Queer Leadership Coalition (QLC) 2025–2026 Annual Report

The Queer Leadership Coalition (QLC) is a representative constituency group of Mennonite Church USA, formed in response to the 2022 Resolution for Repentance and Transformation. Bringing together leaders from the Brethren Mennonite Council, Inclusive Mennonite Pastors, Pink Menno, and the broader LGBTQIA+ Mennonite community, the coalition works to strengthen relationships, provide resources, advocate for LGBTQIA+ inclusion, and build upon nearly 50 years of faithful queer Mennonite leadership and ministry.

Engaging Denominational Leadership

In May, the QLC was invited to meet with the MC USA Executive Board in Indianapolis. Representatives Annabeth Roeschley, Jonny Rashid, and Christina Manero presented the history of the coalition, shared five decades of LGBTQ Mennonite witness through the Brethren Mennonite Council for LGBT Interests (BMC), described the realities facing LGBTQIA+ Mennonites today, and invited partnership in two priority areas: (1) greater public naming and affirmation of LGBTQIA+ people and (2) promoting and expanding resources and spiritual care for LGBTQIA+ Mennonites.

Participation Across the Denomination

QLC members participated in the Constituency Leaders Council, joining conference and constituency leaders in discerning the future direction of MC USA. The coalition also participated in and supported the 50th Anniversary Celebration of the Brethren Mennonite Council in Minneapolis. The July issue of Anabaptist World featured reflections on this milestone.

Continuing to Serve the Church

Throughout the year the QLC has continued serving as a resource for LGBTQIA+ Mennonites, congregations, pastors, conferences, and allies by answering questions, sharing resources, offering encouragement, and accompanying communities seeking greater welcome and inclusion.

Strengthening Our Organization

The coalition updated its Vision and Operating Guidelines to clarify the relationships among the QLC, Inclusive Mennonite Pastors, and the Brethren Mennonite Council.

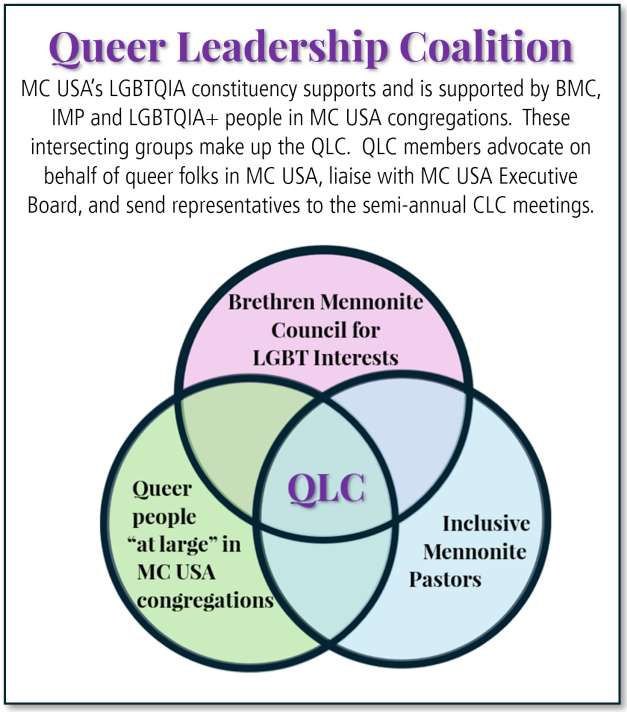
Current leadership includes:

- Inclusive Mennonite Pastors: Shana Green and Randy Spaulding
- Brethren Mennonite Council: Annabeth Roeschley and Jonny Rashid
- At-Large Representatives: Brie Yoder and LaTayna Purnell
- Communications Liaison: Michelle Burkholder

Looking Ahead

The QLC is encouraged to see conferences and denominational leaders continuing to engage the commitments of the Resolution for Repentance and Transformation, including Central District Conference's review of language in the Confession of Faith. As a young constituency group, we continue discerning our

role within MC USA while seeking opportunities to build relationships, provide resources, and support the church's ongoing journey toward greater inclusion.



QLC leadership structure showing collaboration among Inclusive Mennonite Pastors, Brethren Mennonite Council, and at-large representatives.

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