



one participant says ...

“The Journey program offers a significant opportunity for one to engage in a systematic study and a concurrent mentoring relationship to be better prepared for leadership roles in a congregation and for relationships with people in ‘non-church’ settings.

Persons who can benefit from it are those with curiosity, self-discipline, a desire to continue learning and growing, and willingness to serve God in whatever capacity is needed.”

Phil Bontrager, 2009 graduate (below, at right), Kern Road Mennonite Church, South Bend, Ind.

for further information

See online: www.ams.edu/journey

Central District Conference

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1015 Division Street
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Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference

Daniel Z. Miller, lead conference minister
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212 South Main Street
Goshen, IN 46526

Central District and Indiana-Michigan conferences are conferences of Mennonite Church USA. AMBS is a seminary of Mennonite Church USA and Mennonite Church Canada.

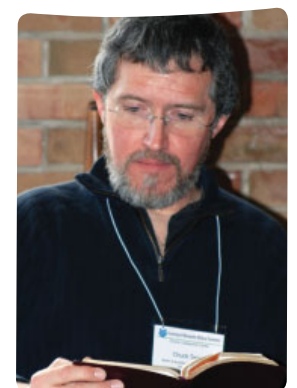
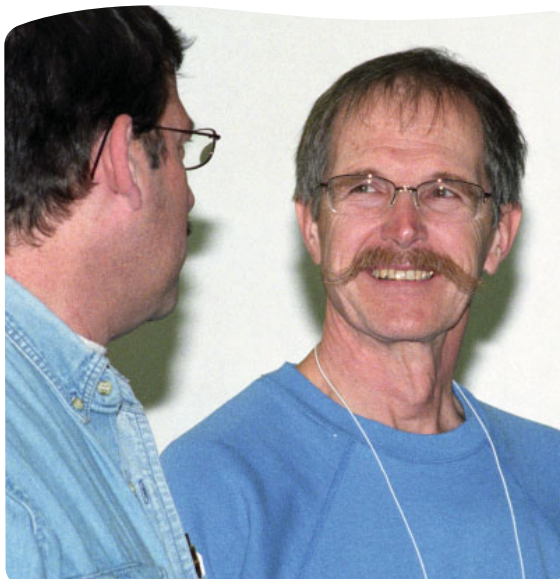
While Central District and Indiana-Michigan conferences initiated this program, it also is open to participants from other conferences. Those who are interested should contact their conference minister.

www.ams.edu/journey



sponsors

- Central District Conference
- Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference
- Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary



journey ... a conference-based leadership development program

a program to develop leaders who are centered in Jesus Christ for local churches

God calls someone to ministry, and a journey begins ... If you're on this journey, you no doubt have discovered its excitement and fulfillment. Have you also encountered its challenges and demands? Have you wished for mentors and companions?

The three-year **Journey** program is designed for people exploring a call to pastoral ministry, as well as for pastors and other congregational leaders called without specific training for ministry.

program design

Journey is tailored to fit each participant. When you begin the program, you'll choose a mentor and work with him or her and the conference minister to identify specific areas of ministry on which to focus.

The program will help you name and develop strengths in six areas:

- **Spiritual disciplines**, focusing on prayer and nurture of the inner spirit.
- **Theological and biblical studies**, developing familiarity with Anabaptist theology and approaches to Bible study.
- **Character development**, exploring qualities such as courage, consistency, love and self-discipline.
- **Mentoring and community**, providing strong mentors and discerning what it means to live in Christian community.
- **Gift development**, challenging participants to develop their own

spiritual gifts and to nurture the gifts of congregational members.

- **Leadership skills**, strengthening preaching, worship leading, conflict transformation, time management and other skills needed for ministry.

components of learning

The **Journey** program's rhythm of group and individual learning includes:

- **Weekend learning events** two times each year with other participants in the program, mentors, conference ministers and faculty presenters from Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary.
- **Mentor-mentee meetings** at least bi-weekly. A small group of participants who share a mentor may meet in a cluster.
- **Study of curriculum** reflecting Anabaptist-Mennonite theology and chosen to give you support and challenge in the areas where you wish to grow.

The curriculum—**Leading God's People**—also is used in the Pastoral Studies Distance Education (PSDE) program. Five units explore key areas of Mennonite ministry and theology and are built around individual study and collaboration with a mentor. The AMBS Church Leadership Center administers the PSDE program.

Alternatives for this curriculum may be selected as the participant, mentor and conference minister assess what is most helpful to the participant. Potential substitutes for a unit could include Spanish-language materials from Seminario

Bíblico Anabautista Hispano and Instituto Bíblico Anabautista; a seminary-level course; or the Preaching Institute.

registration

Registration includes an interview with the conference minister and assignment of a mentor. This requires time and needs to be completed before the next weekend learning event, preferably by Aug. 1.

weekend learning events

Spring weekend learning event

Feb. 26–28, 2010, at AMBS

Fall weekend learning event

Sept. 17–19, 2010, at Amigo Centre

cost

\$750/year per team of two—one mentor and one mentee. If two mentees share a mentor, the team receives a discount of **\$375**/year for the second mentee's tuition; mentees will share the team's cost equally. (A mentor may have no more than three mentees.) Mentees are responsible for all tuition costs; however, congregations are encouraged to cover or contribute to the costs of the team's participation. Scholarship funds may be available through your conference office.

completion of the program

Those completing the three-year **Journey** program will receive a certificate of completion from their conference in cooperation with AMBS. Should participants wish to receive undergraduate credit, they may apply as a student in the PSDE program.