

November 7, 2018

To: Delegates who registered for the Nov. 26 meeting

Based on feedback received from the October 2018 meeting of the Constituency Leaders Council (MC USA's denominational elders), and lack of a final agreement of merger, the Executive Board voted on November 3, 2018 to delay further action on the proposed merger process between The Mennonite, Inc. and Mennonite World Review, Inc. until the final agreement of merger is developed and reviewed.

In addition, based on the work of staff and the input received from CLC and others, it is clear that there is still a strong need for a media forum for the voices of MC USA. The Executive Board affirms the need for an independent journalistic presence in the broader Anabaptist community. At the same time, the bylaws of our denomination are clear about the vital ministry role of The Mennonite in our system: "Its mission is to help readers glorify God, grow in faith and become agents of healing and hope in our world. Its goals are to provide a forum for the voices within the denomination, to promote the ministries of, and to support identity-building for Mennonite Church USA, and to offer an editorial voice distinctive from but collaborative with other leadership voices within Mennonite Church USA."

The staff of MC USA is committed to developing a sustainable communication strategy that reflects this mission in light of current realities. MC USA staff is also excited about the opportunity to collaborate more closely with our agencies to develop a denominational communication strategy that will equip our members with the tools and information they need to connect to the broader church and sustain our shared mission.

Based on the feedback we have received, MC USA EB has decided to retain both the corporate shell and mission of The Mennonite, Inc. - and will not be "terminating an entity." Because there is no longer need for an immediate change to the MC USA bylaws, and there is no formal agreement of merger to discuss at this time, we are canceling the special Delegate Assembly meeting scheduled for November 26, 2018.

We will continue to provide updates about the process as we get more information. Please contact Shelley Buller at ShelleyB@MennoniteUSA.org<<mailto:ShelleyB@MennoniteUSA.org>>, 316-281-4257, if you have any questions.

Blessings,

David Boshart, Moderator
Mennonite Church USA