

2023 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, Mennonite Men U.S. Coordinator
stevet@mennonitemen.org | (574) 202-0048

Don Neufeld, Mennonite Men Coordinator for Canada
don.neufeld@outlook.com | 905-650-1577



Mennonite Men

Engaging men to grow, give and serve.

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) support vulnerable communities.

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

Our board recently approved eleven additional JoinTrees grant applications for planting 121,004 trees. Once these are planted, our total will be

301,373 trees, nearly one-third of the way toward our goal of one million trees planted by 2030! Many of these are in the States but most are international agroforestry projects in Mennonite communities in Latin America and Africa.

Now the challenge is to raise \$142,785 to fund these eleven projects. To make these grants, we request major gifts from households and contributions from businesses seeking to reduce their carbon footprint and support creation care and climate action. Visit mennonitemen.org/jointrees to learn how you can participate in or support this campaign to restore God's Earth.

JoinHands

Sharing resources for new church buildings



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 2.3 million dollars to new congregations for this purpose.

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 next JoinHands grants will go to two

international Mennonite building projects. Our first is for Iglesia Menonita Caminando En Esperanza in Bogota, Colombia which is purchasing a large two-story building to renovate for church gatherings, Christian education, and shops to rent in support of their ministries.

The second is for Kodeni Evangelical Mennonite Church in Kodeni, Burkina Faso. This church plant has outgrown the small building it was using. They are constructing their new space themselves with help from local Muslim youth - a remarkable illustration of Christians and Muslims living together in community!

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.

Fewer retreats in the last year has given us the opportunity to complete a new book with Herald Press titled *Living that Matters: Honest Conversations for Men of Faith*. This practical handbook is a guide to help individuals and groups engage in honest conversations on what matters most for men—with a focus on following Jesus, forming community, and building peace. These short reflections help individuals and groups deepen relationships with one another and with God as we seek to live into God's shalom. You can purchase the book today from Herald Press.

Engaging men to grow, give and serve as followers of Jesus