmm

Also send through FB messenger or email yabs@mwc-cmm.org.

Help us prepare for future fellowship weeks and YABs projects by filling out the feedback form online. Give input on how the YABs Committee can better serve you!

Find it here in both English and Spanish:
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf6s19F5zxsyAriA97YmTcrs5Sg0IizWGYsmqJGnoVEu9FSxg/viewform>

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Additional resources online

www.mwc-cmm.org/yabs

Watch our [Facebook \(@younganabaptists\)](#) and [Instagram \(@younganabaptists\)](#) for updates during YABs Fellowship Week!



Karla Braun

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Feel free to contact us with any questions at yabs@mwc-cmm.org.

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Prayer Requests

“Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed.

The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective”

(James 5:16).

Asia

Philippines – submitted by Ebenezer Mondez

- Pray for the current government transitions after the recent elections.

India – submitted by Chris Abishek

- Young Anabaptists are becoming driven away toward churches which are more appealing to them and losing out on our core values and being unaware of Anabaptists distinctives. There is a need for revival in most churches.
- Most of the Anabaptists are confined to their own churches and lack the awareness of the bigger church (fellowship as Anabaptists) around us. Pray for the unity.
- Pray for our leadership in church, so that we could have less of politics and more of God’s work.

- Pray for our country’s general election that were held in April, for secular government to come to power. The present government was strongly anti-Christian and anti-conversion. Many Christians in general are being persecuted which is making a lot of young people apprehensive to share God’s Word. Yet with God with us, nobody can be against us. The harvest is plenty.



YABs Fellowship Week 2018 celebration in GITJ Semarang, Indonesia. Photo: Elzer Anung Anindito.



Young people from Bhilai Mennonite Church, part of Mennonite Church in India Dhamtari CG Bhilai, celebrated YABs Fellowship Week 2018. Photo: Niteesh Graham

Europe

Netherlands – compiled by Jantine Huisman

- Compassion from governments for refugees.
- Empowering more youth to make sensible choices in regards to the environment.
- For young people in the church not to be discouraged by the dwindling members in church.



Africa

Kenya – submitted by Wycliff Ochieng

Remember us in prayers:

- Currently, we are experiencing drought in some parts of the country and people starving.
- Peace for our country and good leadership.
- Peace and good leadership in our churches.
- Youths are planning for regional conferences end of this year.

Democratic Republic of the Congo

– submitted by Felo Gracia

- Pray for the newly elected leadership team of the Community of Mennonite Brethren Churches in Congo (CEPMC) - That the Lord will grant them wisdom, intelligence and strength to lead the community for the next six years.
- Let us pray for our country, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) - That the Lord will grant peace and that we might experience the rule of law in our nation.
- That the Lord will grant strength to young Christians in the DRC to continue to fear God inspite of the uncertain economic situation of the country.
- Let us pray that the Lord will accompany Mennonite youth of the DRC in their spiritual, economic and organizational plan.
- Many of the young people of our country do not yet know the Lord Jesus Christ. They engage in all kinds of abuses: sex before marriage, drugs, banditry, robbery, rape and other evils. Let us pray that the Lord Jesus will accompany the church in the work of evangelization so that these young people will come to a knowledge of the truth - Jesus Christ - and that they will transform their lives.

Zimbabwe – submitted by Sineculo Ncube

- Currently we are experiencing a serious economic recession. Fuel prices are rising everyday and so is everything else in the stores. May God touch our leaders that their minds may be renewed and come up with



Celebrating YABs Fellowship Week 2018 in Serengeti Diocese of Kanisa la Mennonite Tanzania, the Mennonite Church of Tanzania. Photo: Daniel Chenchery

new ideas. That our leaders may stop turning deaf ears to the pleas of people.

- Let's pray for the young people. This situation is very conducive for crime, alcohol and drug abuse. May God be with all young people and give them comfort and show that it's not the end of the world. May God also open doors of prosperity for the youths.
- Pray for general spiritual growth among the youth. That we may always learn to depend on God through all good and bad times.

A Special Prayer for the devastation caused by **Cyclone Idai** which affected Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe – submitted by Maka Ngulube and Sineculo Ncube

Recently there was a cyclone that came all the way from Mozambique and affected some areas in Zimbabwe. A lot of people lost their loved ones and some lost all their property. May God restore all that the people have lost. May he use his people to show the affected families that his love is sufficient for all of them.

Tanzania – submitted by Elisante Daniel Lulu

- Our country's peace especially in political matters.
- Economic stability.



Latin America

Mexico – compiled by Crisol Gonzalez

- Pray for equity in the distribution of resources in our country, for peace in our families and communities, and that our hunger to follow Christ and share his message may be sustained.
- For the economic, social and political crisis in Venezuela. For all the families that have migrated to Colombia and other South American countries.
- For the countries in Central America, in particular Honduras, Nicaragua and Guatemala, who live every day with the reality of migratory exodus towards North America.
- For the peace process in Colombia.

North America

United States – submitted by Larissa Swartz

- Pray for peacebuilding and reconciliation across the growing political divide.
- Pray for the church to maintain a relevant witness without compromising on truth.



Youth from Brethren in Christ, Mennonite and Mennonite Brethren churches gathered together to celebrate YABs Fellowship Week 2018 in Bogota, Colombia.
Photo: Jardely Martinez



The young people of Conferencia Menonita de Mexico celebrated YABs Fellowship Week 2018.
Photo: Stephanie Reimer

Costa Rica – submitted by Paula Marchena

- Pray that leaders with a desire to serve, filled with passion and dedication to our Lord, may be raised up among youth with firm convictions.
- At a national level, that youth ministries may blossom in the churches (especially those where there are no youth groups), and that they may be a support to their congregations.
- Pray that we may stand firm against any religious current that does not come from God.



Celebrating YABs Fellowship Week 2018 in Colombia.
Photo: Iglesia Pan de Vida Comunidad Menonita Soledad-Atlantico.

If you would like us to pray for your region during YABs Fellowship Week, please share your petitions and praise on Facebook hashtagged #YABs.



Testimonies

Chris Abishek (India)

Matthew 5:13–16 is a beautiful illustration by Jesus, encouraging us and letting us know we are special. If a seasoning has no flavour, it has no value. As believers, if we are too much like the world then we are worthless. Instead, we should blend with the world and impact them positively by getting them to the knowledge of saving grace. Similarly, if we live for Christ, we glow like lights showing what Christ is like.

But most of the time we hide our light by being quiet when we ought to speak. We go along with the crowd, denying the light, letting sin consume the light and not sharing the light. The light has to be shared with the world and not shut.

Let's be beacons for truth.

Looking forward in serving God as we work together as Young Anabaptists.

Crisol Gonzalez (Mexico)

To be light means to not be afraid to let our love, forgiveness and the sacrifice of Jesus shine through our lives. It is to decide to be different and make a difference among the people and in the environment that surrounds us, in the same way that Jesus made a difference in our own lives.

Paula Marchena (Costa Rica)

Spanish video testimony:

<http://bit.ly/2VDosyabs>

Austin Zuercher (USA)

English video testimony:

<http://bit.ly/2DJCOyabs>



**Youth from Iglesia Maranata Hermanos Menonitas in Paraguay
celebrating YABs Fellowship Week 2018.
Photo: Milagro Silgueira.**

