

Mennonite Healthcare Fellowship
Annual Gathering 2018



STORIES OF HEALING

June 22-24, 2018

Bluffton University • Bluffton, Ohio



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WELCOME!

On behalf of the Annual Gathering Planning Committee and the Board of Directors of Mennonite Healthcare Fellowship (MHF), we extend a warm welcome to Annual Gathering 2018! We are pleased to be able to host this year's gathering on the beautiful campus of Bluffton University. We extend our thanks to Mark Bourassa, Director of University Event Complex & Conferences, and his staff for their hospitality in making our event possible.

We look forward to our mutual sharing as a diverse group of Anabaptist healthcare professionals around the theme, "**Stories of Healing**." We extend a special thanks to members of the Planning Committee for their work in putting together this Annual Gathering.

Planning Committee Members:

Ryan Kauffman, chairperson (Bellefontaine, Ohio)

Erika Babikow (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania)

Arland Esch (Lebanon, Ohio)

Beth Toner (Pottstown, Pennsylvania)

Lyubov Slashcheva, MHF Board President (Iowa City, Iowa)

Paul Leichty, MHF Executive Director (Williamsport, Pennsylvania)

MHF Staff, Board, and additional volunteers are also available to help make your weekend enjoyable and profitable. Thank you for sharing your "Stories of Healing" this weekend!

About our theme: *Stories of Healing*

Our theme this year focuses on the power of sharing our stories and of listening carefully to the stories of our patients and clients. The Planning Committee presents this weekend with these core convictions:

- Biblical Stories strengthen faith
- Patient/Client stories inform care
- Public Health stories provide context
- Personal faith stories inspire hope

SETTING AND FACILITIES

Registration and Check-in

Weekend registration and check-in will be in Marbeck Center on Friday afternoon from 3:00 p.m. until the beginning of the opening plenary session at 7:00 p.m. The registration table will also be staffed after the Friday plenary session and on Saturday morning starting around 7:30 a.m. Residence hall check-in and keys will be in the same location.

Communication

Cellular phone service should be strong for all carriers on the Bluffton University campus. You are requested to set your phones to off or vibrate only during plenary and workshop sessions.

Bluffton University provides Wifi internet connections throughout the campus. Connect to the network labeled “BlufftonWifi”; no password is needed.



In case of emergency, the main switchboard number of Bluffton University is 419-358-3000.

Urgent messages to MHF Staff through the weekend can be sent to Paul Leichthy's cell phone: 574-238-1853.

Lodging and Day Use Fees

Bluffton University is providing on-campus lodging in Neufeld Hall (Campus Map 23) for those who registered for that option. Each room has two extra long twin beds. We have tried to assign rooms together or private rooms for those who requested those options. There are separate men's and women's restrooms/showers on each floor. Towels and linens are extra. If you did not bring your own, check to make sure that you signed up for a linen pack (sheets and one towel for \$10 for the weekend).

If you are registered for Annual Gathering, but not staying in on-campus lodging, Bluffton University charges a \$6/day fee for any portion of the day you are registered. This can be paid at the MHF registration table.

Meals and Snacks

Meals will be served in the Bluffton University dining hall in the lower level of Marbeck Center (Campus Map 16). Please be respectful of the dining hall staff and come at the beginning of the time indicated in the schedule for meals. Please also be aware that meal counts for MHF registrants were submitted to Bluffton University over a week ago so they could plan accordingly for food. Please check at the MHF registration table if you wish to eat a meal for which you have not yet paid and we will try to accommodate your request as we are able.

The cost of snacks is covered by registration fees. This includes evenings after the plenary sessions as well as Saturday beverage service between sessions.

Meeting Rooms

Plenary sessions will be held in Stutzman Lecture Hall in Centennial Hall (Campus Map 13) Workshop sessions will be held in classrooms in Centennial Hall.

Display tables

MHF is pleased to provide display tables for MHF members and related organizations who wish to reach out to the rest of Annual Gathering attendees. You are encouraged to visit these tables and engage in conversation with members and staff there.

Meal Conversation Groups

Meal conversation groups on various topics will be organized and tables designated at the Saturday noon and evening meals as interest warrants. Please let Paul Leichty or the staff at the registration table know by Friday evening if you would like to organize and lead a meal conversation group around a particular topic. Groups will be announced at the Saturday morning plenary session.

I am MHF

In your registration packet is a placard for our “I am MHF” campaign. During the weekend, you are invited to write your **name**, your **profession**, and a phrase indicating your experience of MHF and/or what MHF offers you. Using your smart phone, take a picture of yourself holding this placard in front of you (selfie or have someone else do it). Upload the picture in one or more of these ways: (a) To **mennohealth** on Facebook, (b) on Twitter with hashtags #mennohealth and #iammhf, or (c) email IamMHF@mennohealth.org.

Global Anabaptist Health Network (GAHN)

Representatives from GAHN will be with us throughout the weekend. Please see their flyer in your registration packet to learn more about GAHN. In a special weekend arrangement with GAHN, their Social Media and Global Communications Consultant, Emily Spateholts, is serving as writer and photographer for the Annual Gathering, generating publicity for both GAHN and MHF. Please feel free to share your experiences and your “Stories of Healing” with Emily throughout the weekend.

Children’s Program

The Children’s Program will be based in Marbeck Center. Care and activities are provided for registered children, 0-12 years old, during all plenary and workshop sessions. Parents are responsible for their children at mealtimes and during the Saturday late afternoon free time. This year the children’s program will focus on “Stories of Healing” through singing, stories, drama, and art. The beautiful Bluffton University campus will be utilized for outdoor sports and play. The children will also participate in a service project to emphasize the theme of serving others.

Friday, 6:30 – 9:00 pm Welcome, games, introduction to theme
Saturday, 8:00 am – 3:30 pm Singing, Stories, Games, Drama, etc.
Saturday, 6:30 – 9:00 pm Stories, Discussion, Movie Night
Sunday, 8:30 am – 12:00 noon Singing, Stories, Craft, Play

PROGRAM LEADERS

Children's Program Coordinator



Ashton Cluts was born and raised in Bluffton, Ohio where she also attended First Mennonite Church her whole life. She received her degree in Early-Childhood Education from Baldwin Wallace University and currently holds a teaching license for pre-school through third grade. Following her graduation, she served in South Africa at a youth camp through Mennonite Central Committee's SALT program. She has been involved in childcare and babysitting for almost 15 years and currently is a substitute teacher. More recently, she has been doing childcare and children's programming for a variety of events, creating and carrying out children's program curriculums for children 0-18 years old and for 3-25 or more children at a time.

Worship and Music

Each plenary session will begin with worship, including plenty of singing. Louise Ranck and Daryl Snider will team up this year to lead worship and music.

Worship Leader: Louise Ranck, Ephrata, Pennsylvania



Louise Ranck has been involved in music and worship leadership for much of her life, including churches, MCC orientations, a Mennonite Women's Gathering, a spiritual directors' retreat, women's drumming groups, teacher in-services, and many other gatherings. A public school music teacher in her first professional life, Louise has been an assistant manager at the Ten Thousand Villages store in Ephrata, Pennsylvania for the last 17 years. Among her various duties, she enjoys presenting fair trade education programs for school groups, managing teams of volunteers through huge warehouse sales, and driving the forklift.

Music Leader: Daryl Snider, Lancaster, Pennsylvania



Daryl Snider is a singer-songwriter with an MA in conflict transformation from the Center for Justice and Peacebuilding at Eastern Mennonite University, focusing on the role of music and the arts in personal and social healing. As a STAR practitioner, Daryl and Sopa Sol bandmate Frances Miller developed a story and song program around healing and resilience. He was part of the ensemble that led singing at Mennonite World Conference 2015 assemblies in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Daryl lives in Lancaster, Pennsylvania with his wife, Jean Sensenig.

Closing Worship Service

The closing worship service on Sunday morning will include communion and a special offering toward a project to help educate healthcare professionals, teachers, and church leaders in Puerto Rico to respond to the after-effects of trauma as a result of Hurricane Maria in September 2017. More information will be in registration packets. If you are not able to give at Annual Gathering but would still like to contribute, an online giving link will be on the MHF website. Alternately, you may send your check before July 31 labeled "Puerto Rico Trauma Project" to MHF, PO Box 918, Goshen, IN 46527.

SCHEDULE

FRIDAY

| | |
|------------------|---|
| 3:00 p.m. | Registration opens |
| 5:15 – 6:30 p.m. | Supper |
| 7:00 p.m. | Worship/Plenary Session Amid the Pains: Christianity, Disability, Healing –Alex Sider |
| 8:30 p.m. | Snacks and Fellowship |

SATURDAY

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| 7:15 a.m. – 8:15 a.m. | Breakfast |
| 8:45 a.m. | Worship/Plenary session The Healing Power of Story –Beth Toner |
| 10:15 a.m. | Break |
| 10:45 a.m. | Workshop Session 1 |
| 11:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. | Lunch |
| 1:15 p.m. | Workshop Session 2 |
| 2:30 p.m. | Workshop Session 3 |
| 3:30 p.m. | Free time for recreation and networking |
| 5:15 – 6:45 p.m. | Dinner |
| 7:00 p.m. | Worship/Plenary Session Pacifist in a War Zone –William Swartley |
| 8:30 p.m. | Ice cream social |
| 9:00 p.m. | Music and Stories with Daryl Snider |

SUNDAY MORNING

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| 7:15 a.m. – 8:15 a.m. | Breakfast |
| 8:15 a.m. | Meet the Board All current and prospective members invited |
| 9:30 a.m. | Worship/Plenary session Salvation: Therapy, Cure, and Health –Paul Leichty |
| 11:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. | Lunch |
| 1:00 p.m. | Room Checkout |

Please contact the MHF office at any time with your ideas, comments, questions, and concerns:



Mennoite
Healthcare
Fellowship

Mennoite Healthcare Fellowship
PO Box 918, Goshen, IN 46527-0918
Phone: 1-888-406-3643
Email: info@mennohealth.org
Web: www.mennohealth.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/mennohealth

PLENARY SESSION PRESENTATIONS

FRIDAY EVENING, 7:00 P.M.



Amid the Pains: Christianity, Disability, Healing—*J. Alexander Sider, Ph.D.; Harry and Jean Yoder Scholar in Bible and Religion, Bluffton University*

Christian narratives about human illness and impairment often give persons with disabilities two options: miraculous healing or heroic suffering. These narratives create the impression that with great faith or effort persons with disabilities can overcome physical limitations and social barriers, but these same narratives often ignore discrimination and disabling social policies. Alex Sider will explore resources within the Christian tradition for framing human illness, impairment and disability--and, by extension, healing--as fundamental matters of social justice.

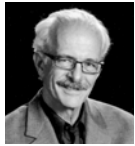
SATURDAY MORNING, 8:30 A.M.



The Healing Power of Story—*Beth Toner, RN, MSN, MJ*

Beth will explore the intersection of our own story with those of our patients/clients--and how those stories have the power to help us heal others, and ourselves. Beth will draw upon insights from Libby Caes, a retired chaplain from Wisconsin who needed to withdraw due to illness.

SATURDAY EVENING, 7:00 P.M.



Pacifist in a War Zone: Experiences in a forward surgical hospital near Mosul, Iraq—*William Swartley, CRNA MS*

It is rare for a Mennonite pacifist to have an opportunity to work in a war zone. Bill Swartley will describe his experience working in a surgical hospital near Mosul, Iraq in June of 2017 with the relief organization, Samaritan's Purse. Included will be a review of the religious and political environment, images of the facilities, and stories of patients who presented for care. He will also share his response as a Mennonite to short-term work in a setting of prolonged violence, and how that response could relate to life in the church in the United States.

SUNDAY MORNING, 9:30 A.M.



Salvation: Therapy, Cure, and Health—*Paul D. Leichty, MDiv*

The stories of Jesus' healings in the gospel accounts are central to a Christian understanding of healing and health. Against the backdrop of his personal recovery from a December 2016 heart attack, Paul Leichty will examine passages from Mark chapters 3 and 5 and see how the words used in the underlying Greek text reveal a richness of meaning that informs our ministries of healing today.

WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

Our Own Stories: Provider Health and the Healer as Patient—*Anna Kauffman, MD, Bluffton, Ohio*

As health care providers, we are used to caring for others, yet it can be challenging to be the patient. Narratives give insight into these situations. Background information will include statistics on provider health and a review of the literature on providers as patients. We will explore together strategies for being the patient and caring for ourselves and colleagues. Stories will provide an avenue to hear what healers as patients can teach us.

Healing Communities: Stories from Public Health History—*Ross M. Kauffman, PhD, MPH, CPH, Bluffton, Ohio*

In this interactive session, we will explore stories from the history of public health, looking for lessons we can apply to improving the health of communities today. Stories examined will include John Snow's investigation to determine the cause of a cholera epidemic and Ignaz Semmelweis's efforts to promote handwashing. The session will include an opportunity for some participants to engage with the stories through a virtual reality experience.

Direct Primary Care – New Model, New Solutions, New Problems—*Rudi Kauffman, MAT, PhD*

Direct Primary Care is an approach to primary care where patients pay directly for their care (rather than having payment go through an insurance company). This approach dramatically decreases the cost, but it also means that the truly indigent do not have access to it. Perhaps most interestingly, it can be built in a number of ways to incentivize wellness (rather than treatment), relationships (rather than “productivity” measures), and/or community (rather than entirely individual concerns). This presentation will introduce attendees to the practice of Direct Primary Care as it has been implemented at Hickory Medical in Bellefontaine, Ohio. The preponderance of the time will be spent in discussion of the ethical, moral, economic, and professional realities of the new model.

From Surviving to Living: How one couple experienced quality of life in the midst of cancer.—*Sarah and Herb Myers*

During a time of intense stress and facing death, one can also find ways to enjoy life/living. Herb and Sarah will share glimpses into their lives of the tools that were helpful to them during the almost four years of Sarah's treatment for non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. Some of the quality of life-building tools that will be discussed include writing, exercise, faith, music, books, family, friends, humor and nature.

What Climate Change Means for Human Health - Stories and Solutions—*Doug Graber Neufeld, PhD*

This workshop will use stories to dialog on the impacts of climate change to human health, and to illustrate the interdependent relationship of healing in humans and the creation. This session will bring stories from diverse populations, including other cultures and socioeconomic groups, and participants will be invited to reflect on what this issue means for their own communities.

Telling and Hearing Our Stories: Transforming Health Care Through Narrative—*Beth Toner, RN, MSN, MJ*

This workshop, built on the morning plenary session, will be designed to allow health care professionals at all stages of their careers, patients (and potential patients—that’s all of us!), and caregivers to learn more about how to practically apply narrative (storytelling) to provide healing and improve care. Participants will then talk through potential health care encounters, share their stories as patients and providers, and brainstorm **together** ways to practically apply narrative and storytelling in all types of health care settings to restore joy in the healing professions and transform the healing process for patients.

Healing and Death—*Gail Weybright, MSN, Clair Hochstetler, MDiv*

Death is generally viewed as the antithesis of healing, a failure of healing. But there are circumstances in which death may be viewed as the ultimate healing. Gail and Clair, in different roles and from different perspectives, experienced this together during the death of Clair’s brother Don. In this workshop they will share the story of Don’s life and death and explore how Don’s death and the death of others can be a form of healing. Scriptural accounts of healing and death will be highlighted. Ways to promote healing or a “good death” will be examined using the five elements of “Flourishing” as proposed by Martin E. P. Seligman and *The Four Things That Matter Most – A Book About Living* by Ira Byock, MD.

PRESENTER BIOS



Clair Hochstetler, MDiv, Cincinnati, Ohio

Clair Hochstetler is Chaplain with Hospice of Cincinnati, Bronson Hospital. He has been involved in the healthcare field providing spiritual care and leadership for about 23 years following ten years of pastoral ministry experiences. He previously served as chaplain of the Goshen Hospital in Goshen, Indiana and as the manager of the Chaplaincy & Pastoral Care Department of the main public hospital in Canberra, Australia. He returned to the U.S. in 2015 with his wife, Carole Anne, and eventually relocated to Cincinnati, within a half day drive of his grandchildren. His interests include community and organizational development, public speaking, humour-health-healing workshops, and performing as a clown/unicyclist!



Anna Kauffman, MD, Bluffton, Ohio

Dr. Anna Kauffman is a family physician at Mercy Health - Bluffton Family Medicine. She enjoys caring for patients of all ages. Hobbies include cooking, gardening, reading, and spending time with family and friends. Dr. Anna Kauffman lives in Bluffton, Ohio with her husband, Ross Kauffman, and their daughter, Nora.

SAVE THE DATE: Annual Gathering 2019 will be held June 21-23, 2019 at Laurelville Mennonite Church Center, Mount Pleasant, Pennsylvania. *We hope to see you there!*



Ross M. Kauffman, PhD, MPH, CPH, Bluffton, Ohio

Ross Kauffman is the Director of Public Health at Ohio Northern University. Ross enjoys developing virtual reality experiences for teaching and research. He lives in Bluffton, Ohio, with his wife, Anna, who is a family physician and his 1-year-old daughter, Nora.



Rudi Kauffman, MAT, PhD, Bluffton, Ohio

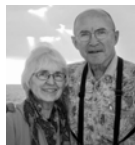
Rudi Kauffman was formerly the associate professor of restorative justice at Bluffton University. He now serves as the office manager of Hickory Medical Direct Primary Care and the CEO of a small medical management start-up company.



Paul D. Leichty, M.Div., Williamsport, Pennsylvania

Paul Leichty has been Executive Director of Mennonite Healthcare Fellowship (MHF) since September 2011. After a medical leave of almost nine months, he returned to his role with MHF in September 2017.

Paul has also served as a pastor, church musician, computer support person, disabilities advocate, and administrator/organizer of a number of church-related ministries. In addition to responsibilities at MHF, Paul is Executive Director of Congregational Accessibility Network. He formerly served as Director of User Services at Mennonite.net. He is an active member of Agape Fellowship of the Mennonite Church in Williamsport, Pennsylvania where he lives with his wife, Twila Charles Leichty.



Sarah and Herb Myers, Harman, West Virginia

Herb is a retired family physician and geriatric psychiatrist. He is an avid birder, turns wood, collects stamps, dabbles in photography and writing, and is always reading a book. Sarah is a retired teacher, occupational therapist, and program director of Compeer Lancaster. She enjoys arranging flowers, canning and freezing fruits and vegetables, baking whole grain yeast breads, trying new recipes, putting jigsaw puzzles together, and spending time with grandchildren. Currently living in West Virginia, they volunteer at the Canaan Valley National Wildlife Refuge. They have been married almost 53 years and have three adult daughters and seven grandchildren (one deceased).



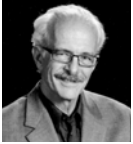
Doug Graber Neufeld, PhD, Harrisonburg, Virginia

Doug Graber Neufeld lives in Harrisonburg, Virginia with his wife, Cristina, and two sons, Alex and Evan. He teaches in the Environmental Sustainability program at Eastern Mennonite University, and recently became director of the new Center for Sustainable Climate Solutions (CSCS). His commitment to climate issues developed out of years of working with students on solutions to environmental issues, and from service terms with MCC in Cambodia and Kenya. Most recently in Kenya, he observed firsthand impacts of climate change on both urban populations and rural farmers, and their attempts to adjust to their new reality. He and his family are passionate campers, gardeners, and, in general, lovers of the outdoors.



J. Alexander Sider, Ph.D., Bluffton, Ohio

Alex Sider is Harry and Jean Yoder Scholar in Bible and Religion at Bluffton University where he teaches in the areas of Religion as well as Peace and Conflict Studies. His research and teaching focus on the connections among medical ethics, disability studies, and Christian theology in the Historic Peace Church traditions. Alex and his family live in Bluffton.



William Swartley, CRNA MS, Hesston, Kansas

Bill Swartley is a nurse anesthetist living and working in central Kansas. He and his wife, Susie Brunk, are the parents of three children and grandparents to seven.



Beth Toner, RN, MSN, MJ, Pottstown, Pennsylvania

Beth Toner is a senior communications officer for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation with nearly 27 years of experience in marketing and corporate communications. She is also a registered nurse with clinical experience in long-term care and community health settings. In her current role, Toner provides communications support for leadership development and nursing programs at the Foundation. Toner finds her work at the Foundation to be the perfect blend of her two passions: communications and health care. Born in Detroit, Toner currently lives in Pottstown, Pennsylvania, with her husband, Joe, and their son, Joseph, while their adult children make their way in the world. She is also a volunteer nurse at a free clinic in West Chester, Pennsylvania and enjoys hiking and camping with her family, as well as running marathons and trail races.



Gail Weybright RN, MSN, CNE, CCRN-K, Milford, Indiana

Gail Weybright is Associate Professor of Nursing at Goshen College where she has served for 21 years. She also has over 20 years of critical-care nursing experience. As a critical-care nurse, she has often experienced the process of dying with patients and families, and has strong interests in promoting “good deaths” and utilizing hospice care. Gail is active at New Paris Missionary Church as a member of the Worship Team and Director of the Women’s Ministry. In her spare time, she enjoys gardening and has been recognized as a Master Gardener.

Student Essay Project 2018

There are two winners in the 2018 Student Essay Project, held in conjunction with Annual Gathering 2018. Entrants shared their perspective on the theme: “Stories of Healing.”

Patty Peebles, Chicago, Illinois



“Nursing: A Whole Being Endeavor” DNP student at Goshen College

Nicole Groff, Lancaster, Pennsylvania



“The Beauty and the Pain” MPH and PA student at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia.



1. **Riley Court**
Admissions office, Adult and Graduate Studies office, Financial Aid office, Student Life office, Riley Court Apartments, The Lion and Lamb Peace Arts Center
2. **Sauder Visual Arts Center**
3. **Public Relations House**
4. **Houshower House**
Alumni relations
5. **Mara Alva House**
Development office
6. **Bren-Dell Hall**
7. **Ropp Hall**
Health Center
8. **Fire Circle**
9. **Musselman Library**
Center for Career and Vocation
University Archives and Mennonite Historical Collections
10. **College Hall**
Academic Affairs office, Business office
President's office, Ramseyer Auditorium,
Registrar's office
11. **Mosiman Hall**
12. **Yoder Recital Hall**
13. **Centennial Hall**
Technology Center
14. **Berky Hall**
15. **Shoker Science Center**
16. **Marbeck Center**
Bob's Place Bookstore
The Commons (campus restaurant)
17. **Summer Center for Health and Fitness Education**
Copeland Court, Reichenbach Room
18. **Burcky Gym**
19. **Founders Hall**
20. **Lincoln Hall**
21. **Tennis and basketball courts**
22. **Sand volleyball courts**
23. **Neufeld Hall**
24. **Ramseyer Hall**
25. **Hirschy Annex**
Multicultural Affairs
26. **Hirschy Hall**
27. **Buildings and Grounds Center**
28. **Emery Sears Athletic Complex**
Bluffton University Memorial
Field (baseball), Field event site, Salzman Stadium
Alumni Field, Soccer field, Softball field