

2025

DELEGATE ASSEMBLY REPORT

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

Note: Underlined words indicate active links.

Mission Network highlights 2024-2025

Global Partnerships

Africa / Europe

- » The <u>Brussels (Belgium) training</u> <u>program in reconciliation</u> expanded its training to Africa. After conflict began in Congo, Mission Network supported four newly trained facilitators with emergency funding.
- » Ben and Laurel Woodward-Breckbill assumed leadership as directors of the the Paris Mennonite Center.
- » Toni and Matthew Krabill serve in Ghana at the Sanneh Institute. This spring, the institute launched a grant-funded program aimed at preventing political violence through inter-religious education in schools.

Asia / Middle East

- » Sekolah Tinggi Agama Kristen Wiyata Wacana invited Andi Santoso, Joe Sawatzky, and David Boshart (AMBS) to facilitate anabaptist theological education training in Indonesia.
- » Dale and Bethsaba Nafziger retired, after serving 30 years with Mission Network in Nepal.
- » Marisa Smucker represented Mission Network at the 125th anniversary celebration of the Mennonite Church in India (MCI), and visited MCI churches and Dhamtari Christian Hospital.

Latin America

- » In Feb. 2024, the <u>Comunidad</u> <u>de Instituciones Teológicas</u> <u>Anabautistas</u> (CITA-Community of Anabaptist Theological Institutions) <u>met in-person or the first time</u> since its inception in 2016. Leaders of Spanish-language theological education programs in Latin America, Spain and the U.S. meet virtually every other month to increase collaboration.
- » In Apr. 2024, the Movimiento de Mujeres Anabautistas Haciendo Teología desde América Latina (MTAL-Movement of Anabaptist Women doing Theology from Latin

America) celebrated its <u>20th an-</u> <u>niversary</u> in El Salvador, including the release of a Missio Dei booklet, <u>Women, 20 years of paving the way</u> <u>between dreams and hopes.</u>

- » Delicia Bravo Aguilar and Peter Wigginton worked with representatives from three Ecuadorian Anabaptist conferences in developing a peace team that is ready to respond to increased violence in nonviolent ways.
- » Mission Network was deeply involved in a South America Anabaptist at 500 event in Cusco, Peru, in January and in an MTAL gathering, a peace summit, and a publication that is available in the Spanish Anabaptist Digital Library: 500 Años del Anabautismo Cusco 2025.

North America

Just Peace Pilgrimage (JPP)

- » In Oct. 2024, 18 individuals from the U.S. participated in the <u>South African</u> <u>Racial Justice Pilgrimage</u>.
- » <u>Joseph and Rachel Givens</u> hosted a JPP in April in Calais, France.

Mennonite Voluntary Service (MVS)

- » Alexander Mace is the new director.
- » MVS application numbers have increased for the 2025-2026 units.

Service Adventure

- » Michael Oyer is the new director.
- » In 2024, Colorado Springs unit members attended a <u>Mennonite</u> <u>Action event</u> in Washington, D.C.

SOOF

- » 67 SOOP locations | 94 participants.
- » New SOOP locations include Iglesia Christiana Roca de Refugio in San Antonio, Texas, and Maria Skobstova House in Calais, France.

Youth Venture (YV)

» The <u>Korean Anabaptist Center</u> hosted a YV group in South Korea, with the **Solidarity Fund** enabling the participation of two South Korean youth.

Service statistics

206 participants served in

short-term service programs in 2024, including <u>SOOP</u>, <u>YV</u>, and <u>JPPs</u>.

21

participants began **longer-term service** assignments with <u>MVS</u> and <u>Service Adventure</u> for the 2024-2025 term.

51

people currently serve as international service workers.

Constituent Engagement



- » Churches and conferences: Representatives attend annual conference gatherings to engage with conference staff, pastors, and missional leaders, promoting participation and extending invitations to collaborate.
- » Youth: Representatives visit high schools, colleges and youth groups to recruit for MVS and Service Adventure. Additionally, MVS participants have been connecting with their alma mater to promote these service programs.

Training and Resources

Collaborated with:

- » Mennonite Church USA staff and Conference Ministers in support of the formation of new peace churches in the U.S.
- » Constituent Engagement to development of a theme for the year, "Emboldening the Community to Act for God's Kingdom," inspired by Matthew 28:16-20.
- » Global Partnerships to design and develop content for Just Peace Pilgrimage reflection guides and facilitate trips for Christ at the Border: Chapter 2 in Calais, France.
- » AMBS Joe Sawatzky serves as liaison between our organizations teaching courses and supporting the MATGA program. He traveled to Indonesia, and taught or partnered with folks from India, Hong Kong, Philippines, Japan, Indonesia, South Korea, Myanmar Ethiopia.

Facilitated learning for:

- » Mennonite Church USA congregations.
- » AMBS Practical Leadership Training courses.
- » AMBS Pastors and Leaders conference.

Wrote and edited:

» Three Missio Dei booklets.

Prayer partners

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Join our prayer network!

Request a copy of *Mission Mosaic* by visiting our website or emailing <u>Prayer@ MennoniteMission.net</u>. This resource offers a meaningful way to pray for Mission Network workers and participants.

Advancement

- » Initiated the Here With Purpose video series.
- Collaborated with Training and Resources and AMBS to produce Missio Dei #33, With steadfast devotion: A vision of the church in mission in '4Ms,' a video series and an accompanying study guide.
- Updated the popular Missio



Dei #18. What is an Anabaptist Christian? to include global voices and stories, released as the Anabaptism at 500 edition, Missio Dei #34.

- » Produced a new episode in the MissionWary podcast series focusing on conscientious objectors.
- » Launched a monthly Just Peace

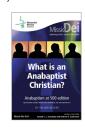


- » Continue to inform donors about the significant advantages of **estate planning** and monthly giving to Mission Network.
- » Introduced a quarterly video series. News from Marisa, timely updates from the executive director.
- » Wil LaVeist led a workshop at AMBS's Pastors and Leaders Conference titled, "Afrocentric Anabaptists: Black Experiences in the Mennonite Church."









ABIDE (Anti-racism, belonging, inclusion, diversity, equity)



» The Coalition to Dismantle the Doctrine of Discovery partnered with Mission Network to advance initiatives for Indigenous justice, including support for launching a Solidarity with Indigenous **Peoples Just Peace Pilgrimage** to promote solidarity and reparative justice for Indigenous communities.

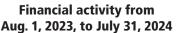


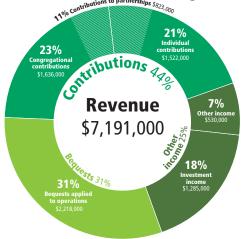
Aug. 1, 2023-July 31, 2024 fiscal year financials

For the fiscal year spanning August 1, 2023, to July 31, 2024, the most recently audited period, Mennonite Mission Network recorded total expenses of \$7,191,000. Financial statements indicate contributions of \$1,636,000 from congregations, \$1,522,000 from individual donors and \$823,000 designated for MST partnerships. To address the shortfall in meeting these expenses, \$2,218,000 was withdrawn from bequest funds, in alignment with the organization's investment policy.

Amid ongoing domestic and global economic uncertainties, Mission Network remains steadfast in its commitment to prudent resource management. We continuously evaluate and adjust expenditures, pursue cost-saving measures and review investment strategies to optimize returns. As we prepare for the 2025/2026 fiscal year, Mission Network is resolute in its dedication to faithfully stewarding the generous contributions entrusted to us.

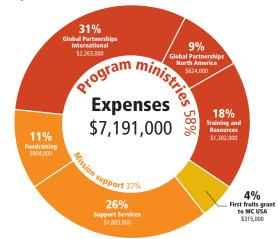
Click here for a copy of Mission Network's Beyond annual report.





Additional notes

- 1. This report is for the audited fiscal year period of Aug. 1, 2023, to July 31, 2024.
- 2. The total value of bequests received during this fiscal year was \$1,544,573. Beguest funds used in this fiscal year were \$2,218,000.
- 3. **Program revenue** includes funding from partner organizations, program fees, event fees, sale of publications and resources, and worker earnings.
- 4. Estimated cash and investments held as operating reserves as of July 31,



2024, totaled \$5,198,000.

- 5. Confidentiality policy: Contribution information in the Mission Network/Mennonite Church USA database will not be shared. Address information may be shared with other Mennonite Church USA agencies
- 6. The planned transfer of Elkhart building assets to Mennonite Church USA resulted in a loss of \$4,698,093.96, not noted in this chart.
- 7. Other income includes investment income, program income and grants.



"Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so I am sending you." — John 20:21, CEB

Jesus' words inspire and urge us at Mission Network to stay vigilant and engaged in God's mission, fulfilling our calling. We are grateful for the privilege of collaborating with you and deeply appreciate your active support as we partner with communities locally, nationally and globally. Blessings,



Marisa Smucker, Executive Director

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