What is MSS?

Ministry Summer Service challenges Church of the Brethren college students and congregations/ministry sites to consider God’s call on their lives. Our world often asks students to identify a career and a post-graduation plan, but rarely offers space to engage the questions of call, vocation and discernment in the context of a deeply rooted faith. Ministry Summer Service partners with ministry sites and mentors to offer this kind of opportunity. Interns find space to do deep discernment in the context of a faith community, and mentors/the communities find new opportunities to consider how God is moving in their ministry setting. Together, interns, mentors and ministry sites explore the ways that working in and for the church can be a way to address the world’s deep need.

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Church of the Brethren

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Photo Credit: Kelsey Murray, Cheryl Brumbaugh-Cayford, Rudy Amaya & Donita Keister.

Ministry Summer Service
Interns

- Attend a week of orientation in Elgin, Illinois before serving for 9 weeks in a ministry setting, developing leadership skills and exploring their sense of God’s call on their lives.

- Receive a $2,500 scholarship, food and housing, a small ($100) monthly stipend, and transportation for the summer.

- Engage in deep discernment, looking for the leading of the Holy Spirit, learning how the church works in the world, consider if a call to formal ministry may be part of their lives of faith.

Ministry Sites

- Send a pastor/mentor to two days of orientation at the beginning of the summer.

- Welcome an intern into the life and work of their communities for 9 weeks, being open to their new perspective, challenging questions and God-given gifts.

- Create an atmosphere for learning, reflection and discernment for the intern.

- Provide food and housing, transportation on the job and a small ($100) monthly stipend for the intern.

Mentors

- Join the interns for two days of orientation at the beginning of the summer.

- Spend at least one hour each week offering intentional supervision and mentoring for the intern.

- Help to plan and prepare good, engaging work for the intern to invest in during their nine weeks.

The Church of the Brethren is grateful for partnerships with four Brethren colleges to provide scholarships for MSS Interns from their schools: Bridgewater College, Elizabethtown College, Manchester University and McPherson College. Ministry Summer Service provides scholarships for students attending other institutions.