

## 2020 Report to Mountain States Mennonite Conference

*"Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you!'" John 20:19b*  
Highlights from Mennonite Church USA during 2019-2020.



**MennoCon19** took place in Kansas City, Missouri, July 2-6, 2019. The lively youth-adult joint services and Bible study session for delegates were among new additions that received positive feedback. Over 2,800 people attended.

**#BringThePeace**, a call to action for individuals and congregations to extend peace in our communities, was introduced. #BringThePeace is also the church's prayer inviting God to bring the peace that expands our capacity for empathy, compassion and love that actively seeks to dismantle oppression and violence.



The 2019 Delegate Assembly voted to change the bylaws to add **youth, ages 16-21, as official delegates**. Congregations may now nominate one youth, and area conferences and racial/ethnic groups may each nominate two, as additional delegates.

The 2019 Delegate Assembly passed the "**Churchwide Statement on the Abuse of Child Migrants**," which condemns the abuse of migrant families and children at the border and calls for a change in policy and action by the United States government. In response, a group of the MC



USA Constituency Leaders Council (CLC) visited Tucson, Arizona in Oct. 2019 to learn about **immigration initiatives and organizations**.

MC USA's Executive Board formed a **Membership Guidelines Advisory Group** to recommend a process for continuing the church's conversation on its Membership Guidelines. The 21-person group met for a one-time working session in Nov. 2019 and shared its recommendations with the board for further discernment.

**Peace Academic Center**, formerly Hopi Mission School, re-started classes for Kindergarten and pre-K students in Sept. 2019, Kykotsmovi, Arizona.

**MC USA Transformative Peacemaking** released several calls to action in 2019, urging prayer, conversation and individual and corporate action in response to the issues of gun violence, the death penalty and racism.



MC USA Archives launched an **oral history project** in July 2019 to collect interviews of young people ages of 24-40 within MC USA. Forty people participated in interviews recorded at MennoCon19.

MC USA held a "Learn, Pray, Join" initiative on **church planting**, together with Mennonite Mission Network, introducing the Sent Network process for equipping MC USA congregations and conferences for church planting.



MC USA relaunched **The Gathering Place**, a virtual space where Anabaptist faith formation leaders can gather, learn, share and grow. Webinars focused on baptism instruction, social media, and Anabaptism and American politics.

MC USA's Church Vitality office updated **Mennodata** and the **Ministerial Leader Information (MLI)** process with user-friendly interfacing and better access for church leaders and potential pastors.

### Stay Connected



**Subscribe to PeaceMail**, MC USA's weekly digest that highlights news and blogs from across the Church at [mennoniteusa.org/peacemail](http://mennoniteusa.org/peacemail).



**Save the date** for MennoCon21, the MC USA convention, in Cincinnati, Ohio on July 6-10, 2021.

## Informe del 2020 para la Conferencia Mountain States de la Iglesia Menonita de Estados Unidos (IMEU)

*“Entró Jesús y, poniéndose en medio de ellos, los saludó: ‘¡La paz sea con ustedes!’” Juan 20. 19b*  
*Lo más destacado de la Iglesia Menonita de EE. UU. en el 2019-2020.*



Se llevó a cabo la **MennoCon19** en Kansas City, Misuri, del 2 al 6 de julio del 2019. Los animados cultos conjuntos para juveniles y adultos y la sesión del estudio bíblico para delegados fueron algunas de las novedades que recibieron comentarios positivos. Asistieron más de 2800 personas.

Se presentó **#BringThePeace** (Traigan la paz), un llamado a la acción para individuos y congregaciones con el fin de extender la paz en nuestras comunidades. #BringThePeace es también la oración de la iglesia que invita a Dios a traer la paz que expande nuestra capacidad para la empatía, la compasión y el amor procurando desmantelar activamente la opresión y la violencia.



La asamblea de delegados del 2019 votó para modificar los estatutos con el fin de añadir a **los juveniles de 16 a 21 años como delegados oficiales**. Ahora, las congregaciones pueden nominar a un juvenil, mientras que cada conferencia regional y cada grupo racial/étnico puede nominar a dos de ellos como delegados adicionales.

La Asamblea de Delegados del 2019 aprobó la **“Declaración de toda la iglesia sobre el abuso a inmigrantes niños”**, la cual condena el abuso a familias y niños inmigrantes en la frontera y pide una modificación de las políticas y el accionar del Gobierno de Estados Unidos. En respuesta a esto, un grupo del Concilio de Líderes Constituyentes (CLC) de la IMEU visitó Tucson, Arizona en octubre del 2019 para aprender sobre las **iniciativas y las organizaciones vinculadas a la inmigración**.

La Junta Ejecutiva de la IMEU (siglas en español para MC USA) formó un **Grupo Consultor para los Lineamientos de Membresía** con el fin de recomendar un proceso para continuar las conversaciones de la iglesia en torno a los Lineamientos de Membresía. El grupo de 21 personas se reunió en noviembre del 2019 en una sesión de trabajo única y le compartió sus recomendaciones a la junta para que esta siga haciendo un discernimiento.

El **Peace Academic Center** (Centro Académico de Paz), anteriormente conocido como la Hopi Mission School (Escuela para la Misión Hopi), reinició las clases para los alumnos del jardín de infancia y preescolar en septiembre del 2019 en Kykotsmovi, Arizona.

El **Trabajo Transformador por la Paz de la IMEU** emitió varios llamados a la acción en el 2019, instando a la oración, la conversación y la acción individual y corporativa en respuesta a los temas de la violencia con armas de fuego, la pena de muerte y el racismo.



Archivos de la IMEU lanzó un **proyecto sobre historia oral** en julio del 2019 para recolectar entrevistas a jóvenes de entre 24 y 40 años dentro de la IMEU. Cuarenta personas participaron de las entrevistas grabadas en MennoCon19.

La IMEU organizó la iniciativa **“Learn, Pray, Join”** (Aprende, ora, únete) sobre **plantación de iglesias**, junto con la Red Menonita de Misión, introduciendo el proceso de Sent Network para equipar a las congregaciones y conferencias de la IMEU para la plantación de iglesias.



La IMEU relanzó **The Gathering Place** (El lugar de encuentro), un espacio virtual donde los líderes de la formación de fe anabautista pueden reunirse, aprender y crecer. Los seminarios web se enfocaron en la instrucción bautismal, las redes sociales, y el tema del anabautismo y las políticas estadounidenses.

La oficina de vitalidad de las iglesias de la IMEU actualizó **Mennodata** y el proceso de **Información de Liderazgo Ministerial** (MLI, por sus siglas en inglés) con una interfaz fácil de usar y un mejor acceso para líderes de la iglesia y potenciales pastores.

### Manténgase conectado



**Suscribase a PeaceMail**, el boletín semanal de la IMEU que destaca noticias y blogs de toda la iglesia en [mennoniteusa.org/peacemail](http://mennoniteusa.org/peacemail).



**Agende la fecha** de MennoCon21, la convención de la IMEU, a realizarse en Cincinnati, Ohio del 6 al 10 de julio del 2021.

Michelle E. Armster  
Executive Director, Mennonite Central Committee Central States

*We've come this far by faith  
Leaning on the Lord  
Trusting in His Holy Word  
He never failed me yet  
Oh' can't turn around  
We've come this far by faith*

2020 is the centennial year for MCC, an exciting milestone for our organization! The spreading threat of COVID-19 has drastically changed our world, yet MCC continues to focus on the most vulnerable people in the over 50 countries where we work.

The above lyrics are from an African American spiritual and provided the theme for the MCC CS Centennial Celebration: We've Come This Far by Faith that took place at Tabor College on Feb. 29, 2020. "Leaning on the Lord, trusting in His holy word," were faithful acts that shaped the ministry of MCC in 1920, and continues to shape the ministry of MCC Central States today.

This past year, when horrific images and details of the treatment of immigrants along the Mexico/U.S. border came to light, we found that our faith demanded us to respond. After listening to constituents and partners along the border in Texas, Central States staff started to dream up ways to respond. Ana Alicia Hinojosa, Immigration Education Coordinator and Kate Mast, Workroom Supervisor created immigration detainee care kits, to help meet the local needs of individuals being released from immigration detention. This initiative gave MCC a way to show Christ's love by welcoming the stranger and it was eagerly and generously supported by people from across the U.S. and Canada. We are blessed with new relationships/partners in Texas who continue to inspire us.

Another "accomplishment" this year was opening Thrift on Woodlawn (ToW) in Wichita, KS. It has been a while since an MCC thrift shop opened in the CS region. We had a vision of an urban thrift shop, in a "non-traditional Mennonite" setting and a store that partnered in and with the Wichita community. The reality of COVID-19 is that all MCC thrift shops in the region (and across the U.S. and Canada) closed for the safety of volunteers and shoppers.

I continue to be mindful that accomplishments and challenges are co-journeymen. As we step out in faith, responding to COVID-19, the immigration crisis at the Texas border or opening a new MCC thrift shop, our humanness should call us to not only reflect on the learnings but also hold space/place to repent and readjust.

Here in Central States, when it is safe to do so again, we look forward to connecting more with our constituency and the community through Lunch & Learns, Service & Pizza Parties for youth, our annual Christmas Soiree, and Spring Fling Volunteer Appreciation. These events have been well attended in the past and we hope to grow in the future! We will continue to partner with Everence and the Mennonite and Mennonite Brethren colleges in our region. We open our office to local non-profits to hold meetings.

In the spirit of MCC's 100-year celebration, we have commissioned a local writer to create a play about Vesta Zook and Vinora Weaver, two Goshen College faculty members who served with MCC in Constantinople. We plan to rejoice and celebrate the lives of these, until now, forgotten women who too were called to respond to the devastation in the early days of MCC. Our dream is that the play will be performed as a dinner theatre at MCC CS in our Store House!

We have come this far by faith!

Michelle



## Resources for faith formation and leadership development

### Academic programs

AMBS serves the church as a learning community with an Anabaptist vision, educating followers of Jesus Christ to be leaders for God's reconciling mission in the world. Our programs integrate academics, spiritual formation and practice. Join us — whether in person or at a distance — and deepen your understanding of Scripture, faith and Anabaptist theology!

- **Study at a distance**
  - **Master of Divinity Connect** (online and hybrid courses)
  - **Master of Arts: Theology and Global Anabaptism** (fully online)
  - **Graduate Certificate in Theological Studies** (fully or partially online; customizable)
- **Study on campus**
  - **Master of Divinity Campus**
  - **Master of Arts in Christian Formation**
  - **Master of Arts: Theology and Peace Studies**
  - **Graduate Certificate in Theological Studies**  
[ambs.edu/academics](https://ambs.edu/academics)
- **Financial aid:** AMBS offers generous need-based financial aid, grants and scholarships to help make your education affordable. [ambs.edu/financialaid](https://ambs.edu/financialaid)
- **Want to explore seminary study?** Take an online, campus or hybrid class, even if you're not yet admitted to AMBS, and your first class is 50 percent off! Check out our upcoming offerings: [ambs.edu/onecourse](https://ambs.edu/onecourse)
- **Experience AMBS:** Talk with students, faculty and staff and learn what AMBS has to offer! [ambs.edu/visit](https://ambs.edu/visit)

### Center for Faith Formation and Culture

- **!Explore: A Theological Program for High School Youth:** Students in grades 10–12 can explore ministry and theology, grow in spiritual practices and listen for God's call through a summer congregational internship and a Group Experience (at Mennonite World Conference in 2021). Participants receive a \$1,000 stipend. Deadline to apply is Oct. 31. Tap a shoulder! [ambs.edu/explore](https://ambs.edu/explore)

### AMBS statistics

- In 2019–20, AMBS's graduate student body included 58 U.S. students, eight Canadian students and 22 international students.
- In 2019–20, 24 students are enrolled in the Journey program in Canada, Southeast Asia, Tanzania and the U.S.
- In August, nine women and six men from six countries on four continents will graduate from AMBS, in a commencement service delayed from May. Six of them completed at least part of their studies at a distance.

*We thank God for your support and ask for your prayers as we prepare leaders for the church!*

### Lifelong learning

AMBS's Church Leadership Center offers various nondegree options for you to continue your education and strengthen your leadership skills:

- **Online short courses:** Join the forum discussions in these six-week online courses:
  - Exploring Anabaptist History and Theology
  - Exploring Peace and Justice in the Bible
  - Understanding Anabaptist Approaches to Scripture: What's Different and Why?
  - Transforming Congregational Conflict and Communication
  - A Worship Leader's Introduction to *Voices Together*
  - A Song Leader's Introduction to *Voices Together*  
[ambs.edu/shortcourses](https://ambs.edu/shortcourses)
- **Pastors and Leaders 2021** (March 1–4)
- **Leadership Clinics** (March 1, 2021)  
[ambs.edu/pastorsandleaders](https://ambs.edu/pastorsandleaders)
- **Journey: A Missional Leadership Development Program:** This two-and-a-half-year nondegree program offers mentor-mentee partnerships, distance-learning opportunities and community support. [ambs.edu/journey](https://ambs.edu/journey)
- **Spiritual Direction Seminars:** Cultivate your ministry of spiritual direction. [ambs.edu/seminars](https://ambs.edu/seminars)
- **Invite AMBS!** Faculty and staff are available to speak on topics such as intercultural competence, undoing racism, Reading the Bible with Jesus workshops, improvisational leadership, healthy boundaries and more. [ambs.edu/invite](https://ambs.edu/invite)



*Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established.*

– Proverbs 16:3 (NRSV)

# Invest in what lasts

## Everence 2020 report

Mountain States Mennonite Conference  
Annual Assembly  
July 25-26, 2020

### Strong church partnerships a vital part of Everence mission

Everence® works closely with churches and their members, as we have since our organization started as Mennonite Mutual Aid in 1945.

We're celebrating our 75th anniversary in 2020 – three-quarters of a century of helping brothers and sisters in Christ “build up the common life” through decisions about their money and other resources.

We look forward to many more years of helping your church members create and implement plans tailored to their needs and their goals to share with others.

We value our connections and will continue to serve the faith community as partners in stewardship throughout 2020 and beyond.

### Pastoral Financial Wellness Program extends its reach



Everence expanded our Pastoral Financial Wellness Program in 2019 to credentialed and active

pastors from more than 30 affiliated Anabaptist and like-minded denominations and church networks.

A second \$1 million grant from Lilly Endowment Inc. – through its National Initiative to Address Economic Challenges Facing Pastoral Leaders – helped make widening the program possible.

“Hopefully, through our expanded program, we can help more pastors find a healthy financial balance so they can continue following their calling in the ministry,” said Beryl Jantzi, D.Min., Everence Stewardship Education Director.

The program includes direct financial assistance grants, financial education events and subsidies for financial planning. More details are available at [everence.com/pastoral-financial-wellness](http://everence.com/pastoral-financial-wellness).

### Is church management software right for you?

A new resource from Everence can help you decide whether your church needs church management software for organizing and automating certain tasks.

Hundreds of options are available to help churches with:

- Membership management.
- Contributions/donor management.

- Accounting.
- Event/facilities management.
- Communications and outreach.
- Volunteer management.

Everence doesn't endorse any specific software in our new guide, *Church information management systems*, but we do identify some of the possibilities. Consider it a starting point for exploring your options.

Visit [everence.com/resources/church-finance-manual](http://everence.com/resources/church-finance-manual) and look under “additional resources” to download your own copy.

### Take advantage of new webinars for churches



Everence is offering your church new educational webinars in 2020.

They are designed as an easy-to-share stewardship education resource for pastors and others in your church.

Talk to your Everence stewardship consultant to make sure you're on the mailing list for invitations to these webinars.



**Mission Statement: MEA will strengthen Mennonite education for restorative leadership, work, and service throughout the church and the world.**

## Board of Directors

### **Nathan Alleman**

*Western District Conference*  
Professor

### **Addie Banks**

*Atlantic Coast Conference*  
Pastor and founder/CEO of the  
Groundswell Group

### **Lynette Bontrager – secretary**

*Ohio Conference*  
Registered Nurse, retired

### **Melissa Hofstetter**

*Pacific Southwest Conference*  
Minister and Professor

### **Alicia Manning**

*Virginia Mennonite Conference*  
Minister, Educational Consultant  
and Director

### **Linwood Rush – treasurer**

*Pacific Northwest Conference*  
Hospitality Services Director, retired

### **Richard Thomas – chair**

*Atlantic Coast Conference*  
Superintendent, retired

### **Roy Williams – vice chair**

Pastor

## COVID-19

The global health crisis has dominated all of our lives this Spring. Although our educational systems, both public and private, have been disrupted, our Anabaptist-Mennonite institutions have risen with grace to provide compassionate leadership. MEA's role during this crisis has been to provide support to the leaders of our schools, who are feeling the heavy burden of making tough decisions to close campuses and pivot to online learning. Although most schools are on summer break now, none are idle. Leaders and administrators are working hard to form plans, and contingency plans on top of contingency plans, seeking to balance safety with a sense of normalcy and community. We realize many leaders can feel isolated and high levels of stress, and the need for physical distancing only compounds this burden. **MEA staff stand ready to offer support** to our schools' leaders as they make difficult decisions and are challenged to discern new ways of being community together. Our prayers are with them. And as the pandemic persists and resurges in some locations, we all look to our Creator for help.

## Mutual aid

One opportunity this crisis offers is the chance to **increase our mutual aid** to care for one another. Please encourage your congregations to support their students financially. There are congregational student aid plans and church-school matching programs, and congregations can give to schools using either a designated or unified giving plan. MEA can help congregations understand all of these options and develop plans of assistance for students, families and schools. If congregations already have student aid plans in place, please encourage them to consider an increased level of giving for each student.

## New student loan options being explored with Everence

MEA is leading an exploratory conversation with Everence and Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary (AMBS) about new student loan options to ease financial strain for students and families. The idea is based on leveraging several unique players: congregations, individuals, AMBS, MEA and Everence. All would work together to develop a low-interest loan program for students. With AMBS as a

test plot, the goals would be to increase enrollment and provide additional leaders/pastors for Mennonite congregations. If successful, the program could be replicated at other schools. MEA is committed to advancing this conversation to help make Anabaptist-Mennonite education more affordable.

## Legal resources

MEA provided three consultations by Zoom for our schools with an attorney to help understand the CARES Act and its provisions for unemployment claims and extended sick leave. Representatives across all levels of Mennonite education had the opportunity to ask questions and receive legal counsel specific to their contexts. This service was provided by MEA at no charge to the schools, utilizing the savings realized from canceled travel.

### **MEA Investment Fund focuses on climate change**

The [MEA Investment Fund](#) Committee recently unveiled 5 new stewardship commitments that are focused on climate change. These commitments echo the Fund's intent to invest in companies that practice environment stewardship and work toward environment sustainability. Nine Mennonite education institutions from all levels of Mennonite education plus ten other MCUSA institutions with education-related funds participate in MEA's Investment Fund. More information about the five new climate change commitments can be found [here](#).

### **New interim director for K-12 schools**

Dawn Graber has been hard at work since beginning her role on a part-time basis four weeks ago. She enjoys tapping into her executive coaching skills set to connect with the principals and heads of schools, and she hopes to reach out to every school leader in the Mennonite Schools Council network in the coming weeks to offer support, encouragement and opportunities to collaborate. Already she has heard a call to provide a point of connection for affinity groups, such as music teachers and guidance counselors. These groups sometimes do not have others in similar roles at their own schools with whom they can share best practices, questions and ideas. Dawn was able to respond quickly to offer these affinity group meetings, and is also working to get up to speed on accreditation processes.

### **Hispanic Ministries Education**

MEA's Hispanic Ministries Education programs are responding to the increasing demand for online training in theology and Biblical studies. MEA's **SeBAH** program, Seminario Bíblico Anabautista Hispano (Hispanic Anabaptist Biblical Seminary), offers 100% of its courses online and in Spanish, and students from many regions of the United States, Colombia and Mexico are enrolling. In the "Theology of Preaching" class that begins in July, 16 people from four Anabaptist organizations have enrolled. And in partnership with AMBS, SeBAH is offering a continuing education course this summer entitled, "Let's be church, from a radical Anabaptist perspective." To date, 20 people from the United States and other Latin American countries have registered. SeBAH and its sister program **IBA**, Instituto Bíblico Anabautista, (Anabaptist Biblical Institute) continue to lead the way on an international level to provide Spanish-language Biblical and theological education from an Anabaptist perspective. To learn more about Hispanic Ministries Education, follow this [link](#).

### **For Your Prayers**

MEA's monthly *Prayers for Faith and Learning* publication offers an opportunity for congregations to join us in praying for our schools in specific ways. Contact Jolene VonGunten to join the subscription list: [JoleneV@MennoniteEducation.org](mailto:JoleneV@MennoniteEducation.org).

As the pandemic extends into its fourth month here in North America, and as racial injustices affect God's people of color across the nation on a daily basis, our very souls are troubled and worn. We pray for the peace and justice that can only come from our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer. Hear our prayer, oh God.

**On behalf of the MEA board and staff, thank you for the many ways you support Mennonite education.**

*Submitted by Tom Stuckey, Interim Executive Director and CEO  
June 2020*

TS/jvg



## REPORT TO MOUNTAIN STATES MENNONITE CONFERENCE

Summer 2020

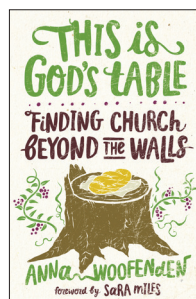
At MennoMedia we publish curricula and books that call readers to follow Jesus in word and deed. We publish resources about Christian discipleship, spirituality, reconciliation, justice, and theology from an Anabaptist perspective. Our curricula, periodicals, and hymnals reach a broad spectrum of evangelical, mainline, and Anabaptist readers and congregations, cultivating passion for faith formation and an active life of discipleship.

## NEW RESOURCES FOR THE ENTIRE CHURCH, FROM HERALD PRESS



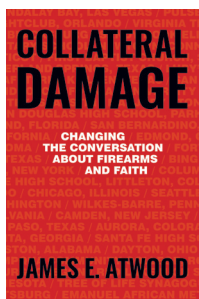
### Speak Your Peace

What the Bible Says about Loving Our Enemies  
Author Ronald J. Sider plumbs Scripture to build a persuasive case that Jesus meant what he said when he commanded us to love our enemies. Sider takes on enduring questions about nonviolence, showing how the church has largely set aside Jesus' call to love our enemies and traded its birthright in Christ for nationalism and militarism. In *Speak Your Peace*, Sider reminds the church of its true vocation in a world of hatred and war.



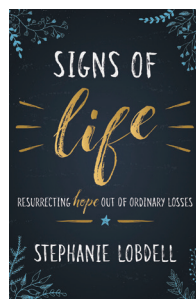
### This Is God's Table

Finding Church Beyond the Walls  
This is the story of what happens when people garden, worship, and eat together—and invite everyone to join them. Pastor Anna Woofenden describes how the wealthy and poor, the aged and young, the housed and unhoused become a community. Together they craft a place of authenticity where all are welcome. What would it take to carry the liturgy outside the gates? What if we discover that in feeding others, we are fed?



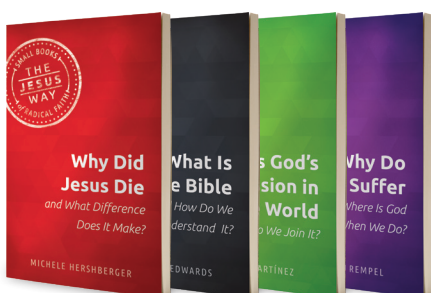
### Collateral Damage

Changing the Conversation about Firearms and Faith  
One hundred people die from gun violence every day in the United States. Yet many Christians say gun violence shouldn't be talked about in church. In *Collateral Damage*, pastor and activist James E. Atwood issues an urgent call to action to Christians to work together to stop gun violence. The church has a moral and spiritual obligation to side with life against death. Will we rise to the occasion?



### Signs of Life

Resurrecting Hope out of Ordinary Losses  
Whether it's the demise of expectations, beliefs, a relationship, or our image of ourselves: we all experience losses. In *Signs of Life*, pastor Stephanie Lobdell leads readers into the grand story of God's saving action and resurrection power. Hope isn't cheap, and there's no sense in pretending everything is fine. Yet through it all, God breathes life into what seems beyond redemption.



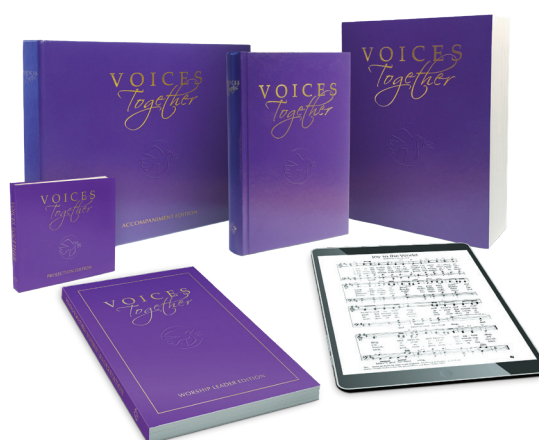
### The Jesus Way

Small Books of Radical Faith

The Jesus Way series delves into big questions about God's work in the world. These concise, practical books are deeply rooted in Anabaptist theology. Crafted by a diverse community of scholars, pastors, and practitioners, The Jesus Way series helps readers deepen their faith in Christ and enliven their witness.

## VOICES TOGETHER

*Voices Together* is a new worship and song collection for the Mennonite church to deepen our lives of faith. This robust collection will be available for congregations in Fall 2020.



### Voices Together will offer:

- Pew Edition
- Large-Print Edition
- Projection Edition
- App Edition, available through the Hymnals app
- Accompaniment Edition
- Worship Leader Edition
- Audio recordings featuring choirs from Mennonite colleges and universities

Visit [VoicesTogetherHymnal.org](http://VoicesTogetherHymnal.org) for more information.

# Sé local. Sé global. Sé el evangelio.

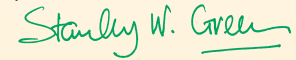


Los cambios son los ladrillos con los cuales se construye nuestra vida. Nos regocijamos cuando los cambios avanzan en dirección positiva de mayor apoyo

y coparticipación más profunda. Cuando los cambios ocurren en sentido negativo, nos damos cuenta de cuánto valoramos la generosidad de quienes mantienen su apoyo firme aún en tiempos difíciles. La Red Menonita de Misión

busca fortalecer el apoyo de los coparticipantes alrededor de todo el mundo al comprometerse con los propósitos de Dios de sanación y esperanza. No podemos hacer esto sin usted, y por ello le agradecemos sus oraciones y aportes financieros

que nos permiten continuar la misión de Dios alrededor del mundo. ¡Gracias!



Stanley W. Green  
Director ejecutivo

## Conferencia Mountain States + Red Menonita de Misión

### Participantes y lugares de servicio



#### Sitios de Servicio Cristiano

#### Unidades de Mennonite Voluntary Service (Servicio Voluntario Menonita)

» Alamosa

#### Unidades de Service Adventure (Voluntarios Aventureros)

» Albuquerque  
» Colorado Springs

#### Sitio de SOOP

» Carlsbad  
» Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp

#### Service Adventure (Voluntarios Aventureros)

Cassandra Voth sirve en Washington, D.C.

#### SOOP (Oportunidades de Servicio con Nuestros Hermanos)

Robert King, Viborg, South Dakota

### Oración



16 personas se han comprometido a orar diariamente por los ministerios de la Red Menonita.

### Aporte congregacional a la Red Menonita



Durante el último año fiscal de la Red de Misión, desde el 1 de agosto de 2018 hasta el 31 de julio de 2019, 9 de 16 congregaciones de la Conferencia Mountain States ofrendaron **\$42.244**. ¡Gracias!



*Que Dios les renueve su fe, esperanza y amor al orar, dar y servir en la misión de Dios.*



Joseph Sawatzky  
Representante de Relaciones con las iglesias

¡Gracias por su colaboración continua en la misión de Dios!

www.MennoniteMission.net Línea Gratuita: 1-866-866-2872



# Be local. Be global. **Be the Gospel.**



Changes are the construction blocks of our lives. We exult when changes move in a positive direction of greater support and deepened

partnership. When changes are in a negative direction, we realize how much we appreciate the generosity of those whose support remains strong during the tough times. Mennonite Mission Network is

eager to strengthen our support of partners all around the world as they engage in advancing God's purposes for healing and hope. We cannot do this without you, so we're grateful for your sharing of prayers

and financial contributions that allow us to continue God's mission in the world. Thank you!

*Stanley W. Green*  
Stanley W. Green  
Executive Director

## Mountain States Conference + Mennonite Mission Network

### Service participants

#### Service sites

**Mennonite Voluntary Service unit**  
» Alamosa

#### Service Adventure units

» Albuquerque  
» Colorado Springs

#### SOOP sites

» Carlsbad  
» Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp

#### Service Adventure

**Cassandra Voth** serving in  
Washington, D.C.

#### SOOP

**Robert King**, Viborg, South Dakota

### Prayer partners

**16** people have committed to pray daily for Mission Network ministries.

### Congregational giving to Mission Network

During Mission Network's last fiscal year, Aug. 1, 2018, through July 31, 2019, 9 of 16 Mountain States Conference congregations gave **\$42,244. Thank you!**



*May God renew you in faith, hope, and love as you pray, give, and serve in God's mission.*

*Joseph Sawatzky*

Joseph Sawatzky  
Church Relations Representative

Thank you for your continued partnership in God's mission!

[www.MennoniteMission.net](http://www.MennoniteMission.net) Toll-free: 1-866-866-2872

# **2019 Mennonite Women USA Report**

Cyneatha Millsaps, MW USA Executive Director

December 2, 2019

OUR MISSION: Mennonite Women USA is a sisterhood of Anabaptist women following Jesus.

OUR VISION: Engaging the prophetic voices of all women as we honor our stories, share grace, practice justice and embrace healing.

## **Executive Summary**

Mennonite Women USA (MW USA) is amidst transformation. We are living into our new vision at a time in church history where the denomination is experiencing major changes. MW USA is prime to lead and empower women throughout the church to assist the broader church in carving a new path.

### **I. Cooperation with Churches and Agencies**

1. MW USA has visited 20 Mennonite churches as a guest and speaker.
2. MW USA met with female church leaders across the United States and internationally to discuss our work.
3. MW USA sponsored several gatherings encouraging women in the church to connect across traditional divides through our Choosing Sisterhood initiative. Women in Conversation has provided a platform for women to address issues facing our families and communities. These gatherings have been well attended.
4. MW USA has prioritized listening to young women in the church. We have visited three Mennonite Colleges with the sole purpose of listening to the needs of our younger sisters.
5. MW USA also met with international students at Hesston College, listening to the needs of women of color on campus. Together we brainstormed ways in which women throughout MW USA might be of service.
6. MW USA continues to provide over 20 scholarships annually to international students through our International Women's Fund. These scholarships assist women studying in the field of theology, Anabaptist and church history, ministry and pastoral care and counseling.
7. MW USA attended the Everence Development Conference obtaining useful material to support our work.
8. MW USA is currently working with Rhoda Blough, Everence stewardship consultant, to provide financial webinars for MW USA beginning January 2020.
9. MW USA attends the Constituency Leaders Council (CLC) gathering where conference and constituency groups reported on their connection with MC USA.

### **II. Next Steps**

1. Website. Our primary means of communication with constituents is through our website. Watch for our new interactive website that allows engagement in a timely manner and will enliven our communication and connection with the broader church.
2. Social Media. The focus will be on two social media platforms: Facebook and Instagram.
3. Fundraisers. We are working on fundraisers for MW USA in 2020:
  - a. Annual Golf outing, September 2020
  - b. 5k and 10k walk/runs at one or more women's retreats, 2020

### **III. Conclusion**

I am encouraged by the many connections we are making with women and agencies within the Mennonite church. In addition to our faithful constituents, Mennonite Women USA is supported by pastors and leaders of the church. As we continue to live into our vision, these connections and others will become stronger. This is good for the church, but even more so for women and girls throughout the church.