

# CARRYING GRANDMOTHER'S PURSE



## ACCEPTING AND DISCARDING OUR BAGGAGE

Eastern District & Franconia  
Mennonite Conference  
WOMEN'S GATHERING  
March 18, 2017; 9:00-3:00  
Towamencin Mennonite Church

Sponsored by the EDC/FMC Sistering Committee

The British queen's granddaughter played with her grandmother's purse during an official photo shoot, clearly delighting in this privilege. Other children like playing dress-up with adult purses as well, not caring what they represent. Yet a purse can be a metaphor for our lives as women. We are handed down stories about ourselves and others, prescriptions for how to live, rules and commands, as well as messages of love and joy. Sometimes we are able to carry these with pleasure; sometimes they become toxic or too heavy, and we must sort through them and discard what no longer has meaning or a positive impact for us. Sometimes our "purse" belongs more to our grandmothers and mothers than to us and we must find what meets our own needs.

During our Women's Gathering we will have time for praise and prayer, input by Tamira Good, discussion, and sharing with each other. This time apart from our daily lives is a retreat designed to help us shed what keeps us from God, and from enjoying a fulfilled life, and accept what we are being offered that is life-giving.

A luncheon will be served. Registration and lunch cost \$15 a person. Childcare is available at \$5 per child.

For more information, contact Anne Yoder ([ayoderpax@gmail.com](mailto:ayoderpax@gmail.com)) or register at <http://women.franconiaconference.org/>