WDC Resource Commission 2026 Annual Report

Submitted by Debbie Goossen, Chair

The Resource Commission empowers Western District Conference congregations as they witness to Jesus Christ in the Anabaptist/Mennonite tradition, connect with God's mission in the world and provide faith formation resources for all ages. We encourage use of the Conference Resource Library in-person and virtual resources. We also support and promote training events for congregations and their leaders. We offer support and guidance to the library and librarian, the "Kids Meet Christ" Lilly grant project, as well as several task forces and committees. We work closely with Kathy Neufeld Dunn, Associate Conference Minister, and Jennie Wintermote, Resource Library Director.

Highlights from the past year include:

*Continuing with providing direction for the "Kids Meet Christ" Lilly grant project

*Providing 5 $500 Mustard Seed Grants for the following projects:

Summit Street Church, Beatrice, NE: Trunk-or-Treat Event

San Antonio Mennonite Church, TX: Food Pantry for Asylum Seekers

Iglesia Menonita Camino de Esperanza, San Antonio, TX: Food Pantry

Hesston Mennonite Church, Hesston, KS: Hesston Summer Lunch program

First Mennonite, Hutchinson, KS: After School Program

*Appointing a Youth Committee to support youth in the north and south regions of the conference

*Continuing to expand a database of Anabaptist video-recorded sermons for congregational use

*Sponsoring the following WDC Leader Forums via Zoom:

"Voices Together" Webinar

Exploring Models of Pastoral Leadership

Congregational Communications in the 21st Century

Resource Commission Members are Kris Balzer, Buhler Mennonite, Buhler, KS; Norma Duerksen, First Mennonite, Hillsboro, KS; Debbie Goossen, First Mennonite, Beatrice, NE; Sara Mwagura, Rainbow Mennonite Church, Kansas City, KS; Adam Robb, Bethel College Mennonite Church, North Newton, KS; and Megan Turley, Houston Mennonite, Houston, TX.