

**2021 Food Service Meeting**  
**Grifton, NC**  
**September 26 & 27**  
**4102 NC Highway 118 – Grifton, NC 28530**

*Saturday, September 25, 6pm at Swift Creek Mennonite School*

*BBQ Dinner by the BBQ Rendezvous group*

*(Ya'll are invited to stop by anytime for a cup of coffee, fellowship, and BBQ talk; sunrise to sunset!)*

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**September 26, Sunday Evening at Yoder's Dutch Pantry**

**7:00pm** Food & Beverage Fellowship (*meet fellow foodies; snacks served*)

**September 27, Monday at "The Barn"**

**7:30a-8:30a** Registration & Breakfast

**8:30a-9:00a** Prayer & Introductions (*please be prepared to bring a short, brief highlight of your facility, a point of growth, or a smart hack.*)

**9:00a-9:30a** Identifying Strengths & Weaknesses *by: Tim Smith*

**9:30a-10:15a** Is comfort food enough? How much do we benefit from farm to table, being label conscience, serving flavored drinks, etc. *by: Lester Unruh*

**10:15a-10:30a** Break

**10:30a-11:15a** Interactive Discussion/Talk: Merchandising, Media and Marketing Beyond Food... is it a good option? *by: Andy Shetler*

**11:15a-12:00p** Maintaining Momentum in Difficult/Challenging times and Circumstances *by: Brian Mayeske*

**12:00p-1:30p** Lunch (*jambalaya & shrimp & grits*) *served by: Chad & Arletha Toews and Kent Esau*

**1:30p-1:45p** Intros to Breakout Sessions –

**1:45p-2:25p** Breakout Sessions 1

Group 1 – Coffee drinks, roasters, gurus

Group 2 – Is merchandising worth the time and space it occupies?

Group 3 – Bakery... gluten-free, pie presses, pricing for decorated cakes, how to prepare bakery items ahead for busy events and holidays

Group 4 – How responsible do we need to feel for our girls working away from home...spiritually, finding a family to bond with, involvement with the youth, financial, etc.

**2:35p-3:30p** Breakout Sessions 2

Group 5 – Practical tips, recipes, etc. from tried-and-true experienced bakers (come prepared to share those awesome recipes that has made your bakery a favorite)

Group 6 – Good employee and customer relations - Management of employees  
Finding and keeping great staff - Promoting employee happiness and Growth

Group 7 – Rewards programs, marketing to employees; enticing customers to look forward to coming because of the benefits beyond food

Group 8 – What have we gleaned from the changes Covid has brought? Plowing ahead and staying positive through difficulties

**3:30p-3:45p** Break

**3:45p-4:30p** General Discussion

**4:30p-5:00p** Vision for Mennonite Foodservice *by: Sam Eck*

**6:00p** Dinner at Yoder's Dutch Pantry

**TRAVEL** to Grifton area... airports by distance and preference.

New Bern (EWN), Greenville (PGV), Jacksonville (OAJ), Raleigh-Durham (RDU)

**LODGING:** There are several Airbnb and VRBO's closer to our area than the hotels in the neighboring towns. New Bern, Washington and Greenville are between 30-45 minutes away. New Bern is a nostalgic touristy town on the water. Greenville; college, and preppy. Traffic can get a bit congested in Greenville; allow extra travel time. Washington is a smaller town on the water with hotels and rental homes also available.

**EVERYONE** who is involved in any facet of food or beverage service is warmly invited to attend the Mennonite Foodservice Meeting at Grifton, North Carolina. This year, we are privileged to have the BBQ Rendezvous hosted in our area, with their get-together scheduled for Friday and Saturday. Everyone is invited to the BBQ Dinner Saturday evening. Make plans to come a little early for the BBQ, stay for the Mennonite Food Service Meeting on Monday, and enjoy the sights of eastern North Carolina before you head home. We are looking forward to seeing you all!