

## This Sunday in Worship

September 7, 2025  
9:30 am Worship



Suella Gerber

11:30 CMC en Español



David Maldonado

[Watch e-worship](#)

[Online Giving](#)

### News Items from the Church Board

1. As we continue our new season, the CMC board met on Tuesday and welcomed Gabi Ochoa-Brenneman and Merle Hostetler to board meetings. As this season of transition continues, we will commission Merle Hostetler this Sunday.
2. Welcome back Mady! A reminder that Madeline Maldonado soon returns from her sabbatical, so when you see her, please welcome her back. We will learn more about her sabbatical adventures in the coming weeks!
3. Last Tuesday the board dedicated considerable time with the Clarifying & Strengthening Structures Workgroup's final report. We discussed framing the task force's recommendations overlaying those in relation to our transitional work. Early next week you will receive a dedicated flock note email with the task force's final report along with a board communication. These will guide us towards a discussion at our next congregational meeting. We look forward to your engagement in this holy space.
4. The agenda for our September 21st congregational meeting is attached. Please continue to pray for our collaborative work. Special thanks to Pete Miller and Alicia Maldonado-Zahra who have volunteered as note takers for our CMC gatherings!

[Congregational Meeting  
Agenda 2025-09-21](#)

### From the Worship Commission and Discipling Commission:

Christian Nationalism has been an underlying force in our culture for a long time - and now it has come out of the shadows. Last year, the Discipling Commission invited members to read Drew Strait's book, *Strange Worship*, as a beginning point to understanding ways we can resist this force. Now we take two Sundays to consider how we can faithfully worship God and belong to God's Kin-dom in the midst of Christian Nationalism. On Sunday, September 7, Pastor Suella will preach on "Citizens of God's Kin-dom" in the 9:30 service. And on Sunday, September 14, we are excited to have Drew Strait here as our guest preacher for both worship services. Drew will also lead a Sunday school time in the fellowship hall, hosted by Weavings. All are welcome to join!

\*Drew J. Strait is a dad, pastor theologian, speaker, and professor at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary. His writing and teaching focuses on political idolatry and peacemaking in early Christianity. Strait is a popular speaker on how faith communities can challenge Christian nationalism, violent extremism, and Christian supremacy with strategic nonviolence. To learn more, visit his [website](#).

## Looking Ahead

### Monday, September 8

6:00 pm - Stephen Ministries

### Tuesday, September 9

2:00 pm - Stephen Leaders

### Wednesday, September 10

5:00 pm - Prayer Choir

7:00 pm - MYF

### Thursday, September 11

9:30 am - Library Committee

10:00 am - Volunteer Day

### Sunday, September 14

9:20 am - Gathering Songs

9:30 am - Worship service

After Worship - Fellowship Time

- Children's Sunday School

10:45 am - Adult Sunday School

11:30 am - CMC en Español



### From the Discipling Commission:

Our Faithful Families initiative is well underway! This first year, this grant opportunity funds 8 gatherings of families with children age 3 and younger. In each gathering, we eat together and work with equipping parents for practicing faith at home. Specifically, we are building our capacity to do this ministry with Spanish-speaking families. God has been present and at work in these gatherings!

### From the Worship Commission

Someone might write a book about One Year in the Life of a One-Hour Worship Service,\* and it probably would not cover everything. Certainly it would be hard to add up all the hours that go into planning, preparing, leading, presenting, preaching and the cumulative hours of attending, watching and listening. The Worship Commission did not keep track of all the people who did the many things during the past church year to make our worship services meaningful and inspiring. We trust everyone can recall times they were especially moved, inspired, blessed by something they heard or saw, sang or read, felt or tasted.

Thank you all for your presence and participation every week. We have been challenged, blessed and honored to serve this year. (\*with apologies to A. Solzhenitsyn)--CMC Worship Commission: Amber Butler, Anne Marie Weaver, Deb Kauffman, Francisco Robles, Gabi Ochoa, Merlin Becker-Hoover, Talashia Keim Yoder



### Check your Literature Boxes!

The CMC Office is now placing documents such as financial statements, letters from ministry groups, etc. in your church mailbox instead of mailing them through USPS. The literature boxes have also recently been updated, so you may find your box has shifted locations a bit from where it was previously. If you have any questions about the use of literature boxes, reach out to Addie at [addie@collegemennonite.org](mailto:addie@collegemennonite.org) Thanks!



**Sophie, David,  
Timothy & Robin  
Lapp Jost**  
*Serving in Bammental, Germany*

Check your CMC literature box for new Lapp-Jost prayer cards. Hopefully these prayer cards will remind you to pray regularly for the Lapp-Jost ministry.

- Lapp-Jost Ministry Support Team

-Marty Lehman



[collegemennonite.org/lapp-jost-mission](http://collegemennonite.org/lapp-jost-mission)



September 26-27, 2025

Please consider how you can donate baked goods for the Relief Sale **September 26th and 27th**. Containers for pie, bread, cookies, sweet rolls and cakes will be in the hallway starting this Sunday. As usual all donated items will be collected by the church offices doors on **Friday, September 26th up until noon** when they will then be delivered to the sale. This also includes plants.

-Mary Jo Short

## MY COINS COUNT

It's time for My Coins Count! We will be collecting coins from Sunday, August 31- Sunday, September 21, to take to the MCC Relief Sale, to be used for water projects around the world. Bring coins each week and join in this simple, playful way of sustaining life.

### Bible Translation Used in Worship

After conversations among Worship Commission and Pastoral Team members, we have decided to change our "default" Bible translation used during 9:30 worship services from the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) to the Common English Bible (CEB). This is the translation used by the Anabaptist Community Bible, and making this change helps us to be in closer community with our Anabaptist siblings. Default translation does not mean exclusive translation! We will continue to read from other translations, with preachers choosing which translation to read each Sunday.



**CMC Prayer Choir**, what's that? Do people gather to sing prayers? No, not exactly. This group gathers each Wednesday (with the exception of snow storms and tornado warnings) from 5-6 p.m. in Room 100 to pray for the needs of the congregation, our community, and the world. Those gathered share confidentially of needs that they each are aware of, or have been asked to pray for, and then the group spends time in intercessory prayer. This group is open to anyone who would like to come join in prayer whether once, twice or many times over. If you have interest in participating or have questions, come on a Wednesday at 5 p.m. or speak to Pastor Pamela



## A MOMENT IN ANABAPTIST HISTORY

*"Human history presents some striking illustrations of the eventual triumph, contrary to all apparent likelihood, of principles held by tiny minorities who have stood for these principles wholeheartedly and who have therefore been prepared to suffer for their principles to any extent. Time and again, martyrdom has proved more potent than the physical force that is wielded by governments." Arnold Toynbee, A Study of History, II, 1934.)*