

Youth Delegate Invitation

Every year, Central Plains Mennonite Conference (CPMC) gathers together for our Annual Meeting. It's a time for all 47 churches in this conference to send representatives called delegates to worship, fellowship, discern, make decisions about the future of the church, eat (and eat and eat), and have fun together. This year, YOU ARE INVITED!

This year will be especially good because our conference hasn't gathered in person for two years! Our theme this year "Come to the table"—and I so hope many of you will....come to the table!

I'm especially interested in inviting youth to be delegates because I think you should be there to influence the kind of church we are becoming. You have valuable insight and wisdom—and the gathered church needs to hear it!

This year, we're meeting on June 16-19, in Freeman, SD, at Freeman Academy, the local Mennonite k-12 school. The schedule is divided into blocks for worship, business and workshops, with plenty of time in between for snack breaks, meals, and fun (usually the Youth Delegates have an area to themselves where they can eat (even more) snacks, play games and just be. We meet from Thursday evening through Sunday morning, when we gather with local congregations to worship together.

As youth delegates, you'll be included in all the meetings and activities, plus a few extras just for youth. As you are a part of things, you may have questions, so I'll assign you a mentor who will sit with you at our delegate sessions and you'll have an opportunity to meet with conference leadership. We'll also have some intentional time for youth delegates to get to know each other.

Registration information is available in your church office and also online at centralplainsmc.org/annual-meeting-2022. You'll also need to have a lodging reservation. Youth delegates don't stay together in one place, so you'll want to ask what other delegates from your church are doing for lodging.

Delegates from past years have had really good things to say about coming to CPMC's Annual Meeting— "I felt included and that they were actually listening to us." "My mentor was awesome. She was very fun and easy to talk to." "I had a really good time with the other delegates, and I more understand conference, which is good. The business meetings were long, but that's the reason we're here." I think if you join us, you'll have some good things to say about the people and the process of CPMC's Annual Meeting too!

YOU are invited to COME TO THE TABLE! (I hope to see you there!)

-Amanda Bleichty