This one-day seminar is for the CEO, director, executive, president, manager, leader of all conference-related ministries, as well as credentialed leaders from Atlantic Coast and Lancaster Conference. Other organizational and conference/congregational leaders from the Atlantic Northeast Conferences of Mennonite Church USA are also welcome to participate. Conference-related ministries partner and work in collaboration with conferences and congregations to offer God’s healing and hope in ways that faithfully carry out the mission of Christ.

LEADERSHIP AND LEARNING FROM EACH OTHER
Faith-based nonprofit organizations, for-profit organizations, and congregations

One-day Seminar for Leaders of Conference-Related and Other Ministries, Conference Leaders, and Pastors

Friday, February 20, 2015
7:30 - 11:30 a.m.
Mennonite Central Committee Welcoming Place
21 South 12th Street, Akron, PA 17501
Jim Smucker is Vice President and Dean of Graduate Studies at Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, VA. Prior to this appointment in the summer of 2013, Jim served for 25 years as President and a Partner in the Bird-in-Hand Corporation. He also spent a number of years as an adjunct faculty member at several universities teaching courses in the classroom as well as on-line in Entrepreneurialism, Leadership, Change, and Organizational Behavior.

Jim holds a Ph.D. in Management (specializing in leadership and organizational change). His re-search interests include self direction and empowerment in the workplace, hiring and developing authentic leaders, and the contrib-ution of the Believer’s Church to governance and leadership models.

He is past Chair of the Lancaster County Chamber of Commerce and the Pennsylvania Dutch Convention and Visitor’s Bureau, is a member of a number of for-profit and non-profit boards and coached high school basketball and baseball for over 14 years.

In his spare time Jim enjoys reading and training for and running ultra-marathons. He lives in Harrisonburg, VA with his wife Anna and has three adult children Jordon, Rachel, and Kate. He is a member of Akron Mennonite Church.

“I am an entrepreneur is ‘missional,’ and not just about making money.”

In an 2012 article posted by MennoMedia at leaderonline.org, Jim Smucker wrote of surveying 20 leaders – about evenly divided among churches, non-profits, educational institutions and businesses – and asking “What, in your opinion, are the top five or six organizational and/or leadership skills needed to be an efficient and effective leader in your organization?”

Responses were similar across the four organizational types, says Smucker. There was “high consensus” on the following leadership characteristics:

1. Developing and communicating the vision and mission of the organization.
2. Having high expectations and holding people accountable.
3. Developing trustworthy relationships.
4. Low ego needs among leaders, coupled with a servant-leadership style.
5. The ability to build a strong team of people.
6. Strong communication and listening skills.

Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other.

John F. Kennedy

[tentative] Schedule

7:30 Registration/Breakfast (served in MCC Dining Hall)
8:15 Welcome/Introductions
8:30 SESSION I - Jim Smucker
9:45 Morning Break
10:00 SESSION II - Jim Smucker
11:15 Wrap-up
11:30 Dismissal

Based on feedback from last year, we are experimenting with a half-day resourcing seminar. We strongly encourage you to attend the breakfast to allow time for networking and fellowship.