

Information Sheet CPMC Annual Meeting 2022

“Come to the Table”

In the gospels, spending time with Jesus often means spending time together around a dinner table. These past two years, we haven't been able to eat nearly enough dinners together. This year at Annual Meeting, we celebrate that we are finally able to gather in-person again and sit around tables with one another and with Jesus!

Conference Ministers Nathan Luitjens, Susan Janzen and Amanda Bleichty and the Freeman area worship team will open some of these table fellowship scriptures for us during worship. We'll imagine, dream and discern together what it means to be part of CPMC's table during delegate sessions. And, of course, we'll eat, sharing life with one another! After several years that have been challenging in so many ways, you are invited to join with others from across our conference, to meet Jesus at the table. Come and eat!

Registration - You may now register on-line for Central Plains Annual Meeting and pay by credit card at our website! Go to centralplainsmc.org/annual-meeting-2022 and click on “Annual Meeting 2022” to access the registration forms and supporting documents and to pay by credit card. Full-time registration costs \$165 through May 31, and \$200 beginning June 1. One-day registration costs \$80.

Registration Status – When you fill out the form, please choose the status that fits you:

Credentialed Delegate - Each congregation sends one of its credentialed pastors as the Ordained/Licensed Delegate.

Lay Delegate - Each congregation sends one Lay Delegate per 50 members or a fraction thereof. For example, a congregation of 125 members will send one Credentialed Delegate, three Lay Delegates and one Youth Delegate. Additional credentialed pastors or youth may be designated Lay Delegates.

Youth Delegate - Each congregation is encouraged to send one active participant between age 15 and 20 as a voting delegate.

Youth Guest - Youth participants who are not voting delegates.

Guest - Any adult participant who is not a delegate, such as church-wide representatives and Central Plains members not designated as delegates.

Meals – Please have your evening meal on Thursday prior to your arrival for the Opening Worship. (There will be no evening meal available on-site on Thursday evening.) A social after Opening Worship on Thursday evening is being planned. Let us know if you are planning to attend the social by marking “Yes! I’m coming” on the *Adult Registration Form*. The Thursday evening social and Friday and Saturday noon and evening meals and all coffee breaks are included in the registration price. The Saturday evening meal will be a special event. It will be a wonderful evening of fellowship and delicious food! Plan to attend and bring lawn chairs or a blanket to sit on. Let us know you will be joining the fun by marking “Yes, I’m coming...” on the *Adult Registration Form*. Breakfasts are on your own.

Children's Activities will be offered at Freeman Academy on Friday and Saturday from 8:00 am – 5:00 pm for children thru grade 8 in the 2021-22 school year. Please see the *Children's Activities Registration Form* to register children for the activities designed especially for them!

Youth aged 15-20 participate in delegate sessions as either youth delegates or youth guests. They will receive a *Youth Schedule* on site with additional activities planned both to orient youth and to create fun and fellowship. Youth appointed delegates by their congregation should register as Youth Delegates; other youth should register as Youth Guests. All youth should register for the workshop of their choice on both Friday and Saturday.

Workbooks available on line. In an effort to reduce costs and save a few trees, all Annual Meeting reports will be available at our website after May 15, 2022. If you prefer a paper copy, you must check the box on the *Adult Registration Form* to receive one by mail prior to Annual Meeting. In addition, each church will receive one printed copy. Printed copies of the financial reports will be available to each registrant upon arrival at Annual Meeting.

Lodging - There are several options for overnight stays while you are at Annual Meeting in Freeman. See the *Lodging Information* sheet for suggestions.

Art Sale - In the last year and a half, as part of an initiative to increase our imaginative capacity, artists from across the conference have been invited to create art based on scripture to be showcased in thematic Scattered Seeds. At our Annual Meeting, we will hold a silent auction for these artworks. Half of the proceeds of this auction will go to the artists who so generously donated their time, talents and imaginations to the conference, and half will go to a CPMC mission project. This year, the project we've chosen will be supporting our Partners in Venezuela. Proceeds from the auction will help to fund community meals and meals for children, as well as provide pastoral support in an extremely difficult economic environment. You can see the art up for auction on our website. We encourage your generosity!

If you have a personal copy of the new hymnal, *Voices Together*, bring it with you to AM.

Dress in layers for your comfort. All Freeman Academy buildings are air conditioned.

Offerings will be received at each worship service. Please prayerfully consider how you might contribute to the work of God through Central Plains Mennonite Conference with your financial gifts.