

July 24-26, 2014
Santa Clara Marriott
Santa Clara, California

30th National Convention of the U.S. Mennonite Brethren Conference (USMB Churches)



MOMENTUM CONNECTION 2014

Steve Schroeder, Chair
Marv Schellenberg, Vice-Chair
Sue Kliewer, Secretary
David Hardt, Treasurer
Ed Boschman, Executive Director

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RECORD OF THE THIRTIETH CONVENTION
of the
United States Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches
Santa Clara Marriott, Santa Clara, Calif.
Conection 2014
July 24-26, 2014

Overview

“Momentum” was the theme of the 30th USMB National Convention held July 26-27 in Santa Clara, Calif., and the motion repeatedly emphasized was moving forward with the mission of God. Among those who delivered that message were two keynote speakers who shared the same first name as well as a strong commitment to see people come to faith in Jesus Christ.

USMB Executive Director, Ed Boschman, gave the Saturday morning address. “We are on mission. We have the right message for this time. We’re Bible-believers. We’re Jesus centered. We’re Spirit led. We call people to repentance. We are agents of reconciliation and peace. We are a covenant community. We are what our neighbors need,” said Boschman.

Ed Stetzer, who was also the speaker for the National Pastors Conference, focused on church multiplication in his Friday evening keynote address. “There is a motion to the mission,” said Stetzer, referring to John 20:21. “Don’t let your church be a cul-de-sac on the Great Commission Highway.” Stetzer went on to challenge U.S. Mennonite Brethren to plant churches in the subcultures—the “divots”—of today’s world.

And that is just what USMB church planters are doing, said Mission USA director Don Morris in his report Saturday morning. “We are finding those divots in which to plant churches,” said Morris.

A USMB priority that gained traction over the two-day convention was unity in spite of disagreement about how U.S. Mennonite Brethren can best express our understanding of peacemaking. Delegates discussed and voted on a revision to Article 13 of the USMB Confession of Faith. Board of Faith and Life Chair Larry Nikkel gave a review of the lengthy process has taken over the past four years. This included 20 steps taken, from an initial survey at the 2010 convention, to processing revisions with and receiving feedback from leaders and pastors from all five districts as well as other groups. Much floor discussion time was given at this convention as well as a workshop to also aid in the process. Speakers affirmed the time and energy that BFL had invested in the process and recognized that the revision had been crafted carefully with thought given to each word and phrase with the goal of writing a statement that all USMB pastors and teachers will support. The revision was approved, making this the first time an article has been changed since the Confession of Faith became a national rather than bi-national North American statement.

Saturday afternoon, Ed Boschman, who retired July 31, was recognized for 40 years of service as a pastor and conference leader. Referring to Boschman as the “evangelistic conscience” of U.S. Mennonite Brethren, Gary Wall, the Pacific District Conference minister, said of Boschman,

“You remind us often that unless Jesus saves and transforms a lost soul, we’re missing the mark of what it means to be a faithful people.” In addition to Wall, Steve Schroeder, Leadership Board Chair; Larry Nikkel, Board of Faith and Life chair; and Terry Hunt, North Carolina District minister, pastor and former Leadership Board member, reflected on Boschman’s ministry. All four affirmed Boschman’s bold and godly leadership gifts. Hunt washed Boschman’s feet as a sign of how much he was appreciated by USMB pastors, leaders and constituency. Boschman was also honored with a standing ovation.

National Pastors Conference

Pastors and spouses from USMB congregations across the U.S. gathered July 24-25 prior to the national convention for a time to reconnect and refuel. Ed Stetzer was the keynote speaker for two sessions and fielded questions from attendees during an additional question-and-answer session. Stetzer is president of LifeWay Research, an author, pastor and church planter. He focused on the “one mission” part of the USMB mission statement. He cited research that indicates that the majority of people in the majority of churches in North America are unengaged in meaningful mission. He encouraged attendees from I Peter 4, saying that all have gifts, which God intends all to use and for which he empowers, in order to bring God glory. He challenged pastors to remove obstacles to congregants owning the mission, which may mean rethinking building structures or ministry roles. He also asked the question, how will the church respond to major cultural shifts? His answer, from 2 Corinthians 5 was to talk about receiving anew view, being sent on a mission of reconciliation and representing Jesus and his kingdom. He repeatedly reminded attendees that personal transformation is the motivation for mission. “The world doesn’t need more nice people’ it needs people who have been changed.”

Worship for both the National Pastors Conference and the National Convention was led by John Szablowski and his worship team from The Bridge Bible Church in Bakersfield, Calif.

Workshops offered during the National Pastors included:

1. 10 Fundamentals of Clergy Tax – Jon Wiebe, MB Foundation
These issues aren’t just the domain of a tax preparer or church treasurer. Pastors and church leaders must reclaim the responsibility to properly steward funds provided by the congregation.
2. Logos Bible Software – Logos Staff
How technology can aid Bible study, research, sermon prep and more.
3. What is your worth? – Jini Robie and Carol Boschman
Don’t lose your personal worth and value and “soul” in ministry. Encouragement for spouses in ministry.
4. Affinity Groups - led by various pastors for Lead pastors of small, medium and large churches/Youth pastors/Children & Family pastors/Outreach pastors

I. INTRODUCTION TO THE CONVENTION RECORD

Presiding Officers were:

Steve Schroeder, Chair

Marv Schellenberg, Vice Chair

Ed Boschman, Executive Director

The theme of *Conection* 2014 was “Momentum.” The scripture which founds and informs that theme is from Hebrews 12:1-2, “We’d better get with it...start running and never quit...keep your eyes on Jesus” (The Message translation). When the arrival of the Holy Spirit occurred at Pentecost, the church was ignited. Because we are in the lineage of the Christian believers, we too have been ignited by the presence and power of the Holy Spirit. Because of the Spirit’s faithful work in and through us, we have the privilege of momentum.

II. Session 1, Friday afternoon, July 25

Chair Steve Schroeder opened the session with song and prayer. Roll call was taken by having all delegates stand by district. Delegates were present from all five districts. The convention was then called to order.

A. Appointments: The following appointments were made:

Parliamentarian: Dennis Fast (PDC)

Minute Review Committee: Amy Stone (PDC), Linda Oelze (SDC), Luke Haidle (CDC)

Willy Reimer, Executive Director of the Canadian Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches, gave a brief report and welcome from the CCMBC.

Schroeder invited the delegates to have a time of prayer around the tables.

Schroeder introduced and welcomed Lynn Quiring and Lawrence Sawatsky, delegates from First Mennonite Church in Clinton, OK. This church is in the process of joining the U.S. Conference and the Southern District Mennonite Brethren Conference. He also introduced representatives from the following partner agencies:

- David Wiebe - ICOMB (International Community of Mennonite Brethren)
- Ron Byler - MCC (Mennonite Central Committee)
- Cesar Garcia - MWC (Mennonite World Conference)
- Gord Fleming and Ron Leonard – C2C Network, Canadian Conference of MB Churches
- Rick Stiffney – MHS (Mennonite Health Services)
- Jeff Koller – MDS (Mennonite Disaster Services)

B. Recommendations

Schroeder then briefly previewed the following recommendations that were presented to the delegation from the Leadership Board for action later in the convention:

1. The Bylaw change of the USMB bylaws, Article 1, Section 4 regarding the conference fiscal year.
2. The election and/or affirmation of the presented nominations.

3. The approval of the revised Article 13 of the Confession of Faith. Steve notified the delegates that according to the bylaws, no new recommendations can be made at this convention nor can anyone comment more than three times on each recommendation.
4. The approval of the revised Historical Commission MOU.
5. The approval of the revised MB Mission bylaws and ratification of the Canadian bylaws.

C. Reports

1. Tabor College Report - Jules Glanzer, President

President Glanzer showed a video, gave a brief update and shared statistics and stories of the positive affect Tabor College is having on the students. Glanzer announced that Tabor College is celebrating 106 years of education. Delegates were invited to read the full report in the convention booklet.

Tabor College Wichita - Rick Bartlett, Director of Theological Education

Bartlett shared about the new Masters of Arts in Entrepreneurial Ministerial Leadership degree offered at Tabor College Wichita.

Steve Schroeder invited the delegates to share in a time of prayer at their tables for Jules Glanzer/Tabor College and Rick Bartlett/Tabor College Wichita.

2. Fresno Pacific University – Pete Menjares, President

President Menjares shared that it was two years ago at the 2012 convention when he began his role as president of Fresno Pacific University. FPU is the second largest private university in the San Joaquin Valley. Menjares shared that both FPU and Tabor College are ministering to “the remnant,” as Christian higher education makes up only 2% of all the higher education in the US today.

Fresno Pacific Biblical Seminary – Terry Brensinger, Dean

Terry Brensinger shared that he has almost completed one year of service as the dean of FPBS. Brensinger assured the group that the seminary is committed to educating pastors and announced a new staff member, Brian Ross (not present), who has a heart for church planting and training MB pastors to lead those churches.

Schroeder invited the delegation to share in a time of prayer at their tables for Pete Menjares, Terry Brensinger and both institutions.

Schroeder offered appreciation to some of the sponsors of the convention: Mennonite Central Committee, Kindred Productions and MB Foundation. He then invited Jon Wiebe, President of MB Foundation, to share a brief explanation of a few services offered by MB Foundation to the USMB pastors and congregants.

Amy Stone, from College Community Church in Clovis, Calif., prayed for the evening meal.

III. Session 2, Friday evening, July 25

In the evening session, after a time of worship, Executive Director Ed Boschman invited the delegation to “come to the table” in communion. The delegates spent time in prayer and

shared the elements at their respective tables. The guest speaker for the evening session was Ed Stetzer.

IV. Session 3, Saturday morning, July 26

Keynote Address – Ed Boschman, Executive Director

After an opening song, Ed Boschman opened the Saturday morning session with his keynote address titled, “The Greatest of These.” He began by reading from Isaiah 41:10 and led the delegation through a journey from the Gospel of John. Boschman called the group to pursue unity with passion “so that the world may know.” Boschman invited the group to close their eyes and ask Jesus to show them any disunity among us, ask for forgiveness and make amends. The message of John consistently reminds us that Jesus called us to love one another. Boschman then read through Hebrews 12:1-2, the theme version for the convention, from *The Message* translation. Boschman closed with the reading of Psalm 115:1 which emphasizes that because of His love and faithfulness all the glory belongs to Him. Boschman closed in prayer.

3. Mission USA Report – Don Morris, Director of Mission USA

Don Morris shared what God is doing all across America in our USMB family. Morris invited the district ministers to stand and for the delegation to show appreciation for all they do within their districts and our USMB family. Morris shared that the goal of Mission USA is to plant churches and resource our existing churches. Morris confirmed that he and the USMB staff are retaining the vision to plant six churches each year and strive to be faithful to the mission they believe God has given.

Morris invited the following church planters to share what is happening in their new church plants:

Christ Church Sellwood Church, Portland, OR– Jared Pulliam (*via video*)

The GreenHouse, Saratoga Springs, UT – Jason and Nicole Quiring

Friends of Jesus, Las Vegas, NV – Aris and Ana Tolentino (*first MB church in Nevada*)

Sanctuary Fremont, Fremont, NE – Wes and Michelle Wilmer (*newest MB church plant*)

Mountain View Community Church-Sunnyside, Fresno, CA – John and Sarah Richardson

Iglesia Biblical de la Gracia, Mission, TX – Williams and Elurden Velez

Grace Point, McAllen, TX – Aaron and Alejandra Hernandez

Axiom, Peoria, AZ – Gavin and Kendall Linderman

Disciples Church, Spokane, WA – Aleks and Vera Borisov

Morris emphasized that all these church plants are possible because of partnerships with their districts, other churches and personal donors.

Prayer was given for the church planters and an offering of \$3000 was received specifically for church planting.

V. Session 4, Saturday morning, July 26

4. **Christian Leader/Social Media Report – Connie Faber, Myra Holmes**

Connie Faber, Editor of the *Christian Leader*, and Myra Holmes, the associate editor of CL and the social media coordinator, gave brief reports from both the *Christian Leader* and the progress of our technological advances due to social media. Faber reported that US Mennonite Brethren have been reading the *Christian Leader* for 77 years.

Myra Holmes acknowledged and thanked the social media volunteer team who helped promote the events on this convention via our hash tag #USMB2014. That team consisted of Justin Hiebert, JL Martin, Tim Neufeld and David Buller. Myra introduced *USMB Pulse*, a new resource on the USMB website offering news and stories of transformation from the USMB family.

Connie Faber presented Matt Ford, Fresno Calif., the award he earned for writing an article for the *Christian Leader*. Ford's article received 5th place in the Higher Goals Cause of the Year from the Evangelical Press Association.

5. **Kindred Productions Report – Amy Sterk, US Representative**

Sterk explained how Kindred Productions serves as the publishing arm of the MB churches in both the United States and Canada. KP worked with the USMB to develop a bundle of books offered at a reduced price to our church planters and new pastors.

Vice Chair Marv Schellenberg invited the delegates to share in a time of prayer at their tables for the *Christian Leader* and Kindred Productions staff and ministries.

6. **Board of Faith and Life – Larry Nikkel, Chair**

Larry Nikkel, chair of the USMB Board of Faith and Life, called the other BFL board members to join him on the stage. The board members present were Tim Sullivan, Gary Wall, Terry Hunt, Rick Eshbaugh and Tim Geddert. Nikkel explained that Ed Boschman is also a board member but his role can be described as having “a voice but not a vote.”

Nikkel gave some background to the proposed change to the Confession of Faith Article 13 and explained that this has been a 20-point process over the past four years. The process began at the USMB convention in 2010 where a survey was conducted asking for feedback from the delegates regarding how we are living out the Confession of Faith. Those survey results indicated that only 22.9% of the delegates reported that our constituency “walked the talk” as it relates to Article 13 and 57% of delegates said there should be a review and possibly a revision to this article.

Larry identified three alternatives considered by the BFL in response to the survey: 1) leave everything as it is, even knowing that many pastors are given to either ignore or speak against Article 13; or 2) remind pastors and teachers that they are expected to preach and teach all of Article 13 as they covenanted to do; or 3) initiate a review and

possible revisions which could lead to a deeper understanding and commitment to the essence of Articles 12 and 13. It was the decision of the BFL to accept this third option and call for broad participation at a study conference to review Articles 12 and 13.

In January 2013, a study conference was held in Phoenix, Ariz. Based on 213 pages of evaluations, survey results and comments from the participants, the BFL determined that no change should be made to Article 12. However, a revision of Article 13 was drafted. In March 2013, this drafted revision was sent as an “open letter” to the study conference participants and pastors and was also posted on the USMB website. The *Christian Leader* established an electronic forum and invited others to participate in this process.

The BFL again reviewed feedback and comments and wrote a second draft and distributed it to the constituency in another open letter in June 2013. The BFL then shared this process and sought council from ICOMB, MCC, the Canadian Mennonite Brethren Board of Faith and Life and other Mennonite individuals for their review and comments. The BFL conducted face-to-face meetings for further clarification, input and counsel with each district Boards of Faith and Life, the seminary, college and university Bible faculties as well as churches and other affiliated groups.

After these results and feedback were processed, a third draft was distributed in September 2013. This draft was considered a preliminary recommendation. In October 2013, an electronic survey was sent to all pastors asking for their response to this preliminary recommendation. The BFL reviewed these survey results and formulated the final revision in March 2014. This recommended revision was published in April 2014. The BFL also met with the leaders of the LAMB conference to brief them and receive their input in May 2014.

The review and revision of Article 13 has been the primary agenda item for the BFL in their last eight meetings. Early in this process, the BFL made a commitment to integrity with what the Scriptures teach; with what we publicly claim; and with the International Community of Mennonite Brethren and other peace churches.

The goals and objectives of the BFL have been to 1) refocus Article 13 around a positive call to “love, peacemaking and reconciliation” rather than focusing around the negative term “nonresistance;” 2) reaffirm our basic commitment to being a peace church; 3) move the focus from the issue of military to a broader understanding of peacemaking (in families, churches and communities); 4) speak with integrity on the issue of military participation, taking into account that all do not agree, nor make the same choices; 5) emphasize the Lordship of Jesus as the basis for all Christian decision-making; 6) adopt a confessional article that can be an effective platform on which we can build, which we can promote, and which we can consider normative for Bible teachers, pastors and other leaders.

The core objective has been to be fully unified in our commitment to Jesus’ way of peaceful living and peacemaking in all we say and do.

Larry Nikkel invited Tim Geddert to discuss the ways in which the recommended Article differs from the current Article, specifically focusing on the issue of military service.

The floor was opened to questions from delegates:

Elmer Martens (North Fresno MB Church): Martens asked how our actions will impact our MB churches in other countries. Martens requested that David Wiebe (ICOMB) comment on his opinion of how this is viewed in places abroad.

David Wiebe (ICOMB): Wiebe expressed appreciation for being included in this process, as it offers a strong practical expression of participation in our global community. Wiebe was encouraged that USMB was concerned about the global opinion. Wiebe shared that the global gathering in Peru felt good about the new title and some of the improvements on the (more clear) wording. Wiebe shared some comments from the global leaders who expressed that they are facing difficulties due to many different ethnic groups, children taught self-defense at an early age, and those extremely involved in national patriotism.

Brad Burkholder (Hesston MB): Burkholder shared that he sent the revised draft to his congregation and received comments from those who served in military noting that the reason they serve is to promote peace and reconciliation. Burkholder shared his appreciation for opening this discussion about peace.

Brent Warkentin (First MB): Warkentin expressed his support for this good end product, but also asked, "How do you respond to people who feel that this is watering down our stance?"

Tim Geddert (BFL): Geddert responded that it isn't so much watering down versus stating strongly; rather it's finding the common ground that can we confess together.

LouAnn Voth (Koerner Heights): Voth shared her concern that this is not encouraging other churches/leaders to support the non-military stance.

Sam Wall (Madera Avenue MB): Wall shared that he served as a conscientious objector in the 1960's. Wall is in favor of the proposed draft revision.

Frank Lenihan (Lustre MB): Lenihan shared his opinion that the main issue is the confusion that ensues when churches allow pastors who don't support the peace position to take leadership roles in our MB churches. He is pleased that the process has brought us to this point and has allowed everyone to have an opportunity to speak into this process. Lenihan is in favor of the new language; specifically because of its potential to increase the integrity of our pastors as it relates to the full support of Article 13.

Harold Voshage (Lincoln Glen, San Jose): Voshage shared that Article 13 is the basic tenant of us as Mennonite Brethren. Voshage feels strongly that we need to maintain our position as a peace church stating, “this is who we are.”

Larry Nikkel closed the discussion and encouraged all who desire to continue this discussion to attend the BFL-Confession of Faith, Article 13 workshop.

7. MB Foundation Report – Jon Wiebe, President

Jon Wiebe asked delegates to review the reports on the table and in the convention booklet. Wiebe shared that MBF contributes a first-fruits gift to USMB annually. They also provide an online monthly devotional titled, “Giving Meaning to Money.” Wiebe introduced their new promotion designed to inform and encourage participation in the Donor Advised Fund. Wiebe invited the MB Foundation staff who were present- Christine Wall, Jeffrey Jorgenson and Bruce Jost to share stories of generosity from their perspective.

8. ICOMB Report – David Wiebe, Executive Director

David Wiebe brought greetings from the global family of MB churches. He encouraged the constituency to take courage from and pray for these conferences around the world that are growing in spite of poverty and oppression. Wiebe shared that many churches are on mission in very politically unstable areas. All delegates were invited to sign up to receive the ICOMB monthly prayer updates.

Steve Schroeder introduced Dave Buller, pastor of Cornerstone Community Church in Topeka, Kan. and chair of the Southern District Conference. The SDC sponsored the noon meal as a show of support for and partnership with the US Conference.

Schroeder invited Tim Bergdahl and Ron Voth, who both have cancer, to come forward and share brief testimonies and gratitude to their MB family.

Jodi Thomas (Bible Fellowship Church, Sioux Falls, SD and US Leadership Board member) prayed for the lunch meal.

VI. Session 5, Saturday afternoon, July 26

9. MB Mission Report – Randy Friesen, Executive Director

Friesen shared a video from a trip to Laos and Thailand with some of the US and Canadian MB pastors and leaders. He gave a brief report of the many ways MB Mission is bringing the Good News to the least reached around the world. He then introduced Ricky Sanchez who shared a life-transformation story about how Christ, through MB Mission, has changed the life of a young girl named Bing-Bing.

Friesen invited Tony and Roxanne Petersen, new missionaries to Germany, and Jason Clark, who with his family are new missionaries to Mexico, to come forward for prayer.

10. National Youth Committee Report – Matt Ford, Russ Claassen and Joanna Chapa (committee members)

Ford, Claassen and Chapa gave a report about the progress and planning for the National Youth Convention titled, Named2015. The event will be held in Denver, Colorado in April 2015. The committee announced that the band will be *For All Seasons* and introduced the speaker, John Richardson, who shared his excitement to minister to the students who will attend Named2015.

11. Historical Commission Report – Jon Isaak, Executive Secretary

Isaak shared that the Historical Commission serves and is accountable to both the US and Canadian MB conferences. Isaak informed the delegates of the four archival centers—two in the United States and two in Canada. The HC produces *Profiles*, a publication of stories of Mennonite faith.

12. Mennonite World Conference (MWC) – César Garcia, General Secretary

MWC is called to be a communion of Anabaptist-related churches linked to one another in a worldwide community of faith for fellowship, worship, service and witness. Garcia gave a report about the growth of the Mennonite churches around the world.

Steve Schroeder invited the delegates to share in a time of prayer at their tables for MB Mission, the National Youth Convention, Historical Commission and Mennonite World Conference.

D. Recommendations

The delegation voted on the following recommendations:

a. **Bylaw change.** The USMB Leadership Board recommends the approval of the Bylaw change of Article 1, Section 4, first sentence to read: Fiscal Year. *The fiscal year of the Conference shall begin on January 1 in each year.* This change is effective retroactive to January 1, 2014.

MSC

b. **Elections.** The USMB Leadership Board recommends the election and/or affirmation of the presented nominations. Aaron Box, Eugene, Ore., was added to the list of Leadership Board nominees.

MSC

c. **Revision of Article 13.** The USMB Leadership Board joins the U.S. Board of Faith and Life in recommending the approval of the revised Article 13 of the Confession of Faith.

Motion made and seconded.

Discussion:

Trent Voth (College Community Church, Clovis, Calif.): Voth shared that in the spirit of remembrance, we must remember who we are and that after we have come so far we not give up our cry for peace.

Willy Reimer, (Executive Director of Canadian Conference): The CCMBC Board of Faith and Life affirmed the process at the Study Conference in Phoenix in 2013. They want to continue to support, encourage and affirm the USMB as they go through this process.

Ballots were distributed to the delegates.

The revision of Article 13 was passed by a vote of 103 YES to 10 NO.

Additional comments:

Gary Wall (PDC District Minister) expressed appreciation for Ed Boschman, Tim Geddert and Larry Nikkel for taking the weight of most of the work during this long process.

Lynn Jost (Ebenfeld MB Church, Hillsboro, Kan.): issued this challenge and recommendation to the BFL: “We, the USMB Conference mandate the Board of Faith to foster communication within our congregations to encourage the study of, commitment to and growth in Biblical love, peacemaking and reconciliation guided by our MB Confession of Faith Article 13 and to report the response of congregations to this initiative at the 2016 convention.”

MSC

Amy Stone (Clovis Community Church, Clovis, Calif.): Stone asked where the obligation falls to collecting the data from the mandate given.

Steve Schroeder clarified that BFL would be responsible to initiate the presentation to the congregations and report at the 2016 convention.

d. **Historical Commission MOU.** The USMB Leadership Board recommends the approval of the revised Historical Commission Memo of Understanding as presented
MSC

e. **MB Mission Bylaws.** The USMB Leadership Board recommends the approval of the revised MB Mission Bylaws as presented and ratification of the Canadian Bylaws.
MSC

E. Transition of Executive Director

Schroeder recognized the contributions from USMB Executive Director, Ed Boschman. He invited Gary Wall, Larry Nikkel and Terry Hunt to express their appreciation for the leadership of Boschman over these past seven years. The speakers each affirmed Boschman for his ongoing passion to see lives transformed by Jesus Christ and his gifted ability to be a bold leader, mentor and friend. Terry Hunt then washed Ed Boschman’s feet. Ed received a standing ovation.

Ed Boschman gave Don Morris a gift along with words of encouragement for this next season as Morris takes the role as interim executive director. Morris also expressed his deep appreciation for the leadership and friendship of Ed Boschman.

The participants stood in prayer for Don and Janna Morris and Ed and Carol Boschman.

Amy Stone of the **Minute Review Committee** announced that the minutes were read and approved as taken.

Motion made and seconded.

The convention was adjourned with prayer.

Some of the songs used during worship at *Conection* 2014 included:

PASTORS' CONFERENCE

Your Love Never Fails (Jesus Culture)
This is Amazing Grace (Phil Wickham)
He Is Faithful (Jesus Culture)
One Thing Remains (Kristian Stanfill)
Blessed Assurance (My King is Coming Soon) (Matthew West/Traditional)
Never Once (Matt Redman)
Whom Shall I Fear (Chris Tomlin)
All To Us (Chris Tomlin)
Here For You (Matt Redman)
Cornerstone (Hillsong)
All Who Are Thirsty (Brenton Brown)

NATIONAL CONVENTION

He Is Faithful (Jesus Culture)
Man of Sorrows (Hillsong)
Lord I Need You/Your Grace Finds Me (Chris Tomlin/Matt Maher)
Jesus Paid It All (Kristian Stanfill/Traditional)
Not To Us (Chris Tomlin)
I Stand Amazed (Chris Tomlin/Traditional)
Your Love Never Fails (Jesus Culture)
One Thing Remains (Kristian Stanfill)
This Is Amazing Grace (Phil Wickham)
Your Grace Finds Me (Matt Redman)



Steve Schroeder, Chair, Hillsboro, Kan.
Marv Schellenberg, Vice Chair, Wichita, Kan.
David Hardt, Treasurer, Bakersfield, Calif.
Sue Kliewer, Secretary, Auberry, Calif.
Clyde Ferguson Jr., Lenoir, NC
Vyacheslav Gladyshev, Fresno, Calif.
Aaron Hernandez, La Grulla, Tex.
Tim Hodge, N. Newton, Kan.
Jodi Thomas, Rapid City, SD

Welcome! Thanks for joining us in Santa Clara. I trust that you've come, like I have, with a spirit of anticipation for hearing about what God is doing among our family of churches. Prepare to be inspired!

At this Convention we also want to recognize Ed Boschman for his excellent work in serving as our Executive Director these past seven years. I'm confident that you have benefited from Ed's ministry no matter what part of the country you live in. Ed has travelled back and forth across our nation calling us to unity and leading the charge for USMB. He has served us well and, I believe, the momentum that he has been able to generate will be felt long after he officially steps down. During the next stage in his life, he will still be serving us in coaching and consultation. Be sure to take time during this convention to personally thank Ed for his years of service.

For nearly two years now, our Leadership Board has been talking and praying about what USMB leadership should look like going forward. With Ed's retirement, we believe God has given us an opportunity to devote some time re-assessing where we are and what USMB might look like by 2025. So, in the coming months our Board, together with the District ministers and other Conference leaders, will be praying and dreaming together about how we, as a denomination, might grow in health and vitality. We have hired Consultant George Bullard, to lead us in this process. We are grateful for Don Morris who has agreed to serve as our Interim Director during this season of re-focusing and planning. Please be in prayer with us about all of this.

Thanks for your interest in our national ministry. I look forward to seeing you in Santa Clara!

- Steve Schroeder, LB Chair



MOMENTUM

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

OUR MISSION

For the past seven years it has been my privilege to exhort our US Conference to “Partner as one family, serving one Lord, on one mission, for the transformation of individuals, families and communities.” There is no doubt that this statement has provided a helpful context and focus for our national ministries.

We have been clear in our call to understand ourselves as one family and to demonstrate filial loyalty and love in our various relationships and partnerships. While we have not always gotten that right, many times we have. We have enjoyed increasingly healthy ministry partnerships with our Districts, MB Foundation, and MB Mission to serve our local churches more effectively. We have continued to engage with FPU, FPBS, and TC to explore options and deliver collaborative leadership development programs. We are appreciative of the ongoing service of our Historical Commission and Kindred Productions. We share ownership of both of these with the Canadian MBs, and in unique ways, they each help us stay connected as a national family.

We have not wavered from the call to keep fervent our commitment to our one Lord. For us as Evangelical Anabaptists, Jesus is at the center of our faith. By His Spirit, He is the one who convicts us of “sin and righteousness and judgment”, and woos us into a love relationship with Himself. It is Jesus’ Spirit who does the work of regeneration in our lives, and it is He who ignited the church and continues to lead us in our commitment to follow and obey Him as our one Lord. We would have no other Lord.

We have one mission. We have been commissioned by the One who launched the mission. For that assignment, we have been empowered by the Spirit. We have, in these seven years past, again and again and again and yet again called our USMB family to be intentionally obedient to the mandate to make disciples by seeking the lost and nurturing the found. In the energy of God we are equipped to tell the Jesus story and invite and persuade people to believe. As that happens, individuals, and families and communities are transformed. For these reasons, Jesus asked that His followers not be taken out of the world, but that we would be kept in it. In it, but not of it! That was the plan then, and it still is today.

On these themes, Jesus has gifted us with some momentum of late. We are deeply grateful.

OUR CHALLENGES

Some of our hopes and dreams were not fulfilled in this last biennium. We have not been able to build our staff team in the way we had envisioned. We experienced some incredibly difficult financial strain. While it has been started, we have not completed the full-scale review of our USMB structural and ministry realities. The Executive Director ministry description for the next leader has not yet been refined. But we are undaunted!

MOMENTUM

The good budget news is that we completed 2013 in a strong financial position. In this department, have some good momentum, and are deeply grateful for the faithful supporting churches and individuals.

Thank God, we have a gifted and reliable staff to move us forward. It is my joy to commend them to you for the next season of USMB ministry. Donna Sullivan (bookkeeping, event planning, administrative coordination) and Lori Taylor (web master, administrative coordination) provide exemplary office based support. Connie Faber (CL Editor) and Myra Holmes (CL assistant editor and Social Media Coordinator) continue to serve faithfully with excellence.

We are deeply grateful that Don Morris has been willing to accept the National Executive Director role on an interim basis. He will be adding significant responsibility to his already expansive MUSA leadership role. He will be deserving of your prayers and support.

Please pray as well for our USMB Leadership Board as they have significant responsibility to carry the ministry of our National Conference forward. The hopes and prayers that the best days for USMB are still before us are both theirs and ours.

THANK YOU

Carol and I are thankful for the privilege of serving our USMB family in this way for these past seven years. Most days, I have loved the work that God and you called me to do. In whatever ways we have been effective in helping our national constituency partner as one family, serving one Lord, on one mission, we are grateful. For whatever momentum we have in Kingdom impact in our nation, we are grateful to Jesus.



USMB personnel administer and facilitate a variety of programs, events and services on behalf of USMB, pastors and its member churches. These include:

PROGRAMS/RESOURCES/EVENTS

Life Insurance

The Church Workers Group Life Insurance Plan continues to be a good benefit for our pastors, district and national staff by providing modest term life insurance coverage.

Retirement Plan

The Church Workers/Pastors Retirement Plan (MRT) is administered by Great-West Retirement Services. Churches are encouraged to enroll their church staff and contribute a minimum of 6% of salary with the staff member voluntarily participating at a minimum of 3%. Having retirement income designated as housing allowance is one possible significant benefit for pastors remaining in the denominational retirement plan.

Annual IRS Reporting

Annual reports are submitted to the Internal Revenue Service to maintain the Group Exemption status for the USMB Conference and member churches as 501(c)3 tax exempt organizations. USMB Churches obtain and maintain their tax exempt status from being a part of USMB.

Printed Resources

Numerous promotional and informational resources are available from our office at no charge:

- Planting Churches...Transforming Lives – Mission USA brochure
- Ways to Give – USMB/MBF brochure
- Eight different pamphlets dealing with various faith and life issues including:
Who Are the Mennonite Brethren, What We Believe, Human Sexuality, Sex Before Marriage, Dealing with Money, Baptism and Church Membership, Christians and Media, Faith and Social Media.
- Church and Clergy Tax/Legal Information

Leadership Summit

An annual gathering of the leaders of all MB ministries in the U.S. for connecting, strategizing and fellowship. This includes all five Districts (Central, Pacific, Southern, LAMB and North Carolina), Fresno Pacific Biblical Seminary, MB Mission, MB Foundation, Fresno Pacific University, Tabor College, in addition to the USMB Leadership Board.

National Pastors Orientation

NPO is an event held every two years to provide fellowship, connection, resources and information for pastors and their spouses who are either new to the denomination or new to ministry.

Conection- Biennial events:

National Pastors Conference

A special conference every two years for all USMB pastors and their families held prior to the national convention. This event is intended to provide inspiration, encouragement, instruction and fellowship.

National Convention

Biennial delegate convention brings together the national MB family in a time of celebration, inspiration and fellowship. Board and ministry reporting and denominational business are also processed.

The next Conection events will be July 2016 in Denver!

National Youth Conference

Quadrennial gathering for high school youth for inspiration, discipleship training and experience. Next event is April 2015 in Denver!

SERVICES

Receipting/Supporting

Church and individual donations are receipted for USMB national ministries including church plants, as well as for Fresno Pacific Biblical Seminary, MCC and MDS. These funds are then distributed to the various ministries, agencies or church plants.

Electronic Correspondence

All MB pastors and staff received monthly newsletters representing the current realities regarding the executive director's activities as well as updates from Mission USA. Event information, news items and resources are communicated as appropriate.

Website

Our website (www.usmb.org) is regularly updated so that the most current information is readily available. Church contact and staff information is updated as the information becomes available.

PERSONNEL

Donna Sullivan has served the Conference as Administrative Secretary, Bookkeeper and Event Planner for 24 years. The national office is located in Wichita, Kan.

Lori Taylor has served the Conference as Executive Assistant to the Executive Director for five years. The West Coast office is located in Bakersfield, Calif.



MOMENTUM

2014 BUDGET

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2014	Ln
INCOME					
Church Receipts	<u>419,596</u>	<u>420,560</u>	420,000	401,690	1
Other Income					
Seminary Endowment Subsidy Income	<u>12,240</u>	<u>12,240</u>	12,240	12,240	2
Adm/LB Misc Income	<u>3,500</u>	<u>3,500</u>	4,000	7,000	3
MBF Distributions	<u>50,000</u>	<u>60,000</u>	60,000	65,000	4
Communication Income	<u>23,800</u>	<u>22,700</u>	24,000	19,950	5
Interest Income	<u>5,000</u>	<u>4,500</u>	4,500	1,500	6
MUSA Fundraising Overage		<u>32,500</u>	45,000	0	7
Slavic Ministry Income		<u>22,000</u>	22,000	0	8
Director of Development			194,284	0	9
Other - H Schmitt Endowment		<u>22,000</u>	22,500	18,000	10
Other (includes dinner auctions, mailers)		<u>48,000</u>	0	36,000	11
Fundraising					
Executive Director	<u>115,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>	100,000	50,000	12
Consultant				20,000	13
Mission USA	<u>85,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>	100,000	110,000	14
LB/Staff Church Planting Fund			10,000	10,000	15
TOTAL Income	<u>714,136</u>	<u>848,000</u>	<u>1,018,524</u>	<u>751,380</u>	16

EXPENSES

Lead Team	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	
Travel-LB Bd	<u>20,000</u>	<u>20,000</u>	30,000	20,000	17
E.D. Search Process				5,000	18
Bd Telephone	<u>1,000</u>	<u>400</u>	400	80	19
Promotion	<u>5,000</u>	<u>5,000</u>	10,000	6,000	20
FR/Marketing	<u>5,000</u>	<u>5,000</u>	10,000	6,000	21
Convention Yrbks	<u>1,000</u>	<u>0</u>	1,000	0	22
Convention	<u>5,000</u>	<u>5,000</u>	5,000	5,000	23
Leadership Summit	<u>2,000</u>	<u>2,000</u>	2,500	2,000	24
Can/Am Expenses	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>	1,000	800	25
Misc Adm	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,200</u>	2,000	1,800	26
Office Rental	<u>3,000</u>	<u>3,000</u>	3,000	1,800	27
Postage/Off Supplies	<u>1,200</u>	<u>1,200</u>	1,200	1,000	28
Depreciation	<u>1,500</u>	<u>1,800</u>	1,394	2,300	29
Auto Ins	<u>950</u>	<u>950</u>	950	600	30
Auto Exp	<u>6,000</u>	<u>6,000</u>	6,000	4,000	31
Office Expense	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>	1,200	1,000	32
Telephone-E.D.	<u>3,150</u>	<u>3,000</u>	3,500	2,000	33
Travel-Secretary	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>	3,000	1,800	34
Travel - E.D.	<u>15,000</u>	<u>15,000</u>	20,000	8,000	35
Travel & Expense Consultant		<u>12,000</u>	18,000	8,000	36
Prof Enrichment	<u>500</u>	<u>500</u>	500	450	37
	<u>74,300</u>	<u>85,050</u>	<u>120,644</u>	<u>77,630</u>	38

Communication

Christian Leader

Dues/Subscriptions	<u>675</u>	<u>675</u>	740	740	39
Postage Exp-magazine	<u>19,400</u>	<u>20,081</u>	21,100	21,225	40
CL Production- printing	<u>31,662</u>	<u>33,330</u>	39,600	34,000	41
Production costs-design	<u>6,000</u>	<u>6,000</u>	6,300	6,500	42
Sales Tax	<u>50</u>	<u>15</u>	15	30	43
Repair and Maintenance	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	50	50	44
Misc Administration	<u>800</u>	<u>600</u>	1,300	1,450	45
Office Rent Expense	<u>3,000</u>	<u>3,000</u>	3,000	3,000	46
Features/columns	<u>6,220</u>	<u>6,220</u>	6,750	7,100	47
Photos/art	<u>2,200</u>	<u>3,100</u>	3,100	2,000	48
List Maintenance	<u>1,200</u>	<u>600</u>	600	600	49
Postage-Office	<u>1,700</u>	<u>1,600</u>	1,600	1,600	50
Depreciation	<u>725</u>	<u>877</u>	997	750	51
Office Expense	<u>500</u>	<u>300</u>	1,000	1,000	52
Supplies	<u>1,400</u>	<u>1,400</u>	1,300	1,000	53
Telephone	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>	1,610	1,600	54
Travel	<u>4,944</u>	<u>6,235</u>	6,500	4,500	55
Professional Enrichment	<u>650</u>	<u>650</u>	650	650	56
	82,126	85,683	96,212	87,795	57

Social Media

SM Telephone			600	475	58
SM Office Expense			300	200	59
SM Depreciation			666	200	60
SM Travel			2,000	1,500	61
Professional Enrichment			600	600	62
SM Program Expense			206	0	63
SM Blog Expense			2,400	500	64
SM Misc Expense			100	100	65
			6,872	3,575	66
	82,126	85,683	103,084	91,370	67

MB Ministries

Direction subsidy	<u>500</u>	<u>500</u>	500	500	68
Historical Comission subsidy	<u>17,000</u>	<u>17,000</u>	17,000	17,000	69
ICOMB Travel	<u>2,000</u>	<u>2,000</u>	2,000	2,000	70
ICOMB Support	<u>7,000</u>	<u>7,000</u>	10,000	10,000	71
National Youth Committee support	<u>0</u>	<u>5,000</u>	5,000	0	72
Kindred Productions subsidy	<u>10,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>	10,000	5,000	73
TC-Ministry Quest Leadership Develop	<u>20,000</u>	<u>20,000</u>	20,000	10,000	74
NCD Final Subsidy - The Life Center	<u>20,000</u>	<u>14,000</u>	0	0	75
CMBS subsidy	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>	1,000	1,000	76
	77,500	76,500	65,500	45,500	77

Interdenominational Ministries

NAE Membership	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>	1,000	1,000	78
NAE Rep Travel	<u>500</u>	<u>500</u>	500	500	79
MDS Travel	<u>500</u>	<u>500</u>	500	0	80
MWC Travel	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	1,500	1,000	81
MWC Support	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>	1,000	1,000	82
MCC Travel	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>	1,500	1,000	83
	4,000	4,000	6,000	4,500	84

Administration

Staff Salaries	<u>260,500</u>	<u>320,417</u>	348,977	273,067	85
Staff Benefits	<u>79,500</u>	<u>79,500</u>	71,400	66,938	86
Repairs/Maint	<u>250</u>	<u>250</u>	250	250	87
Misc Administration	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,100</u>	2,200	2,250	88
Bank fees	<u>1,000</u>	<u>500</u>	500	600	89
CL List Maint	<u>-1,200</u>	<u>-600</u>	-600	-600	90
Postage-office	<u>5,000</u>	<u>5,000</u>	4,000	3,000	91
Software support	<u>1,800</u>	<u>1,400</u>	1,900	2,000	92
Insurance/Workers Comp	<u>5,500</u>	<u>5,600</u>	5,800	6,000	93
Legal/Accounting	<u>8,000</u>	<u>5,500</u>	7,000	9,000	94
Depreciation	<u>3,500</u>	<u>3,400</u>	3,663	4,000	95
Website maintenance	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>	1,500	1,000	96
Office Expense	<u>0</u>	<u>1,000</u>	1,000	2,000	97
Supplies	<u>3,000</u>	<u>4,500</u>	4,500	3,500	98
Telephone	<u>900</u>	<u>900</u>	1,000	1,000	99
Adm Travel/Prof Enrichment	<u>2,000</u>	<u>2,000</u>	4,000	2,700	100
Staff Meeting Expenses-Offsite / Skype		<u>0</u>	16,200	4,500	101
Leadership Resources	<u>200</u>	<u>200</u>	200	200	102
Retirement Assistance	<u>1,200</u>	<u>1,200</u>	0	0	103
Total Adm expenses less Salaries/Ben	<u>33,150</u>	<u>32,950</u>	53,113	41,400	104
	373,150	432,867	473,490	381,405	105

Board of Faith and Life

BFL Board Travel	<u>12,000</u>	<u>12,000</u>	26,000	10,000	106
Postage/Telephone	<u>400</u>	<u>400</u>	400	400	107
New Pastor's Orientation NPO	<u>0</u>	<u>5,000</u>	5,000	0	108
Printing Costs	<u>5,000</u>	<u>5,000</u>	5,000	2,500	109
Bible/Study Conference	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	5,000	0	110
	17,400	22,400	41,400	12,900	111

Slavic Ministry

Travel		<u>12,000</u>	12,000	0	112
Resources (books, training materials, etc)		<u>2,000</u>	2,000	0	113
		14,000	14,000	0	114

Mission USA

Fundraising	<u>3,000</u>	<u>2,400</u>	1,200	1,200	115
Misc Administration	<u>150</u>	<u>150</u>	200	60	116
Postage-Office	<u>300</u>	<u>400</u>	400	240	117
Depreciation Exp	<u>1,100</u>	<u>1,105</u>	1,106	200	118
Auto Insurance	<u>900</u>	<u>915</u>	900	1,075	119
Auto Expense (depr,gas,maint)	<u>5,500</u>	<u>5,500</u>	5,000	6,000	120
Office Expense	<u>1,500</u>	<u>1,400</u>	1,200	2,000	121
Office Rent	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	4,300	4,800	122
Supplies	<u>1,200</u>	<u>900</u>	720	700	123

Telephone	<u>2,100</u>	<u>2,400</u>	2,520	2,500	124
MUSA Travel-Director	<u>20,000</u>	<u>22,500</u>	28,000	28,000	125
Professional Enrichment	<u>1,250</u>	<u>1,800</u>	1,800	1,600	126
Resource Library	<u>360</u>	<u>380</u>	360	300	127
Leadership Development - Scholarships	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	2,500	600	128
LEAD Church Health Program	<u>0</u>	<u>7,500</u>	8,000	4,000	129
Church Evaluation/Renewal	<u>600</u>	<u>800</u>	500	400	130
New Projects - Development	<u>1,000</u>	<u>750</u>	18,500	2,000	131
Internships	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	12,000	3,600	132
Church Planters Development/Assessment	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	7,500	4,000	133
Boone MB Church - (renewal) NC	<u>0</u>	<u>6,000</u>	6,000	0	134
New Hope Comm Church - West Valley City U	<u>0</u>	<u>6,000</u>	0	0	135
Christ Community Church-Sioux Falls SD	<u>4,800</u>	<u>0</u>	0	0	136
SMCC - The Springs	<u>4,800</u>	<u>3,000</u>	3,600	0	137
Eagle's Harbor Church-Clovis CA	<u>7,500</u>	<u>2,800</u>	3,600	0	138
Grace Point @ McAllen	<u>7,000</u>	<u>7,000</u>	9,000	6,000	139
Christ Church Sellwood - Portland OR	<u>0</u>	<u>6,000</u>	9,000	12,000	140
Stony Brook Church-Omaha NE	<u>0</u>	<u>9,000</u>	9,000	9,000	141
The Micah Project-Littleton CO	<u>0</u>	<u>12,000</u>	9,500	0	142
Watershed - Kansas City MO	<u>16,000</u>	<u>13,000</u>	9,500	0	143
Japanese Ministry - Fresno	<u>0</u>	<u>1,800</u>	0	0	144
Axiom Church - Phoenix	<u>6,000</u>	<u>4,000</u>	12,000	9,000	145
Grace Bible-Mission TX			2,500	6,000	146
The Stone - Denver			6,000	0	147
Ethiopian Evangelical Church-Denver			9,000	0	148
The Greenhouse - Saratoga Spgs UT			1,000	12,000	149
Disciples Church - Spokane				6,000	150
Friends of Jesus - Las Vegas				9,000	151
MVCC Sunnyside				4,800	152
CDC Church Plants - new	<u>6,000</u>	<u>4,000</u>	0	1,000	153
SDC Church Plants - new	<u>6,000</u>	<u>4,000</u>	0	0	154
NCD Church Plants - new				0	155
PDC Church Plant - new	<u>6,000</u>	<u>0</u>	9,000	0	156
New Projects	<u>2,400</u>	<u>0</u>	0	0	157
	<u>105,460</u>	<u>127,500</u>	<u>195,406</u>	138,075	158
TOTAL Expenses	<u>733,936</u>	<u>848,000</u>	<u>1,019,524</u>	751,380	159

FINANCIAL REPORT 2013 - pg 1

USMB CHURCHES

Balance Sheet

For Months Ending December 31, 2013 and 2012

ASSETS	2013	2012	Ln
Cash in Bank	79,792	39,401	1
Cash Investments	277,956	282,525	2
Ministry Reserves - 124,239.38			3
Ministry Funds:			4
National Youth Committee: 29,555.37			5
Endowments:			6
Communication Endowment - 58,303.14			7
USC General Endowment - 65,857.81			8
Accounts Receivable	60,982	46,221	9
Prepaid Expenses	3,163	0	10
Property Assets	106,103	109,586	11
Less Accumulated Depreciation	-79,545	-67,889	12
Total Assets	448,450	409,844	13
LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS			
Liabilities:			
Accounts Payable	37,856	39,688	14
Notes Payable		0	15
Total Liabilities	37,856	39,688	16
Net Assets:			
Unrestricted (Note 1)	338,195	296,238	17
Temporarily Restricted (Note 2)	11,031	12,550	18
Permanently Restricted-USC Gen. End (Note 3)	61,368	61,368	19
Total Net Assets	410,594	370,156	20
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	448,450	409,844	21
Note 1 - Unrestricted Net Assets:			
Operating Fund	188,462	177,847	22
Program:			
National Youth Conference	28,788	42,934	23
Communications Sabbatical Fund	2,010	2,010	24
Minister Insurance Premium Fund	5,652	5,844	25
National Pastor's Orientation Fund	0	5,000	26
US Biennial Convention Fund	0	0	27
Mission USA Fund	50,000	0	28
BFL Study Conference Fund	223	0	29
LEAD Coaching Fund	4,756	1,300	30
Endowments (Board Restricted):			
Communications Endowment (LB Directed)	58,303	61,303	31
Total Unrestricted Net Assets	338,195	296,238	33
Note 2 - Temporarily Restricted Net Assets			
LB/Staff Church Plant Fund	0	11,050	34
General Endowment Earnings	4,490	0	35
Mission USA Fund Restricted (CDC Church Plant-5041.)	5,041	0	36
Peace Education Fund	1,500	1,500	37
Total Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	11,031	12,550	38
Note 3 - Permanently Restricted Net Assets			
US Conference General Endowment (MBF Restricted)	61,368	61,368	39
Total Permanently Restricted Net Assets	61,368	61,368	40

FINANCIAL REPORT 2013 - pg 2

USMB CHURCHES Statement of Activity

For Months Ending December 31, 2013 and 2012

	Dec			Dec	Current Budget		% of
RECEIPTS	2013	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	2012	2013	Ln	Budget
Church Contributions	53,067	219,630	254,500	56,270	254,500	101	86.30%
Executive Director Fundraising	41,850	151,260	113,525	12,675	113,525	102	133.24%
Mission USA Fundraising	28,813	70,397	70,000	29,531	70,000	103	100.57%
Dir of Development Fundraising	0	1,250	0	0	0	104	
Slavic Ministry Income	0	0	0	3,000	0	105	
LB/Staff CP Fund	4,150	8,600	15,000	6,625	15,000	106	57.33%
MB Foundation Distributions	0	0	0	0	0	107	
Other (Endow/MBF, Estate gifts)	0	8,933	8,832	0	8,832	108	0.00%
Other Income:						109	0.00%
Interest Income	79	556	700	102	700	110	79.46%
Dividend/Gain/Loss	4,348	6,214	0	0	0	111	0.00%
Transfers from other funds	-7,243	-4,243	0	0	0	112	0.00%
Adm and Communication Income	8,139	26,967	23,820	2,685	23,820	113	113.21%
Total Receipts	133,204	489,562	486,377	110,888	486,377	114	100.65%

DISBURSEMENTS							
Lead Team	15,768	131,616	134,225	16,713	134,225	115	98.06%
Administration	7,606	52,107	45,720	4,492	45,720	116	113.97%
Faith and Life	0	7,828	11,700	-4,398	11,700	117	66.90%
Mission USA	17,902	149,802	164,415	18,121	164,415	118	91.11%
Slavic Ministry	0	0	1,000	1,084	1,000	119	
Communications	18,694	82,225	95,900	14,552	95,900	120	85.74%
Other MB & Affiliate Ministries	1,416	32,057	33,417	11,417	33,417	121	95.93%
Total Disbursements	61,386	455,634	486,377	61,981	486,377	122	93.68%
Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements	71,818	33,929		48,907		123	

SEMINARY SUBSIDY				
Church Contributions	28,371	91,070	19,572	124
Endowment Earnings	0	3,595	0	125
Total Receipts	28,371	94,665	19,572	126

OTHER FUNDS RECEIPTED/DISBURSED				
MBMS International	167,854	735,910	288,166	127
MCC / MDS	16,712	35,691	11,173	128
Total Other Funds Receipted/Disbursed	184,566	771,601	299,339	129



MOMENTUM

CHRISTIAN LEADER REPORT



Submitted by Connie Faber, CL editor

This is my 20th year with the Christian Leader and over these two decades the ways in which we communicate have changed dramatically. It's an exciting time to be involved in publishing and to be utilizing new methods and platforms. When I began working at the CL in 1994, we published one print magazine. Today we use four platforms to help keep U.S. Mennonite Brethren and our congregations connected with one another and the conference.

No doubt the ways in which we communicate will continue to change, but we still view our communication efforts as a family dinner table where U.S. Mennonite Brethren gather to converse and connect. We invite you to join the conversation.

CL Magazine

Christian Leader remains the flagship of USMB communication efforts. Our bimonthly magazine offers feature articles and essays that explore matters of faith and life, stories of transformation and news from USMB and Mennonite Brethren and inter-Mennonite partner agencies.

The Evangelical Press Association has recognized the quality of our work by awarding numerous content/design awards to the CL. This year an essay by Matt Ford received 5th place in the Higher Goals Cause of the Year: Apathy category.

CL Online

CL Online, www.usmb.org, is our online publication and is supported by other digital platforms. Thanks to a recent redesign of the USMB website, CL Online has a fresh new look and is more user-friendly.

Facebook

"Like" us on Facebook, a newsfeed that alerts you to stories published in CL magazine and CL Online, plus stories posted online by our USMB and inter-Mennonite partner agencies.

C-Link

C-Link is a free, biweekly electronic news digest offering breaking news, CL updates and stories from our schools, USMB and Mennonite Brethren agencies. Look for the sign-up button at www.usmb.org, on the CL Online home page or on our CL Facebook page.

CL staff

Contact Editor Connie Faber (editor@usmb.org) if you are interested in writing for the CL or if you have subscription and/or advertising questions.

Contact Assistant Editor Myra Holmes (newseditor@usmb.org) with news story ideas, local church news and with transformational testimonies.



USMB is passionate about changed lives.

We believe that God is calling us to mission—that he wants to use our small family of churches to transform people, families and communities across the United States.

But none of us can do it alone; we need each other. We are on mission together.

So our USMB social media efforts aim to help us connect and link arms as we seek to share the gospel and the love of Christ through our churches and in our neighborhoods. Facebook, Twitter and the new USMB Pulse provide a “hub”—a place to find out how God is at work among us, to share our stories and to encourage and challenge each other.

USMB Pulse

This new resource on our newly-redesigned USMB website is a great place to keep your finger on our “pulse.” Find news and prayer requests from our church plants, updates from USMB and stories of transformation and mission from the USMB family. As the Pulse grows, we will also be adding reflections from USMB bloggers and resources for you and your church. Find USMB Pulse at www.usmb.org and comment on any post to join the conversation.

Facebook

Follow “usmbchurches” on Facebook to learn how USMB is investing in existing churches, planting new churches and growing leaders, to hear how God is using our national church family to transform lives and to find prayer requests—because there is power in prayer. Then add your ideas, prayer requests and stories of celebration.

Twitter

Follow @usmbchurches on Twitter to find out what other US Mennonite Brethren are talking about, to get news from the USMB world and to link to resources from others who are mission-minded. Also follow @don_missionusa for personal perspective from Don Morris, Mission USA director and USMB interim executive director. And tell us how you are reaching out and serving Christ.

“And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds” (Heb. 10:24).

Submitted by Myra Holmes
USMB Social Media Coordinator
myra@usmb.org

MOMENTUM

MISSION USA REPORT

Mission USA, the church planting and renewal arm of USMB, exists to do everything possible within its capacity for the transformation of individuals, families and communities in the name of Jesus. Or, in other words, “to see more... come to know Him!” Specifically, Mission USA seeks to be integrally involved in helping plant more MB churches across America, which in turn reproduce and continue to plant even more churches. New church plants are highly effective in reaching those who don’t know Jesus yet with the Good News. In addition, and in collaboration with our districts, Mission USA has developed a church leadership enhancement initiative called LEAD (Leadership Education and Development).

Our vision: To help plant 6 new MB churches each year.

If we’re to be highly aggressive in starting many more reproducing churches, then we must have qualified church planters for the work involved. Along with district leadership, we are consistently searching for qualified individuals who have the necessary gifts required for successful planting—it’s a process. In addition, potential church planters are always assessed by an independent church planter assessment center. We also need considerable resources for planting. The USMB staff is involved in raising a large portion of the money needed for Mission USA’s investment in church planting and renewal, adding to the funds received from our member churches. Your individual and collective participation in giving to Mission USA is greatly appreciated!

The national LEAD Initiative includes LEAD ONE—intensive, one-day, regional, leadership training events. The feedback following these regional events has been quite positive and many more events will follow in various regions around the country. Watch for a LEAD ONE coming near you this coming year.

Other components of the LEAD program are LEAD Labs (1-2 hour on-site training segments for leadership teams), CHAT Church Health Surveys/Consultations, and LEAD Coaching (a coaching network of trained MB coaches for pastors). Ed Boschman, retiring USMB executive director, will serve as the head coach beginning August 1st. Ed will provide valuable leadership as we provide our pastors/leaders with life-on-life coaching.

Our goal is that the LEAD initiative will make a tangible difference for our existing churches, building and maturing over time, consistently providing more tools for the leadership tool chests of our pastors and church leaders. Watch for future developments!

Collectively, MBs have consistently expressed that Mission USA must be an integral component of our overall strategy for facilitating church vitality, growth, reproduction, unity and commitment. We strive to reach those goals. A little information on our current projects is listed below. Again, partnership with our MB churches and districts makes it possible to achieve much more than any one entity could separately.

Church Plants and Projects:



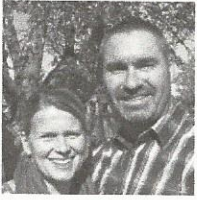
Axiom Church, Peoria, Arizona – Axiom Church held their public launch July 2013. Gavin & Kendall Linderman are the church plant couple. This young church has baptized several over the past year and they have a passion for reaching “the unlikelies.” Gavin previously served as an intern at Copper Hills Church (Glendale, AZ) under Pastor Brad Klassen. Copper Hills is supporting this plant as the mother church. The church has grown considerably this past year. [In partnership with the PDC]



Grace Point @ La Grulla, McAllen, Texas – Grace Point @ La Grulla (previously La Grulla MB Church) is a progressive church in the LAMB district, reaching many people in the southern tip of Texas. Pastor Aaron Hernandez and his wife, Alejandra, along with key core team members, planted a multi-site campus in McAllen, the largest city in the area, in 2012. The new Grace Point @ McAllen church recently moved into a renovated church building in the northern part of the city, providing much-needed space for growth. Good things are happening at this new campus.



Christ Church Sellwood, Portland, Oregon – Jared & Julia Pulliam are the church plant couple of Christ Church Sellwood. This new MB church launched in early 2013 and meets at the Sellwood Community Center. Sellwood is a developed city/neighborhood in Portland with beautiful older homes, coffee shops and a hometown atmosphere. The core team is fully committed and fruit is beginning to come. [In partnership with the PDC and Trinity Church of Portland]



Stony Brook Church, Omaha, Nebraska – Stony Brook Church started in October 2010 and has grown steadily since then. Chad & Elaine Stoner are the church plant couple and were joined by Stephen & Mary K Humber in 2011. The church has grown largely through life-transformation. Baptisms are common and discipleship is a high value. The church is blessed with dozens of children. This adds up to a space problem—solutions are in development. [In partnership with the CDC]



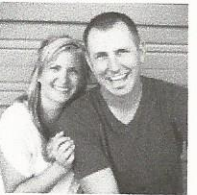
Sanctuary Fremont, Fremont, Nebraska – Sanctuary Fremont is a brand new church plant project in this city of 26,000 located northwest of Omaha. Wes & Michele Wilmer are the church plant couple. Wes will serve as “resident church planter” with Stony Brook Church for several months while spending time building the plant’s core team and raising funds. Anticipated launch is late 2014 or early 2015. [In partnership with Stony Brook Church and the CDC]



Disciples Church, Spokane, Washington – Disciples Church was launched in 2013 as a daughter church of Pilgrim Slavic MB Church (Spokane) and the first ever 2nd generation MB Slavic church plant in the U.S. Aleks & Vera Borisov are the church plant couple. The core team is highly committed and motivated to reach the community. Currently meeting in a small, isolated Baptist church building in the southern part of the city, a move to a more city-central location is being sought. [In partnership with Pilgrim Slavic MB Church and the PDC]



Mountain View Community Church Sunnyside, Fresno, California – Mountain View Community Church Sunnyside began services under the leadership of several interns in September 2012. John & Sarah Richardson became the full-time planting couple in the fall of 2013. Meeting in a school gym in southeast Fresno, the church has grown steadily in this diverse cultural setting. This is a daughter church of Mountain View Community Church and Mission USA is partnering.



The GreenHouse Church, Saratoga Springs, Utah – The GreenHouse Church is now the fifth MB church in Utah. Located south of Salt Lake City in Utah County, this new MB church is in a 90+% Mormon area. Jason & Nicole Quiring are the church plant couple having moved to Saratoga Springs in the summer of 2013. Many neighborhood connections have already occurred. [In partnership with the PDC, Henderson MB Church (Neb.), Fairview MB Church (Okla.) and New Hopedale Church (Okla.)]



Iglesia Biblica de la Gracia, Mission, Texas – Iglesia Biblica de la Gracia launched January 2013 under the leadership of church plant couple Williams & Elurden Velez. Located in the northern part of this city in the southern tip of Texas, the church ministers to people experiencing considerable challenges, including poverty and broken families. The church meets in a small, enclosed building. A new location is needed, but necessary re-location funds are lacking. [In partnership with Mission MB Church (Mission, Tex.), Grace Bible Church (Gettysburg, SD) and the LAMB District]



Friends of Jesus Church, Las Vegas, Nevada – Friends of Jesus Church held their public launch in their new (rented) facility on January 26, 2014. This loving congregation, under the leadership of planting couple Andy & Leah Basilio, along with associate planting couple Aris & Ana Torentino, has a passion for meeting the needs of people in this city. The core team consists of Filipino and American heritage. Approximately 80,000 Filipinos live in Las Vegas, thus ministry opportunities are endless. [In partnership with the PDC]

Note: Additional projects/church plants are in development. Please pray that we understand clearly the vision and plans of the Lord of the Harvest, not our own, as we move forward “to see more ... come to know Him!”

Submitted by: Don Morris, Director, Mission USA

ON MISSION FOR LIFE TRANSFORMATION

LEAD
FEAR

Ministry Vision
&
Implementation

LEAD Coaching
bi-weekly coaching offered for all MB pastors, associates and key leaders with a trained coach for a nominal monthly investment. Can be implemented at any stage.

LEAD ONE
one-day high impact regional leadership training events for pastors, staff and church leaders

LEAD Labs
short leadership training segments for boards, committees and church teams

CHAT
church health survey and consultations

LEAD Resource
church health info; book recommendations; discipline making growth stage assessment

Current
Reality



It is the pleasure of the Board of Faith and Life (BFL) to serve our churches and members in matters of faith and life. We have continued various of the initiatives of the past as reported below. However the most significant and time consuming task we have undertaken is the result of the 2010 convention at which the need for the review of Article 13 became apparent.

The Study Conference

Much of our time in the 2010-2012 biennium was dedicated to planning the January 2013 Study Conference held in Phoenix. The focus of the Study Conference was Article 12 (The Society and the State) and Article 13 (Love, Peace and Nonresistance). The evaluations of the conference were very positive and resulted in more than 200 pages of presentations, evaluations and comments. Much of this material was made available to interested persons following the conference. The only exception pertained to one survey in which participants were encouraged to disclose the most frequent causes of congregational conflict.

Based on the feedback received from the participants, the BFL chose to make no changes to Article 12 but rather to exhort our pastors, leaders and teachers to call our members to a clear understanding that our priorities as Kingdom citizens must always take precedence over our priorities as national citizens. We agreed to design and carry out a process that could result in a revision of Article 13. We did so after much discussion and prayer, and with some fear and trembling; especially in view of a few voices cautioning us against embarking on such a contentious journey. We committed to a process of integrity and openness.

To summarize, we sent an open letter to all pastors and study conference participants along with a first draft of a potential revision, conducted meetings with our college, university and seminary Bible faculties, met with interested groups, visited each of our districts first to engage them and to test our draft(s), and later conducted workshops at district conventions, and invited the International Community of Mennonite Brethren (ICOMB), the Canada BFL, the Mennonite Central Committee and the Mennonite World Conference for their review and feedback. The Christian Leader kept the constituency informed through articles and updates and the USMB website and Social Media department also provided forums for dialogue.

Our third draft is the one being presented for your consideration. We believe that your active participation has resulted in the strongest of the three drafts. We also believe that it has integrity with the biblical call to peacemaking (although we do not all agree on the specific forms that may take), that it has integrity with what we publicly claim (recognizing that some of us want specific behavioral implications of a call to peacemaking to be stated and others do not), and that it has integrity with the ICOMB and other peace churches confessions (recognizing both the value of our historical roots and the need for ongoing discernment.)

Believing the above to be the result of a Spirit led process through which we carefully considered each suggestion for changes to the drafts, we now ask for your support of the statement. Furthermore, we exhort our pastors, teachers and leaders to be faithful in living out this essential component of our faith commitment – the Gospel of Peace.

Pamphlet Series

We continue to print the Faith and Life Pamphlet Series as time and finances allow. To date we have printed the following pamphlets, all of which are available in your churches or through the U.S. Conference Office.

Who are the Mennonite Brethren?, What We Believe, Dealing With Money, Human Sexuality, Sex Before Marriage, Faith and Social Media, Baptism and Church Membership, Christians and Media

Covenants

In 2012 we approved a Pastors Covenant in which pastors pledge how they intend to attend to personal and professional issues related to their ministry and later a congregational covenant in which congregations pledge how they will work with the pastor to affect a meaningful ministry. These documents are available from the District Ministers.

Canada BFL Study Conference on Human Sexuality

Several of our BFL members attended a study conference sponsored by the Canada BFL that focused on issues of human sexuality.

Legal Issues Related to Same Sex Marriage

Several churches have raised the issue of what degrees of freedom local churches have on issue dealing with requests which may come from members or the community related to same sex marriages. With the help of legal counsel we have distributed a statement from the BFL to the Districts that can be used to deal with this issue.

National Pastors Conference

We are in the planning stages for the next scheduled National Pastors Conference to be held in San Diego March 2015.

Continuing Education for Pastors

On line courses are now being offered by the Fresno Pacific Biblical Seminary and by Tabor College. While the various Districts have their own guidelines regarding these courses, all pastors coming into Mennonite Brethren churches are encouraged to complete at least one of the courses within three years. These courses are also available to other interested persons.

MOUs

As reported previously, we are operating with two Memorandums of Understanding. One is the replacement MOU between the Canada and the U.S. Boards of Faith and Life. The new MOU is primarily between the executive bodies of both conferences with the primary communication mechanism being the annual meeting of leaders from both conferences. This CAN/AM meeting is typically held in Denver the first week of December.

The other MOU is between our BFL and the Fresno Pacific University Biblical Seminary. We have attempted to have a face to face meeting with representatives of the Seminary and the BFL on an annual basis. The most recent meeting was held in September 2012.

We are blessed with competent and dedicated members of the board. In addition to myself, they are members at large: Tim Geddert and Michael Eldridge, (Rod Anderson resigned his position this year after taking a pastoral position outside of our Conference), ex officio members: Terry Hunt, Rick Eshbaugh, Tim Sullivan, Gary Wall and Ed Boschman. We wish to express our appreciation to Michael who concludes his term of service with the conclusion of this meeting. We also express deep appreciation for the contribution Ed Boschman has made both in administrative assistance and insightfulness on board issues.

Larry Nikkel, Chair

MAKING HISTORY TOGETHER



Mennonite Brethren HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Research and archiving service of the
Mennonite Brethren Church in North America

- Preserving and maintaining historical records of churches, schools, and people
- Assisting in research and writing on topics of historical and theological interest to MBs
- Publishing newsletters, *Profiles of Mennonite Faith*, and books
- Funding research grants and archival internships
- Serving you with offices in Fresno, Hillsboro, Abbotsford, and Winnipeg

www.mbhistory.org

Mennonite Brethren Historical Commission Report 2014

The four MB archival centers—Fresno, Hillsboro, Abbotsford, and Winnipeg—since the last convention report in 2012, continue to be busy offering research and archiving services to MB Churches and individuals in North America and beyond. Our two “deliverables” are archival resourcing and interpretive resourcing.

- **Archival resourcing** includes preserving and making accessible church records (photos, minutes, reports, statistics, etc.). See www.mbhistory.org and follow links to each center’s website.
- **Interpretive resourcing** includes offering analysis on questions of theology and history as requested by individuals, congregations, and conference ministries. See sampling of projects below.

The ongoing task of producing resources for MB Churches has resulted in the following initiatives:

- **Profiles of Mennonite Faith**, distributed to all MB Churches. These pamphlets feature stories of remarkable Christian faith, of individuals who overcame great odds to share their faith in Jesus.
- **Archival Internships**, awarded to two students: Amanda Bartel (2103) and Yoshio Fujii (2014). The internship involves exploration and project work at each of the four archival centers.
- **Research Grant**, awarded to Kristine Kampen and Dorothy Peters for their project: *From Generation to Generation: The History and Transmission of the Spiritual Formation of Two Granddaughters*.
- **It Happened in Moscow** by Maureen Klassen, published in 2013—a riveting story of a family, a secret that spans revolution and war, and a stunning discovery. See www.kindredproductions.com.
- **Newsletters/Magazines** published: *California Mennonite Historical Society Bulletin* (Fresno), *Roots and Branches* (Abbotsford), *CMBS Newsletter* (Hillsboro), and *Mennonite Historian* (Winnipeg).

Contact Jon Isaak, executive secretary, for more information on these services: jon.isaak@mbchurches.ca.

MB Historical Commission board members: Abe Dueck (Winnipeg), Dora Dueck (Winnipeg), Don Isaac (Hillsboro), J Janzen (Abbotsford), Julia Reimer (Fresno), and Valerie Rempel (Fresno).

Representatives of archival centers: Kevin Enns-Rempel (Fresno), Peggy Goertzen (Hillsboro), Richard Thiessen (Abbotsford), and Jon Isaak (Winnipeg).



MOMENTUM

NATIONAL YOUTH COMMITTEE REPORT

When the National Planning Team gathered after San Antonio 2011 to begin planning the next youth conference one thing stood out to us: Connecting. We had built a solid foundation of connecting with the cities (i.e. Anaheim 2007 and San Antonio) but we wanted to deepen and expand those connections throughout the conference. We wanted to have Youth connect to each other, the speaker, the band, and to God in a whole new and deeper way. That became our focus in planning NAMED 2015.

We started with our team's purpose: "to deeply connect students to God and to one another by engaging the Gospel in our everyday lives." With that as our mission statement we began to prayerfully plan what would become NAMED 2015. We also looked at what would be the "win" for this next conference. Our list included:

- "Together" - experience the larger family of MB churches and strengthen the unity of the denomination.
- "Inspiring Teaching That Equips" - Entering into God's story at home and in the world.
- "Students Hearing God's Call On Their Life" - This conference becomes a spiritual marker for their lives.
- "Creating Space For a God Moment" - Connecting to God in a whole new way.
- "Spiritual and Numerical Growth For The Denomination" - Going beyond having a mountain top experience but increasing the spiritual depth and numerical growth for the student ministries in our churches and future conferences.

We discussed the location and after months of research we narrowed it down to four sites. We then brought those locations as well as other information to the youth workers across the country in an online survey. The results confirmed what the team was already thinking: Denver. Denver rose to the top of the list due to: its central location so travel costs will be the lowest, its close proximity to fun activities and many restaurants, and its huge spaces at the Colorado Convention Center for meetings and sessions.

Location: NAMED 2015 will be held April 9-12, 2015 at the Hyatt Regency Downtown and the sessions will be held across the street at the Colorado Convention Center in Denver, CO. The difference from previous conferences is that this one will be Thursday night through Sunday morning.

Theme: Our theme is NAMED which comes from Matthew 16:13-16. In this passage Jesus asks Simon (Peter) "Who do you say I am?" He then answers, "You're the Messiah, the Son of the living God." With that answer Simon is given a new name, Peter, a name that captures the essence of his new identity and mission. Teenagers face labeling, low self-esteem, name calling and more consistently while in search for their identity. Our youth need to know that their true identity is found in Christ and not in the world. And when they know who Jesus is and who they are, they will discover where they are to go in this world.

Speaker: The speaker will be John Richardson, the campus pastor for Mountain View Community Church Sunnyside, Fresno, CA, a campus of Mountain View Community Church and a USMB church plant. He holds a bachelor's degree in Contemporary Christian Ministry from Fresno Pacific University, and a master's degree in Old Testament from Fresno Pacific Biblical Seminary. He was chosen because of his 10+ years of youth ministry experience, his passion for youth and missions, and his ability to connect with the audience.

Worship Band: The worship band will be For All Seasons. The five-member band has been a featured band at Hume Lake Christian Camp in CA. Their newest album High Above It All, is available on iTunes and on their

website www.forallseasonsmusic.com. They were chosen for their ability to connect with the audience and their experience in regularly leading large groups of teenagers into worship.

Learning & Service Ops: Once again we are having one day of Learning Ops (seminars) of various topics and from various speakers from around the world and a day of Service Ops (service projects) again working with D.O.O.R. that will set up inner-city service projects.

Cost & Registration (the biggest change): Cost will be \$299 per person, includes everything but meals and travel costs. Registration will be online this year at www.named2015.com. It opens January 1st and the final and ONLY deadline is March 1st, 2015. There is no early bird price, no deposit required. We are simplifying the entire registration process. **ONE DEADLINE. ONE PAYMENT. ONE PRICE.**

There will be a three step process for online registration:

- Each church's Lead Youth Worker will set up a username and password. (more information online)
- Parents then register their child under that church/group and submit their payment to their church's Lead Youth Worker.
- The Lead Youth Worker will then double check and submit all completed registrations with one payment for the whole church/group. Roommate arrangements will also be done online by the Lead Youth Worker.

There will be two payment options for churches:

Option 1: Pay online using a personal/church's credit/debit card or an electronic check

Option 2: Your church writes a check & postmarks it by March 1st

There will be several ways the Planning Team will be communicating to parents and churches. The main source will be the website www.named2015.com

- eNewsletter (anyone can sign up for it by emailing named2015@gmail.com)
- Twitter @named2015
- Facebook.com/named2015
- Instagram @named2015

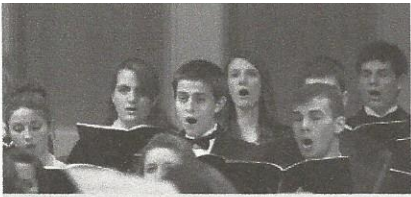
Coming up in early October 2014, we are dedicating a day as our Day of Prayer for NAMED2015. We are asking all youth ministry, churches, and families to spend the day in prayer for the National Youth Conference. More information on this event will come this summer.

As the National Youth Conference changes from conference to conference so has the National Planning Team. Chris Eidse (North Carolina District) and Jarod Richardson (Southern District) have transitioned out over the past couple of years. And Kyle Goings has gone from working as a Youth Pastor in the Central District to now working in the Southern District.

A Youth Worker's Summit happened in March 2014. It was a preview weekend where we invited all youth workers to spend the weekend in the same location the conference will be held. It was a time for connecting with other youth workers, receiving some encouragement and training, as well as learning all about what will be the youth ministry experience while at NAMED2015.

The team has met several times in person and talk regularly over the phone. The team is excited for what God has in store for the conference and beyond. Please continue to pray for NAMED2015.

Kyle Goings (Central/Southern District) - Promotion, Logistics
Jeral Gross (Central District) - Budget, Logistics
Christy Goentzel (Southern District) - Logistics
Joanna Chapa (Southern/LAMB District) - Ministry
Matt Ford (Pacific District) - Ministry
Russ Claassen (Southern District) - Programming
Keith Warkentin (Pacific District) - Programming

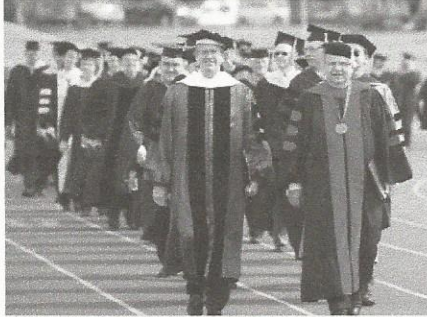


Tabor College

Preparing people for a life of learning, work, and service for Christ and His kingdom.



2013-2014 Highlights



- Tabor has students from 32 states and 11 international countries
- The 104th commencement honored 178 graduates (largest graduating class for the Hillsboro campus in school history)
- 2013-2014 marked the largest incoming freshman and transfer class in our history
- Tabor has been approved for unlimited online classes.

The Signature Campaign

- The public phase of the \$16.2 million Signature Campaign launched in spring of

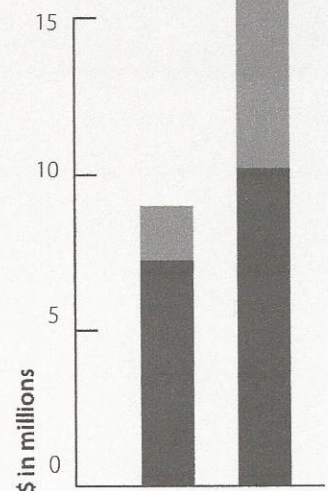
2014—includes a new \$9 million Center for the Arts, campus improvements, annual fund and a facility endowment.

- In January, The J.E. & L.E. Mabee Foundation issued a challenge grant for \$1 million towards the Center for the Arts, if we raise \$8 million by January 14, 2015.
- Campus enhancements include: new parking lots, new cul-de-sacs, sidewalks and a remodeled and expanded cafeteria.

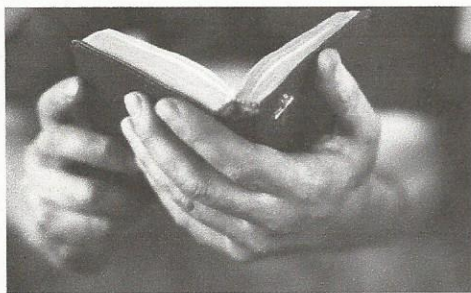
Academically Excellent

- The Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) did a thorough program review and granted continuous accreditation to the Education Department.
- The National Association of Schools of Music (NASM) did a thorough program review and granted continuous accreditation to the Music Department.
- Dr. Rick Bartlett, director of theological education at Tabor College in Wichita, developed a creative master of arts in entrepreneurial ministry leadership degree, which will launch in the fall of 2014.
- Dr. Brett Andrews was appointed as the new vice president of Tabor College in Wichita

Progress to Goal



	Fine Arts	Total Gifts
Remaining:	\$1.779	\$5.942
Commitments:	\$7.221	\$10.258



Decidedly Christian

- Ministry Quest's influence continues to shape lives. The high school discipleship program is designed to help students discern God's call and develop their leadership potential.
- Campus Ministries Council provides ministry and service opportunities for students including: Challenging, Helping and Understanding through MentorShip (CHUMS), a program matching Tabor students with local elementary school students to meet with them mentor and tutor; Wichita Urban Ministry Plunge (WUMP) and Share, Prayer & Dare (SPD), which fills the Historic Church on campus every Wednesday night.





To be the college of choice for students who seek a life-transforming, academically excellent, globally relevant and decidedly Christian education.



Life Transforming

- The Presidential Leadership Program provides leadership experiences, networking opportunities, exposure to high capacity leaders and mentoring for those selected to participate in the program. A group of five participated in the Washburn University Leadership Challenge competing against large universities and won the competition.
- Senior football player James Monroe Jr. shared his testimony in chapel. "God saved people like me, like you, people who aren't looking for Him. I wasn't really looking for Him. I was avoiding Him at all costs. I didn't want to fully commit. He convicted me. This is eternal. This is His love poured out on us. This is His grace. This is His mercy."

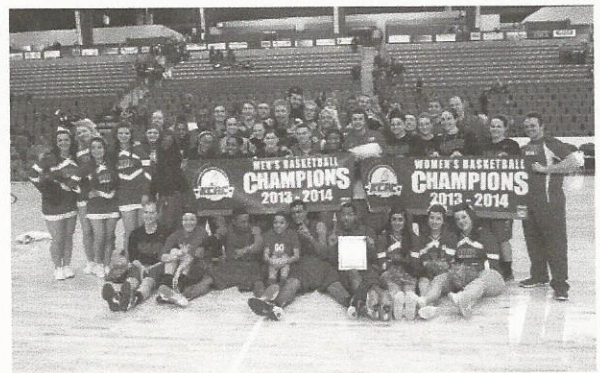


Globally Relevant

- The Tabor experience includes educational opportunities in Europe, Bolivia, India, Belize, Peru and the Dominican Republic, broadening students' worldviews.
- Students in the social work program hosted a week-long event that brought awareness to human trafficking.
- All incoming freshman complete a service project their first day on campus.

Sports Highlights

- 47 student-athletes received NAIA Academic All-American honors
- Five student-athletes received NAIA All-American honors
- The volleyball team won a KCAC Championship
- Several teams competed in NAIA national tournaments: football, men's basketball, women's basketball, baseball, cross country and track and field.
- Alumnus, former coach and athletic director Don Brubacher was inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame.
- The baseball team traveled to Idaho for their first ever trip to the Avista-NAIA World Series, where they finished fifth in the country.



Tabor College

400 South Jefferson • Hillsboro, KS 67063-1799
 advancement@tabor.edu
 Tabor.edu
 (620) 947-3121 Ext. 1709





Two years ago in Omaha, D. Merrill Ewert, Ph.D., passed the baton to me as President of Fresno Pacific University. In that time we have built on the past to do God's work in new and exciting ways, and I am happy to share a few of our successes with you:

- Strong enrollment—FPU has maintained about 3,500 students in our traditional undergraduate, graduate and degree completion programs. This stability allows us to prepare for a new phase of expansion as the Board of Overseers in June approved our plan to reach 5,000 students in the next several years.
- Growing regional centers—Our centers in Merced, North Fresno, Visalia and Bakersfield continue to serve adults completing their bachelor's degree or earning their master's. New initiatives include the expansion of the Merced Center by more than half its size, and the expansion of the Manna Moments devotional video program to all centers for use by faculty, staff and students.
- New degree programs—We've been strategic in introducing degrees that build on our strengths while addressing the needs of students and Valley communities. Recent examples include the Master of Science in Nursing degree, the B.A. in Health Care Administration and the B.A.s in Social Work and Social Welfare for degree completion students.
- Athletic success—Sunbird student-athletes continue to be a source of pride on and off the field. In winning its first NCCAA baseball championship, our team also brought home the sportsmanship award, the first time any team has claimed both prizes. All teams combined to win the Pacific West Conference's Community Engagement Award for service, and FPU is nearing the completion of its entrance into the NCAA Division II.
- Leaders in place—Speaking of teams, we now have permanent appointments in all senior executive positions: Stephen Varvis, Ph.D., as provost; Wesley Qualls as vice president for finance and business affairs; Alan Ours as vice president for operations; Jon Endicott as vice president for enrollment management; Diana Bates Mock as vice president for advancement and university relations; Terry Brensinger, Ph.D., as vice president and dean of Fresno Pacific Biblical Seminary; Brice Yocum as executive director for regional centers; Mark Isaac as associate vice president of advancement; Leslie Schuemann as director of athletics; and Karin Chao-Bushoven as director of major gifts.
- Commencement story—We took commencement off campus this May and scored big at Grizzlies Stadium (the AAA affiliate of the San Francisco Giants) in downtown Fresno. Speaker Randy White, D.Min., associate professor of community transformation, did a marvelous job of expressing FPU's commitment to its community by infusing humor and conviction into his challenge to the graduates.
- Outside honors—What we do we do for God, but when others notice it's another chance to witness to the Lord's glory. In 2013 FPU took a 30-place jump in the U.S. News & World Report list of best colleges and universities, and The Chronicle of Higher Education placed us in its top 10 nationally among Hispanic-Serving Institutions at graduating Hispanic students.

Fresno Pacific University's mission calls for us to develop students for leadership and service through excellence in Christian higher education. Through our work and with your support, God is indeed transforming lives. Your partnership and prayers for ongoing success are deeply appreciated.

Pete C. Menjares, Ph.D. , President



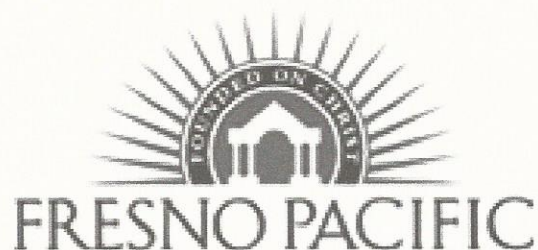
God is doing something new at the seminary! As the new dean this year, I selected Isaiah 43: 18-19 as our theme verses. “Do not remember the former things,... I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?” FPBS has a rich and exciting past; a past that many people rightly celebrate. God is not simply a God of former days, however, but also a God of fresh possibilities.

- *New Colleagues:* We welcomed two new faculty members and a director of admissions this past year. Both Cynthia McGrady and Adam Ghali teach in our Marriage and Family Therapy program, and Jeff Zimmerman leads our admissions department. We look forward to welcoming Brian Ross who will teach in our Master of Divinity and MA Christian Ministries programs this fall semester. We also have a newly created and energetic seminary committee, empowered to represent our mission in their various communities.
- *New Students:* Our seminary enrollment increased 9% over last year, and the student population is now larger than it has been in many years. Included in this increase in enrollment are students in all of our programs, and several new students have come to FPBS to study Urban Mission. Nathan Hunt, for example, has come from Texas to study Urban Mission and participate in the work of our Center for Community Transformation. He, among many others, continues to bring fresh ideas and youthful enthusiasm to our campus.
- *New Vision:* The needs and challenges of our modern world invite us—require us!—to think outside of the box at times. Fortunately, these same challenges present us with new opportunities to expand our sphere of influence. As a result, we are currently designing new strategies and designs that will enable us to influence more people, both in Fresno and beyond.

God is faithful and is able to do abundantly more than we could ever ask or think. Our seminary is blessed with an outstanding and committed faculty, engaging students, and a wonderful context in which to carry out our work. We also have no shortage of ideas and a deep passion to serve the Lord in today’s world. We believe, however, that even our greatest efforts fall flat without the empowering presence of the Holy Spirit. Please remember all of us at FPBS in your prayers, support us with your gifts, and thanking you for believing in us as we move together into the future.

Terry L. Brensinger, Ph.D.

Vice President and Dean of the Seminary, Fresno Pacific University



Fuel for Ministry

Since Don Faul was a young boy growing up in Velva, N. Dakota, he felt the call of God to be a foreign missionary. During his teens, he read a book about a missionary in Brazil that stirred his heart toward that country. He graduated from Bible school in Canada, earned a BA from Tabor College in Hillsboro, KS, a BD from MB Biblical Seminary in Fresno CA, and finally a MTh from Dallas Theological Seminary. While at seminary, President J. B. Toews informed him that he needed a wife.

Marie Klippenstein, a Canadian, felt God's call to foreign missions shortly after being baptized at age 15. After completing nurse's training in Winnipeg, Canada, she became aware of Kings View Hospital in Reedley, CA and moved there to start her nursing career.

Through mutual friends, Don and Marie met, dated for 8 months, and married in December, 1960. In 1962 they joined Mennonite Brethren Missions and Services and soon arrived in Curitiba, Brazil. Upon returning to Fresno in 1969, they helped start North Fresno MB Church, and later, they helped start Fig Garden MB Church in northwest Fresno.

In 1981, they agreed to return to Brazil and stayed for 14 years. Working alongside a national pastor, they were able to plant a MB church in Mundo Novo which has over 100 members today. Don wrote a Bible study book that was instrumental in discipling the local pastors and is still in use in Brazil and India today.

During their time in Brazil, the Faul's were able to purchase 7 acres of pistachio trees in Madera County. Over time, their ownership grew to 30 acres. Through the years, the trees have had good yields, and the price of the nuts has increased! This has been a great blessing to Don and Marie. They have been amazed at the profitability of this venture and give all the credit to God. Don said, "God gave us this money from our trees, and it is up to us to give it back to Him."

The Fauls have had great joy from their work with the churches in Brazil. With the bounty God has given them, they were able to send one of the church leaders through a Haggai Institute for a month of training in Singapore. She has led many to Christ and is beginning to train others. They have also paid tuition for several of the national pastors to study at a local seminary.

With the Planned Giving Services of MB Foundation, the Fauls have been able to make gifts, both now and in the future, to the ministries they love. They recently gifted 10 acres of pistachio trees and set up an Endowment to benefit MB Mission. They have created several Charitable Gift Annuities for the benefit of various ministries. When the Fauls pass away, their Revocable Living Trust will fund a gift to ministry.

God has been at the center of lives lived rich in ministry and service. Over the years He has provided for Don and Marie. Through their charitable giving plans with MB Foundation, they are honoring God and continuing to serve the ministries they love by providing fuel for ministry for years to come.



Our Vision is to encourage Biblical principles of financial stewardship and generosity, resulting in the gathering, management, and distribution of financial resources for Christ and His kingdom.

Highlights from 2012 – 2013

Championing Biblical Stewardship

- Firstfruits gift to USMB over the last two years totals \$143,691.19.
- 104 opportunities were received to engage the local congregation in stewardship through the services of MB Foundation.
- 261 individuals are receiving our monthly electronic devotional Giving Meaning to Money®.
- 3,073 copies of *Genius of Generosity* were distributed throughout our national family.

Loan Program

- 53 churches, ministries and pastors were served as new loan requests were approved.
- \$18,918,758 was advanced to assist growing ministries that needed new or improved facilities to help fuel ministry and provide for pastor home loans in 2012/2013.

Investment Certificates

- 743 households and organizations are Giving Meaning to Money® by investing with us to provide capital for the Loan Program.

Fund Management

- Total assets ended 2013 at \$153,405,842, an increase of nearly 22% since 2011.
- Our endowment portfolio returned a robust 14.52% in 2013 and 12.10% in 2012.
- We implemented a new state of the art accounting system to better serve our donors and ministry partners.

Planned Giving Services

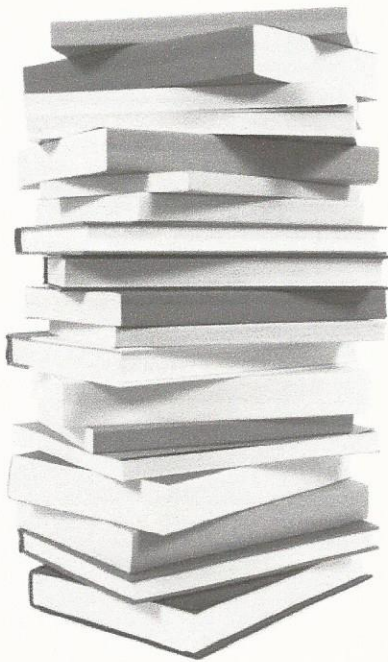
- 83 new gifts were established which will fuel ministry at the donor's death.
- Gifts in the pipeline to fuel ministry now exceed \$140 million through MB Foundation.
- In the past two years, \$5,326,268 was distributed through the ministry of MB Foundation, fueling ministry all over the world.

Jon C. Wiebe, President & CEO



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How can Kindred Productions work with YOU to keep the Momentum going?



- * By developing MB resources and providing materials to equip people for Christ-like living and ministry.
- * By serving our churches, and being flexible in order to best meet the individual needs of each church
- * By continuing to offer the Rejoice! devotional for personal encouragement and spiritual growth
- * By communicating with the leaders of the US Conference to provide easy access to recommended materials

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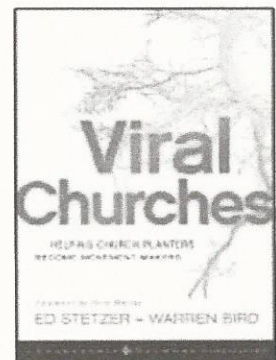
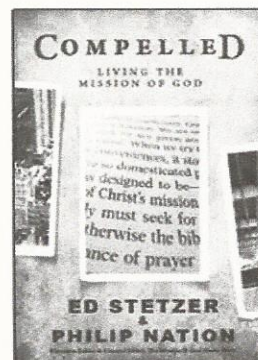
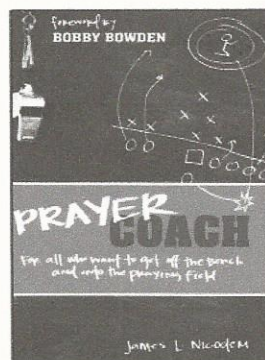
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Check out these recommended titles at the Kindred Bookstore!



Global Report | MB Mission CONNECTION2014

Fishing for People

Arthur Loewen is a local businessman in Abbotsford, BC who loves sharing the Gospel. . On a recent mission trip to the Philippines with our Disciple Making International program, Arthur shared the Gospel with a group of rural laborers next to a rice paddy. A number of people responded, including a medium and four other members of a local spiritist group.

Later that evening, Art climbed up into the hills to a remote village where forty others were waiting to hear the Gospel. After Art shared his testimony and presented the story of Jesus, he asked how many were expecting to go heaven. Most indicated that they weren't good enough, but they thought that trying harder to do good things might help. When they clearly understood that Jesus had made a way possible for us to experience peace with God, twenty-nine people prayed to receive Christ.

Jesus said, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."

As they talked about what it meant to follow Jesus, the group of new Christ-followers asked whether they could start a new church in their community. The pastor who accompanied Art to the village committed to walking with this group and helping with their discipleship. A church was born that evening.

In reading through the book of Acts again recently, I was struck with how incredibly bold and verbal the first disciples were in sharing the reality of Christ's death and resurrection. There were a number of straightforward and even confrontational presentations of the Gospel, often at great personal cost.

One of the loudest preachers was Peter. We remember his first conversation with Jesus years earlier while he was fishing

and Jesus said, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men" (Matthew 4:19).

Fishing for people is something we learn. It's not a gift that we're born with. Who are we learning this skill from in our lives? Who are we teaching to fish for people?

Despite the freedom of religion and freedom of speech in western societies, many Christ-followers live as though our tongues had been cut out. It seems that the fear of man has become more powerful than our love for Christ and for his Gospel. It's ironic that the best examples of bold proclamation are coming, not out of the West, but rather out of societies where there are heavy restrictions from totalitarian governments.

It takes courage to preach the Gospel. But when we pray for those opportunities to speak into peoples' lives, God gives them. When we love people and ask good questions, it's amazing how many good conversations develop.

We recently sent a team from Thailand into a neighboring country. The team was led by a gifted evangelist and church planter who invited a number of younger interns to join him. Despite the opposition of local authorities and a history of arresting Christian leaders in this nation, this team courageously went into a remote tribal area and openly proclaimed the Gospel. In a village without any known believers, the first person to respond to the Gospel was a woman who was 104 years old! When they held the baptism, this old woman insisted on getting into the tank (a converted water trough) without any assistance from others and then boldly shared her testimony with her fellow villagers.

This team's bold witness, fervent prayer and diligent follow-up are among the reasons for why the church is growing so quickly among this people group. As disciples who make disciples, we learn by watching, then doing, then teaching others.

I've learned much in ministry from my dear brother, Carlin Weinbauer, who went home to his reward on April 19,

2014. Carlin passed away the day before Resurrection Sunday and I thought of him that next morning as we sang about the hope we have because Jesus is alive. I don't think there's any place that Carlin would have rather celebrated that morning than in the presence of the Lord!


It takes courage to preach the Gospel.

Carlin would often say to me, "Prayer is the work." He also liked to remind me that, "Leaders need fresh bread every morning." Another of his wise sayings was, "Let's keep big things big and little things little." For Carlin, the Gospel was a big thing. He reminded us of the importance of living and sharing the Gospel every day. He never tired of sharing how the Gospel had transformed his life!

For a number of years, Carlin and I toured our constituency together sharing stories of transformation at "Celebrate Mission" nights and services all over North America. Carlin understood that the least reached mattered to God.

At Carlin's request, we have made it possible to honor his passion for mission by receiving donations to Global Church Planting through the Carlin Weinbauer Memorial. These funds will go toward sending teams to the most-challenging, least-reached places on this planet. It's a fitting legacy for a leader who loved the Gospel, was transformed by it, and called others to proclaim it in word and deed.

We'd like to encourage you with how God is using proclamation to reach the ends of the earth. Please read the Summer edition of *Witness* to hear testimonies of transformation from all over the world. Let's keep sharing the Good News!



Randy Friesen
General Director



MB Mission Update

Today, MB Mission has 124 workers deployed in 34 different international locations. Of those workers, 18 are from our ICOMB partner conferences.

Thanks to your support, in the past year...

30 new churches were planted among the least reached

22 mission-training schools were resourced

54 projects served church planting through training, resourcing and community development

75 new church planters from partner conferences were mobilized

254 church members were trained in community development to engage their communities

2000+ new converts started attending a church

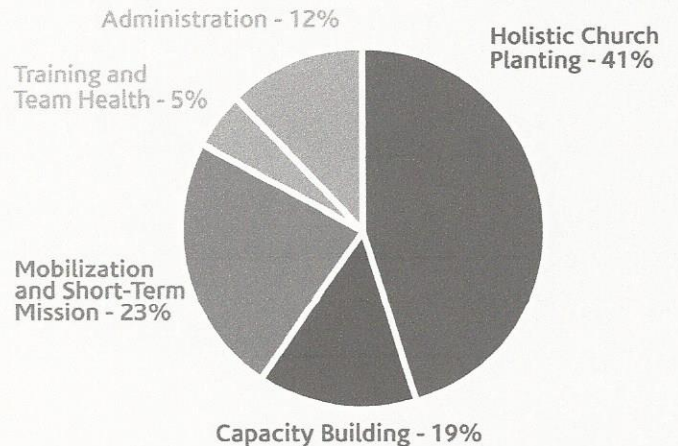
2696 leaders received further training in church planting

Together, we are making a difference in the world.

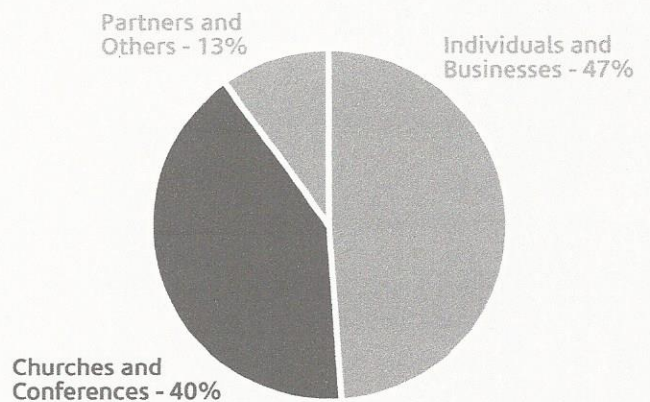
How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

Romans 10:14-15

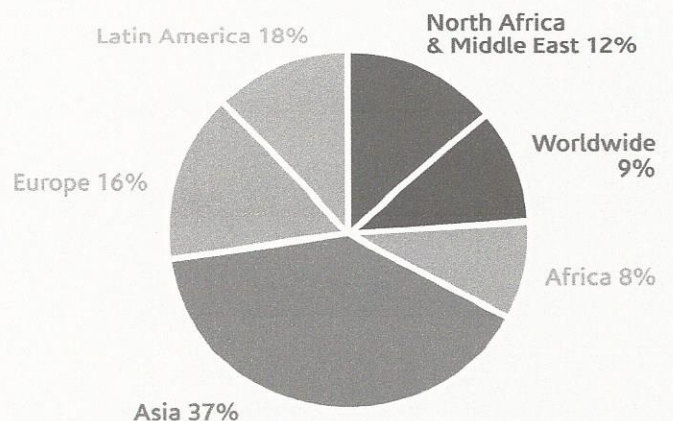
Total Expenditures: \$11,065,591



Donation Sources:



Overseas Expenditures:



ICOMB – Your Global Family



Who Are “We”?

Family reunions can be great occasions to discover who is in your family tree. For my Aunt Katherine’s 100th birthday, we held a reunion of descendants of my father’s siblings. I discovered that award-winning Canadian author David Bergen is married to my cousin once removed.

ICOMB – the International Community of Mennonite Brethren is like that. Theological “relatives” exist in 20 National Conferences. The USMBC is one of those. So consider, dear reader, that “you” are “ICOMB” – along with the near-half-million members in almost 5000 local churches. And growing!

Persecution, Poverty & Politics...And Mission!

As we know, poverty is the result of political injustice. Within a given country, the leadership may be corrupt, leading to lawlessness and lack of production or jobs. At the global scale, developed countries get wealthy on the backs of others. Persecution of our faith is fuelled by politics and economic injustice.

The church can play a role to “even things out.” It’s part of the genius of a global fellowship like ICOMB.

Some of our pastors are in prison, or have been killed because of their faith. Some of us have lost jobs and property. Some of us are very poor, eating only one meal a day. Some of us have only one blanket to cover 2 children at night. Some of us are fighting our own government for the right to harvest natural resources on our land.

We as the International Community of Mennonite Brethren stand in solidarity. Sometimes that means prayer, intervening, visits, or letter writing. We give spiritual “covering” and moral support.

God is at work! Amidst trials and set-backs, our family grows through mission all over the world.

Some Things We Do

Prayer: We mobilize prayer through a monthly *ICOMB Update* – a few pictures and stories of recent events from our global family. You, dear reader, are invited to sign up! It’s been a blessing to many.

Student Support: We distribute \$40-50,000 annually through the *Global Scholarship Fund* to national leaders going to school. These students are already proven leaders. Their training will equip them to lead, equip and send more locally based emerging leaders. An open Endowment account is set up with MB Foundation to which anyone can contribute. Build this fund with us and empower national leaders!

Confess! The International Confession of Faith is the standard confession for new members like Khmu Mission and the Lithuanian Free Christian Church. ICOMB leadership was asked to review the changes proposed to Article 13 by the USMB conference. We are developing a global confessional identity.

Share: The stories from our community have blessed many of our churches. Invite David Wiebe for a learning-group presentation, mission banquet, or sermon. You’ll be inspired.

This is family – faithful, struggling, on mission – and it’s OUR family!
...God is the one who made it grow! 1 Corinthians 3:6 (EXB)

Seeking peace of mind

Everence 2014 report

USMB National Convention and
National Pastors Conference
July 24-26, 2014

Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you.

2 Corinthians 13:11

When you and your congregation turn to Everence for help with stewardship and financial matters, you're encouraging peace of mind through our planning and products. That's because your members are working with people they trust to focus on their best interests when it comes to cooperatively creating a plan and executing it. There are many ways you and Everence can help people find peace of mind, and you'll see a few of them in this report.

Sharing Fund helps people like Noah

What does the Everence Sharing Fund do? Congregations see a need in their communities and decide to provide financial help. They ask Everence for Sharing Fund money to match their donations. The money is used for everyday living expenses or a specific need, such as the partnership of Noah and Dexter.



Noah's church helped his family add Dexter to the household, with assistance from the Sharing Fund. Dexter is being trained to provide alerts if Noah's blood sugar drops to dangerous levels.

Making an impact

Everence Association, Inc. now offers the Advantage Select High Impact Annuity, a fixed annuity with competitive rates. It's designed to help people achieve peace of mind as they secure income for retirement while making an impact on the world in the process. With the Advantage Select High Impact Annuity, you can be part of a larger effort to:

- Help emerging and socially engaged congregations grow their missions and ministries.
- Help nonprofit organizations make environmentally friendly improvements.
- Support community development needs across the country and around the world.

Call (800) 348-7468 or talk with your local Everence representative to learn more.



Finances change with life events

Your financial situation likely will change when important life events occur. That's why Everence offers your congregation a new *Life Events Guide* and updated life event education on our website. Getting married, having a baby, going to college, retiring soon and getting started as a young adult are examples of these life events. Contact your Everence church relations representative about the guide or visit everence.com/life-events/ for additional information.

Using this credit card supports missions

Everence Federal Credit Union donated \$14,000 from its Rebate for Missions™ program in 2013 to Mennonite Disaster Service and Mennonite Mission Network. Everence members voted online to choose the recipients. Rebate for Missions™ is supported by the credit union's 10 percent tithe of income generated when people use their Visa credit cards. Credit union branches also distribute Rebate for Missions™ money in their own communities. Since the program started in 1995, Everence Federal Credit Union has provided more than \$300,000 in grants.

Found Faithful

All that we have is a gift from God. A four-part worship series called *Found Faithful* can help us recommit ourselves to be wise and generous stewards of all that we have been given – the gift of time, the gift of talents and the gift of money and material goods. A scripture passage, sermon starter and children's lesson are included for each session. Visit everence.com for more information.

Guidance for end of life planning

Everence is putting together a curriculum to help people think and talk about important end-of-life issues. The information grew out of *Final Arrangements* and *Natural Dying* workshops developed by members of Akron (Pa.) Mennonite Church (pictured).



Issues include preparing a will, naming a medical power of attorney and talking with family members about your wishes. Peace of mind often comes from knowing that your wishes are understood and your family will know what to do when the time comes. Learn more by contacting Beryl Jantzi, Everence Director of Stewardship Education, at beryl.jantzi@everence.com or (800) 442-7930.

A better way to explain church finances?

Does your congregation use a line-item or narrative budget when church leaders present financial information to your members? Many churches are finding that narrative budgets better describe how revenues and expenses relate to carrying out the congregation's mission. Find the *Congregational Stewardship Resource Manual* at everence.com to see examples of each type of budget and learn about the most effective and least effective ways to report congregational finances.

Bringing investing and stewardship together

What is shareholder advocacy? It's basically using your position as a shareholder, or part owner, in a company to push for improved corporate environmental, social and governance practices. Shareholder advocacy is part of the Everence stewardship investing philosophy of financial decision making. This philosophy is informed by faith convictions, and it balances social and financial considerations so people can find the peace of mind that comes from investing in companies they feel comfortable about. Learn more at everence.com/Stewardshipinvesting/.

Everence offers credit union services that are federally insured by NCUA. Investments and other products are not NCUA or otherwise federally insured, may involve loss of principal and have no credit union guarantee. All products are not available in all states.

Relief, development and peace in the name of Christ

Report to U.S. Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches, Connection 2014

North Fresno MB Church in the Pacific District Conference, my home congregation, supports the work of MCC by giving of our time at the relief sale, making quilts, preparing school and health kits and serving in MCC assignments. We consider MCC to be a part of us. Our engagement with MCC is replicated in Mennonite Brethren churches all over the world. New people to the faith often remark on being drawn to Christ because they see demonstrations of living out Christ's compassion in the life of the community. MCC's work is part of this, and is made possible by your generosity. Thank you for your prayers, gifts and volunteer time and skills!

Some USMB/MCC connections

- As of March 10, 2014, seven members or attenders of MB churches in the U.S. serve with MCC. In the past two years, 11 have served. One, Jim Rodriguez, lead pastor of United Christian Faith Fellowship, Fresno, Calif., is director of Financial Services for MCC U.S. and a member of the MCC U.S. Management Team. Jim served on the West Coast MCC board of directors as treasurer from March 2008 to March 2011.
- From April 1, 2012, to March 31, 2014, MCC received \$\$126,596.86 USD in financial contributions identified from MB churches and the denominational office. Thank you for your kind contributions.
- MB representatives who have served on MCC boards in the past two years include Willard Dick, Thelma Nunez and Ron Voth, MCC Central States; Michael Mathes, MCC East Coast; Bill Braun, Dina González-Piña and David Reimer, West Coast MCC; and Bill Braun, Dina González-Piña and me, Jill Schellenberg, MCC U.S.
- In Oct. 2012, West Coast MCC facilitated an India Learning Tour for MB and other denominational leaders. Participants attended the All India Mennonite Women Conference in Cuttack, Orissa, and visited Mennonite Brethren Centenary Bible College and Center for Peace and Conflict Resolution Studies in Shamshabad, Hyderabad.

Iyeni Mfutila is a nurse at Kanzombi Hospital, operated by the Mennonite Brethren Church in Kikwit, Bandundu, in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (Congo). Menno-Santé, a partnership of Mennonite Brethren and Mennonite churches and MCC, assisted Kanzombi Hospital. "Before the Menno-Santé project helped us to remodel our new hospital ward, we had to put patients with all different kinds of problems together in one cramped ward," said Mfutila. "Today ... our patients are cared for in acceptable conditions. ... We say a big thank you to Menno-Santé." (MCC Photo/Ben Munongo)

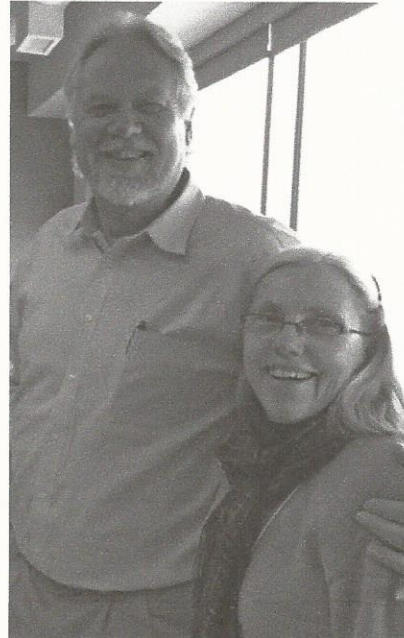


- In Colombia, MCC backs efforts of the MB Church in Chocó to help farmers support themselves without raising coca, used to produce cocaine. Alternatives include cacao, from which chocolate can be processed, and rice.
- Michael Mathes, MCC East Coast board member, organized an "MCC Day" in Lenore, N.C., last August. The event aimed to raise funds for MCC and awareness of MCC's work among area pastors and congregations.

*Mennonite Central Committee, a worldwide ministry of Anabaptist churches,
shares God's love and compassion for all in the name of Christ
by responding to basic human needs and working for peace and justice.*

- Bill Braun, pastor of College Community Church Mennonite Brethren, Clovis, Calif., has been associated with MCC for more than 30 years. Bill has been a volunteer, learning tour participant, national board and executive committee member, and is completing a 12-year term as West Coast MCC board chair. In these roles, Bill has brought strong leadership to and lasting influence on MCC. “MCC is a gift ... to the world,” said Bill at his final MCC U.S. board meeting in March. “It’s the best expression I know of what it means to follow Jesus as people committed to the ideals of Anabaptism; that Jesus is the center of our faith, that the church is the center of our life, and that reconciliation is our central task.” Bill continues on the West Coast MCC board through March 2015.

Bill Braun and Ann Graber Hershberger, chair of the MCC U.S. board, take a break during the March 2014 MCC U.S. board meeting in Kitchener, Ont. The board expressed appreciation to Bill for his years of service to MCC, celebrating the many gifts he shared as national and regional board member, national executive committee member, regional board chair, volunteer and more. (MCC Photo/J Ron Byler)



MCC at work

- Through partners in Syria, Jordan and Lebanon, MCC is meeting needs arising from the war in Syria. The response includes food assistance, kits, clothing, blankets, heaters, peacebuilding and more.
- Responding to the Nov. 2013 Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines, MCC through partners provides food assistance, disaster-resistant shelters, agricultural support, training in trauma healing and future disaster response and more.
- More than four years after the 2010 earthquake in Haiti, MCC continues to address long-term needs such as housing, vocational training programs and advocacy for Haitians’ human rights.
- MCC responded to violence in South Sudan that surfaced in late 2013 and continued into 2014 with food for people who remained, plans to provide food for refugees in neighboring Kenya, financial assistance for leaders from the South Sudan Council of Churches attending peace talks, and efforts to assist with recovery from trauma and the documentation of human rights issues.

More information about the work of MCC around the world can be found on our website at mcc.org.

Grace and peace to you,
Jill Schellenberg, North Fresno MB Church, Mennonite Central Committee U.S. Board of Directors

*Mennonite Central Committee, a worldwide ministry of Anabaptist churches,
shares God’s love and compassion for all in the name of Christ
by responding to basic human needs and working for peace and justice.*

Mennonite Central Committee U.S., 21 South 12th Street, PO Box 500, Akron, PA 17501
717.859.1151 • 888.563.4676 Toll-free • mailbox@mcc.org • mcc.org



Mennonite World Conference

A Community of Anabaptist related Churches

Congreso Mundial Menonita

Una Comunidad de Iglesias Anabautistas

Conférence Mennonite Mondiale

Une Communauté d'Eglises Anabaptistes

Mennonite World Conference Report to the U.S. Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches, May 2014

Mennonite World Conference (MWC) is called to be a communion of Anabaptist-related churches linked to one another in a worldwide community of faith for fellowship, worship, service and witness.

Signs of God at Work

- Faith and Life Commission: engaging with global church leaders on themes relevant to the life of local congregations.
- Peace Commission: initiating a survey and discussion on being a peace church in the midst of much violence.
- Deacons Commission: representing the global Body of Christ to local churches who are experiencing the effects of natural disasters and unrest.
- Mission Commission: developing increased collaboration between the many mission and service agencies to enable effective witness.
- MWC delegates: meeting to dialogue with other global fellowships, enabling Anabaptists to better understand and articulate their own faith while building broader church understanding.
- Planning **Pennsylvania 2015**: the next Global Assembly will be held July 21-26, 2015 at the State Farm Show Complex in Harrisburg, PA. This is a once in a generation event, as the last time the Global Assembly was in North America was in Winnipeg in 1990.

Mennonite Brethren Opportunities

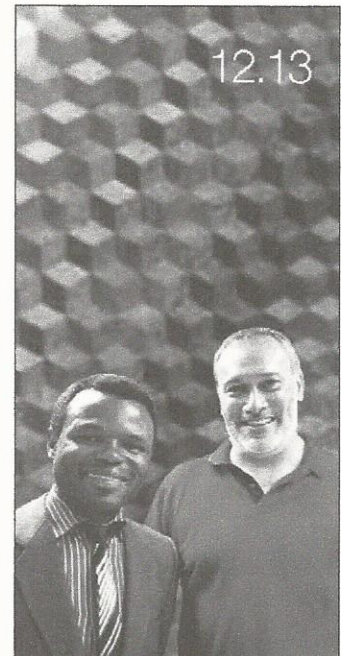
- Three major components to Pennsylvania 2015: Assembly Scattered, Assembly Gathered and the Global Youth Summit. Visit www.mwc-cmm.org and click on **Pennsylvania 2015** for more information.
- Volunteers are needed during June and July 2015. Please apply at <http://www.mwc-cmm.org/article/volunteer-application> if interested. Registration begins in August 2014.

Prayers of Gratitude and Intercession

- Praise God for the financial support of the U.S. Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches during 2013 with \$6,950 contributed to the ongoing work of MWC.
- Praise God for the 9,500 congregations around the world from around 100 MWC member conferences that are seeking to be agents of God's peace and witness in their contexts.
- Pray for the churches and leaders who are already preparing to host Pennsylvania 2015.
- Join the Assembly prayer network and pray for concerns like the difficult visa situation for many international participants.

Respectfully submitted by:

Lynn Roth, MWC North American Representative and
César Garcia, MWC General Secretary



Marques Mente (left) and José Arrais, Portugal

Portrait: Brandon Bledsoe. Gift by Beth Mauer and Stanley Knapp

Mennonite World Conference Global Assembly

21-26 July 2015
Harrisburg,
Pennsylvania, USA



www.mwc-cmm.org

2014 REPORT TO US MENNONITE BRETHREN

MHS continues to carry out our mission to strengthen and extend Anabaptist-affiliated health and human services organizations, including Mennonite and Brethren in Christ. We are a network of 73 organizations located in 17 states and Puerto Rico. Four members – Fairview Fellowship Home and Village, Lincoln Glen Manor, Palm Village and Parkside Homes – are Mennonite Brethren affiliated.

HIGHLIGHTS

In January 2013, we expanded our team to provide a broader range of consulting services to non-profit organizations and opened a new office in Camp Hill, Pennsylvania. As part of the expansion, we studied our brand and made a decision to use the name “MHS” rather than Mennonite Health Services in order to better represent who we are and who we serve.

In early 2014, we accepted the resignation of Sheri Plett Wiedenhoefer from our board, with appreciation for her two years of service. As a member of the Governance Committee, Sheri helped develop a policy on conflict resolution. The USMB Leadership Board has appointed Valerie Rempel to represent the denomination and we are pleased to welcome her back. She previously served on our board from 2003 – 2012.

INITIATIVES

- In keeping with the board’s priority to catalyze collaboration and shared learning, we are developing connections with health and human service providers around the world. These include working with the China Christian Council to arrange learning exchanges with Chinese pastors about the development of church-sponsored retirement centers, peer visits among French and US providers of developmental disability services and planning for a leaders gathering in conjunction with the Mennonite World Conference Assembly in 2015.
- Another priority is to prepare executives to lead in ways that reflect the mission and values of their organizations. We are creating a repository of resources for leaders to equip them to nurture organizational practices that are shaped by Anabaptist values and beliefs.

MHS strives to be a community where staff and board leaders of member organizations can support each other as well as access other resources. Our membership programs include an Executive Circle to support CEOs, tools for board and CEO assessment, guides for executive transition and insurance programs for liability and health. Members also receive a significant discount on our consulting services and executive searches.

Within the broader faith community, anyone can participate in the Values-based Leadership Program, a formational program that serves business and non-profit leaders as well as pastors and other church leaders. Our consulting services are also available to non-profit groups looking for values-grounded expertise.



Mennonite Aid Plan of the Pacific Coast Mennonite Insurance Services

Serving the Church Community Since 1922
Home - Church - Auto

1110 J Street, Reedley CA 93654
www.MennoniteInsurance.com
800-447-4493

Our Mennonite Brethren Board Members:

Jim Brandt, Chair, Reedley CA
Jim Enns, Treasurer, Clovis CA
Paul Neufeld, Vice chair, Wasco CA
Larry Miller, Secretary, Clovis CA
Janine Bergdahl, Madera CA
Dennis Langhofer, Spokane WA
Ron Wiens, San Jose CA
Alan Grantham, Bellingham WA
Mike Schellenberg, Reedley CA

Dinuba Mennonite Brethren
 North Fresno Mennonite Brethren
 Shafter Mennonite Brethren
 Bethany Mennonite Brethren
 Madera Avenue Bible Church
 Butler Avenue Mennonite Brethren
 Lincoln Glen Church
 Cornwall Church
 Reedley Mennonite Brethren

Our mission is to provide competitively priced superior insurance products and services, in the spirit of mutual aid and Christian fellowship. We are the only company dedicated to insuring the **homes and churches** of Anabaptists on the West Coast.

While insurance is our business, we are part of the Anabaptist church community on the West Coast. We are pleased to have been able to support the following in the past year:



20
Scholarships



Come to the Mennonite Insurance table for a chance to win great prizes.



The following recommendations will be presented at the convention:

1. The USMB Leadership Board recommends the approval of the Bylaw change of Article 1, Section 4, first sentence to read: *Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of the Conference shall begin on January 1 in each year.* This change is effective retroactive to January 1, 2014.
2. The USMB Leadership Board recommends the election and/or affirmation of the presented nominations.
3. The USMB Leadership Board joins the U.S. Board of Faith and Life in recommending the approval of the revised Article 13 of the Confession of Faith.

Recommended final draft:

Article 13: Love, Peacemaking and Reconciliation

God's Community of Peace

We believe that God in Christ reconciles people to Himself and to one another, making peace through the cross. The church is the fellowship of redeemed people living by love. The bond between followers of Jesus transcends all racial, social and national barriers.

Christian Peacemaking

We actively pursue peace and reconciliation in all relationships by following Christ's example and His command to love God, neighbors and even enemies. We strive to be peacemakers and agents of reconciliation in families, churches, communities, in our nation, and throughout the world.

As peacemakers we alleviate suffering, reduce strife, promote justice, and work to end violence and war, that others may see a demonstration of Christ's love. As in other Peace Churches many of us choose not to participate in the military, but rather in alternative forms of service.

Because Jesus is Lord, His example and teaching take priority over nationalism and the demands of human authorities.

Exodus 20:1-17; Jeremiah 29:7; Matthew 5:9, 17-26, 38-48; Romans 12:9-21; 13:8-10; II Corinthians 5:15-20; Ephesians 2:14-18; I Peter 2:19-23

4. The USMB Leadership Board recommends the approval of the revised Historical Commission Memo of Understanding as presented.
5. The USMB Leadership Board recommends the approval of the revised MB Mission Bylaws as presented.



US Conference Leadership Board

Current Positions:

Chair	Steve Schroeder	Hillsboro KS	Term expires: 2016
Vice Chair:	Marv Schellenberg	Wichita KS	Term expires: 2014
Treasurer:	David Hardt	Bakersfield CA	Term expires: 2016
Secretary:	Sue Kliewer	Auberry CA	Term expires: 2014
	Clyde R Ferguson Jr	Lenoir NC	Term expires: 2014
	Aaron Hernandez	Grulla TX	Term expires: 2014
	Tim Hodge	N Newton KS	Term expires: 2016
	Vyacheslav Gladysh	Fresno CA	Term expires: 2014
	Jodi Thomas	Rapid City SD	Term expires: 2014

+ Need to elect five members. Nominations:

Marv Schellenberg	Wichita KS	Term expires: 2018	incumbent
Clyde Ferguson Jr	Lenoir NC	Term expires: 2018	incumbent
Aaron Hernandez	Grulla TX	Term expires: 2018	incumbent
Lud Hohm	Yale SD	Term expires: 2018	
			New Nomination

+ Also need to elect Executive. Nominations:

Chair:	Steve Schroeder
Vice-Chair:	Marv Schellenberg
Secretary:	Tim Hodge
Treasurer:	David Hardt

Board of Faith and Life

Current positions:

Larry Nikkel	Hillsboro KS	Term expires: 2016
Michael Eldridge	San Jose CA	Term expires: 2014
Tim Geddert	Fresno CA	Term expires: 2016
Ed Boschman	Bakersfield CA	ex officio
Rick Eshbaugh	Harvey ND	ex officio
Terry Hunt	Lenoir NC	ex officio
Tim Sullivan	Wichita KS	ex officio
Gary Wall	Fresno CA	ex officio

+ Need to elect two members. Two nominees:

Jana Hildebrandt	Wichita KS	Term expires: 2018
Mike Petts	Freeman, SD	Term expires: 2018

National Youth Committee

Current positions:

Jeral Gross	Mitchell SD	Term expires: 2016
Joana Chapa	Hillsboro KS	Term expires: 2016
James Wilfong	Lenoir NC	Term expires: 2016
Matt Ford	Fresno CA	Term expires: 2016
Kyle Goings	Wichita KS	Term expires: 2016
Keith Warkentin	Blaine WA	Term expires: 2016
Russ Claassen	Newton KS	Term expires: 2016
Christy Goentzel	Wichita KS	Term expires: 2016

MB Mission (4 yr terms)

Current Positions:

Stephen Humber	Omaha NE	Term expires: 2016
Ruth Schale	Bakersfield CA	Term expires: 2016
Lowell Stutzman	Gold Hill OR	Term expires: 2014
Bill Loewen	Wichita KS	Term expires: 2014
Brent Warkentin	Wichita KS	Term expires: 2016

+ Need to elect/re-elect four members. Four nominees:

Jeff Gowling	Bakersfield CA	Term expires: 2018	
Stephen Humber	Omaha NE	Term expires: 2016	incumbent
Ruth Schale	Bakersfield CA	Term expires: 2016	incumbent
Brent Warkentin	Wichita KS	Term expires: 2018	incumbent

Mennonite Brethren Foundation

Current Positions:

Lynn Schneider	Huron SD	Term expires: 2014
Ken Neufeld	Fresno CA	Term expires: 2016
Dan Ray	Fresno CA	Term expires: 2014
Randy Hamm	Enid OK	Term expires: 2016
Terry Hunt	Lenoir NC	Term expires: 2014
Greg Quiring	Fresno CA	Term expires: 2016
Tharen Spahr	Wichita KS	Term expires: 2014
David Hardt	Bakersfield CA	USC Treasurer

NOTE: The USC Treasurer is an automatic member of the MBF Board of Directors.

+ Need to elect five members:

Lynn Schneider	Huron SD	Term expires: 2018	incumbent
Dan Ray	Fresno CA	Term expires: 2018	incumbent
Terry Hunt	Lenoir NC	Term expires: 2018	incumbent
Tharen Spahr	Wichita KS	Term expires: 2018	incumbent
Gaven Banik	Hartford SD	Term expires: 2018	

Historical Commission (4 yr terms)

Current positions:

Don Isaac, Chair	Hillsboro KS	Term expires: 2016
Julia Reimer	Fresno CA	Term expires: 2016
Valerie Rempel	Fresno CA	Term expires: 2014

+ Need to elect one member. One nominee:

Valerie Rempel	Fresno CA	Term expires: 2018	incumbent
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OTHER APPOINTMENTS: Affirmed by USMB Leadership Board (4 yr terms unless noted)

Mennonite Health Services:

Sheri Plett Weidenhoefer Fresno CA Term expires: 2015 (4 yr) has resigned
+ Nominee:
Valerie Rempel Fresno CA complete Sheri's term, then a new term
Expires: 2019 per MHS

Fresno Pacific Biblical Seminary Board: Ed Boschman

MB Mission Board: Ed Boschman

International Committee of Mennonite Brethren (ICOMB): Ed Boschman (Treasurer) 2016

Mennonite World Conference:

Ed Boschman
Lynn Jost Fresno CA Term expires: 2013
Dennis Becker Fresno CA Term expires: 2015
Lisa Washio, Youth Representative, Fresno CA

+ Need to affirm two nominees:

Bill Braun Clovis CA Term expires: 2017
Trent Voth, Youth Representative Clovis CA Term expires: 2015

Mennonite Central Committee: (Appointed – 3 year terms)

MCC-USA Board:

Jill Schellenberg Fresno CA Term expires: 2014
Dina Gonzalez-Pina Fresno CA Term expires: 2015
Bill Braun Fresno CA Term expires: 2016

+ Need to affirm one member:

Jill Schellenberg Fresno CA Term expires: 2017 incumbent

Mennonite Disaster Service: (Appointed – 6 year terms)

Jose Elizondo Sanger CA Term expires: 2014

+ Need to affirm one member:

Jose Elizondo Sanger CA Term expires: 2020 incumbent

Everence Board of Directors: (Appointed by Everence - 3 year terms)

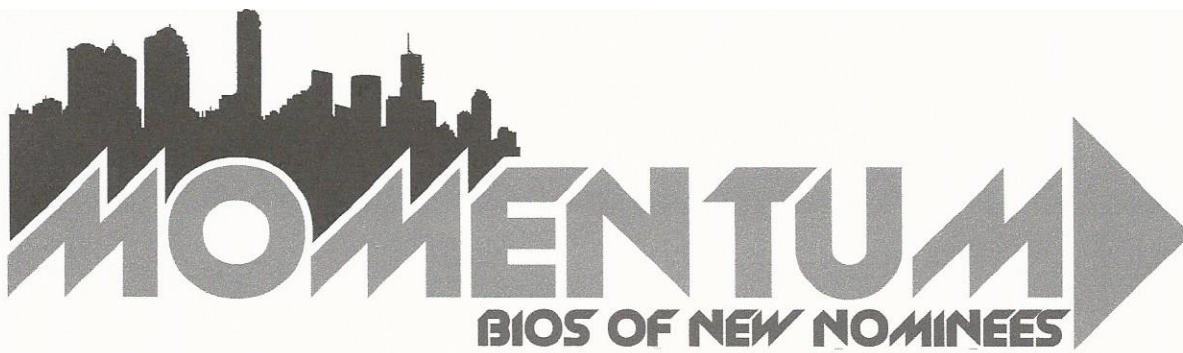
Larry Nikkel Hillsboro KS Term expires: 2015
Paul Quiring Fresno CA Term expires: 2014

+ Need to affirm one member:

Paul Quiring Fresno CA Term expires: 2017 incumbent

National Association of Evangelicals:

Ed Boschman
Winnie Bartel (by virtue of appointment) Shafter CA



Leadership Board

Lud Hohm - Lud and his wife Julie are members of Bethel Church in Yale, SD. He also currently serves as Chairman of the Central District Conference.

Board of Faith and Life

Jana Hildebrandt - Jana grew up in Washington State, attended Tabor College, and has been married to Gene for 28 years. They have two sons, one at FPU Biblical Seminary and one starting a masters at Seattle Pacific University. She is currently Director of Impact (evangelism/missions), Connections (Guest ministry, baptism/membership, assimilation) and Disaster Relief at First MB Church, Wichita, Kan., where she has served for 20+ years. Jana's passions include helping her church become more outwardly focused to reach others for Christ and to make an impact in our community, learning about new cultures and people groups through missions, responding to tornado disasters, visiting our 3 "kids" at an orphanage in Mexico and working on home projects with her husband.

Mike Petts - Mike Petts has been in ministry as a youth pastor and senior pastor for the past 24 years. He is currently pastor of the Salem MB Church of rural Bridgewater, SD. He has been there for the past 5 years and also leads the MBY group of the church. He is currently serving on the Board of Trustees at Byron Bible Camp of Huron, SD and the Central District Board of Faith and Life. Mike and his wife Diane have four children. He loves teaching and playing most sports.

MB Mission

Jeff Gowling - Jeff is the founding (2003) and Lead Pastor of The Bridge Bible Church in Bakersfield, California. He is a Canadian citizen born in Ottawa, Ontario and earned his Masters of Theology from Dallas Theological Seminary in 1998. His greatest joy is his wife, Tracy and children Alyssa (15) and Brett (13).

MB Foundation

Gaven Banik - Gaven and his wife Martha are members of Lincoln Hills Bible Church in Sioux Falls, SD, where he has served many years as an elder, Sunday School teacher, Awana commander and chaired three building projects. He is the Fixed Operations Manager at a car dealership where he has worked for 29 years. Gaven has also served on the Central District Board of Trustees.

Mennonite World Conference

Bill Braun - Bill recently retired after 22 years of pastoral ministry at College Community Church Mennonite Brethren (CCCMB). He is a graduate of Fresno Pacific Biblical Seminary and has served in various volunteer and board capacities with Mennonite Central Committee. CCCMB hosted the Mennonite World Conference US office for more than a decade and Bill has been involved as an interested volunteer for much of that time. Bill and his wife, Joyce, have been married for 40 years. In retirement they look forward to visiting their daughter, Margaret, and her family in San Antonio, TX.

Trent Voth - Trent and his wife Stephanie live in Fresno, Calif. He is associate pastor at College Community Church MB, while Stephanie is an advocate for foster children in the court system. Trent is a graduate of Tabor College and Fresno Pacific Biblical Seminary. He also teaches as an adjunct instructor at FPU and the Seminary, and for the past six years has been on staff for the Ministry Quest program.



Proposed Change to USMB Bylaws, Article 1, Section 4

The USMB Leadership Board recommends the approval of the Bylaw change of Article 1, Section 4, first sentence to read: *Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of the Conference shall begin on January 1 in each year.* This change is effective retroactive to January 1, 2014.

Current wording of Article 1, Section 4, Fiscal Year:

The fiscal year of the Conference shall begin on June 1 in each year. A regular convention of the Conference (Article V, Section 1) shall constitute the annual meeting of the Conference to the extent one is required by law. In years in which no regular convention is held, the first meeting of the Leadership Board in the fiscal year shall constitute the annual meeting of the Conference. In the latter instance, the Leadership Board shall serve as the representatives of the members of the Corporation for the purpose of conducting the annual meeting.

Proposed Change to Article 13 of the Confession of Faith

The USMB Leadership Board joins the U.S. Board of Faith and Life in recommending the approval of the revised Article 13 of the Confession of Faith.

Recommended final draft:

Article 13: Love, Peacemaking and Reconciliation

God's Community of Peace

We believe that God in Christ reconciles people to Himself and to one another, making peace through the cross. The church is the fellowship of redeemed people living by love. The bond between followers of Jesus transcends all racial, social and national barriers.

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We actively pursue peace and reconciliation in all relationships by following Christ's example and His command to love God, neighbors and even enemies. We strive to be peacemakers and agents of reconciliation in families, churches, communities, in our nation, and throughout the world.

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**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING REGARDING
MENNONITE BRETHREN HISTORICAL COMMISSION
2007 2014 proposed update**

This Memorandum is entered into between the United States Conference of the Mennonite Brethren Churches (“the U.S. Conference”) and the Canadian Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches (“the Canadian Conference”) in order to formalize their agreement regarding the ongoing operation of the Mennonite Brethren Historical Commission.

INTRODUCTION

Since 1969, the Historical Commission of the General Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches has been charged with the collection and preservation of historical materials relating to the Mennonite Brethren churches of the United States and Canada. It has served as a clearinghouse and coordinating agency between the various Mennonite Brethren regional archival centers and has also overseen the Fresno center and its work of collecting General Conference archival materials. The national conferences recognize the value of these responsibilities and desire to continue the work of the Commission following divestiture of the General Conference ministries to the national conferences.

The national conferences acknowledge and affirm that the Mennonite Brethren of North America have a rich history ~~which~~ that must not be forgotten. The work of the Historical Commission has been critical to securing that heritage for future generations. In addition, the Commission has been instrumental in preserving the history of the greater Mennonite Brethren community, from local congregations to Mennonite Brethren conferences around the world. The national conferences feel strongly that the discontinuance of a bi-national North American conference must not jeopardize the preservation of the denomination’s historical foundations.

The national conferences therefore agree to covenant together to continue the mandate and ministry of the Historical Commission through a bi-national partnership.

LEGAL STATUS

The present work of the General Conference Historical commission will be continued by a bi-national commission which will be known as the Mennonite Brethren Historical Commission. The Commission will not have a separate legal existence. ~~Instead, it will operate under the oversight of the US Conference and the Canadian Conference, with its financial affairs managed by Fresno Pacific University (“FPU”) and the Canadian Conference. Accounting and bookkeeping services will be provided by FPU. -but will operate under the legal charter of the Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary (MBBS) in both the United States and Canada.~~

The Commission will report to the regularly scheduled conventions of the US and Canadian Conferences. In addition, it will communicate as needed with the executive personnel and executive bodies of the US and Canadian Conferences.

MEMBERSHIP AND STRUCTURE

The Commission will be composed of six members and should include, but not necessarily be limited to, individuals with competence in historical research and archival work. Members shall be selected as follows:

- 2/3 elected or appointed by the Canadian Conference;
- 2/3 elected or appointed by the United States Conference;
- ~~1 appointed by each of the national conferences.~~

All commission members must be members in good standing of a church congregation ~~which that~~ is a member of one of the national conferences.

Commission members will serve four-year terms. Any limit on the number of consecutive terms served by a member will be determined by the respective national conferences. Terms will be staggered in order to allow for continuity and balance of membership.

The Commission will organize itself by selecting a Chair, Associate Chair and Recording Secretary from among its elected and appointed members, ~~to serve for terms to be determined by the Commission.~~ The Chair and Associate Chair will come from different national conferences and the nationality of the persons filling these roles will normally alternate between the two conferences.

An Executive Secretary will be selected by the Historical Commission and be employed by a legal entity (e.g., a Mennonite Brethren school, Conference or congregation). The Historical Commission will reimburse the legal entity for the employee's salary and benefits, according to the funding arrangement made between the Historical Commission and the legal entity.

In addition, one representative from each of the regional archival centers (currently located in Hillsboro, Fresno, Winnipeg and Abbotsford) shall sit on the Commission as ex officio members.

Representatives of historical committees from other Mennonite Brethren national conferences may be invited to participate with the Commission as liaison members. In the future, consideration may be given to formally adding additional member conferences to the Commission and/or evolving the Commission into an ICOMB-based agency.

FUNDING

Each national conference shall provide the Commission with an annual grant (currently of \$17,000 (US)). Periodic review of this amount will take place with the leadership boards of the national conferences. ~~The accounting of this budget shall be done through the offices of MBBS, but shall be separate and apart from funding provided by the national conferences for the operation of MBBS.~~ The Commission's budget and financial statement will be provided annually to the leadership boards of the US and Canadian Conferences.

Additional funding for the work of the Commission will continue to be provided by the Cloud of Witnesses ~~endowment~~ Endowment, which is held by Mennonite Brethren ~~Biblical Seminary~~ Foundation; and by the Historical Commission Endowment, which is held by the Canadian Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches. ~~for the work of the Historical Commission.~~

REVIEW

The agreements set forth in this memorandum of understanding and the relationships established herein will be reviewed ~~jointly~~ by the national conferences at least every ~~five-four~~ years to determine whether any changes are desired.



BYLAWS OF
MENNONITE BRETHREN
~~MISSION AND SERVICE INTERNATIONAL~~ **MB MISSION**
(~~Ratified July 2006~~ Proposed summer 2014 at USMB and Canadian MB Conventions)

PREAMBLE

These Bylaws constitute the rules for managing the operation of the global mission program of the United States Conference of the Mennonite Brethren Churches ("the U.S. Conference") and the Canadian Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches ("the Canadian Conference").

ARTICLE I. GENERAL

SECTION 1. Name. The corporation shall be referred to as ~~Mennonite Brethren Mission and Service International~~ **MB Mission** (hereinafter "the Corporation").

SECTION 2. Purpose. The purpose of the Corporation shall be to operate global Christian mission programs by training and sending missionaries to all parts of the world, as well as financing mission programs in cooperation with international partners. The Corporation shall carry out its purpose in accordance with the Great Commission proclaimed by Jesus Christ in Matthew 28:19-20a: "Therefore go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you." (NIV).

SECTION 3. Confession of Faith. The Confession of Faith of the U.S. and Canadian Conferences of the Mennonite Brethren Churches (hereinafter "the Confession of Faith") shall also be the confession of faith of the Corporation. ~~Any doctrinal statement issued by the Corporation shall be in complete harmony with the Confession of Faith~~ Directors and key staff will be asked to affirm the Confession of Faith from their country of residence.

SECTION 4. Policies and Procedures. The Corporation may, from time to time, establish policies and procedures setting forth, in more detail, guidelines concerning the Corporation's operations and structures. Commissions or committees described herein may also be authorized to establish such policies and procedures. Any such policies and procedures shall be subject to and in harmony with the Confession of Faith, these Bylaws and the Articles of Incorporation of the Corporation.

SECTION 5. Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of the Corporation shall begin on the first day of June in each year.

ARTICLE II. CORPORATION STRUCTURE AND PROCESS

SECTION 1. Membership. The members of the Corporation shall consist of the U.S. Conference and the Canadian Conference (hereinafter collectively referred to as “the National Conferences”). These conferences shall each ~~be represented by their elected governing boards from time to time, appoint a person who shall be their authorized representative. Such representative shall be entitled to receive notice of, attend and vote at all meetings of the Members of the Corporation.~~

SECTION 2. Meetings.

- A. **National Conference Conventions.** The periodic conventions of each of the Conferences, may serve as meetings of the portion of the Corporation there represented when expressly provided in these bylaws, and may serve as meetings of the portion of the Corporation there represented at the direction of the Board of Directors of the Corporation, for the purpose of:
- (i) Affirming National Convention appointed ~~members-directors of the Board of Directors~~ of the Corporation as set forth in these Bylaws;
 - (ii) Receiving reports from the Board of Directors and officers and employees of the Corporation;
 - (iii) Bringing concerns and suggestions from the National Conferences to the Board of Directors and administration of the Corporation;
 - (iv) Transacting such other business as may be submitted by the Boards of Directors of the National Conferences or the Corporation's Board of Directors, if otherwise authorized by law.
- B. **Annual Meeting.** The Board of Directors shall call the annual meeting for a date within the first six months of the beginning of the fiscal year of the Corporation, and the fixing of the date of the meeting by the Board shall constitute adequate notice to members of the date of the annual meeting. The Board of Directors shall serve as the representatives of the members of the Corporation for the purpose of conducting the annual meeting.
- C. **Officers.** ~~The officers of the Corporation's Board of Directors, as elected by the Board, shall also serve as the officers of the Corporation.~~ The Chair of the Board of Directors, or in the Chair's absence the Vice-Chair, shall preside at all meetings of the Corporation, except that, at any National Conference Convention, the presiding officer of said convention may also serve as presiding officer for the purpose of conducting business relating to the Corporation as set forth in Article II, Section 2.A. of these Bylaws.
- D. **Transaction of Business.** A majority of voting representatives present at any meeting shall determine any matters submitted, except when a larger percentage is required by law or these Bylaws.
- E. **Governance.** The Corporation shall be governed in accordance with Article III of these Bylaws which are expressly approved by the National Conferences.

ARTICLE III. GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE AND PROCESS

SECTION 1 Board of Directors

- A. **Representation.** The Board of Directors (herein after the Board) shall consist of not less than eight (8), nor more than twelve (12) ~~members-directors~~. A majority of the ~~members-directors~~ of the Board shall

be ~~appointed-elected~~ from the National Conferences. The Board shall be constituted as follows:

- (i) Four (4) ~~members-directors~~ shall be ~~appointed-elected~~ by the ~~Board of Directors of the~~ U.S. Conference ~~and affirmed at their conference convention~~;
- (ii) Four (4) ~~members-directors~~ shall be ~~appointed-elected~~ by the ~~Executive Board of the~~ Canadian Conference ~~and affirmed at their conference convention~~;
- (iii) Up to four (4) ~~members-directors~~, having full voice and voting rights, shall be ~~appointed-elected by the Members from among the nominees nominated~~ by the Corporation's Board of Directors at its sole discretion;
- ~~(iv) Members of the Board shall not be allowed to attend meetings of the Board through proxies.~~

B. **Qualifications.** ~~Members-Directors of the Board who are appointed by the National Conferences~~ shall be members in good standing of a church congregation which is a member of the respective National Conference. The National Conferences may consult with the Board in identifying nominees for ~~Board-membership-directors~~ to ensure that desired expertise, giftedness and diversity are represented on the Board.

C. **Term of Office.**

- ~~(i) The length of term of a U.S. Conference or Canadian Conference appointed member of the Board-director shall be four years, and the number of consecutive terms that may be served by such a member, shall be governed by the bylaws of the National Conference from which the member is appointed; except that in the absence of any such governing bylaw then a one year term shall apply. The terms of such members shall commence upon the member's director being elected-appointment;~~
- ~~(ii) The term of a member of the Board appointed by the Board shall be four (4) years, unless a lesser term is designated by the Board, and shall commence immediately upon appointment unless otherwise designated by the Board.~~

D. **Staggered Terms.** To the greatest extent possible, the terms of Board members shall be staggered to allow for continuity and balance of membership. The Board shall consult with the National Conferences regarding any adjustments to terms necessary to accomplish these objectives.

E. **Vacancies.** If any vacancy shall occur in the membership of the Board by death, resignation, removal or otherwise, the unexpired term of said vacated position shall be filled as follows:

- (i) A vacated conference appointment may be filled by ~~appointment by the respective National Conference board-the remaining Directors of that respective National Conference.~~
- (ii) A vacated board appointment- may be filled by ~~appointment by~~ the Board.

F. **Authority.** The ultimate sources of authority for the Board are the National Conferences, in their capacity as members of the Corporation.

- (i) Sources. The Board shall have all of the powers of a corporation under state law including the powers, directly or by delegation, to manage the property, services, affairs

- and business of the Corporation, and shall have the power, directly or by delegation, to carry out any other functions which are permitted by the Articles of Incorporation or by these Bylaws, except insofar as such powers may be limited by law or reserved to the entire membership of the Corporation.
- (ii) **Limits.** In exercising its authority, the Board may not cause or allow the Corporation to be in violation of the laws in the countries where it is registered ~~or operates~~, or of these Bylaws.
- G. **Removal.** A conference ~~appointed member-elected director~~ may be removed by action of the National Conference which ~~appointed-elected~~ the ~~member~~director. A Board ~~appointed member-nominated director~~ may be removed by majority vote of the ~~Board~~Members.
- H. **Board Responsibilities** The functions of the Board include the following:
- (i) Design the Board's structure and governance processes
 - (ii) Provide strategic leadership by determining the Corporation's values, beneficiaries and services, vision, mission and priorities
 - (iii) Delegate management authority and responsibility to the Executive Director
 - (iv) Monitor risk management and performance and measure strategic results.
- I. **Expectations of Responsibilities.** In fulfilling its responsibilities the Board is expected to:
- (i) Seek and respect the counsel of the constituent churches of the National Conferences in its strategic planning process and in its governance of the vision, mission and priorities;
 - (ii) Maintain strong constituency relations with the churches that make up the National Conferences;
 - (iii) Appoint and evaluate the Executive Director of the Corporation;
 - (iv) Promote research and make environmental scanning field visits;
 - (v) Carry out a program of orientation for ~~Board members~~directors;
 - (vi) Monitor financial condition and the quality of relationships;
 - (vii) Measure the impact of the ministry of the Corporation.
- J. **Monitoring Performance and Measuring Results**
- (i) The Board is accountable to the membership of the Corporation of the National Conferences, through their elected governing boards and to any other representatives who may be designated by these bylaws and to the appropriate legal and regulatory authorities.
 - (ii) The Board's accountability shall include the submission of required documentation to applicable authorities and clear and true reporting to the National Conferences.

SECTION 2. **Officers**

- A. **Positions.** The Board shall elect the following officers in order to properly conduct ~~Corporation~~ affairs:
- (i) **Chair.** The Chair shall preside at all meetings of the Corporation (unless otherwise provided for herein) and the Board. The Chair shall be a non-voting *ex officio* member of all Board committees and commissions and shall perform such other duties as are incident to this office.

- (ii) *Vice-Chair.* The vice-chair shall serve as assistant to the Chair and take the place of the Chair during the Chair's absence or inability to serve.
- (iii) *Secretary.* The Secretary shall be responsible for the minutes of the Board. The Secretary may or may not actually serve as recording secretary. In the event the Board designates another individual as recording secretary, the Secretary shall be responsible for reviewing and approving the minutes to ensure the accuracy thereof. The Secretary shall perform all such other duties as are incident to this office.
- (iv) ~~*Treasurer. Chief Financial Officer.*~~ ~~The chief financial officer, who may also be called "treasurer," shall provide expertise and oversight regarding the Corporation's financial operations; and shall~~ The board treasurer shall perform such ~~other~~ duties as may be designated by the Board.
- (v) Other. The Board may elect such officers as, from time to time, it deems necessary in order to properly conduct Corporations affairs.

- B. Eligibility. Any duly elected or appointed ~~member of the Board~~ director shall be eligible to serve as an officer in the role of board Chair, board Vice-Chair, Secretary, or Treasurer. Any individual who is a member in good standing of a church congregation which is a member of one of the National Conferences shall be eligible to serve as an officer under Section 2 A (v).
- C. Term. All officers of the Corporation shall hold office for a term of two (2) years, unless an officer's term as director shall end before the end of that term, in which case the officer's term shall automatically end when his or her term as director ends; or unless the Board removes the officer, which removal may be at the discretion of the Board.
- D. Vacancies. Vacancies in any office created by resignation, death, removal, or otherwise, shall be filled by the Board for the remainder of the term of the officer whose office has been vacated.

SECTION 3. GOVERNANCE PROCESS

- A. Regular Meetings. The Board shall meet regularly at least two times during the year. Meetings shall be conducted in accordance with generally accepted rules of order. The Board shall determine such meeting dates and no particular form, mode or timing of notice is required.
- B. Special Meetings. Special meetings of the Board may be called by the Chair or by a majority of the ~~members of the Board~~ directors for such place as may be specified. Notice of special meetings shall be given at least ten (10) days prior to the time fixed for such a meeting. By consent of the Board, special meetings may be held without notice.
- C. Quorum. A quorum for the transaction of business at any regular or special meeting of the Board shall consist of a majority of the total number of ~~Board members~~ directors then appointed to the Board.
- D. Votes. Decisions of the Board shall be determined by a majority of all votes cast unless otherwise required by these Bylaws. Any action required or permitted to be taken at any meeting of the Board or any committee or commission thereof may be taken without a meeting and by mail ballot, fax ballot or e-mail ballot at the discretion of the Chair of the Board or the

chair of the committee or commission.

- E. **Closed Sessions.** The Board shall retain at all times the power to invite and permit administrative personnel and/or other persons to observe or participate in Board meetings; however, nothing in this subsection or in these Bylaws shall be construed to give ex officio status or other rights of participation or voting rights to such persons who are not ~~members of the Board~~directors. To the extent to which administrative personnel are by normal or special invitation present at or included in Board meetings, the Board nonetheless may, at the discretion and call of the Chair, meet in closed session without prior notice.
- F. Proxies. Directors shall not be allowed to attend meetings of the Board through proxies.

ARTICLE IV. AMENDMENTS AND REVISIONS TO BYLAWS AND ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

SECTION 1. Procedure. An amendment or revision to the Bylaws or Articles of Incorporation of the Corporation may be proposed by the Board of Directors or by either of the National Conference members of the Corporation. If an amendment or revision is proposed, it shall first be submitted to the Board at least 90 days prior to the national or special convention(s) at which it will be acted upon, and the Board shall prepare the proposal for formal presentation to the convention(s).

SECTION 2. Approval. A proposed amendment or revision to the Bylaws or Articles of Incorporation of the Corporation may be acted upon by submitting the proposed revision or amendment to the National Conferences for consideration. A proposed revision or amendment shall be deemed to be adopted by the membership of the Corporation if approved by both of the National Conferences. Approval by a National Conference shall occur upon the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the voting representatives at a regular or special National Conference Convention. In the event a proposed revision or amendment is not so approved by the National Conferences, it may be resubmitted to the National Conferences at a future time.

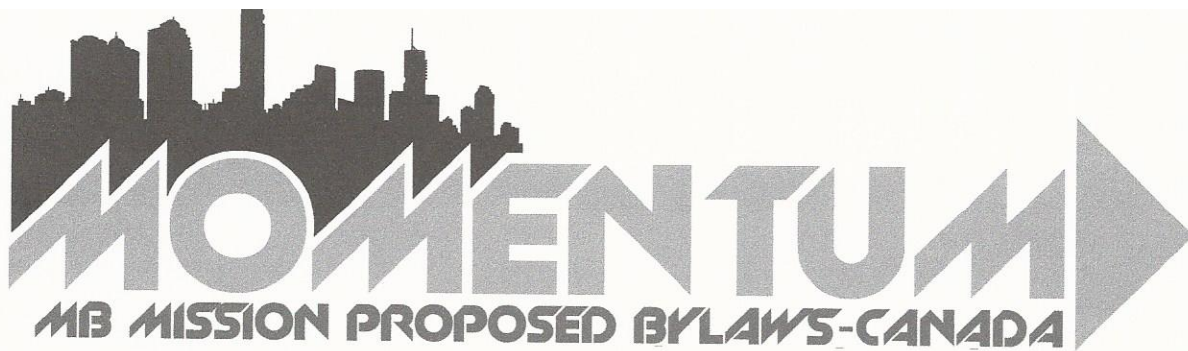
SECTION 3. Exception to Procedure. Notwithstanding any other provision contained herein, the Board of Directors shall be empowered to amend the Articles of Incorporation, if necessary, in order to change the name and/or address of the Corporation's agent for service of process.

SECTION 4. Content. No revisions or amendments to the Bylaws or Articles of Incorporation may in any way be in conflict with any part of The Confession of Faith.

ARTICLE V. DISSOLUTION

SECTION 1. Procedure. The Corporation may be dissolved only upon the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the voting representatives present ~~at each respective National Conference Convention at a special meeting for that purpose and called~~ pursuant to Article II, Section 2.A. of these Bylaws.

SECTION 2. Distribution of Assets. Upon dissolution, the remaining assets of the Corporation shall be distributed in accordance with applicable law and in a manner recommended by the Board of Directors and approved by a majority vote of the representatives present and voting at the special meeting discussed in Section 1 of this Article.



1 INTERPRETATION

1.1 Meaning of Words

In this By-Law and all other By-Laws, resolutions and Board Regulations of the Corporation, unless otherwise defined:

- 1.1.1 “Act” means the *Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act*, S.C. 2009, c.23, including the Government Regulations made pursuant to the Act, and any statute or regulations that may be substituted, as amended from time to time;
- 1.1.2 “Annual General Meeting” means an Annual General Meeting of Members;
- 1.1.3 “Appointed Director” means a Director appointed under section 6.1.3;
- 1.1.4 “Articles” means original or restated Articles of Incorporation, or Articles of Amendment, amalgamation, continuance, reorganization, arrangement, dissolution or revival;
- 1.1.5 “Board” means the Directors of the Corporation from time to time;
- 1.1.6 “Board Regulation” means a regulation passed by the Board in accordance with Article 8;
- 1.1.7 “Canadian Conference” means the Canadian Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches;
- 1.1.8 “Canadian Director” means a Director elected under section 6.1.1;
- 1.1.9 “Confession of Faith” has the meaning in Article 2;
- 1.1.10 “Corporation” means **MB MISSION**;
- 1.1.11 “Director” means a member of the Board;
- 1.1.12 “Elected Director” means either a Canadian Director or a U.S. Director;
- 1.1.13 “Government Regulations” means the regulations made under the Act as amended, restated or in effect from time to time;
- 1.1.14 “Ineligible Individual” has the meaning in section 149.1 of the *Income Tax Act* (Canada), as amended from time to time;
- 1.1.15 “Member” means a person who has become a Member in accordance with section 3.1;
- 1.1.16 “Ordinary Resolution” means a resolution passed by Written Resolution or by a majority of the votes cast on that resolution;
- 1.1.17 “Officer” means an Officer elected or appointed pursuant to Article 9 or by Board Regulation.
- 1.1.18 “Public Accountant” means the Public Accountant of the Corporation appointed pursuant to Article 15;
- 1.1.19 “Special Meeting of Members” includes any meeting of Members that is not an Annual General Meeting;

- 1.1.20 "Special Resolution" means a resolution passed by Written Resolution or by a majority of not less than two-thirds (2/3rds) of the votes cast on the resolution; and
- 1.1.21 "U.S. Conference" means the United States Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches;
- 1.1.22 "U.S. Director" means a Director elected under section 6.1.2;
- 1.1.23 "Written Resolution" means a resolution in writing signed by all the Directors or Members entitled to vote on that resolution at a meeting of the Board or the Members, as the case may be, and which is valid as if it had been passed at a meeting of the Board or Members.

2 CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Confession of Faith of the U.S. and Canadian Conferences of the Mennonite Brethren Churches (the "**Confession of Faith**") shall also be the confession of faith of the Corporation. Directors and key staff will be asked to affirm the Confession of Faith from their country of residence.

3 MEMBERSHIP

3.1 Composition

Subject to the Articles, there shall be the following two (2) classes of Members in the Corporation

- 3.1.1 the Canadian Conference; and
- 3.1.2 the U.S. Conference.

A Corporation or other entity may be a Member.

3.2 Members' Rights

Each Member shall be entitled to receive notice of, attend and vote at all meetings of the Members of the Corporation.

3.3 Appointment by Corporate Member

A Member that is a corporation or other entity shall, from time to time, appoint a person who shall be its authorized representative. Such Member shall provide the details and contact information of the authorized representative from time to time to the Executive Director or to the Secretary (or Secretary-Treasurer), either of whom shall immediately update the Corporation's records for the purposes of providing notice of all meetings to which the authorized representative is entitled to attend.

3.4 Termination of Membership

Membership in the Corporation automatically terminates upon the occurrence of any of the following events:

- 3.4.1 the resignation in writing of a Member of the Corporation;
- 3.4.2 the dissolution, insolvency or bankruptcy of a Member; or
- 3.4.3 the liquidation or dissolution of the Corporation under the Act.

3.5 No Compensation for Members

A Member shall not be entitled to any compensation upon termination of membership.

4 MEETINGS OF THE MEMBERS

4.1 Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Members shall be held within Canada, or, if all Members entitled to vote at the meeting consent, outside Canada, at a place and date and time determined by the Board, for the purpose of:

- 4.1.1 hearing and receiving the reports and statements required by the Act to be read and laid before the Corporation, which are:
 - 4.1.1.1 financial statements prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
 - 4.1.1.2 the report of the Public Accountant, if any;
 - 4.1.1.3 any further information respecting the financial position of the Corporation and the results of its operations required by the Articles, By-Laws or unanimous member agreement.
- 4.1.2 appointing the Public Accountant and fixing or authorizing the Board to fix their remuneration; and
- 4.1.3 the transaction of any other business properly brought before the meeting.

The Annual General Meeting shall be held not later than fifteen (15) months following the last Annual General Meeting provided that any Annual General Meeting should be held within six (6) months of the financial year end of the Corporation.

4.2 Meetings by Electronic Conference

A Member may participate in a meeting of Members by means of an electronic or other communication device that permits all participants to communicate adequately with each other during the meeting. Any person participating by electronic conference is deemed to be present at that meeting. Any security, confidentiality or other considerations with respect to the conduct of such a meeting shall be as determined by the Board from time to time.

4.3 Special Meeting

The Board may at any time call a Special Meeting of Members for the transaction of any business specified in the notice calling the meeting. The Board shall call a Special Meeting of Members upon receipt of a written request for such a meeting signed by at least five percent (5%) of the Members entitled to vote.

4.4 Notice of Meetings

Notice of the time, place and date of any meeting of Members and sufficient information for a Member to make a reasoned judgment on the business to be considered shall be given to each Member entitled to vote at the meeting, to each Director and to the Public Accountant of the Corporation:

- 4.4.1 by mail, courier or personal delivery, during a period of twenty-one (21) to sixty (60) days before the day on which the meeting is to be held; or
- 4.4.2 by telephone, or other electronic means, during a period of twenty-one (21) to thirty-five (35) days before the day on which the meeting is to be held. If a Member requests that notice of a meeting be given by non-electronic means, the notice will be sent by mail, courier or personal delivery as provided in section 4.4.1.

4.5 Those Entitled To Be Present

The only persons entitled to be present at a meeting of Members shall be:

- 4.5.1 those entitled to vote at the meeting,
- 4.5.2 the Directors and the Public Accountant of the Corporation, and
- 4.5.3 such other persons who are entitled or required under any provision of the Act, the Articles or By-Laws of the Corporation to be present at the meeting.

Any other person may be admitted only on the invitation of the chair of the meeting or by Ordinary Resolution of the Members.

4.6 Quorum

- 4.6.1 A quorum for the transaction of business at meetings of the Members shall be at least a majority of all of the Members of the Corporation entitled to vote, and present in person or by telephone.
- 4.6.2 No business shall be transacted at any meeting of the Members unless the necessary quorum is present at the commencement of such meeting.
- 4.6.3 Provided however that where:
 - 4.6.3.1 less than a quorum, but two (2) or more, persons are present in person one-half hour after the commencement time specified in the notice calling the meeting of Members; and
 - 4.6.3.2 the business transacted is limited to the selection of a chair and a secretary for the meeting, the recording of the names of those present, and the passing of a motion to adjourn the meeting with or without specifying a date, time and place for the resumption of the meeting,then two (2) persons present in person constitute a quorum.
- 4.6.4 If a quorum is not present at the opening of a meeting of Members, the Members present may adjourn the meeting to a fixed time and place but may not transact any other business.

4.7 Chair

In the absence of the Chair of the Board and the Vice-Chair of the Board, the Members present and entitled to vote and present at any meeting of Members shall choose another Director as chair. If no Director is present or if all the Directors present decline to act as chair, the Members present and entitled to vote shall choose a Member to be chair.

4.8 Voting by Members

The method of voting at any meeting of the Members shall be determined by the chair of the meeting prior to any vote being taken. Each Member shall have one (1) vote on each question raised at any meeting of the Members, and all questions shall be determined by a majority of the votes cast. In the case of an equality of votes, the vote shall be deemed to have been lost.

4.9 Electronic, Mail or Telephone Voting

The Directors may provide for Members to vote by mail, telephone or electronic means. Such alternative means of voting must:

- 4.9.1 allow for verification that the votes are made by the Members entitled to vote; and
- 4.9.2 not allow the Corporation to identify how each Member voted.

4.10 Proxies

No proxy voting is allowed.

4.11 Ballot

A Member can demand a ballot during the meeting either before or after any vote by show of hands. The result of a ballot shall be deemed to be a resolution on that matter for which the ballot was requested.

4.12 Adjournments

Any meeting of Members may be adjourned to any time. Any business that might have been transacted at the original meeting from which the adjournment took place may be transacted upon the resumption of the adjourned meeting. No notice is required for the resumption of any adjourned meeting where the resumption of the meeting occurs less than thirty-one (31) days from the date of the original meeting.

4.13 Written Resolutions

A Written Resolution signed by all the Members entitled to vote on that resolution at a meeting of Members, including an Annual General Meeting, is valid, provided that the following matters may not be dealt with by Written Resolution:

- 4.13.1 the resignation, removal or replacement of a Director, where a written statement has been submitted by the Director giving reasons for resigning or opposing his or her removal or replacement; and
- 4.13.2 the resignation, removal or replacement of a Public Accountant, where a written statement has been submitted by the Public Accountant giving reasons for resigning or opposing his or her removal or replacement.

5 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

5.1 Board

Immediately following confirmation of this By-Law by the Members, the number of Directors shall not exceed twelve (12). The Members thereafter delegate to the Directors the right to fix the number of Directors from time to time.

5.2 Qualifications

Each Director shall:

- 5.2.1 subscribe to and support the objects of the Corporation;
- 5.2.2 be an individual who is at least eighteen (18) years of age;
- 5.2.3 not have the status of a bankrupt;
- 5.2.4 not be a person who has been declared incapable by a court in Canada or in another country;
- 5.2.5 not be an Ineligible Individual who has made disclosure to the Board as required by section 5.3, unless that person has received approval of the Board to remain a Director within thirty (30) days after such disclosure is made;
- 5.2.6 be a member in good standing of an MB Church of the Canadian Conference or of the US Conference; and

- 5.2.7 meet such additional qualifications as may be set out in the Board Regulations from time to time.

If a person ceases to be qualified as provided in this section 5.2, the person thereupon ceases to be a Director and the vacancy so created may be filled in the manner prescribed by section 5.5.

5.3 Duty to Disclose

Every Director or Officer who is or becomes an Ineligible Individual shall disclose such fact to the Board immediately upon learning that he or she has become an Ineligible Individual. Upon such disclosure being made, the Board may approve of the Ineligible Individual remaining as a Director or Officer. If the Director is not approved, the Director will be deemed to be no longer qualified pursuant to section 5.2 and will immediately cease to be a Director. The resulting vacancy may be filled in the manner prescribed in section 5.5.

5.4 Removal of Directors

Directors may by Ordinary Resolution be removed from office at a Special Meeting called for that purpose before expiration of the Director's term of office:

- 5.4.1 in the case of a Canadian Director, by the Canadian Conference;
- 5.4.2 in the case of a U.S. Director, by the U.S. Conference;
- 5.4.3 in the case of an Appointed Director, by the Members.

and the class or classes of Member, as the case may be, that has voted to remove the Director may elect a person to replace the removed Director for the remainder of the term of office.

Where the class of Members or Directors that have voted to remove the Director do not fill the vacancy created by the removal of a Director, the vacancy may be filled in accordance with section 5.5.

5.5 Vacancies

Subject to section 5.4, vacancies on the Board, except a vacancy resulting from an increase in the number or the minimum or maximum number of Directors provided for in the Articles for that class or from a failure to elect the number or minimum number of Directors provided for in the Articles for the class, shall be dealt with in the following manner:

- 5.5.1 where a vacancy occurs among the Directors elected by a class of Members,
 - 5.5.1.1 the remaining Directors elected by that class may fill the vacancy for the remainder of the outgoing Director's unexpired term, or
 - 5.5.1.2 if there are no remaining Directors elected by the class, or if the Directors do not fill the vacancy, any Member of the class may call a meeting of the class to fill the vacancy.
- 5.5.2 where a vacancy occurs among the Appointed Directors,
 - 5.5.2.1 so long as a quorum of Directors remains in office, the remaining Directors may fill the vacancy for the remainder of the outgoing Appointed Director's unexpired term, or
 - 5.5.2.2 if there is no quorum of Directors in office, or if the Directors do not fill the vacancy, any Member may call a meeting of the Members to fill the vacancy.

5.6 Remuneration of Directors

The Directors of the Corporation shall serve without remuneration. Directors shall, however, be entitled to receive reimbursement for reasonable expenses incurred in carrying out their duties on behalf of the Corporation.

6 ELECTION OF THE BOARD

6.1 Election of Directors

Subject to the provisions of the Act and Articles, Directors shall be elected in the following manner:

- 6.1.1 four (4) Directors shall be elected by the Canadian Conference, and shall be referred to as the "Canadian Directors";
- 6.1.2 four (4) Directors shall be elected by the U.S. Conference, and shall be referred to as the "U.S. Directors";
- 6.1.3 up to four (4) Directors shall be elected by the Members from among the nominees nominated pursuant to section 6.5.2, and shall be referred to as the "Appointed Directors".

6.2 Election in Rotation

At the first election of Directors following the confirmation of these By-Laws by the Members, Directors shall be elected for the following terms of office:

- 6.2.1 two (2) Canadian Directors shall be elected for four (4) years;
- 6.2.2 two (2) Canadian Directors shall be elected for two (2) years;
- 6.2.3 two (2) U.S. Directors shall be elected for four (4) years;
- 6.2.4 two (2) U.S. Directors shall be elected for two (2) years;
- 6.2.5 as near as possible to one-half of the number of Appointed Directors shall be elected for four (4) years; and
- 6.2.6 as near as possible to one-half of the number of Appointed Directors shall be elected for two (2) years.

Thereafter, the term of office of a Director shall be four (4) years. A Director's term of office will expire at the Board meeting that occurs four years after the Board meeting at which the Director's term began. If no successor is elected to replace the Director's at the end of his or her term, the Director's term expires when a successor is elected.

6.3 Ceasing to be a Director

A person shall immediately cease to be a Director:

- 6.3.1 upon delivering his or her resignation in writing to the Secretary or to the address of the Corporation;
- 6.3.2 upon the expiry of the Director's term under section 6.2;
- 6.3.3 upon his or her death;
- 6.3.4 upon being removed under section 5.4.

6.4 Elections

A number of Directors equal to the number of Directors retiring plus any vacancies then outstanding shall be elected each year at a Special Meeting of the Members called for that

purpose. The election of the Directors will take effect as of the first Board meeting following the Special Meeting at which the Directors were elected.

6.5 Nominations

Candidates for the office of Director shall include:

- 6.5.1 in the case of Directors elected by a class of Members, the persons whose names are put in nomination by that class of Members before the close of nominations at the meeting of Members at which the election of Directors is held.
- 6.5.2 in the case of Appointed Directors, the candidates proposed by the Nominating Committee and approved by the Board by Ordinary Resolution not later than the start of the meeting at which the election of Directors is held.

6.6 Nominating Committee

The composition of the Nominating Committee shall be determined by Board Regulation.

6.7 Forms

The Board may prescribe the form of nomination paper and the form of a ballot.

7 MEETING OF DIRECTORS

7.1 Calling Meetings

Meetings of the Board may be called by the Chair of the Board, the Vice-Chair of the Board, the Secretary or any two (2) Directors and shall be held at the place specified in the notice. The Board shall meet at least twice each year.

7.2 Regular Meetings

There shall be at least two regular meetings of the Board each year. The Board may appoint one or more days in each year for regular meetings of the Board at a set place and time. A copy of any resolution of the Board fixing the place and time of such regular meetings of the Board shall be sent to each Director as soon as possible after being passed, but no other notice shall be required for any such regular meeting except as may be required pursuant to the Act.

7.3 Notice of Meetings

Subject to the provisions of section 7.2, notice of Board meetings shall be given to each Director:

- 7.3.1 by telephone, fax, email or other electronic method at least five (5) days before the meeting is to take place, excluding the date on which notice is given; or
- 7.3.2 by prepaid letter post at least ten (10) days before the meeting is to take place, excluding the date on which notice is given.

7.4 Meetings by Electronic Conference

If all the Directors consent generally, or in respect of a particular meeting, any person entitled to attend a meeting of Directors may participate in a meeting by means of an electronic or other communication device that permits all participants to communicate adequately with each other during the meeting. Any person participating by electronic conference is deemed to be present at that meeting. Any security, confidentiality or other considerations with respect to the conduct of such a meeting shall be as determined by the Board from time to time.

Provided that at the outset of each such meeting, and whenever votes are required, the chair of the meeting shall confirm that a quorum is present.

7.5 Quorum

A quorum for the transaction of business at meetings of the Board shall be at least a majority of the Directors.

7.6 Voting

The method of voting at any meeting of the Board shall be determined by the chair of the meeting prior to any vote being taken. Each Director shall have one (1) vote on each question raised at any meeting of the Board, and all questions shall be determined by a majority of the votes cast. In the case of an equality of votes, the vote shall be deemed to have been lost. For greater certainty, the Chair of the meeting shall vote.

7.7 Written Resolutions

A Written Resolution, signed by all the Directors entitled to vote on that resolution at a meeting of Directors, is valid.

7.8 Electronic Signatures

Any matter requiring a signature of a Director, including Written Resolution, may be signed using an electronic signature that meets the following requirements:

- 7.8.1 the signature resulting from the use by the person of the technology or process is unique to the person;
- 7.8.2 the technology or process is used by the person to incorporate, attach or associate the person's signature to the electronic document; and
- 7.8.3 the technology or process can be used to identify its user.

7.9 Consensus

Subject to section 7.10, the Board may make decisions by consensus. A consensus is reached when:

- (a) every Director expresses agreement with the decision being taken; or
- (b) some Directors agree with the decision while others prefer a different decision but all Directors express a willingness to support the decision of the majority or plurality.

Consensus is not achieved when one or more Directors do not agree to support the decision of the majority or plurality. In the event that consensus cannot be reached, the decision shall be referred to a vote in accordance with section 7.6.

7.10 Matters that may not be decided by Consensus

Any matter requiring approval by Special Resolution may not be decided by consensus.

7.11 Adjournments

Any meeting of Directors may be adjourned to any time. Any business that might have been transacted at the original meeting from which the adjournment took place may be transacted upon the resumption of the adjourned meeting. No notice is required for the resumption of any adjourned meeting if the time and place of the adjourned meeting is announced at the original meeting.

8 BOARD REGULATIONS

8.1 Board Regulations

The Board may make Board Regulations with regard to any matter not inconsistent with the Act and the By-Laws. These regulations are outlined in a document identified as the "Board Governance Manual".

9 OFFICERS

9.1 Officers

There may be a Chair of the Board and such other Officers that may be elected or appointed by Board Regulation from time to time. Subject to the Act, the Articles and the By-Laws, the terms and duties of such Officers shall be defined in the Board Regulations passed by the Board from time to time.

9.2 Executive Director May Attend All Meetings

The Executive Director, if any, shall have the right to receive notice of, to attend and to speak at but not to vote (unless otherwise also a Director) at all meetings of the Board, any committee of the Board, including the Executive Committee, and any meeting of the Members, except those meetings where the terms of employment, compensation or performance of the Executive Director are discussed.

10 COMMITTEES

10.1 Committees

Subject to the Act and the By-Laws, the Board may by Board Regulation appoint such committees as it deems appropriate from time to time and set the rules governing such committees.

10.2 Executive Committee

The Board may appoint from among the Directors of the Corporation an Executive Committee and delegate to the Executive Committee any of the powers of the Directors except those powers listed in section 10.3.

10.3 Limits on Authority of Committees

No committee, including the Executive Committee, has authority to:

- 10.3.1 submit to the Members any question or matter requiring approval of the Members;
- 10.3.2 fill a vacancy among the Directors or in the office of Public Accountant or appoint additional Directors;
- 10.3.3 issue debt obligations except as authorized by the Board;
- 10.3.4 approve any financial statements;
- 10.3.5 adopt, amend or repeal any By-Law; or
- 10.3.6 establish contributions to be made, or dues to be paid, by Members.

11 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

11.1 Conflict of Interest

In accordance with the Act and any Board Regulations, Directors and Officers shall disclose any interests, whether direct, indirect or imputed, in any matter as required by the Act, and shall refrain from voting on any resolution related to that matter. Further guidance consistent with the Act may be provided by the Board Regulations.

12 EXECUTION OF DOCUMENTS

12.1 Execution of Documents

The Board may by Board Regulation prescribe the person(s) authorized to execute classes of documents on behalf of the Corporation. All documents executed in accordance with the Board Regulations are binding on the Corporation without further action or formality.

13 BORROWING BY THE CORPORATION

13.1 General Borrowing Authority

Subject to the Board Regulations, the Directors may, without authorization from the Members:

- 13.1.1 borrow money on the credit of the Corporation;
- 13.1.2 issue, reissue, sell, pledge or hypothecate debt obligations of the Corporation;
- 13.1.3 give a guarantee on behalf of the Corporation to secure performance of an obligation of any person; and
- 13.1.4 mortgage, hypothecate, pledge or otherwise create a security interest in all or any property of the Corporation, owned or subsequently acquired, to secure any obligation of the Corporation.

Subject to the terms upon which the Members have authorized the exercise of the above powers, the Directors may delegate these powers to a Director, committee of Directors, or Officer.

14 FINANCIAL YEAR

14.1 Financial Year Determined

The financial year of the Corporation shall terminate on the last day of May in each year or on such other date as the Board may determine.

15 PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

15.1 Board May Make Initial Appointment

The Board may, following incorporation, appoint a Public Accountant to hold office until the first Annual General Meeting. The Public Accountant must meet the requirements in the Act.

15.2 Annual Appointment

Subject to the Act and its Government Regulations, the Members of the Corporation at each Annual General Meeting shall appoint one or more Public Accountants. The Public Accountant will hold office until the close of the next Annual General Meeting and if an appointment is not made, the incumbent Public Accountant continues in office until a successor is appointed.

15.3 Removal of Public Accountant

The Members, by Ordinary Resolution at a Special Meeting of the Members, may remove any Public Accountant before the expiration of the term of office in accordance with the Act.

15.4 Vacancy in the Office of Public Accountant

The Board shall fill any vacancy in the office of Public Accountant, but while the vacancy continues any remaining Public Accountant may act.

15.5 Remuneration of Public Accountant

The remuneration of a Public Accountant appointed by the Members may be fixed by the Members by Ordinary Resolution, or shall be fixed by the Board if the Members do not do so.

16 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

16.1 Making Financial Statements Available to Members

The Corporation may, instead of sending copies of the annual financial statements and related documents to the members, publish a notice to its members stating that the annual financial statements and related documents are available at the registered office of the Corporation and any member may, on request, obtain a copy free of charge at the registered office or by prepaid mail.

16.2 Filing of Financial Statements with Corporations Canada

As required by the Act, and subject to any amendments to the Act, the Corporation shall file copies of its annual financial statements to Corporations Canada not less than 21 days before the Annual General Meeting of Members. If the Annual General Meeting is conducted by Written Resolution, a copy of the annual financial statements shall be filed with Corporations Canada as soon as possible following the signing of the Written Resolution by the Members.

17 NOTICE

17.1 When notice deemed given

When notice is given under the By-Laws by the following means, that notice is deemed to have been given at the following time:

- 17.1.1 If given by telephone, notice is deemed given at the time of the telephone call;
- 17.1.2 If given in writing by prepaid letter post to the last address shown on the Corporation's records, notice is deemed given on the third day after mailing;
- 17.1.3 If given in writing by courier or personal delivery, notice is deemed given when delivered;
- 17.1.4 If given by email, notice is deemed given when sent; and
- 17.1.5 If provided by other electronic means, notice is deemed given when transmitted.

17.2 Declaration of Notice

At any meeting, the declaration of the Secretary or chair of the meeting that notice has been given pursuant to this By-Law shall be sufficient and conclusive evidence of the giving of such notice. No formal notice of a meeting is necessary if all those entitled to notice are present or if those absent have signified their consent to the meeting being held without notice and in their absence.

17.3 Computation of Time

In computing the date when notice must be given under any provision of the By-Laws requiring a specified number of days' notice of any meeting or other event:

- 17.3.1 where reference is made to “at least”, then the number of days does not include the day notice is given or the day of the meeting or event;
- 17.3.2 in all other cases the number of days shall exclude the day of the meeting or other event and include the day notice is given, unless otherwise provided; and
- 17.3.3 where the time for giving the notice falls on a holiday, the notice may be given on the next day that is not a holiday.

17.4 Omissions and Errors

Any resolution passed or proceeding taken at a meeting of the Board, a committee of the Board or Members shall not be invalidated by:

- 17.4.1 an error in notice that does not affect its substance;
- 17.4.2 the accidental omission to give notice; or
- 17.4.3 the accidental non-receipt of notice by any Director, Member or Public Accountant.

Any Director, Member or Public Accountant may at any time waive notice of, and ratify and approve any proceeding taken at any meeting.

17.5 Waiver

Where a notice or document is required to be sent pursuant to the By-Laws or the Act, the person entitled to receive the notice or document may consent in writing to waive either the sending of the notice or document or the time within which the notice or document must be sent.

18 BY-LAWS AND EFFECTIVE DATE

18.1 Effective Date of this By-law

This By-Law shall only be effective upon the issuance of the Corporation’s Certificate of Continuance under the Act by Industry Canada.

18.2 Amendments requiring Special Resolution

Amendments to the following sections of this By-Law shall only be effective upon approval of the Members by Special Resolution:

- 18.2.1 Section 1.1.9;
- 18.2.2 Section 3.1;
- 18.2.3 Section 3.2;
- 18.2.4 Section 4.4;
- 18.2.5 Section 4.10;
- 18.2.6 Section 5.1; and
- 18.2.7 any section that adds, changes, or removes a provision that is contained in the Corporation’s Articles.

18.3 By-Laws and Effective Date

Subject to the Articles, the Board of Directors may make, amend or repeal any By-Law that regulates the activities or affairs of the Corporation. Subject to section 18.2, any such By-Law, amendment or repeal shall be effective from the date of the resolution of Directors until the next

meeting of Members where it may be confirmed, rejected or amended by Ordinary Resolution of the Members.

If the By-Law amendment or repeal is confirmed or confirmed as amended by the Members, it remains effective in the form in which it was confirmed. The By-Law amendment or repeal ceases to have effect if it is not submitted to the Members at the next meeting of Members or if it is rejected by the Members at the meeting.

19 REPEAL OF PRIOR BY-LAWS

19.1 Repeal

Subject to the provisions of section 19.2 hereof, all prior By-Laws, resolutions and other enactments of the Corporation inconsistent in either form or content with the provisions of this By-Law are repealed.

19.2 Prior Acts

The repeal of prior By-Laws, resolutions and other enactments shall not impair in any way the validity of any act or thing done pursuant to any such repealed By-Laws, resolution or other enactment.

ENACTED by the Directors as a By-Law of **MB MISSION** this _____ day of _____, 201__.

Chair of the Board

Secretary

CONFIRMED by the Members in accordance with the *Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act* on the _____ day of _____, 201__.

Chair of the Board

Secretary

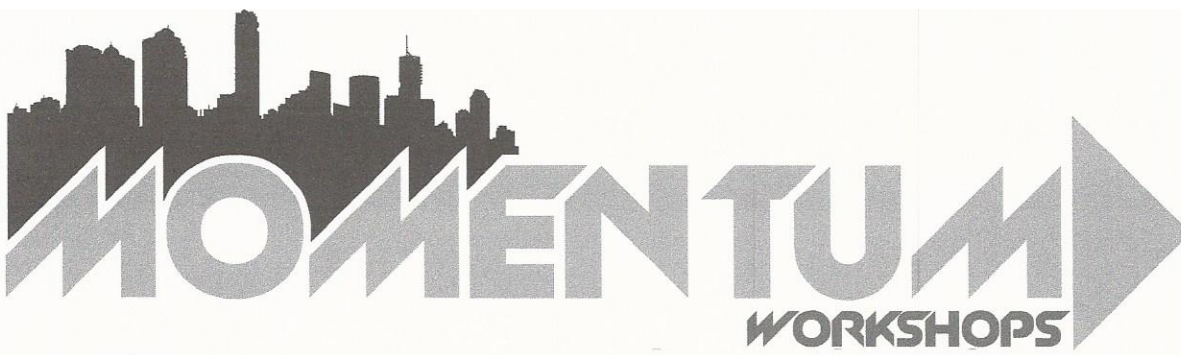
Copy of the signed and fully approved By-Laws provided to the Ministry of Industry on the _____ day of _____, 201__. (required to be deposited within one year of approval).



Thanks to our sponsors!

We appreciate your support and partnership!





Saturday, July 26

TITLE

LOCATION

Session 1, 1:15-2:00pm

1. Connecting with Today's College Student

Leaders: Jules Glanzer and Pete Menjares
Bridging the generation gap in education, faith and life.

Prospector A

2. Healthy and Effective Small Churches

Leaders: Aaron Box and Bill Koogler
Explore ideas for effective ministry and big impact.

Monterey

3. Externally Focused Church

Leaders: Paul Bartel and Jeff Gowling
We don't go to church, we are the Church. Embracing our purpose of bringing the Gospel to our communities, living the life of the church outside of the walls of the church.

Ponderosa

4. Feeding Your Soul

Leader: Randy Friesen
How do we not just survive, but thrive through daily practices and principles that fill our tanks and feed our soul?

Prospector B

5. How Do We Do Theology?

Leader: Tim Geddert
Is "Theology" the real truth, something more foundational than the texts in the Bible from which it is derived? Or is "Theology" a human enterprise, subject to constant revision? What is the difference between "Biblical Theology" and "Systematic Theology"? Which approaches to theology most faithfully portray God and help us understand God's work in the world and our role in that? Which approaches are most helpful in the life of the church? Most faithful to Scripture? Come enjoy an engaging conversation about these matters!

Grand Ballroom D-E

6. Five Key Reasons We Must be Planting Churches

Leaders: Don Morris and Gord Fleming
This workshop will focus on five key reasons that we as a national conference, districts, churches and individuals must be about the work of planting churches. In addition, learn how God is using partnerships to accomplish the birth of new MB churches all across America and how you can be involved as well.

Grand Ballroom A-B

TITLE

LOCATION

Session 2, 2:15-3:00pm

1. BFL-Confession of Faith, Article 13

Leader: Larry Nikkel

Discussion on the proposed changes to this Article.

Grand Ballroom A-B

2. Christendom and Christianity

Leader: Terry Brensinger

Discover the difference between Christendom and Christianity. Is it more than community and relationship, religion and spirituality?

Prospector A

3. Why Life Coaching is the Bomb

Leaders: Ed Boschman and Dave Froese

Not content with how things are in your life? Like to move beyond having to survive your less than satisfactory reality? Skilled Life Coaching will provide the help you need to get unstuck and become the best you can be. Achieve stable spiritual health and general well being and balance in your life. Powerful questions provided by the coach will inspire you to develop a satisfying life plan, ministry vision, and ministry plan. Discover ways to maintain your priority commitments and “get things done.”

Ponderosa

4. Reaching the Unlikely

Leader: Gavin Linderman

The Unlikely are not those you don't like, they are those that are unlikely to ever enter your church community. Reaching them doesn't have to be hard but it may have to be done in a way “unlike” ever before for your church and leaders.

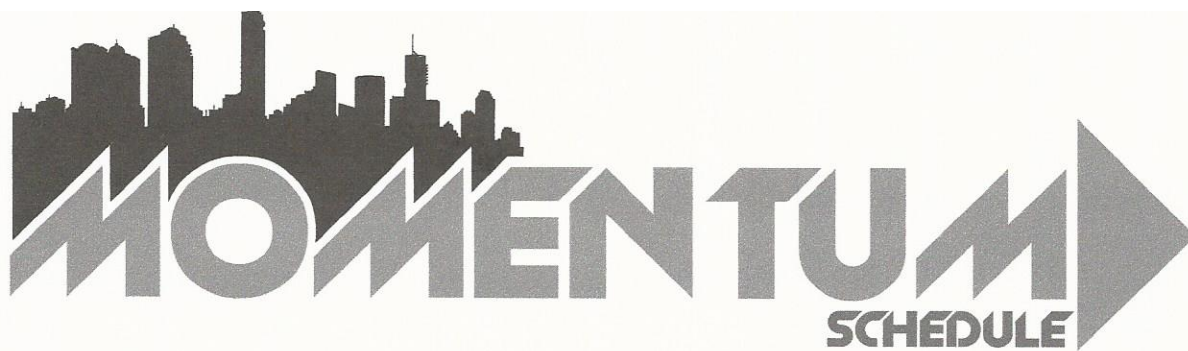
Monterey

5. A Global Mosaic – (MWC) Current developments, opportunities and threats in our global family of faith.

Leader: Cesar Garcia

The U.S. Mennonite Brethren are one of the host North American churches planning for the next Mennonite World Conference Assembly, Pennsylvania 2015, taking place in July 2015. This is an opportunity to learn more about our global family of faith of over 1.3 million members and how as North American churches we can provide hospitality to our brothers and sisters from around the world.

Prospector B



Conection 2014 - National Convention

(All Sessions are in the Grand Ballroom)

Friday, July 25

9:00am – 6:00 pm

Registration (Opening reception sponsored by MCC)

4:00-5:30 pm

Session 1

Tabor College/Ministry Quest
Fresno Pacific University / Fresno Pacific Biblical Seminary

6:00–7:00

Dinner - Hall of Cities Ballroom (Sponsored by MB Foundation)

7:00–9:00

Session 2

Music/ communion / Featured speaker – Ed Stetzer

Saturday, July 26

7:30-8:30 am

Breakfast - Hall of Cities Ballroom

8:30 am

Session 3

Keynote Address: Ed Boschman, Mission USA, Offering

10:00

Break

10:30-12:15 pm

Session 4

Christian Leader / Social Media / Kindred Productions
Board of Faith and Life – Article 13
MB Foundation
Elections
ICOMB (International Community of Mennonite Brethren)

12:15

Lunch - Hall of Cities Ballroom

1:15-2:00

Workshops - Session 1 (see listing for locations)

2:15-3:00

Workshops - Session 2 (see listing for locations)

3:00

Break

3:30

Session 5

MB Mission, National Youth Commission
Historical Commission, Mennonite World Conference
Recommendations, Executive Director transition

5:30

Convention Ends

6:00 –7:00

Dinner - Hall of Cities Ballroom

7:15–9:00pm

Final Session

Music/Featured speaker – Pete McCleod

Sunday, July 27

Worship in Area MB Churches:

- Shorelife Community Church, Capitola
- Blossom Valley Bible Church, San Jose
- Iglesia Los Hechos, San Jose
- Lincoln Glen Church, San Jose
- Ethiopian Christian Fellowship, Santa Clara

USMB LEADERSHIP BOARD And Staff

(*first term, **second term)

Chair: Steve Schroeder (*Penni*) (**2016) Cell: 620-947-3154
610 S Main Office: 620-947-2338
Hillsboro KS 67063 email: steve@parkviewmb.com

Vice Chair: Marv Schellenberg (*Andrea*) (**2018) Cell: 316-992-4653
7409 Lakewood Cir Office: 316-721-2153 ext. 101
Wichita KS 67205-1608 email: marvs@premierwichita.com

Treasurer: David Hardt (*Amie*) (**2016) Cell: 661-201-6747
10507 Pine Rock Dr Home: 661-589-3315
Bakersfield CA 93312 Office: 661-588-8100
email: dhardt11@me.com

Secretary: Tim Hodge (*Mary Ellen*) (2016) Office: 316-283-8746
(completing term of Matt Kolbert)
2727 N Main St Home: 316-283-0902
North Newton KS 67117 Cell: 316-772-0744
email: tim@aplawpa.com

Aaron Box (*Jennifer*) (*2018) Office: 541-344-7186
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Clyde Ferguson Jr (*Karen*) (**2018) Cell: 910-644-5901
626 Harper Ave
Lenoir NC 28645 email: crfergj@gmail.com

Aaron Hernandez (*Alejandra*) (**2018) Cell: 956-735-4898
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email: aronmasale@yahoo.com

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Director of Edmond OK 73012 Office: 405-340-4178
Mission USA

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Bakersfield CA 93308 email: lori@usmb.org
Skype: loritaylor7

USMB CHURCHES DIRECTORY of BFL/Commissions/Board Appointments

(*1st term, ** 2nd term)

1. US Board of Faith and Life

<p>Larry Nikkel (Chair) ** (2016) 7414 E Cedaridge Cir Wichita KS 67226</p>	<p>Home: 316-201-1297 Cell: 620-877-7119 Email: larrynikkel@tabor.edu</p>
<p>Mike Petts * (2018) PO Box 119 Freeman SD 57029</p>	<p>Office/Home: 605-925-7850 Email: pettsindakota@goldenwest.net</p>
<p>Tim Geddert ** (2016) FPBS 1717 S Chestnut Fresno CA 93702</p>	<p>Home: 559-498-3684 Office: 559-453-2316 Email: tgeddert@gmail.com</p>
<p>Jana Hildebrandt * (2018) 8000 W 21st St Wichita KS 67205</p>	<p>Office: 316-722-5885 Cell: 316-650-3141 Email: jhildebrandt@firstmbchurch.org</p>
<p>Rick Eshbaugh “ex officio” 220 9th St W Harvey ND 58341</p>	<p>Home: 701-324-2408 Cell: 701-625-1125 Email: reshbaugh@msn.com</p>
<p>Terry Hunt “ex officio” PO Box 2697 Lenoir NC 28645</p>	<p>Home: 336-838-5856 Office: 828-758-0540 Cell: 828-759-0558 Email: pastortwh@gmail.com</p>
<p>Tim Sullivan “ex officio” 7348 W 21st St Ste 115 Wichita KS 67220</p>	<p>Office: 316-722-8680 Home: 316-744-7472 Cell: 316-253-6806 Email: tsully@sdcmb.org</p>
<p>Gary Wall “ex officio” Pacific District Conference 1717 S Chestnut Ave Fresno CA 93702-4709</p>	<p>Fax: 559-453-5582 Office: 559-453-2082 Cell: 559-972-6053 Email: gary.wall@fresno.edu</p>
<p>Don Morris “ex officio” 1701 Signal Ridge Dr Ste 140 Edmond OK 73013</p>	<p>Office: 405-340-4178 Cell: 405-684-3908 email: don@missionusa.net</p>

2. National Youth Committee (Appointed - 4 year terms)

<p>James Wilfong * (2016) 155 Miller Hill Rd Lenoir NC 28645</p>	<p>Cell: 828-729-4459 Email: jameswilfo2478c@att.net</p>
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Natl Youth committee cont.

Joanna Chapa * (2016)
404 S Washington Apt 2
Hillsboro KS 67063

Cell: 956-735-2686
Email: chapajoanna@hotmail.com

Matt Ford * (2016)
5724 N Fresno St
Fresno CA 93710

Office: 559-431-0333
Home: 559-485-5777
Email: mford@northfresnochurch.org

Kyle Goings * (2016)
8000 W 21st
Wichita KS 67205

Office: 316-722-5885
Email: kgoings@firstmbchurch.org

Jeral Gross – Treasurer * (2016)
1420 Augusta Ave
Mitchell SD 57301

605-337-2882
Email: Jeral_gross@msn.com

Christy Goentzel * (2016)
1832 High
Wichita KS 67203

Cell: 316-258-2487
Email: cgoentzel.sdyc@cox.net
chrismo@hotmai.com

Keith Warkentin * (2016)
7039 Jackson Rd
Blaine WA 98230

Office: 360-371-2300
Home: 360-510-8753
Email: pastorkeith@birchbaychurch.com

Russ Claassen * (2016)
320 N Meridian
Newton KS 67114

Office: 316-283-5696
Cell: 316-832-5250
Email: russe@sdcmb.org

3. Historical Commission (4 year terms)

Don Isaac – Chair (2016)
114 N Adams
Hillsboro KS 67063

Home: 620-947-5964
Email: djisaac@gmail.com

Valerie Rempel (2018)
1717 S Chestnut
Fresno CA 93702

Office: 559-453-2310
Email: rempelev@fresno.edu

Julia Reimer (2016)
4975 E Butler Ave #113
Fresno CA 93727

Office: 559-453-2056
Email: jreimer@fresno.edu

Staff:

Jon Isaak, Executive Secretary
1310 Taylor Ave.
Winnipeg MB R3M 3Z6
Canada

Office: 204-654-5761
Email: jisaak@mbconf.ca

4. Other Appointments

a. MB Mission– [U.S. Board Members]
(Corporate structure separate from USMB)

Jeff Gowling * (2018)
12225 Stockdale Hwy
Bakersfield CA 93314
Office: 661-587-2010
Cell: 661-589-1636
Email: jeff@thebridgebiblechurch.com

Stephen Humber * (2016)
13543 Valley St
Omaha NE 68144
Office: 402-895-9596
Email: stephen@stonybrookchurch.com

Ruth Schale ** (2016)
3818 Green Hills St
Bakersfield CA 93306
Home: 805-872-6525
Email: dschale@mac.com

Chair:
Brent Warkentin – At Large MBM appointed** (2018)
8000 W 21st St
Wichita KS 67205-1744
Fax: 316-722-5931
Home: 316-773-9509
Office: 316-722-5885
Email: bwarkentin@firstmbchurch.org

Staff:
Randy Friesen, General Director
300-32040 Downes Rd
Abbotsford BC V4X 1X5
Canada
Fax: 604-859-6422
Home: 604-859-6267
Office: 604-859-6267
Email: randyf@mbmission.org

b. Mennonite Brethren Foundation
U.S. Treasurer (automatic appointment)
David Hardt (July 2016)

Lynn Schneider, Chair (2018, At Large)
900 Beach Ave NE
Huron SD 57350
Fax: 605-352-9123
Home: 605-352-9593
Office: 605-352-9122
Email: lynngloria@hur.midco.net

Dan Ray, Vice Chair (2018, At Large)
2572 W Magill
Fresno CA 93711
Fax: 559-438-2694
Home: 559-439-6028
Office: 559-438-2640
Cell: 559-287-9993
Email: dray@regencyinvests.com

Ken Neufeld (2016, At large)
259 W San Jose
Fresno CA 93704
Fax: 559-440-9120
Home: 559-225-7445
Office/Cell: 559-436-4057
Email: realtorneufeld@gmail.com

Gaven Banik (2018)
26496 460th Ave
Hartford SD 57033
Fax: 605-221-2135
Home: 605-360-0138
Email: gavenj@yahoo.com

MBF cont.

Randy Hamm (July 2016, At Large)
2305 Oak Leaf Circle
Enid OK 73703

Fax: 580-242-5837
Home: 580-242-2516
Office: 580-237-5616
Email: rhamm@stuartnissanofenid.com

Greg Quiring (July 2016)
795 E Rialto
Fresno CA 93704

Fax: 559-432-6614
Home: 559-226-1680
Office: 559-432-2800
Email: gquiring@quiring.com

Tharen Spahr (2018)
244 N Shefford
Wichita KS 67212

Home: 316-722-9180
Office: 316-838-4663
Email: tharen@sbcglobal.net

Terry Hunt (2018)
209 Wadkins Ln
North Wilkesboro NC 28659

Home: 336-838-5856
Office: 828-758-0540
Cell: 828-759-0558
Email: pastortwh@gmail.com

Staff:

Jon Wiebe, President/CEO
PO Box 220
Hillsboro KS 67063-0220

Fax: 620-947-3266
Office: 620-947-3151
Cell: 620-877-7058
Email: jwiebe@mbfoundation.com

c. Mennonite Central Committee (Appointed - 4 year terms)

MCC USA Board:

Jill Schellenberg * (2017)
3647 E Huntington Blvd
Fresno CA 93702

Home: 559-237-1720
Office: 559-453-3419
Cell: 559-709-2463
Email: jschelle@fresno.edu

Dina Gonzalez-Pina * (2015)
PO Box 7820
Fresno CA 93747

Bill Braun * (2015)
2529 Willow Ave.
Clovis CA 93612

Home: 559-264-8750
Office: 559-291-3344
Email: wdbraun@yahoo.com

d. Mennonite Disaster Service (Appointed - 6 year term)

Jose Elizondo * (2020)
1717 S Chestnut Ave
Fresno CA 93702

Office: 559-453-2082
Email: elizondo2@verizon.net

e. Everence (Appointed by Everence - 4 year term)

Larry Nikkel * (2015) (USMB rep)
7414 E Cedaridge Cir
Wichita KS 67226

Home: 316-201-1297
Cell: 620-877-7119
Email: larrynikkel@tabor.edu

Paul Quiring ** (2017) (At large)
2207 W Spruce Ave
Fresno CA 93711-0456

Email: pquiring@quiring.com

f. Other (4 year terms unless noted)

International Committee of Mennonite Brethren (ICOMB): Ed Boschman, Treasurer

Mennonite World Conference: Bill Braun (2021), USMB Executive Director

(6 yr terms) Dennis Becker * (2015) beckerdn@sbcglobal.net

Youth representative: Trent Voth, Fresno CA (2015)

Mennonite Health Services: Valerie Rempel, Fresno, CA (2019) (completing Sheri

Weidenhoefer's term to 2015, then serving a full term)

FP Biblical Seminary: USMB Executive Director

MB Mission: USMB Executive Director

National Association of Evangelicals: USMB Executive Director

Winnie Bartel (By virtue of appointment)

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lori@usmb.org

Interim Executive Director:

Don Morris

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ADDITIONAL ADDRESSES

Everence (formerly Mennonite Mutual Aid (MMA))

PO Box 483
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www.mma-online.org

Toll free: 800-348-7468

Fresno Pacific University

1717 S Chestnut Ave
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www.fresno.edu

Fax: 559-453-2007
Office: 559-453-2000
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Fresno Pacific Biblical Seminary (formerly MB Biblical Seminary)

1717 S Chestnut
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Email: seminary@fresno.edu

International Community of Mennonite Brethren (ICOMB)

Executive Secretary: David Wiebe
www.icomb.org

Cell: 204-981-6335
Email: dwiebe@icomb.org

Kindred Productions

1310 Taylor Ave.
Winnipeg MB R3M 3Z6
www.kindredproductions.com

Wpg office: 204-654-5765
Toll Free: 800-545-7322

Email: kindred@mbconf.ca

Mennonite Brethren Foundation

PO Box 220
Hillsboro KS 67063
www.mbfoundation.com

Fax: 620-947-3266
Toll free: 800-551-1547
Office: 620-947-3151
Email: info@mbfoundation.com

MB Mission (formerly MBMS International)

International Office:
300 – 32040 Downes Rd
Abbotsford BC V4X 1X5
Canada
www.mbmission.org

Fax: 604-859-6422
Office: 604-859-6267
Toll free (from US): 866-964-7627
Email: mbmission@mbmission.org

Fresno Office:
4867 E Townsend Ave.
Fresno CA 93727

Fax: 559-251-1432
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PO Box 500
Akron PA 17501-0500
www.mcc.org

717-859-2171
Office: 717-859-1151
Toll Free: 888-563-4676

Mennonite Central Committee (Central States)

PO Box 2324
North Newton KS 67117
www.mcc.org/centralstates

Office: 316-283-2720
Email: centralstates@mcc.org

Mennonite Central Committee (West Coast)

1010 G St.
Reedley CA 93654

Office: 559-638-6911
Email: westcoast@mcc.org

Mennonite Disaster Service

1018 Main St
Akron PA 17501
www.mds.mennonite.net

Office: 717-859-2210
Toll free: 800-241-8111
Email: mdsus@mds.mennonite.net

Tabor College

400 S Jefferson
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www.tabor.edu

Fax: 620-947-2607
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**2014 and 2015 FINANCIAL PARTNERSHIP GOALS
U. S. CONFERENCE OF MENNONITE BRETHREN
CHURCHES (USMB)**

FOR FISCAL YEAR Ending December 31, 2014 and
For FISCAL YEAR 2015

USMB NATIONAL MINISTRIES FUND (NMF)

Includes: National Leadership Board, Board of Faith and Life, US Staff, Mission USA (Church Renewal/Church Growth/Church Planting), Christian Leader magazine, Administration.

USMB Leadership Board and staff invite and encourage partner churches to give 2.5% of local church general offering income (tithes and offerings received to support the general budget) for the NMF (National Ministries Fund).

FRESNO PACIFIC BIBLICAL SEMINARY:

U.S. Churches' share of church subsidy in the Seminary Budget.

per member..... 22.00

MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE:

per member..... 10.00

MENNONITE DISASTER SERVICE: List donations on OTHER line at bottom, before TOTAL.

TREASURERS:

Please use remittance forms for **ALL** the above (can be added together in one total) and send with check payable to:

USMB
7348 W 21st Suite 115
Wichita KS 67205-1765

1-800-257-0515
offices@usmb.org

*PLEASE NOTE that support or donations to your District Conference should be sent directly to your District Treasurer and support to Fresno Pacific University or Tabor College should be sent directly to that school. MB Mission donations should be sent to the MB Mission office in Fresno.