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Conférence **Mennonite Mondiale**

Mennonite **World Conference**

Congreso **Mundial Menonita**

October 2006

To all Mennonite, Brethren in Christ and related churches worldwide To Mennonite World Conference General Council members and associate members

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

On January 21, 1525, the first Anabaptist baptism took place in Zurich, Switzerland. For some years, our global faith family has observed World Fellowship Sunday on a Sunday close to January 21, usually the fourth Sunday in January, remembering our common roots and celebrating our worldwide koinonia. This year, January 21, the date of the beginning of Anabaptism, falls on the third Sunday of the month. We invite you to join your brothers and sisters in five continental regions in marking World Fellowship Sunday on that day or on January 28, the fourth Sunday of the month as usual.

This year, a team from North American churches has taken its turn in the rotation of continental regions in producing worship materials and reflecting life in its part of the world. The theme chosen this year is "Witness with boldness," based on Jeremiah 1: 4-10. Jeremiah confronted evil, offered hope and built up the people whom God was shaping for his own. God calls today's church to speak the same message in our society and culture.

The materials include suggestions for worship, stories, some sermon prompts, prayer requests from around the world and a logo that may be reproduced. We hope these materials will help you plan World Fellowship Sunday in your own national conference and local churches and that they will provide a way of entering more fully into fellowship, intercession, and thanksgiving with and for your global faith family. Mennonite World Conference encourages each conference to translate and adapt (if necessary), copy and distribute the materials to all local churches.

Please visit the MWC home page (www.mwc-cmm.org) to find additional materials including the logo in colour.

Once again, please have someone from your church record how you celebrated the day. MWC would be grateful to hear from you after World Fellowship Sunday so that we can share your experiences and insights with others in the worldwide family of faith.

Grace and Peace,

LMAY MILLER Larry Miller

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