

## **Who are the Official Franconia Mennonite Conference Assembly Delegates?**

**Our assemblies are open meetings where everyone is welcome!** From time to time, however, we find that people are unsure exactly who is officially considered a conference delegate. According to By-Laws adopted by delegates at the 2002 Fall Conference Assembly, **delegates include:**

- All ordained and licensed leaders who hold active credentials as defined by *A Mennonite Polity for Ministerial Leadership*. (Congregations are welcome to appoint members who are retired or inactive ministers to serve as delegates to the Conference Assembly.)
- Conference Board members.
- Congregations with a membership of less than 250 shall appoint one deacon or one elder to serve as a delegate. Congregations with more than 250 members shall appoint two deacons or elders as delegates.
- Non-credentialed (“lay”) delegates shall serve as voting members of the Conference Assembly and shall be chosen by their respective congregations according to a congregational membership ratio established by the Conference Assembly. Lay delegates who serve as voting members of the Conference Assembly shall be chosen from among the membership of constituent congregations according to the ratio of one (1) delegate for every one hundred (100) members or fraction thereof.
- Conference Related Organizations are allowed one (1) voting delegate per member organization. Delegates shall be members of the Conference Related Organization’s board. The delegate shall be a member of a Mennonite Church USA congregation.

Other persons receiving copies of the Conference Assembly docket for information but are not necessarily voting delegates (unless also included in one of the above categories) include:

- Members of various Franconia Mennonite Conference Board Committees and other committees.
- Board Chairs and CEOs of Conference Related Organizations.
- Representatives of churchwide and Conference Related Organizations.