



**Mennonite  
Mission  
Network**

The mission agency of  
Mennonite Church USA



## **Mission Banks**

A stewardship and mission resource

"I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

—John 13:34-35

# SPAIN

## Sharing Jesus' love!

### Packet contents

- Introduction and background information
- Three story cards, for use in worship or Sunday school
- Children's prayer card

### Introduction for children

Spain is a country in Europe that borders France and Portugal. It is also very near Morocco, which is in Africa. Spain's boundaries touch the Atlantic Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea. This makes the country a popular place to vacation and to live. Immigrants from Europe, Africa and Latin America have added to Spain's culture. This can be seen in Spain's art, music, food, and building design, among other things.

People who live in Spain are called Spaniards. They eat five meals a day. If you lived in Spain, you might eat a small breakfast of toast with olive oil and a slice of tomato on top. There's normally a mid-morning coffee break and lunch is served around 3 p.m. It's common to have a *merienda*, or afternoon snack, because dinner can be as late as 11 p.m.! Some of Spain's common dishes include *tortilla Española* (a potato omelet) and *paella* (a rice dish), and a delicious dessert called *flan*. Fresh foods like olives, oranges, tomatoes and grapes are common because of Spain's warm weather.

### Mennonites in Spain

Mennonites began to work in Spain during its civil war (1936-1939) when two different Spanish groups fought against each other. Many people stopped going to church and wanted nothing to do with God. During this time, Mennonites helped people who were affected by the war.

Meanwhile, more than 30 years ago, mission workers from Mennonite Mission Network came to Spain to live and serve the people. The ideas for Mission Network's ministries came from Spanish Christians who were angry at how the church enforced rules. They wanted to know more about what Jesus taught.

Today, workers from Mission Network show Christ's love, share about Jesus, and teach Anabaptist values like peace and simplicity. There are six Anabaptist churches in Spain, with a total of 300 members. The *Comunidades Unidas Anabautistas de Burgos* (Burgos United Anabaptist Communities) keeps growing! In 2012, a new building was built to accommodate everyone. It is the first Protestant church building in the city of Burgos! Before 1978, only Catholics could worship in public. Mennonites in Spain are very thankful to have the freedom to tell others about Jesus!

### Using mission bank teaching tools

These teaching tools are used in conjunction with the globe-shaped mission banks provided by Mennonite Mission Network. Banks for children can be ordered online at [www.MennoniteMission.net/MissionBank](http://www.MennoniteMission.net/MissionBank).

For more resources about Spain, visit [www.MennoniteMission.net/SpainMissionBank](http://www.MennoniteMission.net/SpainMissionBank).

*Mission banks teach children mission-focused stewardship. The teaching tools show children how God is at work in Spain and what mission can mean in a child's own context.*

## Meet our workers



**Dennis and Connie Byler** have lived and worked in Burgos, Spain, for more than 30 years. Dennis teaches seminary students about the Bible in a seminary. He has written a number of books in Spanish and also writes a newsletter each month for the Anabaptist churches in Spain. Connie is a leader at her church, *Comunidades Unidas Anabautistas de Burgos*. She also ministers and befriends people who are living with AIDS.



**Brian and Noelia Fox**, along with their daughters, Elisa, Mikaela and Norah, have lived and served in Burgos since 2006. They teach English and work with youth, in both the community and the church they attend, *Comunidades Unidas Anabautistas de Burgos*.

## Material for teachers

### Story cards

Included in this packet are three story cards. These stories from Spain can be shared with children during worship, Sunday school, or other gathering times. After reading these stories together, invite children to reflect on how they might show love and welcome people around them and around the world.

### Giving project

Mennonite Mission Network supports a wide variety of ministries in Spain. One of the primary ways that mission happens is by sharing the good news of Jesus through friendships and loving our neighbors. Here are some examples:

#### Offering

**\$100** helps to provide discipleship materials for the youth and young adult groups.

**\$75** helps to provide drums for worship nights.

**\$50** helps to provide transportation for Brian and Noelia Fox to share God's love with people around Spain.

**\$25** helps one teenager to attend a youth retreat.

## Giving project display idea

Build a house of Legos to represent the *Comunidades Unidas Anabautistas de Burgos* in Spain. At the end of each Sunday school class, take some time to add to the Lego community. Set small goals of \$5 or \$10, and when each goal is reached, add a new Lego person to the community.

—*Idea submitted by Laurel Rudd of Cedar Falls (Iowa) Mennonite Church.*

## Additional activities

### 1. Learn Spanish!

Label things you find around your Sunday school classroom. Here are some ideas:

- table = la mesa
- chair = la silla
- window = la ventana
- floor = el piso
- door = la puerta
- teacher = el profesor (male), la profesora (female)
- pencil = el lápiz
- Bible = la Biblia
- book = el libro

## 2. *El Camino de Santiago*

*El Camino de Santiago* (St. James Way) is the name for a group of walking paths across Spain. For hundreds of years, people have walked these paths as a way to focus on their relationship with God. There are many paths, but they all end at the place where John (the brother of Jesus) is believed to be buried.

Go on a group walk in nature. Walk silently. Think about the following questions and discuss them as a group when finished.

- What are some of the things you noticed on your walk?
- Sometimes on walks, people can feel God's love through the warm sunshine, or God's forgiveness through a stream. How have you experienced God on your walk?

## 3. *Las Chapas*—a children's game

What you'll need:

- 22 bottle caps
- chalk
- one dried chickpea

How to play:

- Use the chalk to draw a large rectangle on cement. Complete the appropriate lines so that it looks like a soccer field.
- Each player has 11 bottle caps. Those are your players, and you can decorate them however you wish!
- The chickpea will be your "ball." Taking turns, flick your bottle cap toward the chickpea to try to knock it inside the goal.
- The first player to reach 10 goals wins!

## 4. Spanish music

Are you curious to hear what Spain's traditional music sounds like? Listen to flamenco music on our website at [www.MennoniteMission.net/SpainMissionBank](http://www.MennoniteMission.net/SpainMissionBank).

### Flan dessert

#### Ingredients

1 c white sugar  
3 eggs  
1 (14 oz) can of sweetened condensed milk  
1 (12 oz) can evaporated milk  
1 T vanilla extract

#### Directions

- Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In a medium saucepan over medium-low heat, melt sugar until liquefied and golden in color. (Be patient. It will happen!) Carefully pour hot syrup into

a 9-inch round glass baking dish, turning the dish to evenly coat the bottom and sides. Set aside.

- In a large bowl, beat eggs. Beat in condensed milk, evaporated milk, and vanilla until smooth. Pour egg mixture into baking dish and cover with aluminum foil. Bake for 60 minutes. Remove and let cool completely.
- To serve, run a knife along the sides of the baking dish and carefully invert onto a serving plate.

### Spanish deviled eggs with tuna (makes 9–12 appetizer servings)

*This is a traditional Spanish recipe. Tuna and a bit of tomato sauce is mixed with the cooked egg yolks, and then topped with mayonnaise. Try it and see why these deviled eggs with tuna are a Spanish favorite.*

Prep time: 20 minutes  
Cook time: 10 minutes  
Total time: 30 minutes

#### Ingredients

12 hard-boiled large eggs  
2 (6 oz) cans tuna packed in oil  
1/2 c tomato sauce  
mayonnaise  
salt and pepper to taste  
Spanish sweet paprika for garnish (optional)

#### Directions

- Boil the eggs in water for 7 minutes. After the eggs are hard-boiled, cool in cold water. Peel and cut the eggs in

half lengthwise and carefully remove the yolks. Set aside the boiled egg whites. Place cooked yolks in a mixing bowl and mash with a fork until crumbled into small pieces.

- Drain oil from tuna and put in another mixing bowl. Separate the tuna with a fork, making small pieces, and place the tomato sauce with the tuna and stir. Add half of the egg yolks. Mix thoroughly. (To keep the mixture moist, you may need to add more tomato sauce.) Add salt and pepper to taste. Carefully spoon tuna mixture into the egg halves.
- Place a small amount of mayonnaise on top of each egg. Use some of the rest of the crumbled egg yolks as decoration by sprinkling over the egg halves. If desired for decoration, lightly sprinkle Spanish sweet paprika over the egg halves.
- Chill the eggs and keep them refrigerated until you are ready to serve them.

▶ Visit us online at [www.MennoniteMission.net/SpainMissionBank](http://www.MennoniteMission.net/SpainMissionBank) for more resources.



## Using mission banks

*Please follow these guidelines as you use Mennonite Mission Network's mission banks to support God's work in Spain.*

**Use of banks**—The globe-shaped mission banks are specifically designed to be used alongside the mission bank teaching tool packets produced by Mennonite Mission Network. These packets always focus on one country or region where Mission Network ministry is taking place. In these packets you can find:

- Stories about Mennonite Mission Network ministry happening in that area.
- A giving project.
- Activities, songs and recipes to help children engage the country's or region's culture.
- Videos and PowerPoint presentations that help to put a face on each country and the giving project.

**Age range and cost**—Mission banks are a fun way for children and congregations to learn together about stewardship and generosity, and to hear stories about the ways that God is working around the world. Because we want each child to be able to participate in this learning experience, banks are offered free of charge to all Mennonite Church USA children in grades K-6 from January 1–March 31 of every year. Banks can also be ordered throughout the year for \$4.95 per bank.

**Resources**—Along with each teaching tool packet, we also post extra resources online. Check back often at [www.MennoniteMission.net/MissionBank](http://www.MennoniteMission.net/MissionBank) for new pictures and ideas for mission education.

**Other uses**—Stewardship and mission education are not just important for children; they are important for the whole church. Consider giving one globe bank to each household, or sharing stories from the Mission Network teaching tool packets during worship. Invite all members of your congregation to pray and support Mission Network personnel around the world.

**Gift designation**—Mennonite Mission Network supports workers and partners all around the world. You may wish to consider using your banks to also support Mennonite Voluntary Service or Service Adventure participants from your congregation, or to raise support for a Mission Network worker that your congregation is connected with.

**Collecting funds**—Congregations are asked to collect the funds contributed through the mission banks and send a check payable to Mennonite Mission Network, with **"Mission Banks: Spain"** or **"Project #1436"** written in the check memo line. Congregations may decide to participate with other congregations in bringing the total change collected to a cluster or area conference gathering. Then funds may be disbursed in the same manner as above.

**If you have other questions about how to use your Mission Network mission banks, or would like to order more teaching tool packets, please contact us at [MissionBank@MennoniteMission.net](mailto:MissionBank@MennoniteMission.net) or 1-866-866-2872.**

### Contributors

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