
Relief, development and peace in the name of Christ

2020 Report to Central District Conference

Since 1920, Mennonite Central Committee has worked with the church, partner organizations and supporters to share God's love and compassion by responding to basic human needs and working for peace and justice.

Our connections

- CDC congregations and individuals support relief sales in Bloomington, Atlanta and Goshen, along with the Twin Cities MCC Annual Benefit Evening fundraiser. They also contribute significantly to the My Coins Count initiative.
- Groups from Faith Mennonite (Goshen) and Oak Grove Mennonite (Smithville) volunteered with MCC's Sharing With Appalachian People (SWAP) program in Kentucky and West Virginia working to make homes safe, warm and dry.
- Thank you to the individuals and churches that took part in the Great Winter Warm-up events in January, where volunteers across two continents completed more than 9,400 comforters for MCC.
- MCC speakers shared at Florence Church of the Brethren-Mennonite (Constantine), Maplewood Mennonite (Fort Wayne), Emmaus Road Mennonite (Berne) and Faith Mennonite (Goshen).
- First Mennonite (Wadsworth) took part in the Loss of Turtle Island, a participatory learning experience that depicts the historic relationship between European settlers - including Mennonites - and the Indigenous nations, the original inhabitants, of the land we now call the United States of America.
- Families at Faith Mennonite (Goshen) and Assembly Mennonite (Goshen) hosted International Volunteer Exchange Program (IVEP) participants in 2019. Greg Suderman, from Hively Avenue Mennonite (Elkhart), helps with driving, overnight hosting and meeting with local IVEPers often.
- Individuals from CDC congregations play integral roles in helping with meat canning, volunteering in thrift shops and assembling material resources kits and blankets.
- The MCC Great Lakes Board visited Columbus Mennonite Church during their meeting in February 2020. They met the Piecemakers (comforter knotting) group and learned more about the congregation providing sanctuary for Edith Espinal.
- MCC is grateful for the ongoing gifts of funds from Central District Conference churches, whether through the conference office, My Coins Count, directly from individuals to MCC or by estate bequests.

MCC's centennial

- MCC started by helping families affected by war and famine in southern Russia (present-day Ukraine) 100 years ago. We now work in more than 50 countries and here at home. We are grateful to our supporters like you who continue to give generously of your time, talents, prayers and financial gifts to make this work possible.
- We hope you will join us in giving thanks to God for the chance to be part of God's work in the world for the past 100 years. As we look to the future, we continue to seek to build right relationships with God, one another and creation.
- 100 Stories for 100 Years: Explore images and stories from the breadth of MCC's work – from a graphic story on the 1920 trip that began MCC's ministry to accounts of women peacemakers now. Go to mcc.org/centennial/100-stories/email to sign up for monthly emails highlighting stories from the project.

Representatives and contacts

- CDC is represented on the MCC Great Lakes Board by Peter Martin of Emmaus Road Mennonite Fellowship. Also serving on the Great Lakes Board is Milton Borntreger of Paoli Mennonite who is board chair.
- MCC Great Lakes staff are available to speak to your congregation and connect you with resources. Please contact our office, and subscribe to MCC's *In Touch* monthly e-newsletter to get the latest news and information.

Thank you for being part of MCC's ministry in the name of Christ for the past 100 years and into the future,

- Eric Kurtz, Executive Director for MCC Great Lakes