







Women in Leadership

MC USA Executive Board



MC USA Staff

As we reflect on 2024, we give thanks for God's abundant blessings and the ways we, as MC USA, continue to live out our <u>Renewed</u> <u>Commitments</u> of following Jesus, witnessing to God's peace and experiencing the transformative power of the Holy Spirit. Together, we live into our mission as a denomination that equips, empowers and inspires.

Church Vitality: Equipping healthy congregations

In 2024, MC USA's Church Vitality team worked diligently to nurture thriving congregations and support pastors and leaders. From practical tools, such as <u>pastor salary guidelines</u> and <u>The Corinthian Plan</u> healthcare program, to initiatives such as our <u>Wellbeing in Ministry</u> resources, we continue to prioritize the health of our churches and the wellbeing of those who serve them.

Our <u>Safe Church Ministry</u> empowers faith communities to prioritize safety for children, youth, and vulnerable adults. Engagement with our webinars and the updated Circle of Grace curriculum reached new heights, extending even beyond our denomination. Additionally, we introduced background checks for church employees and volunteers, demonstrating our commitment to safe spaces for worship and ministry.

Through our <u>Thrive church planting grants</u>, we provided financial support to five new missional peace churches, breaking down barriers for church plants to proclaim the gospel and engage their communities.

We also launched two new podcasts: <u>"Lead/Follow"</u> with Executive Director Glen Guyton, in which leaders explore how to follow Jesus boldly, and <u>"The Competent Pastor,"</u> hosted by Church Vitality's Michael Danner and Rachel Ringenberg Miller, which offers practical wisdom for pastors.

Peace and Justice: Living into our Anabaptist faith values

As a historic peace church, MC USA continues to lead the way in nonviolence and justice. Through our 2024 <u>"Learn, Pray, Join" campaigns</u>, we educated congregations on climate justice and conflict transformation, calling us to connect faith and action.

Renewed Commitments

- Follow Jesus
- Witness to God's peace
- Experience transformation

Church Vitality

MC USA's Church Vitality team empowers and equips the church every day through:

- Pastor salary guidelines
- Wellbeing in ministry resources
- The Corinthian Plan healthcare plan for church workers
- Ministerial Leadership Inquiry process

Learn more here.





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2024 Bring the Peace honorees

Glen Guyton's "Lead/Follow" podcast

2024 Hope for the Future attendees

This past year, the <u>Justice Fund</u> supported nine churches dismantling racism, addressing police brutality or combating poverty, while the <u>Bring the Peace</u> award recognized individuals who are bringing God's peace to their communities. The <u>Church Peace Tax Fund</u> rallied our collective voice against the destructive powers of militarism in our congregations by supporting education, grassroots activism and <u>Peaceful Options for Training and Careers</u>.

Additionally, the <u>Pam De Young Net Zero Energy Fund</u> helped several congregations take bold steps toward renewable energy. Youth-led innovation shined through the <u>Gen Z Energy and Spirit Challenge</u>, celebrating young leaders committed to climate justice.

Finally, <u>Women in Leadership</u> continued its work of dismantling patriarchal systems, laying the groundwork for the Women's Summit, "Beholding It Together," July 8, 2025, in Greensboro, North Carolina.

Racial Ethnic Engagement: Fostering Solidarity and Transformation

Our 11th <u>Hope for the Future</u> conference in Dallas, Texas, Feb. 9-11, 2024, brought together 70 Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) leaders under the theme, "Breaking Chains, Mending Walls." This sacred space for dialogue and solidarity inspires hope for systemic transformation in our church and communities.

Additionally, MC USA, in partnership with the <u>Racial Ethnic Council</u> and the <u>Historical Archives</u>, launched a groundbreaking initiative to preserve and amplify BIPOC stories within our denomination's history. This effort includes workshops, resource kits, and digitization projects, ensuring these voices are honored and heard for generations to come.

Looking Ahead with Hope

Together, we are building a church that embodies Jesus' radical love and justice. Thank you for your prayers, participation and support. We are stronger together, united by our call to follow Christ and transform the world.

Our Mission

To share with others the gift of God's love through our worship, witness and life together. We claim Jesus as the center of our faith, community as the center of our lives and reconciliation as the center of our w ork.

Our Vision

God calls us to be followers of Jesus Christ and, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to grow as communities of grace, joy and peace, so that God's healing and hope flow through us to the world.



Join us for Follow Jesus '25 Greensboro, North Carolina July 8-12, 2025. Scan for info:



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