Mennonite Men

Engaging men to grow, give and serve as followers of Jesus for God's shalom



Photo by Jonathan Fridley

On behalf of Mennonite Men USA and Mennonite Men Canada, thank you for participating in our ministries. Your gifts have helped us support the faith formation of many men, assist new congregations purchase a worship space, and care for God's creation through tree planting in Canada, the United States, and around the world. I hope you enjoy reading about the work God has placed before us and ways that you and your family, congregation, conference, or business can get involved to help us reach our year-end goals. And as always, please pray for our ministry.



Jon Zirkle & Son, Gio

CONTACT MENNONITE MEN: **JON ZIRKLE,** Interim US Coordinator JonZ@MennoniteMen.org mennonitemen.org

JoinHands for New Churches

Application from Myanmar: Our board of directors will soon be reviewing a JoinHands application from a congregation in Myanmar (Southeast Asia). This congregation's structure was destroyed years ago by explosives during war. This application came to us via Mennonite Church Canada's Witness Liaison Norm Dyck. After returning from a recent visit to Myanmar and being unable to visit some parts of the country, Norm reported:

> *"What I did witness was the remarkable resilience and determination of the church. Despite displacement, economic hardship, and the ongoing uncertainty of life in Myanmar, Bible Missionary Church Mennonite (BMC) continues to focus on worship, discipleship, peacebuilding, and caring for its communities."*

Mennonite Men's JoinHands committee hopes to be able to support this project and others to come in our 2027 budget. Given our recently approved JoinHands grants to international partners in Angola and Ghana, we welcome applications from new congregations in Canada and the US for up to $40,000.

Help us raise $25,000 by Dec. 31 for JoinHands.

SCAN NOW TO DONATE

JoinTrees for Creation Care

Updates from past projects: JoinTrees funding has gone to project partners in Kenya, Palestine, Indonesia, and Illinois (USA). We look forward to sharing about their progress in the coming year! We've also received news from partners in Angola that the work we initially helped support in the past is expanding! Praise be to God.

New Application from Elkhart Co., Indiana. Cynthia and Gordon Bontrager of New Paris, IN (USA) plan to plant 7800 trees this spring on 10 acres of sloped farmland in southern Elkhart County. This field is near the top of the watershed and prone to erosion, a prime place to plant trees that stabilize the soil and sequester carbon! Our board will soon review this application.

JoinTrees funding goals are BIG: 600,000 more trees by the end of 2030. Does your church, company, or family wish to plant acres of trees? Or offset carbon emissions by funding tree planting elsewhere? New applications welcomed!

Help us raise $20,000 by Dec. 31 for JoinTrees.
and $100,000 by July 31.

HOW TO HELP:
Host a JoinTrees fundraiser of your own, or give the gift of a donation as a gift to a loved one this holiday season.

JoinMen for Male Formation

These are challenging times for many men within and outside of the Mennonite Church. Isolation, addiction, lack of positive male role models, and disillusionment are common. Now is the time for us to connect with men and male youth to build community and faith. Supporting this initiative includes men's retreats and workshops in the US and Canada as well as novel programming that brings men together in the coming year.

Help us raise $10,000 by Dec. 31 for JoinMen.



Want to start or join a men's group? Attend a Zoom meeting to connect with other men of faith?

Contact us on our website or e-mail me (Jon) at JonZ@MennoniteMen.org.

Men's retreat at Camp Friedenswald (Michigan, USA) March 5-7, 2027.

Mennonite Men is excited to once again partner with Camp Friedenswald in co-hosting a men's retreat this coming March! Our retreat this past March was a success, and evaluations after retreat were very positive. Further details about the theme, speakers and online registration will be announced in the coming weeks on the Mennonite Men website and Camp Friedenswald website. Scholarships are available from Camp Friedenswald, but Mennonite Men wants to further expand the pool of support for men who have a financial barrier to attend or have travel expenses. US and Canadian men are welcome to register!

New Initiatives and Updates

If you've been following, Mennonite Men is embarking on hiring US and Canadian coordinators, as well as growing its board and taking seriously the work of justice and repair in the name of Jesus.

This time of transition, growth, training and partnership requires material support. Even more importantly, this work needs your prayer.

On behalf of our board and staff, please pray with and for us.



Thank You

If you wish to support our mission, please mail a contribution with the enclosed form or donate online at mennonitemen.org/donate.

Also, consider Mennonite Men as a recipient in your estate planning, a gift that supports our ministries for years to come.

With appreciation for your partnership as together we follow Jesus for God's shalom,

Jon Zirkle
Interim U.S. Coordinator

HOW TO DONATE:

CLICK HERE!

SCAN NOW TO DONATE

ONLINE:

Scan (or click) the QR Code to visit mennonitemen.org/donate
Select your designation and complete doation via PayPal

BY MAIL:

Check Payable to: Mennonite Men
Memo: Designated Ministry (JoinMen, JoinTrees, JoinHands)
Mail to: 718 N. Main St. | Newton, KS 67114