

“Coming Together: the Journey of Faith and Peace”

Call for Proposals and Submissions

Global Mennonite Peacebuilding Conference and Festival III

Harrisonburg, Virginia
15-18 June, 2023

The first two Global Mennonite Peacebuilding (GMP) Conference and Festivals have demonstrated how valuable it is to come together, connect, build relationships, learn, and share perspectives with regards to our work and witness toward peace in our world. The pandemic has only accentuated how important this connection is! It is important to have an opportunity to share about our work, experiences, and our struggles, while also exploring ways in which we can (must!) continue to reflect on our ongoing work towards peace in a world that continues to be in desperate need of it.

For this reason, we are looking forward to welcoming you to Eastern Mennonite University from 15-18 June, 2023 for the third Global Mennonite Peacebuilding Conference and Festival (GMP III). Our hope is to strengthen our relationships; build and continue to cultivate our networks; and create an opportunity to nourish and strengthen our respective work towards peace, whether it be on the streets and communities, in our policies, in the academy, or in our churches.

Our theme for the GMP III will be **“Coming Together: the Journey of Faith and Peace.”** And we would like to invite proposals for this time together. We would welcome **paper proposals, workshop proposals, and/or art installation or music submissions** that we could also include. Possible topics might include:

- The faith and journey toward peace;
- Peace and Faith, or Faith built on Peace;
- Peace and difference; or Peace across differences;
- Peacebuilding and Community;
- Relationship between Peace and Church;
- Peacebuilding and vocation;
- The economics of peace; or peace confronting economic injustice;
- Peace amidst polarization;
- Peacebuilding and Empire (or in the midst of Empire);
- Whose Peace?

- Decolonization and Peace (or decolonizing peacebuilding and peace theology);
- Peace and politics or the Politics of Peace;
- Reflecting on Peacebuilding Initiatives;
- Trauma and healing;
- Thinking anew about Conscientious Objection and militarism;
- Peace, Peacebuilding, and Racism;
- Confronting white supremacy and other forms of supremacist logic;
- Gender justice and peace;
- Climate and Environmental justice;
- Arts and artistic approaches to peace;
- Ecumenical and interfaith approaches to peace;
- Education, research, and the pursuit of peace;
- Historic case studies;
- Peace theology and ethics;

Or propose other topics and ideas! This list should not be viewed as exhaustive but rather as a starting for reflection.

What to Submit?

1. **Paper proposals:** We welcome paper proposals (or abstracts) that we could organize into relevant thematic panels. These paper proposals (or abstracts) should be 300 words in length and would be for a 15 minute paper presentation.
2. **Workshop proposals:** proposals and suggestions for interactive workshops of 1.5 hours in length that would emphasize networking, brainstorming, or relevant conversations. These workshop proposals should include potential contributors (and, in order to further embody the global emphasis of the conference, should include collaborators or contributors from at least two different continents).
3. **Artistic contributions:** We also welcome proposals for potential art installations, exhibits, musical contributions, readings, and/or dramas/plays. Both individual and group proposals are welcome. Please submit the idea along with a 200-300 word explanation of the particular piece or performance.

How to Submit?

- Please submit your proposal in Word or PDF format to gmp3conference@emu.edu.
- Please include the following:
 - The proposal;
 - Any relevant photographs of the artistic samples, or mp3 files of proposed music (as appropriate);
 - A two-page CV of the presenter(s)

Deadlines?

- The deadline for submissions will be **Nov. 30, 2022**.

Registration?

- We will send out registration details that will include information regarding Room and Board at EMU in Jan. 2023.
- Registration will include registration for the conference as well as lodging and food on the EMU campus. Should participants want to stay elsewhere, they will need to find their own lodging. Food will be available for purchase at the EMU cafeteria.
- We will also have day specific registration available (which will include food for that day)

Language?

- The primary language of the conference and festival will be English. We will, however, work to provide translation/interpretation into French and Spanish (although this may not be available for all of the sessions or performances).

Questions?

Questions can be directed to the following people:

- Program/Content: Andrew Suderman – andrew.suderman@emu.edu
- Artistic contributions: Nicole Litwiller -- litwillern@gmail.com
- Logistics: Stephanie Mason -- stephanie.mason@emu.edu