2021 has been full of exciting work and meaningful connections as the work of Mennonite Men continues to benefit our communities and congregations. Our three programs—JoinTrees, JoinMen, and JoinHands—continue to thrive as we invite men to grow, give and serve as followers of Jesus.

To learn more about our work, download resources, or contribute to our programs, visit **mennonitemen.org**.

Steve Thomas, U.S. Coordinator



## **JoinTrees**



Planting Trees to restore the earth

JoinTrees is our campaign to plant one million trees by 2030. This campaign targets climate change—an existential threat to life on our planet. By increasing tree and forest cover with this JoinTrees campaign, our goals are to help: (1) mitigate global warming, (2) serve climate justice, and (3) sustain biodiversity.

Our vision is a healthy, thriving planet where God's abundant life of shalom is enjoyed by all from generation to generation.

A recent grant given to Landisville Mennonite Church in Pennsylvania contributed to the planting

of over 600 trees on 3.65 acres as the land is turned from farmland back to forest and meadow as part of the congregation's efforts to improve water quality, expand pollinator and wildlife habitat, and address climate change.

Communities like La Paz, Honduras are planting seedlings granted in 2021 to restore land in local watersheds and assist farmers incorporate trees into crop and animal farming systems for a variety of benefits. These projects improve local communities, assist vulnerable populations, support biodiversity and will help mitigate the increasingly negative effects of global warming.

Learn more and contribute to this program at mennonitemen.org/jointrees

## **JoinHands**



JoinHands is our program for giving and grantmaking. Through our JoinHands Mennonite Church Building Program, we provide grants to help new congregations acquire their first church building. Mennonite Men has given over 2 million

dollars to new congregations for this purpose.

Sharing resources for new church buildings

We invite individuals and congregations to give to JoinHands. We especially ask churches pursuing building projects to give as a way of sharing resources and serving "fair balance" with congregations in need.

Our current project is raising \$40,000 for the Hmong Mennonite Church in Westminster, CO. Since 2015, members of Hmong Mennonite Church have been planning and searching for a place of their own to accommodate their growing ministry. Once funded, the grant will assist this congregation in finding space of their own to carry out their growing ministry.

Help us accomplish this fair balance. We can extend grants only as donors give to this program. For more details about this program, visit mennonitemen.org/joinhands.

## **JoinMen**



Gathering men and promoting their growth

JoinMen provides retreats and resources from an Anabaptist perspective to promote healthy masculinity, Christian formation and community. We desire that all men find a place of belonging among men who are strong, loving and wise as we follow Jesus in building God's shalom.

Retreats provide opportunities for men to gather together and engage issues in community. More than an event, these experiences are also meant to encourage participants to be part of an ongoing men's group and growth process. A full list of

retreat themes we offer can be found at mennonitemen.org/joinmen.

In addition to retreats, a study guide and audio book are now available for Peaceful at Heart: Anabaptist Reflections on Healthy Masculinity. A video series based on this book will soon be released. This video series featuring interviews with each of the 19 contributors can be viewed by groups who are reading and discussing the book together. We are also anticipating the release of Strong, Loving, and Wise: Joining Conversations for Men. This book is a guide for men covering topics such as male formation, personal challenges, sexual wholeness, conflict tools, and life roles, just to name a few.