

Families in mission



God calls us all to be part of a family in mission

By Lynda Hollinger-Janzen



My husband, Rod, and I raised ABC children. The letters stand for the nationalities they claim. I am American. They were born in Benin, West Africa, where we lived and served with Mennonite Mission Network's predecessor agencies. Rod is Canadian. The chal-

lenges of being the child of mission workers are many. "Where do I belong?" is often a life-long question. Yet, the benefits of a broader perspective of God's world and the ability to bridge differences are often embraced by children who grew up in a culture other than that of their parents.

I took on the task of co-editing this issue of *Beyond* when our editor, Danielle Klotz, gave birth to her first child, Francesco, two months earlier than anticipated. We wish Danielle and her husband, Natanael Fontan, God's richest blessings of health, energy and wisdom as they begin their family life together.

In this issue of *Beyond*, we feature families in mission, beginning with Mission Network's executive director, Stanley W. Green, and his reflection on how mission influenced his son's choice to become a doctor to help address some of the world's suffering. This is followed by the story of the Zingbe family's faithfulness in following Jesus' example of hospitality, and how ripples of caring have touched lives around the world before returning back to the place it all started in Ivory Coast.

We also learn of how Mission Network personnel cross cultural divides in the United States: the Rittenhouse sisters are nurturing a mission lifestyle by leading their second Service Adventure household in Johnstown, Pennsylvania; the impact of cross-cultural experiences on Sierra Ross Richer's faith journey; and Duane Maust and Elaine Miller living out the good news of Jesus' love in Mississippi with a long-term commitment.

And, Kelsey Hochstetler helps readers take a peek into the intricacies of parenting across cultures.

We hope this issue inspires you to delight in the diversity of God's communities around the world, to build bridges **beyond** the daily routine, and help your family engage in mission.

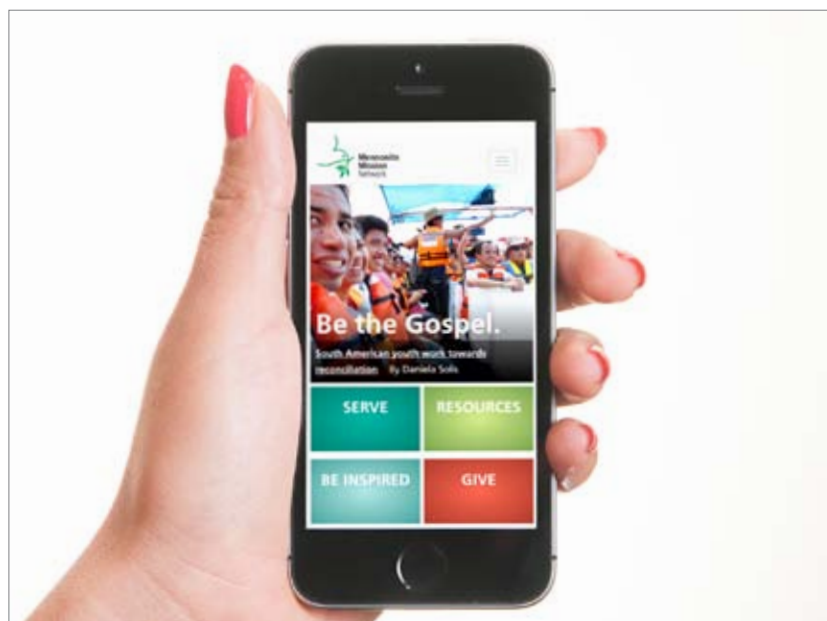
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COVER: Delicia Bravo, Aliyah Wigginton-Bravo, and Peter Wigginton, Mission Network workers in Quito, Ecuador. Photo by Linda Shelly.



Our baby in a suitcase

The decision to serve through mission shaped our son's life.

By Stanley W. Green

Buried in one of our photo albums is a picture of our 4-month-old son, Lee, on the eve of our departure from South Africa. The year was 1980. Ursula and I were packing our suitcases for Jamaica, following our call to mission. My brother had laid Lee in one of the suitcases. He was part of what we were taking with us on our journey in mission.

We were by turns excited and daunted about what lay ahead. We only vaguely apprehended then, the impact our choice would have on the baby in the suitcase. Our time in Jamaica flew quickly by. Lee took it all in, mostly without our even noticing how he was

being changed, other than our observations of his physical increase, intellectual growth, and the development of his social skills.

Five years later, from our new home in Pasadena, California, we found Lee crying

in a closet. We heard, "Oh, God, they're throwing away bread when the children are starving." When we opened the closet door to speak with him, he was biting into the bread between heartrending sobs. No matter that the bread, left on a table for missionary families after the expiry date had been reached, was stale and unpalatable. (Ursula and I knew. We tried it, confirmed that both descriptions were true, before we put it into the garbage can where Lee found it.)

In Jamaica, we lived in close proximity to poverty and struggle. The idea of waste was scandalous. Too many people were hungry and nothing that could be salvaged was discarded. Lee noticed.

During Lee's first five years, values were being formed in him that moved him to care about those who are vulnerable and disadvantaged. Later, when

he graduated from college, compelled by a desire to respond to those who were hurting, Lee worked at an AIDS ministry in center-city Philadelphia.

After six years of showing compassion and experiencing love, he decided to quit that job

in order to go to medical school so he could better help people with AIDS. Today, as a doctor, he can't wait to pay off his loans and go to southern Africa to aid in the healing of those who suffer.

When families are in mission together, they experience an alternative universe and have their values shaped, or reshaped, by the context of their service. In that experience, they companion each other and grow together toward better understandings of themselves and of the world. Hopefully, they are also motivated by those values to move toward better action. In their shared experience, they are able to offer each other support and even inspiration as they cross frontiers that demand courage and openness. Together, they are given the amazing opportunity and gift to unwrap the surprises that God has lovingly packed into the journey that mission workers are invited to take.

Decades later, our family is still uncovering blessings and surprises that God bundled into our suitcases when our family left the familiar and went with God to the place we believed we were called to go.

Stanley W. Green

Stanley W. Green
Executive Director



Stanley, Ursula and their son, Lee.

Photo provided.

When families are in mission together, they experience an alternative universe and have their values shaped, or reshaped, by the context of their service.

Mission comes

The Zingbe sisters brought together three continents to care for children in West Africa. Now, the hospitality modeled by their family in western Ivory Coast returns full circle.



Paulin Bossou and Esther Zingbe with three of their four children: Ruben (9), Ephraim (2), and Nathan (10). Baby Grace was born as this publication went to press. Paulin and Esther are co-directors of *La Casa Grande*.

By Lynda Hollinger-Janzen

Though Annette and Esther Zingbe's parents had eight biological children, the door of their home in Man, Ivory Coast, was always open for one more.

"My father's salary as a teacher meant there was not much money, but my parents were always eager to help people," Esther Zingbe said.

Annette and Esther believe that their parents' concern for children with nowhere to go, grows from their father's losing his parents as an infant. His grandmother cared for him and helped him get an education. That compassion has flowered across three continents and into the fourth generation.

Annette, the older of the two sisters, followed her parents' example as she went to work among street children in Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast's neighbor to the northeast. During her three years in Burkina, Annette met a Spanish co-worker, Francisco "Paco" Castillo, who would later become her husband.

Annette and Paco shared a vision to help children "in difficulty." Paco's connection to *Comunidades Unidas Anabautistas* (the Mennonite church in Burgos, Spain) allowed them to be part of a teaching delegation that visited Benin Bible Institute to present a seminar in

home



Photo provided.

Paco and Annette Castillo with their children: Tika Amanda (5), Daniel (15), and Ariel (10). They are the founders and directors of *Jeunes Espoir d'Afrique* in Ivory Coast.

1999. In Benin, the couple heard God's call to create a home for children who needed food, shelter and love. The following year, *La Casa Grande* (The Big House) opened its doors with Mennonite Board of Missions, a predecessor agency of Mennonite Mission Network, providing the legal in-country status.

Paulin Bossou, whose father had died when he was a child, was studying at Benin Bible Institute, and heard Annette and Paco describe the *La Casa Grande* ministry. Intrigued, he began to volunteer. There, he met Esther Zingbe, who had come to help her sister and brother-in-law.

"It was my first time away from home," Esther said. "It was so difficult; I cried for the whole first year."

However, two people touched Esther in her grief. One was Jean Léo, a 3-month-old infant who was ill and undernourished. Esther found meaning in nursing him back to health. The other was Paulin, who won Esther's heart. They got married in 2005 and, a year later, began to serve as co-directors of *La Casa Grande*, a ministry that they continue even as they parent their four biological children.

La Casa Grande's children are not called orphans, because they are all part of God's family. The bonding

between the 40 brothers and sisters happens daily as they play, worship, and do chores together. *La Casa Grande* children have the option of studying or learning a trade such as carpentry or sewing. Some of them have begun university studies.

La Casa Grande also reaches out to children in the surrounding community of Allada through *Les Leaders* (The Leaders) school, weekly Bible camps, and a week-long summer camp.

"We do everything on the basis of the love of Christ. We are trying to make sure the children can grow up in a Christian environment so that one day, they may also reflect the Lord's love to others, because we have the firm conviction that the world can change with the love of God," Paulin Bossou said.

With *La Casa Grande* capably managed by Esther and Paulin, and with a ceasefire in the armed conflicts in

La Casa Grande



Les Leaders (The Leaders) school is one way La Casa Grande shares God's love with the community around them. An excellent education is offered to about 200 children in hopes of training leaders for a better future. Photo by Lynda Hollinger-Janzen.



Fiacre follows along as Jolie Dignon, Faustine Titigoueti, and Chimène Dahounto, house-mothers at La Casa Grande Children's Village, study the Bible. Photo by Lynda Hollinger-Janzen.



Anato Valentin and Hippolyte Agoussin take care of the rabbits and other small animals at La Casa Grande. Photo by Lynda Hollinger-Janzen.



Grace Woodworking is part of the La Casa Grande enterprise where children will be taught trades through apprenticeships. Photo by Steve Wiebe-Johnson.

the Man area (2002–2007 and 2011), Annette and Paco have been able to fulfill Annette's childhood dream—to continue the work that her parents began among the children in her hometown. Their ministry is called *Jeunes Espoir d'Afrique*, Youth—Hope of Africa. Having come full circle, Annette and Paco serve as co-directors of this ministry that helps to rehabilitate child soldiers and young prisoners. Annette described the conditions in which prisoners exist with 200–300 people in one cell.

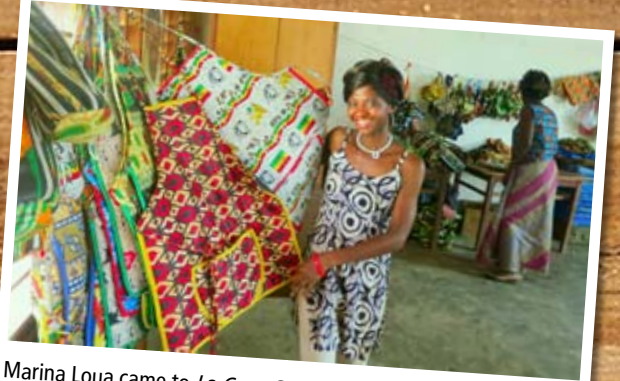
"It's horrible," she said. "When they leave prison, life isn't much better because people are afraid of them."

Currently, Annette and Paco parent 30 children in addition to their three biological children. Following schooling, the youth are taught trades like masonry, electrical wiring, sewing, and raising small animals like rabbits and poultry. The ultimate goal for Annette and Paco is to demonstrate God's love to their growing household. The Castillos rejoice with the 24 youth who have been

Jeunes Espoir d'Afrique



Landry Gondo's father died when he was 10 years old, and his mother died during Ivory Coast's Civil War. Landry barely survived on the streets before coming to *Jeunes Espoir d'Afrique*, where he was baptized and is an artist in training. Photo by Steve Wiebe-Johnson.



Marina Loua came to *La Casa Grande* as a child. She completed a seamstress apprenticeship in Benin, and now teaches sewing and helps mentor the girls at *Jeunes Espoir d'Afrique*. Photo by Steve Wiebe-Johnson.



The *Jeunes Espoir d'Afrique* community gathers to welcome Steve Wiebe-Johnson, Mission Network's director for Africa. Photo provided by Steve Wiebe-Johnson.

baptized since they joined their extended family.

"The cry of my heart is for these young people to know the Lord," Annette said. "I want the gospel to touch their hearts. The need is so great."

From the faithful hospitality shown in the Zingbe home, hundreds of lives on three continents have been touched by Jesus' love. The churches in Benin and Ivory Coast and Mennonite Mission Network join the local communities who support the children's homes.

The parent congregation of these twin ministries, *Comunidades Unidas Anabautistas* in Spain, has also gotten the municipal government of Burgos interested in contributing to the well-being of the West African children they love and are educating to become tomorrow's leaders. ■

Lynda Hollinger-Janzen is a staff writer at Mennonite Mission Network. She resides in Goshen, Indiana, and attends Waterford Mennonite Church.

Expanding the sisterhood

My sister and I have been given a gift that God is permitting us to share beyond our biological bonds.



By Leah Rittenhouse (pictured above, left)

I can count on my sister. I can count on being able to make her laugh with even the dumbest of jokes, and on having an adventure buddy who is up for just about anything. I can count on her to get annoyed when I start verbally processing my day as she is trying to go to bed. I can count on the fact that she will motivate me to do the things in life that I really don't want to do, but need to do.

Last fall, the two of us rode our bicycles from Maryland to Georgia. Even though we've spent much of our lives together, this really took things to the next level—six weeks of being with each other 24/7. Some of you with siblings might be thinking that sounds like a good way to make you not want to see the other person for a very long time—but it had the

opposite effect on us. By the end of the trip, we began wondering whether it was even possible for us to ever get tired of each other! We discovered we made a great team. Not only do our gifts complement each other, but we enjoy working together. We help each other to be the kind of people we want to be.

After our bike trip, we each entered into times of transition that led us toward a shared dream of living in intentional community with other Christians. Even though we had no clue what that would look like, or where we would end up, we wanted each other to be a part of it. So, when the idea of leading a Service Adventure unit together came up, it seemed like a good fit.

The position and program included so many of the things we're passionate about: a lifestyle of simplicity,

service, and solidarity; sharing life together with other followers of Christ; growing in our relationship with Jesus; interacting with and mentoring younger adults; conflict mediation—all packaged in fun and adventure. The offer came at a good time; at this stage in life, we both have ample time and energy to invest in other people—in this case, a house of awesome and crazy teenagers.

By now, we've got one year under our belts and are heading into a second one. Along the way, we've continued to experience familiar, effortless teamwork. And we've been stretched. We feel fortunate to have this opportunity to support each other in ministry through Service Adventure, and even more fortunate to like each other enough to do it! It's humbling to reflect on God's great mission on this earth, and that we are a part of it in Johnstown, Pennsylvania. ■

Leah Rittenhouse is a co-leader at the Johnstown Service Adventure unit.



Dorothee Haase, Krista Rittehouse, Leah Rittenhouse, and Shannon Young make graham cracker creations during a learning component activity. Photo by Aaron Zimmerman.



The entire Johnstown unit participated in various runs during the Pittsburgh Marathon event, including Leah Rittenhouse, Jordan Hodges, and Krista Rittenhouse in the spring of 2016. Photo by Shannon Young.



This year's Johnstown Service Adventure unit. Back row: Evan Finger, Jonathan Ludwig, and Leah Rittehouse. Front row: Krista Rittenhouse, Abby Turner, Erin Rhodes, and Eva Quiring. Photo by Rob Wolf.



Sierra, Naomi, Indira and Teresa prepare *chicha*, a drink made from palm fruit. Photo by Jane Ross Richer.



Katheryn Shiwango and Sierra Ross Richer, in traditional Kichwa dress, participated in a Chaski relay race, a revival of an ancient running tradition. Photo by Jerrell Ross Richer.



Sierra Ross Richer holds a pottery pitcher that Waterford Mennonite Church gives as a remembrance of each member's baptism. She is surrounded by her family: Naomi, Jordan, Jane, Jerrell and Teresa. Pastor Neil Amstutz stands behind Sierra. Photo by Loanne Harms.

God revealed in vulnerability

Sierra Ross Richer is part of a family who is commissioned to do two-way mission. For six months each year, they live in Ecuador, and the other six months in the United States. Here are excerpts of what she and her parents, Jane and Jerrell, shared with Waterford Mennonite Church in Goshen, Indiana, on the day she was baptized, Sept. 4.

By Sierra Ross Richer

I have seen God working through countless people and experiences to bring me to where I am today. Opportunities to visit different places and spend time with different kinds of people have shaped me. I have often seen my parents act outside of cultural norms in both North and South America as they seek to follow the example of Jesus. As I read through the Bible, I find that the people and cultures are very similar to the indigenous people and cultures I interact with in South America. These connections help to bring the Bible to life for me.

Here in the United States, it is easy to make statements like, “God gives us our daily bread,” and then we go buy ourselves everything we need. But in Ecuador, I spend time with people whose only option is to trust God to give them what they need.

A few months ago, my family stayed in a little community accessible only by boat. Our two-and-a-half-week trip had been prolonged by a few days and

we had reached the end of our food supply. After we cooked up our last bag of noodles, we returned the propane stove we had borrowed. When it was time to eat, six kids were still hanging out at our house, so we dished up the food into bowls and cups and passed them around. The servings were meager. But the noodles would have to do until we reached the port town around noon the next day. This worried me a little, but my mom reminded us that going without food is normal for many people in the world.

Just as we were getting ready to turn in for a hungry night, a young man from the village came over to our house to tell us that he had prepared dinner for us. I have never been so happy for food in my life, and I have also never seen God work in such a tangible way. I believe that God uses experiences like these to reveal himself to us and to increase our faith. But this can only happen if we are willing to let ourselves enter situations of need and vulnerability. ■

Sierra’s parents describe her ministry

JANE: During your 17 years in the safety of your extended Christian family, you have been protected and sheltered. It was our hope that in this way you would get a taste of the love that God has for you. You also know that there are people in this world who have not received love. You have witnessed the destruction of the rainforest, and you have held children in your arms who are thirsty to be treated with kindness and love. And you have asked God hard questions, like, “Why should I eat, while my neighbors go hungry?”

I have watched you as you have made choices to witness of Christ’s love with your actions. You often choose to walk or ride bike when you could drive, knowing that how you live your life makes

a difference in the lives of your neighbors around the globe. I’ve seen you share your food when I know you have not eaten yourself. I’ve watched you share your passion for running with little children, praising their efforts and helping them do their best. You have patiently taught others to knit or weave bracelets. You have been a loyal friend through distance and hardship. I have seen you freely give the love you have received.

JERRELL: Sierra has acted the part of a Levite in the story of the Good Samaritan in a Quechua-speaking community in the Andes, and has been one of the sheep in the story of the Good Shepherd in an Awajun village in the Amazon jungle. She has kicked balls and

turned jump-ropes in more places than I can name. She has shown her appreciation of indigenous culture by not just drinking, but learning how to make, *chicha de chonta* and *c’uq*, beverages that form the foundation of the rainforest diet. And in every community we have visited, Sierra has held the hands of small children and shared her love with people from all walks of life, setting aside the barriers of culture and language.

Like the story of Sarah and Abraham on their journeys, Sierra’s experiences in the North, as the well as the South, have taught her that God is present everywhere: in the sparkling eyes of a grandmother, or a village elder; in the singing of a hymn, or the sound of a heavy rain; and in a bowl of blueberries, or of *chicula* (a banana drink).

Co-pastors draw community into God's jubilee

Duane Maust crossed a cultural divide and Elaine Miller crossed the street. Together, they pastor a Mennonite church and the surrounding community in Meridian, Mississippi.

By Laurie Oswald Robinson

When Duane Maust from rural Michigan and Elaine Miller from the Black Prairie region of Mississippi fell in love, they had no clue how the melding of their lives would change the world for so many others.

“You can imagine how huge my learning curve was—me, a White boy from up North, who had never spoken with an African American,” said Duane during an interview at their 110-acre farmstead

They joined Jubilee Mennonite Church, which began as a house fellowship. In the early years, Jubilee received financial and coaching support from Mennonite Board of Missions, a predecessor agency to Mennonite Mission Network. For 15 years, the Mausts served in lay leadership roles before being ordained as co-pastors in 1997.

They believe that God's jubilee—setting broken people free to love and serve God and others—grows best in loving relationships and shared leadership. A culture of mutual community was forged well by earlier leaders, and the co-pastors encourage its continuation.

“Our congregation is not just racially diverse,” Duane said. “Members also fall along the political spectrum. And we have those with sound economic means as well as those who live on the edge.”

And at Jubilee, those who lead are not those who have been there the longest. “Everyone who steps in the door is offered a job and is invited to shape what goes on here,” Elaine said.

The Mausts have helped Jubilee to expand to 100 members. Contributing to that growth is the purchase of a building, Jubilee's strong contingent of young adults, and the freedom that folks feel to come as they are.

Caring for souls, near and far

Elaine grew up in the community that surrounds Jubilee.

“I was in fourth grade during the first integration of the county's public school system,” she said. “I stood in between White kids and Black kids in the playground line so they would not have to touch each other. Meanwhile, I made friends with both. That seems to have been my place in life ever since.”

Two businesses and a woodworking shop helped widen the community people Duane and Elaine knew beyond the congregation.



Photo by Allison Shelly.

On Aug. 28, Duane Maust (in dark blue shirt) and Elaine Miller lead the Jubilee congregation in a meditation before baptizing Ramey Key, David Betancourt, and Micah Shepperd (far right) at Pine Lake Camp. Dewayne Garrett (man between David and Micah) is a mentor.

outside Meridian. Elaine smiled and added, “And it's rather unbelievable that a little farm girl from rural Mississippi who milked cows is now a co-pastor. I guess that just goes to show that God truly can transform anyone.”



Duane Maust and Elaine Miller. Photo provided.



Duane Maust's Harley is his preferred mode of transportation for doing ministry. David, Jean Carlos, and Ivan from the Jubilee congregation join him in encouraging their community to "Pray for peace. Act for peace." Photo by Allison Shelly.

Duane cruises the neighborhood on his Harley Davidson motorcycle. He befriends people who don't go to church, and many call him Pastor. One man who received prayer from Duane during a critical illness gives him a tithe check every month, though the man has never attended a Jubilee service.

And Elaine visits needy and lonely neighbors. To reach their doorsteps, she must walk streets that some consider unsafe. She also makes hospital visits to people who are not Jubilee members but are beloved of God.

One such beloved person is Sue [not real name], a former crack-cocaine addict, who was sexually molested as a child by her pastor and has suffered despair and estrangement from her family. She first connected with Jubilee when she came to receive a state-funded food distribution. Later in their relationship, Elaine arrived at the hospital at 6:30 a.m. to pray with Sue before a surgery.

"From day one, I could talk to Pastor Elaine, and

that released some pain in me that I had refused to acknowledge," Sue said. "I thought the world and God had forsaken me, and I had become a shell. But now I have hope, and I can see a future. I have found a home in Jesus here at Jubilee. Here, they don't care about all I have done, or am doing. They just love me."

Though loving others holds complexities, the couple said their mission in Christ doesn't get more basic than the cry of Sue's heart. They have learned from their own experience that where one comes from matters less than where one is going in God. ■

Laurie Oswald Robinson is a freelance writer living in Newton, Kansas. She is the author of *Forever Family*, a personal story about her experience as a foster parent; a regular contributor to *Mennonite World Review* and *The Mennonite*; and a past photographer and correspondent for Mennonite Mission Network. She is also owner of a freelance communication business, Tales of the Times, LLC.



5 things to know about raising babies abroad

By Kelsey Hochstetler

Raising a child comes with a steep learning curve. How do you turn a screaming baby into a sleeping angel? Or make a little one giggle? How do you feed a child, cook supper, and double check your grandma's recipe while chatting on the phone—with one hand. Then there's that whole imitation phase. No one said it's easy. But you learn a lot.

Last year, five mission worker couples dove into parenthood. (And we're thrilled for two more little ones on the way!) They not only learned to parent, but to do so in another culture. Here are five things that they (and some veteran mission workers) have learned in the process:

1 It takes a village to raise a child. The African proverb still rings true—wherever you are. For Lynda Hollinger-Janzen, who served with her husband, Rod, in Benin, this meant that once their children were walking, they joined a group of neighbor kids, playing together and eating at each other's houses. "The older ones responsibly looked after the younger ones," she said. "When it was bedtime, I would go through the neighborhood asking where my kids were. 'They ate fish and cornmeal here, and then they went that way,' neighbors would tell me. Eventually, I would find them."

2 It's OK to give up control. Peter Wigginton and Delicia Bravo have lived in various cultures, but raising their daughter, Aliyah, while they serve in Quito, Ecuador, has brought its own set of challenges. "We think twice about everything," Peter said, mentioning security, food, water, and travel.

Lynda and Rod learned quickly that they couldn't control their children's environment. As their children ran about, they didn't always wash their hands before they ate. "Worm cures were routine about every three months," Lynda said.

3 There are differences in health care. "Even good health care for a childbirth abroad can be scary because it's done differently," said Nate and Taryn Dirks, who serve in Gaborone, Botswana. Their son, Malakai, was born in May.

4 There's more than one way to raise a child. "Third culture kids (children who are raised abroad) learn early on that there are many good ways of living and doing things, that there is not a single story," said Lynda.

While serving in Benin, Lynda learned to carry her babies on her back. As her children heard her heartbeat and swayed with her movements, "it usually soothed colic and rocked the baby to sleep," she said. Bonus? Better posture for tired mamas.

5 Having a baby abroad opens up opportunities for relationships. "Initially, we thought that having a baby would hinder our time with students and other people," said Kelly McPhail, who with her husband, Brian, served in Beijing, China. "But in many ways it opened up many new opportunities, and people often came over to hang out at our house."

A week after Brian and Kelly's daughter, Elsie, was born in May, friends from their Fengtai Church community stayed with Kelly for a day when Brian returned to work. "They arrived in the morning with an armful of fresh fruit and vegetables and stayed until the late afternoon, preparing both lunch and dinner." But the best part was that they watched the little one so that Kelly could sleep. "It was a very generous demonstration of their love and care for us, and we are so grateful to have been a part of the Fengtai Church community," Kelly said.

As it turns out, raising children abroad does bring its own unique challenges. But maybe parents around the globe have more in common than we think. After we look past the differences in how we raise children, aren't we all hoping that our children turn out to be productive members of society? As I look at my own 1-year-old, I pray that someday at the very least, she will learn to look past her own differences and play nicely with others.

Kelsey Hochstetler works in the communication department at Mennonite Mission Network. She lives in Sugarcreek, Ohio, with her husband, Jeff, and 1-year-old daughter, Mariella.

Impact

What difference does it make?

There is a popular story* about a person who is seen walking along the beach, stooping to pick up starfish who are trapped by the receding tide, and one by one returning them to the ocean. An observer approaches and says, "Look around you! There are miles of beach and thousands of starfish. These starfish are going to die. What you are doing won't matter in the end."

Looking at the starfish being held, the beachcomber said, "It matters to this starfish."

Do our efforts make a difference? On our own, maybe not, but as part of God's great mission, yes, they certainly do. Here is just a sample of the many ways your partnership with God's mission through Mission Network made an enormous difference in the past year.



Pastors ministering to those left behind in the war-ravaged areas of Ukraine have the funds and materials needed to bring healing and the hope of Christ to their communities.



Widows, orphans and refugees are welcomed into loving long-term relationships and given material support in Kansas City, Ecuador, South Africa, and Turkey.



120 diverse leaders of outreach and gospel-sharing ministries in their communities gathered in Metairie, Louisiana, to worship, learn from each other, support one another, and be inspired.



A new generation of more than 100 future church leaders learned about living in community, valuing another culture, serving respectfully, and understanding their faith as they served in one of our year-long voluntary service programs. Three of the participants in the Anchorage Service Adventure unit were baptized this past spring at Prince of Peace Mennonite Church.

Global statistics

U.S. mission workers and local partners were given opportunity to be the gospel in **54** countries around the world, including:

- **253** workers who are serving one year or more.
- **21** current international workers who have served 20 years or more.
- **112** partner organizations.
- **34** new international workers in 2015 (includes one-year terms).
- **8** Long-term Global Mission Partnerships.

Thank you!

Because of your generosity, we are able to carry out our mission to be the gospel.

*The starfish story originates with Loren Eiseley in 1969, and has been adapted in many ways by many people since that time.



Giving

Businesses / Foundations / Organizations / Estates

Businesses \$253,505.36

Bergey's Inc.—Souderton, Pennsylvania
 Countryside Plumbing Inc.—Hartville, Ohio
 Custom Mobile Equipment Inc.—Baldwin City, Kansas
 Disability Rights Center of Kansas Inc.—Topeka, Kansas
 Harper Industries Inc.—Harper, Kansas
 Harrison Hauling Inc.—Goshen, Indiana
 HRM Enterprises Inc.—Hartville, Ohio
 Jayco Inc.—Middlebury, Indiana
 Jiloa Enterprises—Millersburg, Ohio
 KG Merchants Holdings LLC—Stuart, Florida
 L. E. Sommer Kidron Inc.—Kidron, Ohio
 Lehman Insurance Agency Inc.—Ephrata, Pennsylvania
 Linking Focus Inc.—Ontario, California
 Mentoring Moms Inc.—Fort Wayne, Indiana
 Oswald Builders—Apple Creek, Ohio
 Pettisville Grain Co.—Pettisville, Ohio
 Right Cooperative Association—Wright, Kansas
 Spheres Group LLC—Albuquerque, New Mexico
 Steere Enterprises—Tallmadge, Ohio
 Trace Worldwide Corporation—Palos Verdes Estates, California
 Willowdale Apartments Ltd.—Fredericton, New Brunswick

Foundations \$289,700

EC Fund—Wauseon, Ohio
 Fidelia E. Plett Charitable Foundation—Inman, Kansas
 Gerald and Lynn Partridge Foundation—Iowa City, Iowa
 Schowalter Foundation, Inc.—Newton, Kansas
 C.P. and Izetta Yoder Mission Endowment—Goshen, Indiana

Organizations \$55,528.15

ACC/DEMZO Partnership Administration—Akron, Pennsylvania
 Africa Inter Mennonite Mission—Goshen, Indiana
 Amazon Smile
 Anonymous Donors to Mission Network
 Bethany Mennonite Women—St. Catharines, Ontario
 Brethren in Christ World Missions—Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania

Christliche Dienste—Bammental, Germany
 Eastern Mennonite University—Harrisonburg, Virginia
 Geary Ministerial Alliance—Geary, Oklahoma
 Illinois Mennonite Historical and Genealogical Society—Metamora, Illinois
 Landis Homes—Lititz, Pennsylvania
 Lehman Ervin Family Fund—Doylestown, Ohio
 Mennonite Healthcare Fellowship—Goshen, Indiana
 Mennonite Women USA—Newton, Kansas
 Ohio Mennonite Women—North Canton, Ohio
 PayPal Giving Fund—San Jose, California
 PPI Family Fund—Highland Park, Illinois
 Service Adventure Albuquerque, New Mexico
 Service Adventure Colorado Springs, Colorado

Estates \$1,418,630.33

John J. Althaus Estate—Wadsworth, Ohio
 Linda R. Bartel Estate—American Falls, Idaho
 Ethel M. Beckler Revocable Living Trust—Glendale, Arizona
 Curtis Bergey Estate—Souderton, Pennsylvania
 John I. Bontrager Estate—Bradenton, Florida
 Ruth L. Buller Estate—Goshen, Indiana
 Ruby Byler Estate—West Liberty, Ohio
 Mary Carpenter Estate—Sturgis, Michigan
 Miriam S. Charles Estate—State College, Pennsylvania
 Aaron J. Claassen Estate—Goshen, Indiana
 Cora Crossgrove Estate—Archbold, Ohio
 John A. Cullar Estate—North Lima, Ohio
 Joseph Drawbond Estate—Fortuna, North Dakota
 Lloyd Fisher Estate—Glendale, Arizona
 Anna M. Fretz Estate—Vineland, Ontario
 Katherine B. Frey Estate—Archbold, Ohio
 Mary R. Frey Estate—Wadsworth, Ohio
 Virgil Gerig Estate—Goshen, Indiana
 Jerry Gingerich Estate—Mountain Home, Idaho
 Gladys Goering Estate—Moundridge, Kansas
 Alvin Goertz Estate—Goessel, Kansas
 Albert Good Estate—Lima, Ohio
 Abe Graber Memorial Fund—Middlebury, Indiana
 Virginia Harman Estate—Mount Crawford, Virginia
 Milo Hochstedler Trust—Kokomo, Indiana
 Mark S. Hostetler Estate—Plain City, Ohio

Anna E. Huebert Estate—Newton, Kansas
 Joe Jantz Estate—Ritzville, Washington
 Lois I. King Estate—Belleville, Pennsylvania
 Melvin Klaassen Estate—North Newton, Kansas
 Catherine A. Lapp Estate—Morgantown, West Virginia
 Erma Lapp Estate—Lansdale, Pennsylvania
 Ira J. Leer Estate—Middlebury, Indiana
 Magdalene Liechty Estate—Goshen, Indiana
 Lester L. Mann Estate—Freeport, Illinois
 Mildred Moyer Estate—Souderton, Pennsylvania
 Daniel Nitzsche Estate—Beemer, Nebraska
 Mildred I. Nussbaum Estate—Wooster, Ohio
 Clarence E. Peifer Estate—Bridgewater, Virginia
 Olga Peters Estate—Henderson, Nebraska
 Virginia Price Estate—Minneapolis, Minnesota
 Marie R. Ratzlaff Estate—North Newton, Kansas
 Ada Rosenberger Estate—Souderton, Pennsylvania
 Lorraine Roth Estate—Tavistock, Ontario
 Wilma S. Roth Estate—Wayland, Iowa
 Marilyn M. Ruth Estate—Telford, Pennsylvania
 Ruth B. Ruth Estate—Telford, Pennsylvania
 Leona Schaefer Estate—Yorktown, Virginia
 Earl A. Schmidt Estate—North Newton, Kansas
 Sam Shantz Estate—Frederickhouse, Ontario, Ontario
 Nancy L. Showalter Estate—Niton Junction, Alberta
 Wayne D. Sommers Estate—Goshen, Indiana
 Nelson S. Souder Foundation—Goshen, Indiana
 Robert S. Stoltzfus Estate—Orville, Ohio
 Regina Stucky Trust—Marion, South Dakota
 Evelyn M. Troyer Estate—Crystal Springs, Kansas
 Oliver R. Unruh Estate—North Newton, Kansas
 Howard M. Weaver Estate—Elkhart, Indiana
 Myrna K. Weaver Estate—Sarasota, Florida
 Ora Yoder Endowment Fund—Goshen, Indiana
 Doris A. Yoder Estate—Goshen, Indiana
 Elizabeth Yoder Estate—Goshen, Indiana
 Ruth E. Yoder Estate—Marion, Ohio
 Henry Zehr Estate—Goshen, Indiana
 William M. Zehr Estate—Hutchinson, Kansas
 Leatha Zook Estate—Wooster, Ohio
 Pearl E. Zuercher Estate—Orville, Ohio



Giving

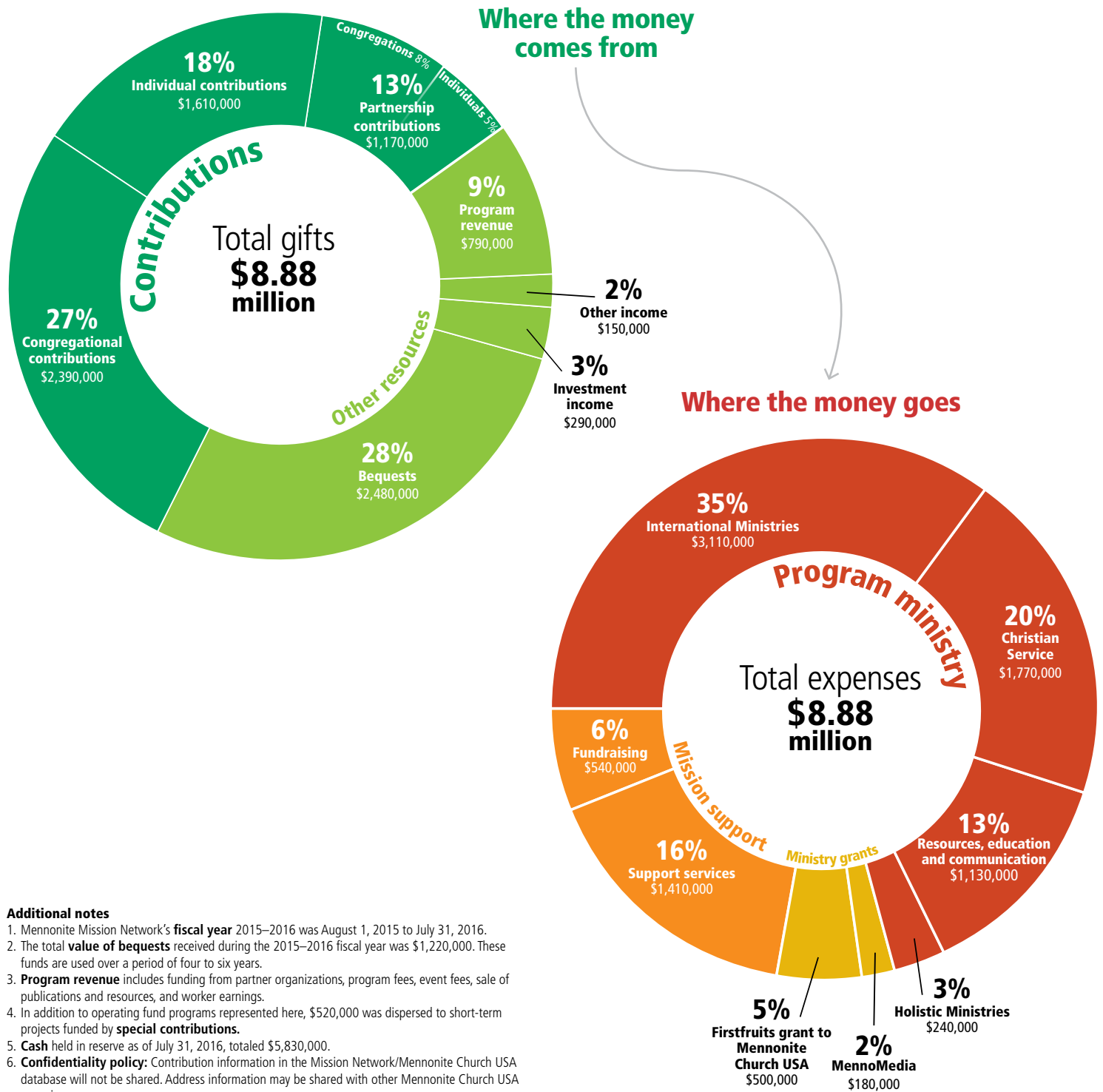
Mennonite Church USA congregations

Allegheny Conference \$30,909 9 of 18 conference congregations (50%) gave an average of \$3,434	Illinois Conference \$165,054* 19 of 45 conference congregations (42%) gave an average of \$8,687	Pacific Northwest Conference \$91,968 21 of 34 conference congregations (62%) gave an average of \$4,379
Atlantic Coast Conference \$180,732* 13 of 33 conference congregations (39%) gave an average of \$13,902	Indiana-Michigan Conference \$353,020* 43 of 59 conference congregations (73%) gave an average of \$8,210	Pacific Southwest Conference \$33,478 14 of 37 conference congregations (38%) gave an average of \$2,391
Central District Conference \$201,815* 25 of 42 conference congregations (60%) gave an average of \$8,073	Lancaster Conference \$79,542 7 of 164 conference congregations (04%) gave an average of \$11,363	South Central Conference \$159,634 11 of 31 conference congregations (35%) gave an average of \$14,512
Central Plains Conference \$266,391 33 of 51 conference congregations (65%) gave an average of \$8,072	Mountain States Conference \$58,408 11 of 20 conference congregations (55%) gave an average of \$5,310	Southeast Conference \$25,049 7 of 27 conference congregations (26%) gave an average of \$3,578
Eastern District Conference \$61,508* 7 of 13 conference congregations (54%) gave an average of \$8,787	New York Conference \$12,926 5 of 15 conference congregations (33%) gave an average of \$2,585	Virginia Conference \$160,541 29 of 71 conference congregations (41%) gave an average of \$5,536
Franconia Conference \$174,562 24 of 42 conference congregations (57%) gave an average of \$7,273	Ohio Conference \$545,989* 43 of 59 conference congregations (73%) gave an average of \$12,697	Western District Conference \$279,306 39 of 56 conference congregations (70%) gave an average of \$7,162
Gulf States Conference \$3,325 1 of 5 conference congregations (20%) gave an average of \$3,325	Contributing congregations not part of Mennonite Church USA \$335,176.74 80 congregations gave an average of \$4,189.71	

*Figure includes contributions from dual conference congregations.



Ministry



Additional notes

1. Mennonite Mission Network's fiscal year 2015–2016 was August 1, 2015 to July 31, 2016.
2. The total value of bequests received during the 2015–2016 fiscal year was \$1,220,000. These funds are used over a period of four to six years.
3. Program revenue includes funding from partner organizations, program fees, event fees, sale of publications and resources, and worker earnings.
4. In addition to operating fund programs represented here, \$520,000 was dispersed to short-term projects funded by special contributions.
5. Cash held in reserve as of July 31, 2016, totaled \$5,830,000.
6. Confidentiality policy: Contribution information in the Mission Network/Mennonite Church USA database will not be shared. Address information may be shared with other Mennonite Church USA agencies.

New workers enter service

Mission workers beginning assignments between March and September 2016

DOOR Discern

Atlanta

Dax Lewis, Atlanta, Liveoak Baptist Church, Atlanta

Kailyn Calloway

Melacia Griggs, Riverdale, Georgia

Jarvis Holmes, Atlanta

D'sean Horne, Riverdale, Georgia, Liveoak Baptist Church, Atlanta

Carmen Jones, Ellenwood, Georgia

Kenneth Rogers, Decatur, Georgia

Chicago

Alma Carrillo Flores, Elkhart, Indiana, College Mennonite Church, Goshen, Indiana

Cyndy Miguel, Los Angeles, St. Basil Catholic Church, Los Angeles

Torria Mitchell, Chicago

Muhammad Ndiaye, Chicago

Marquitta Scott, Chicago

Michael Taylor, Chicago

Dyamond Williams, Chicago

Denver

Jovany Archuleta, Denver

Rebecca Britt, Highland Park, Illinois, Saint Francis Xavier Catholic Church, Highland Park

Jairo Flores, LaGrange, Georgia, Alterna, LaGrange

Anjelica Marquez, Lakewood, Colorado, New Life Fellowship, Denver

Anna Martinez, Denver

Elizabeth Martinez, Denver

Constance Moushon, Eureka, Illinois, First Mennonite Church, Morton, Illinois

Montez Reed, Memphis, Tennessee, First Baptist Broad Church, Memphis

Levi Vigil, Denver, Victory Outreach, Denver

Los Angeles

Mary Hartman-Mealey, Los Angeles, First Presbyterian Church, Hollywood, California

Odalys Romero, Los Angeles, Christ the King Catholic Church, Los Angeles

Miami

Isabella Mojares, Miami

Danny Morales, Homestead, Florida, Riviera Presbyterian Church, Miami

DOOR Discover

Atlanta unit

All Saints Episcopal Church, Tupelo, Mississippi

Alpharetta (Georgia) Presbyterian Church

Central Mennonite Church, Archbold, Ohio

Cooperative Youth Ministry, Silver Spring, Maryland

Duke Presbyterian Campus Ministry, Durham, North Carolina

Wesley Foundation at Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, Illinois



Photo by Andrea Sawyer-Kirksey.

DOOR Chicago Discern participant Muhammad Ndiaye writes a final reflection, a letter to himself that will be given to him at some point later during the year.

First Presbyterian Church, Charlotte, North Carolina

First Presbyterian Church, Clinton, South Carolina

First Presbyterian Church, Yorktown Heights, New York

Guilford Park Presbyterian Church, Greensboro, North Carolina

Mount St. Joseph University Student Nurse Association, Cincinnati, Ohio

Paoli (Indiana) Mennonite Fellowship

Park Road Baptist Church, Charlotte, North Carolina

Park View Mennonite Church, Harrisonburg, Virginia

Purdue Timmy Global Health, West Lafayette, Indiana

South Aiken (South Carolina) Presbyterian Church

University of Pikeville, Pikeville, Kentucky

Westminster Presbyterian Church, Grand Rapids, Michigan

Westminster Presbyterian Church, Greensboro, North Carolina

Widener University, Chester, Pennsylvania

Chicago unit

Avon Mennonite Church, Stratford, Ontario

Berkey Avenue Mennonite Fellowship, Goshen, Indiana

Berlin (Ohio) Mennonite Church

Bethel Mennonite Church, Winnipeg, Manitoba

Christ Community Church, Des Moines, Iowa

Christ the Lord Lutheran Church, Elgin, Illinois

Church of the Servant, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Fairview (Oklahoma) Mennonite Brethren Church

First Christian Church, Greensboro, North Carolina

First Christian Church, Petersburg, Illinois

First Mennonite Church, Indianapolis, Indiana

First Presbyterian Church, Atlanta, Georgia

First Presbyterian Church, Cedar Rapids, Iowa

First Presbyterian Church, High Point, North Carolina

First Presbyterian Church, Newton, Kansas

First Presbyterian Church, Raleigh, North Carolina

First United Methodist Church, Sapulpa, Oklahoma

Highland Presbyterian Church, Maryville, Tennessee

Iola (Wisconsin) United Methodist Church

Lee's Summit (Missouri) Christian Church

Lombard (Illinois) Mennonite Church

Macalester Plymouth United Church, St. Paul, Minnesota

Mizpah United Church of Christ, Hopkins, Minnesota

Montclair Presbyterian Church, Oakland, California

New Covenant Fellowship, Champaign, Illinois

North Shore Presbyterian Church, Shorewood, Wisconsin

Purdue Cooperative Council, West Lafayette, Indiana

Temple Baptist Church, Durham, North Carolina

Tracy (Minnesota) Lutheran Church

Trinity United Methodist Church, Albia, Iowa

Wayland (Iowa) Mennonite Church Webster (New York) Presbyterian Church

Denver unit

Akron (Pennsylvania) Mennonite Church

Altona Bergthaler Mennonite Church, Altona, Manitoba

Arthur (Illinois) Mennonite Church

Boulder (Colorado) Mennonite Church

Cameron Campus Ministry, Lawton, Oklahoma

Christus Lutheran Church, Greenville, Wisconsin

Congregational UCC, Shenandoah, Iowa

First Baptist Church, Littlefield, Texas

First Baptist Church, Newton, Kansas

First Christian Church, Glasgow, Kentucky

First Mennonite Church, Denver, Colorado

First Presbyterian Church, Battle Creek, Iowa

First Presbyterian Church, Grand Haven, Michigan

First Presbyterian Church, Grapevine, Texas



Photo provided.

MVSers Neal Brubaker and Elsa Goosen walked the 150-mile *Camino del Imigrante* as a way to gain more understanding about the issues surrounding immigration.

First Presbyterian Church, Oshkosh, Wisconsin

First Presbyterian Church, Salina, Kansas

First United Methodist Church, Newkirk, Oklahoma

First United Methodist Church, Waukesha, Wisconsin

Heritage United Methodist Church, Overland Park, Kansas

Northminster Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis, Indiana

Pilgrim United Church of Christ, Carlsbad, California

Prairie Rose Evangelical

Mennonite Church, Landmark, Manitoba

Purdue Service Breaks, West Lafayette, Indiana

Rhodes College Bonner Center, Memphis, Tennessee

Salem Mennonite Church, Freeman, South Dakota

Second Baptist Church, Lubbock, Texas

Los Angeles unit

Calvary Lutheran Church, Park Rapids, Minnesota

Community Presbyterian Church, Pinetop, Arizona

Corvallis (Oregon) Mennonite Fellowship

First Lutheran Church, Mandan, North Dakota

Pacific Southwest Mennonite Conference, Upland, California

St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Coronado, California

Trabuco Presbyterian Church, Trabuco Canyon, California

Tualatin Plains Presbyterian Church, Hillsboro, Oregon

Wesley Foundation Greater Miami, Coral Gables, Florida

Wesley Foundation of Kalamazoo, Michigan

Westview Presbyterian Church, Watsonville, California

Miami unit

Belle Meade United Methodist Church, Nashville, Tennessee

Central Presbyterian Church, Miami, Florida

Church of the Redeemer, Sarasota, Florida

Community Church of Vero Beach, Florida

First Congregational Church, Boulder, Colorado

First Presbyterian Church, Katonah, New York

Harvest United Methodist Church, Bradenton, Florida

Hope College, Holland, Michigan

Keene (New Hampshire) State College

Larchmont (New York) Avenue Church

Penn State University Campus Ministries, State College, Pennsylvania

St. Paul's United Church of Christ, Chicago, Illinois

Suncoast Community Church, Sarasota, Florida

Widener University, Chester, Pennsylvania

DOOR Dwell

Atlanta

Hannah Chappell-Dick, Bluffton, Ohio, First Mennonite Church, Bluffton

Melacia Griggs, Riverdale, Georgia

Rebecca Leland, Arlington, Virginia, Falls Church (Virginia) Presbyterian Church

Sarah Morrell, Houston, Texas, Cityview Bible Church, Round Rock, Texas

Elizabeth Reid, Bremen, Georgia, Hopewood Christian Church, Milligan College, Tennessee

Chicago

Kyle Balzer, Denver, His Love Fellowship, Denver, serving with Mary Crane

Meredith Check, Lexington, North Carolina, First Presbyterian Church, Lexington, serving with Darnst Center

Luke Harmon, Lake Park, Iowa, First Presbyterian Church, Lake Park, serving with LaSalle Street Church

Evelyn Hooper, Chattanooga, Tennessee, Northside Presbyterian Church, Chattanooga, serving with Darnst Center

Emily Mikhail, Plano, Texas, West Plano Presbyterian Church, serving with New Moms

Gladys Rosas, Fort Wayne, Indiana, *Iglesia Menonita del Buen Pastor*, Goshen, Indiana, serving with Logan Square Neighborhood Association

Denver

Zach Evans, Tampa, Florida, Collective Church, DeLand, Florida, serving with St. Frances Center

Katarina Greenslade, Newark, Ohio, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Wooster, Ohio, serving with Urban Peak

Alicia Poppelt, Minneapolis, Minnesota, Shalom Mennonite Church, Harrisonburg, Virginia, serving with St. Frances Center

Rebekah Witt, Stephens City, Virginia, Opequon Presbyterian Church, Stephens City, serving with Senior Support Services

Los Angeles

Sam Foxvog, Tiskilwa, Illinois, Plow Creek Mennonite Church, Tiskilwa

Rachael Krishnan, Madison, Wisconsin, Angelus Temple, Los Angeles

Anjelica Marquez, Lakewood, Colorado, New Life Fellowship, Denver

Julia Thorn, Zionsville, Indiana, First Presbyterian Church, Lebanon, Indiana

Miami

Savannah Caccamo, Greensboro, North Carolina, First Presbyterian Church, Greensboro

Jillian Gardner, Scotch Plains, New Jersey, First Presbyterian Church, Woodbridge, New Jersey

Matt Hill, Greenville, South Carolina, Newspring Church, Greenville

Anne McAlister, Charlotte, North Carolina, Covenant Presbyterian Church, Charlotte

MVS

Aibonito, Puerto Rico

Johanna Depenthal, Orlando, Florida, People of Faith Lutheran Church (Winter Garden, Florida), serving with *Academia Menonita Betania*

Katie Gillmore, Hutchinson, Kansas, Eden Mennonite Church (Moundridge, Kansas), serving with *Academia Menonita Betania*

Alamosa, Colorado

Bryce Hostetler, Dodge City, Kansas, First

Presbyterian Church (Dodge City), serving with San Luis Valley Local Foods Coalition

Emily Wedel, Hutchinson, Kansas, First Mennonite Church (Hutchinson), serving with La Puente Home Inc.

Chicago

Maria Garcia, Bogota, Colombia, Mennonite Brethren Colombia (Bogota), serving with Erie Neighborhood House

Aaron Gonzalez Alpizar, Heredia, Costa Rica, *Buenas Nuevas* (Costa Rica), serving with Faith in Place

Carly Kraybill, Harrisonburg, Virginia, Community Mennonite Church (Harrisonburg), serving with Brighton Park Neighborhood Council (BPNorth Carolina)

Joel Yoder, Lawrence, Kansas, Berkey Avenue Mennonite Fellowship (Goshen, Indiana), serving with Chicago Run

Elkhart, Indiana

Jonathan Brenneman, Saint Marys, Ohio, Lima (Ohio) Mennonite Church, serving with Mennonite Church USA

Kevin Daugherty, Elizabeth, Pennsylvania, Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church (Greenock, Pennsylvania), serving with Church Community Services

Kansas City, Kansas

Michael Ghaly, Beni Suef, Egypt, Beni Suef Diocese—Elmot Rania Church (Egypt), serving with Della Lamb Community Services

Christina Hofer, Dolton, South Dakota, Salem-Zion Mennonite Church (Freeman, South Dakota), serving with Kansas City Community Gardens

Kiangkham Thor, Vientiane Capital, Laos, Nasiew Evangelical Church (Laos), serving with Cultivate Kansas City

Madison, Wisconsin

Mikhail Fernandes, Wilmington, North Carolina, serving with Madison Audubon Society

Tabea Fink, Wolhusen, Switzerland, *Chrischona Gemeinde Sursee* (Switzerland), serving with Dreamweavers

New York City

Christopher Altrogge, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, St. Benedict (Saskatchewan) Roman Catholic Parish, serving with Martin Luther School

Emma-Love Cabana, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, St. Joseph's Parish (Saskatoon), serving with MCC United Nations Office

San Francisco

Laura Hassel, Essen, Germany, St. Michael Catholic Church (Essen), serving with the Gubbio Project

Margaret Short, Archbold, Ohio, Zion Mennonite Church (Archbold), serving with DISH (Delivering Innovation in Supportive Housing)

Seattle

Abigail Bechtel, Henderson, Nebraska, Bethesda Mennonite Church (Henderson), serving with Grist

Halle Steingass, Pandora, Ohio, First Mennonite Church (Bluffton, Ohio), serving with Washington Autism Alliance & Advocacy (WAAA)

Tucson, Arizona

Lucas Harnish, Bluffton, Ohio, First Mennonite Church (Bluffton), serving with Community Home Repair Program of Arizona

Kara Hostetter, Harrisonburg, Virginia, Waterford Mennonite Church (Goshen, Indiana), serving with Community Home Repair Program of Arizona

Virginia Keim, Dundee, Ohio, Light in the Valley Chapel (Sugar creek, Ohio), serving with St. Elizabeth Health Center

Destinee Wells, Kalamazoo, Michigan, Wesley Foundation (Kalamazoo), serving with Primavera

Washington, D.C.

Hanna Heishman, Keezletown, Virginia, Community Mennonite Church (Harrisonburg, Virginia), serving with

Habitat for Humanity International

Rebecca Martin, Akron, Pennsylvania, Akron Mennonite Church, serving with Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Kathlyn Miller, San Antonio, Texas, San Antonio Mennonite Church, serving with Government Accountability Project

David Zehr, Elkhart, Indiana, Sunnyside Mennonite Church (Elkhart), serving with Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Journey International

Ecuador

Seth Kurtz, Goshen, Indiana, Assembly Mennonite Church (Goshen)

Joshua Schirch-Sanchez, Goshen, Indiana, Assembly Mennonite Church (Goshen)

Petra Showalter, Waynesboro, Pennsylvania, Marion Mennonite Church (Chambersburg, Pennsylvania)

Indonesia

Katja Norton, Goshen, Indiana, Walnut Hill Mennonite Church (Goshen) and Goshen City Church of the Brethren

Leah Swartley, Elkhart, Indiana, Sunnyside Mennonite Church (Elkhart)

Seth Swartzendruber, Morton, Illinois, First Mennonite Church of Morton

Service Adventure

Albuquerque, New Mexico

Lydia Andres, Archbold, Ohio, Zion Mennonite Church (Archbold), serving with Habitat for Humanity ReStore

Annika Dollinger, Heubach, Germany, *Evangelisch Freikirchliche of Heubach* (Germany), serving with Harwood Art Center

Abby Gallegos, Goshen, Indiana

Milena Klassen, Wolfsburg, Germany, Wolfsburg Mennonite Church, serving with Jeanie's Child Development Center

Armelda Khari, Lezhe, Albania, *Guri i themelit* (Cornerstone Mennonite Church) (Albania), serving with St. Martin's Hospitality Center

Anchorage, Alaska

Heidi Asher, Wichita, Kansas, Believers Tabernacle (Wichita), serving with Anchorage Re:MADE, and Food Bank of Alaska

Cassidy Bush, Bluffton, Ohio, First Mennonite Church (Bluffton), serving with Parachutes Teen Club and Resource Center, and Children's Lunchbox

Samuel Hatch, Newton, Kansas, Shalom Mennonite Church (Newton), serving with Bureau of Land Management

Rebekka Heller, Freiburg, Germany, Chrischona Church of Freiburg (Germany), serving with Kids' Corps Inc., and Children's Lunchbox

Jael Knoll, Kippenheim, Germany, AB Congregation of Lahr (Germany), serving with Downtown Soup Kitchen

Matthew Kroeker, Inman, Kansas, Bethel Mennonite Church (Inman), serving with Habitat for Humanity ReStore

Monica Miller, Thomas, Oklahoma, Pleasant View Mennonite Church (Hydro, Oklahoma), serving as unit leader

Colorado Springs, Colorado

David Borbely, Siegburg, Germany, Evangelical Nondenominational Church of Siegburg, serving with Westside Community Preschool

Nora Charles, Washington, D.C., Community House (Washington, D.C.), serving with Seeds Community Café

Marle Moellenbruck, Borken, Germany, EFG Borken (Germany), serving with Our House—Bright Futures

Kaitlin Unruh, Haven, Kansas, Journey Mennonite Church (South Hutchinson, Kansas), serving with Our House—Bright Futures, and Discover Goodwill

Jackson, Mississippi

Susannah Epp, Newton, Kansas, First Mennonite Church (Newton), serving with Voice of Calvary Ministries, and Education Station

Valerie Haupt, Karlsruhe, Germany, International Christian Fellowship (Germany), serving with Stewpot Community Services

Caleb Hochstetler, Harrisonburg, Virginia, Blooming Glen (Pennsylvania) Mennonite Church and Ridgeway Mennonite Church (Harrisonburg), serving as unit leader

Hannah Hochstetler, Harrisonburg, Virginia, East Goshen (Indiana) Mennonite Church and Ridgeway Mennonite Church (Harrisonburg), serving as unit leader

Niklas Kugler, Schwetzingen, Germany, Free Protestant Church Heidelberg (Germany), serving with New Horizon Ministries, and Education Station

Jenessa Woodrich, Beachwood, Ohio, New Song Church (Cleveland Heights, Ohio) and Kidron (Ohio) Mennonite Church, serving with Stewpot Community Services

Johnstown, Pennsylvania

Evan Finger, Kenosha, Wisconsin, Bethel-Bethany United Church of Christ (Milwaukee, Wisconsin), serving with Head Start, and New Day Inc.

Jonathan Ludwig, Pfinztal, Germany, *Per. Du-Gemeinde* (Germany), serving with Alternative Community Resource Program, and New Day Inc.

Eva Quiring, Bonn, Germany, *Evangelische Mennonitengemeinde Neuwied* (Germany), serving with Johnstown Christian School, and New Day Inc.

Erin Rhodes, Harrisonburg, Virginia, Harrisonburg Mennonite Church, serving with Willow Hill Farm, and New Day Inc.

Abigail Turner, Grafton, Wisconsin, Grace 242 (Thiensville, Wisconsin), serving with Head Start, and New Day Inc.

SOOP

James Bachman, Metamora, Illinois, Rome Baptist Church (Chillicothe, Illinois), served more than one month in Busby, Montana.



Photo by Hannah Hochstetler.

As a part of their desire to live simply, a couple Service Adventure units have decided to challenge themselves in a variety of ways to lower their impact on the earth. Each week, they draw a challenge for the week from a box full of options.



Photo by Cynthia Friesen Coyle.

Gloria Hurlley, and SOOPers Annette and Jamie Mast from Clinton Frame Church in Middlebury, Indiana, prepare the noon meal at Koinonia Farm. The Masts chose to do SOOP as a family with their teenage children during spring break.

Edwin and Ruth Basinger, Catoosa, Oklahoma, Eden Mennonite Church (Inola, Oklahoma), served three weeks in Carlsbad, New Mexico, and almost two months in Busby, Montana.

Cathy and Richard Boshart, Lebanon, Pennsylvania, Gingrichs Mennonite Church (Lebanon), served one month in Shippshewana, Indiana.

Adam and Jennifer Cobb and children, Archbold, Ohio, Lockport Mennonite Church (Stryker, Ohio), served two weeks in Lincoln City, Oregon.

Cynthia Friesen Coyle and James Coyle and daughter, Goshen, Indiana, Faith Mennonite Church (Goshen), served two weeks in Americus, Georgia.

Lester and Marian Denlinger, Willow Street, Pennsylvania, Rossmere Mennonite Church (Lancaster, Pennsylvania), served one week in Toano, Virginia.

Linda Doll, Bel Aire, Kansas, Lorraine Avenue Mennonite Church (Wichita, Kansas),

served one week in Divide, Colorado.

Dean and Twila Eshleman and children, Middlebury, Indiana, Clinton Frame Church (Goshen, Indiana), served four days in Americus, Georgia.

Leon and Melba Eshleman, Manheim, Pennsylvania, Chestnut Hill Mennonite Church (Columbia, Pennsylvania), served one week in Westbrookville, New York.

Kent and Sharon Harder, Eden Prairie, Minnesota, Wooddale Church (Eden Prairie), served two weeks in Akron, Pennsylvania.

Dwight and Edna Hershberger, Lancaster, Pennsylvania, East Chestnut Street Mennonite Church (Lancaster), served one month in Ely, Minnesota.

Bob and Carmy Hess, Dillsburg, Pennsylvania, The Meeting House (Dillsburg), served one month in Ephrata, Pennsylvania.

Marilyn and Stanley Kamp, Orrville, Ohio, Orrville Mennonite Church, served two months in Washington, D.C.

Robert King, Colorado Springs, Colorado, Beth-El Mennonite Church (Colorado Springs), served one month in Hesston, Kansas.

Rebecca Lapp, Watsontown, Pennsylvania, Community Mennonite Fellowship (Milton, Pennsylvania), served two weeks in Tucson, Arizona.

Julia and Lynn Lehman, Durango, Colorado, First Mennonite Church of Iowa City, Iowa, served one month in Washington, Iowa.

Norman and Vicki Lichti, Newton, Kansas, New Creation Fellowship Church (Newton), served one month in Washington, D.C.

Eric Litwiller and daughter, Newton, Kansas, Tabor Mennonite Church (Newton), served one week in Macon, Mississippi.

Annette and Ira Mast and children, Middlebury, Indiana, Clinton Frame Church (Goshen, Indiana), served four days in Americus, Georgia.

Bob and Twila Mast, Lancaster, Pennsylvania, Calvary Church (Lancaster), served one month in Leavenworth, Washington.

Norman and Wilmetta Maust, Goshen, Indiana, Pleasant View Mennonite Church (Goshen), served two weeks in Glendale, Arizona.

Kim and Sean McConaghay and children, Westbrookville, New York, Otisville-Mt. Hope Presbyterian Church (Otisville, New York), served two weeks in Divide, Colorado.

Larry and Maxine Miller, Macon, Mississippi, served one month in Shippshewana, Indiana.

Lynn Miller, Bluffton, Ohio, First Mennonite Church (Bluffton), served two months in Busby, Montana.

Mil and Ruth Penner, Indianapolis, Indiana, Shalom Mennonite Church (Indianapolis), served two weeks in Divide, Colorado.

Cheryl and Heber Ramer, Harper, Kansas, Pleasant Valley Mennonite Church (Harper), served two weeks in Whitesburg, Kentucky.

Sue and Wesley Richard, Goshen, Indiana, West Goshen Church of the Brethren, served three weeks in Hollywood, California.

Peg and Randee Robison, Fort Wayne, Indiana, Agape Church of the Brethren (Fort Wayne), served two weeks in Glendale, Arizona.

Sylvia Schmidt, Wichita, Kansas, Lorraine Avenue Mennonite Church (Wichita), served one week in Divide, Colorado.

Dale and Jan Stebbins, Janesville, Wisconsin, St. Johns Lutheran Church (Janesville), served one month in Whitesburg, Kentucky, and one month in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Patricia and William Strunk, Alden, New York, Alden Mennonite Church, served two weeks in Washington, D.C.

Emma Stutzman, Orrville, Ohio, Salem Mennonite Church (Kidron, Ohio), served two months in Whitesburg, Kentucky.

Linda Trejo-Todd, Houston, Texas, First Cumberland Presbyterian Church (Houston), served two weeks in Americus, Georgia.

Robert Walson, Indianapolis, Indiana, First Mennonite Church (Indianapolis), served two weeks in Tucson, Arizona.

Linda Washburn, Cypress, Texas, Houston (Texas) Mennonite Church, served one week in Hamilton, Ontario.

Dale and Lois Wolgemuth, Manheim, Pennsylvania, White Oak Church of the Brethren (Manheim), served one week in Oliver, British Columbia.

Lauren and Suzanne Yoder, Black Mountain, North Carolina, First Christian Church (Black Mountain), served one month in Shippshewana, Indiana.

Youth Venture

India

Kate Cherveney, Topeka, Kansas, Southern Hills Mennonite Church (Topeka)

Madison Kauffman, Haven, Kansas, Journey Mennonite Church (South Hutchinson, Kansas)

John Murray, St. Paul, Minnesota, Third Way Church (St. Paul), Youth Venture leader



Photo by John Murray.

Youth Venture team to India: John Murray, Kate Cherveney, Mrs. Usha Mohol, Madeline Troyer, Kelsey Yoder, Madi Kauffman, and Bethany Perri.

International



Ben and Laurel Breckbill began a one-year assignment as Mission Associates in Belfast, Northern Ireland. Ben will serve with Mediation Northern Ireland through an internship with Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary (Elkhart, Indiana). Laurel will study Reconciliation and Conflict Transformation at Trinity College Dublin and the Irish School of Ecumenics. They are members of First Mennonite Church in Lincoln, Nebraska.



Austin Roberts began a one-year internship in Rostrevor, Northern Ireland, as Discipleship Training School staff with Youth With a Mission. Austin is involved in community and congregational outreach and development, and with local ministry partners. Austin attends Hively Avenue Mennonite Church in Elkhart, Indiana.

ers in Mannheim, Germany, and also network with young adults throughout Germany who are seeking to live and serve in missional communities in a post-Christian context. They attend Waynesboro Mennonite Church in Virginia, and are members of Maranatha Christian Fellowship in Northridge, California.



Jason and Tonya Yoder Rupp began a one-year special assignment with *Colegio Gutenberg Campo 9*, a school affiliated with the Mennonite Brethren Church in Paraguay. They assist with English and math classes, study groups, and after-school clubs. Their home congregation is Belmont Mennonite Church in Elkhart, Indiana.



Lauren Francescos serves as an intern with C3 in Pietermaritzburg, South Africa, a sister congregation to her home congregation. She assists the congregation in worship, Sunday school, and administration. Lauren is a member of Calvary Community Church (C3) in Hampton, Virginia.



Gloria Showalter began a two-year internship in Quito, Ecuador, where she serves the Quito Mennonite Church's Education for Peace children's program, as well as helping with other ministries for children and youth. This ministry with *Iglesia Cristiana Anabautista Menonita de Ecuador* (ICAME) is through the Ecuador Partnership, which includes *Iglesia Cristiana Menonita de Colombia* and Central Plains Mennonite Conference. Gloria's home congregation is Benton Mennonite Church in Goshen, Indiana, and she is a member of Marion Mennonite Church in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania.



David and Elena Entz Wiebe began a four-month assignment in Nepal. They are serving as interim supervisors at Top of the World Coffee in Kathmandu while business owners Dale and Bethsaba Nafziger are on their North American Ministry assignment.



Courtney Mast began an internship in Kenya at the Dow Family Children's Home, where she serves in a variety of ways. Her primary work is in administration, but she also teaches art classes for the children, and assists in training female staff and village members in water and well projects. Courtney is a member of Pleasant View Mennonite Church in Hydro, Oklahoma, and currently attends Hesston Mennonite Church in Kansas.



David and Rebekka Stutzman have renewed their commitment as Mission Associates with Mennonite Mission Network, in partnership with Virginia Mennonite Missions and the South German Mennonite Conference (Verband). They serve as church plant-

D. and E.* began an assignment in the Middle East as Mission Associates in partnership with Mennonite Mission Network and Eastern Mennonite Missions. They walk beside the emerging church, equipping and training them in Scripture and faithful life in order to follow Jesus for the sake of the world. They are members of Maple Grove Mennonite Church in Hartville, Ohio. *Anonymous for security reasons.

Bethany Perri, Flushing, New York, Immanuel Community Church (Flushing)
Kelsey Springer, Harrisonburg, Virginia, Youth Venture leader
Madeline Troyer, Millersburg, Ohio, Berlin (Ohio) Mennonite Church
Indonesia
Naomi Clouse, Washington, Iowa,

Wellman (Iowa) Mennonite Church
Travis Duerksen, Canton, Kansas, Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church (Goessel, Kansas), Youth Venture leader
Allison Ervin, Doylestown, Ohio, First Mennonite Church (Wadsworth, Ohio)
Erika Kropf, Tavistock, Ontario, East Zorra

Mennonite Church (Tavistock)
Sarah Lorenzana, Los Angeles, New City Church (Los Angeles), Youth Venture leader
Lithuania
Katy Duncan, Dover, Ohio, Dover First Moravian Church
Amanda Entz, Newton, Kansas, First Mennonite Church (Newton) and Life Spring Community

Church (Goshen, Indiana), Youth Venture leader
Isaac Entz, Newton, Kansas, First Mennonite Church (Newton) and Seattle (Washington) Mennonite Church
Caroline Lehman, Dover, Ohio, LifeBridge Community Church (Dover)
Nicole Miller, Plymouth, Minnesota,

Emmanuel Mennonite Church (Minneapolis, Minnesota)
Kati O'Neill, Wapakoneta, Ohio, First English Lutheran Church (Wapakoneta)
Los Angeles
Kristy Clouse, Washington, Iowa, Bethel Baptist Church (Prosperity, South Carolina) and Wellman

(Iowa) Mennonite Church
Elizabeth Eby, Goshen, Indiana, Walnut Hill Mennonite Church (Goshen)
Annali Murray, Pasadena, California, Martins Mennonite Church (Orville, Ohio) and New Creation Fellowship Church (Newton, Kansas), Youth Venture leader



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