



**Mennonite
World Conference**

A Community of Anabaptist
related Churches

**Congreso
Mundial Menonita**

Una Comunidad de
Iglesias Anabautistas

**Conférence
Mennonite Mondiale**

Une Communauté
d'Eglises Anabaptistes

www.mwc-cmm.org
info@mwc-cmm.org

General Secretariat:
50 Kent Avenue, Suite 206
Kitchener, Ontario N2G 3R1
Canada
T: (519) 571-0060
F: (226) 647-4224

PO Box 5364
Lancaster, PA 17606-5364
USA
T: (1) 717 826 0909

Request for MWC churches to respond to the Trilateral Baptism Report

Greetings in the name of Christ,

As member national churches, you are invited to respond to the work of the **Trilateral Conversations on Baptism between Mennonites, Lutherans and Roman Catholics** by **1 November 2024**. Please see the attachment to a brief overview, as well as links to the original report and a study guide.

Mennonites, Lutherans and Roman Catholics engaged each other in formal conversations on baptism from 2012 to 2017. These trilateral conversations on baptism did not set out to find agreement on a matter of faith that has divided our Christian traditions, but to help us understand each other, to learn from each other and to grow closer to each other in the unity of the Spirit. Most importantly, all three delegations expressed their desire to see their communions strengthened in living out their baptism in faithful discipleship.

The results of this conversation are captured in *Baptism and Incorporation into the Body of Christ, the Church: The Report of the Trilateral Conversations between Lutherans, Mennonites, and Catholics (2012-2017)*.

In the years since, the *Report* has been published and a study guide has been developed.

We encourage you to use the *Report* and the *Guide* to further reflect on our Anabaptist understanding and practice of baptism and to strengthen how we live out our baptism in faithful discipleship as members of Christ's body. The upcoming 500th anniversary of the first Anabaptist baptisms in Zurich, Switzerland, is an opportunity to devote ourselves to this task.

Also included with this email is a brief overview of the report to help get you started with some specific questions for your response, and some suggestions on how you might engage the work of the Trilateral Conversations.

There are many ways to engage with the Trilateral Report, including as **individuals**, **congregations** (Bible study or discussion groups), **national church bodies** or other parts of your church, including as **theological education leaders**.

As you do so, we would appreciate you addressing the questions you will find throughout the study guide in your response.

Again, we invite your study and response by November 1, 2024, sending it to baptism@mwc-cmm.org. The Faith and Life Commission will gather your responses and use them to report to the MWC General Council in Zurich in 2025.

The Faith and Life Commission will gather your responses and use them to report to the MWC General Council in Zurich in 2025.

In Christ, the One who holds us together,

César García
General Secretary