

2023 report for **Central District** Conference

MCC U.S. and MCC Great Lakes

(574) 534.4133 · GreatLakes@mcc.org · mcc.org



Adolfo Conde's water harvesting system in Norte de Potosí, Bolivia, allows him to irrigate his crops to produce and market a greater variety of vegetables. An MCC partner works with Indigenous rural farmers to reduce the adverse effects of climate change through adaptation and mitigation measures aimed at guaranteeing food security. (PRODII photo/Catalina Ospina)

MCC and Central District Conference connections

- Central District Conference congregations play important roles in MCC relief sales, thrift shops, My Coins Count fundraisers, material resources drives and meat canning.
- Various congregations hosted MCC speakers, either virtually or in person.
- Thank you to the families from

Central District Conference churches who are hosting International Volunteer Exchange Program (IVEP) participants.

Bluffton University students volunteered with the SWAP home repair program in Appalachia.



MCC's 2023 guiding scripture

Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters... Isaiah 55:1 (NIV)

MCC is able to work in 45 countries because of strong partnerships, not only with organizations on the ground but also with supporters like you.

You're helping farmers in Bolivia grow more diverse crops, even in difficult land. In Ukraine, you're helping families access food, shelter and trauma support. And in Chicago, you're helping young people who are currently incarcerated find hope and create a brighter future.

We are grateful for each of you and the role that you play. Whether you donate financially, pray for MCC, volunteer at an MCC thrift shop, pack kits, knot comforters, help can meat or bid on items at a relief sale, we appreciate you. You are helping to share God's love and compassion for all in the name of Christ.

With thanksgiving,

Eric Kurtz, MCC Great Lakes executive director

Peter Martin, MCC Great Lakes Board representative for Central District Conference

It's beautiful to see the ways that people put aside their differences and unite together to support MCC's mission.³

-Eric Kurtz

In McDowell County, West Virginia, MCC is working with local community members to highlight the often-forgotten history of the Black experience in Appalachia. Monthly gatherings offer a space for telling stories and learning from shared experiences. In Kimball, MCC's SWAP location was found to once hold the

Henrietta Dismukes Hospital and Nurses' Home, founded by Dr. Henry Dodford Dismukes in the 1930s. SWAP staff and local residents are working together to honor the history and legacy of Dr. Dismukes as well as Dr. Roscoe Conklin Harrison, who both experienced racism and injustices as African American doctors.

