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**Conférence  
Mennonite Mondiale**

**Mennonite  
World Conference**

**Congreso  
Mundial Menonita**

**AN INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN  
WORLD FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY – January 26, 2003**

**To Mennonite, Brethren in Christ and related churches worldwide:**

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*If we hope for something we do not yet see, then we look forward to it eagerly and with patience. (Romans 8:25)*

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Each year, the fourth Sunday of January is an occasion for our worldwide family of faith to join together in an expression of fellowship across national and cultural boundaries. I invite you to celebrate by joining with many others on January 26 in a day of thanksgiving and intercession for each other.

Special resource materials have been prepared this year by brothers and sisters from Africa. The choice of theme, "Living in Hope and Joy," is in itself a powerful message to the rest of the world from a church that lives in situations of great difficulty.

The Mennonite churches in the Congo have prepared a suggested order of service, some sermon notes and a short synopsis grounded in their context, and an illustration and explanation of a tam-tam (traditional drum) to help you prepare for this special celebration. You will also find a list of countries where there are Anabaptist-related churches in Africa with the latest membership statistics available to MWC that you may wish to copy as a bulletin insert.

Please visit the MWC home page ([www.mwc-cmm.org](http://www.mwc-cmm.org)) to find additional background material on the countries and churches of Africa. MWC encourages each congregation to take time to learn more about at least one of the churches in Africa and to spend time in prayer for them. And please remember in a special way the country of Zimbabwe, the church there, and all the people who are working to prepare and host Assembly Gathered in Bulawayo, August 11-17, 2003.

Once again, MWC would be grateful to hear from you after World Fellowship Sunday. Please let us know how you celebrate the day so that we can share your experiences and insights with others in the worldwide family of faith.

Grace and Peace,

Larry Miller