

2017 Conference Minister Report
Linford and Mary Etta King

Initiation to Transformation

“So here’s what I want you to do, God helping you: take your everyday, ordinary life...and place it before God as an offering. Fix your attention on God. You’ll be changed from the inside out. God brings the best out of you and develops well-formed maturity in you.” Romans 12:1-2 (adapted from *The Message*)

As Transitional Conference Ministers we came to Mountain States Mennonite Conference in October of 2015 primarily to listen and to discern as a group what God is calling us to. This is some of what we heard and experienced:

- that God is at work here through Mennonite Central Committee Relief Sale, Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp, Mennonite Disaster Service, our assemblies, Faith & Life meetings, our relational accountability and our shared understanding of the Scriptures,
- that prayer binds us in the Heart of God,
- how Rebeca and Fernando brought life to us and connected us with the Mexico Mennonite Conference,
- how Sarah Jackson’s passion for Casa de Paz is helping to change how released detainees are reunited with their families,
- how the efforts of Beloved Community Mennonite Church and others in building tiny houses for homeless people has changed the landscape of Denver,
- how the enthusiasm of young pastors coming to us gives life and hope for the future,
- the monthly gathering of pastors encourages them for ministry,
- how the pain of change and transition is ultimately bringing healing and hope as we journey deeper into God,
- that as we visited with you and prayed for you, we came to love you deeply.

Thank you for receiving us as you have. You have been most gracious. We commend you for your tenacity and courage (true Western folks!). We bless you as you journey onward.