



Dear Church:

While this pictorial report brings you highlights of Church of the Brethren ministries in 2022, it seems essential to round the bend into the early part of 2023. That's when the Church of the Brethren in Nigeria celebrated 100 years of God's faithfulness. Ekklesiyar Yan'uwa a Nigeria (EYN) planned a series of celebrations from January through March that drew thousands from near and far.

An anniversary like this prompts us to look both backward and forward. We look at the past in order to remember and to honor and to give thanks. And we look forward, as the celebration propels us into the future. From this vantage point we see how clearly God's faithfulness has led us through the years.

Sometimes walking by faith is measured in paths of 100 years, and sometimes it's a several-day burst of activity at a gathering of youth. Many days it's something in between—the regular work of encouraging a pastor, leading a Bible study, wielding a hammer. In this year of getting back together after a long time being apart, we are grateful to be on the road again.

Wherever the journey leads, we walk by faith. We go with God.

Together in Christ,

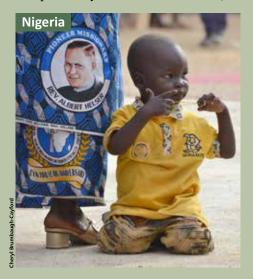
David Steele General Secretary

On the cover: Celebrating 100 years in Nigeria. Photo by Donna Parcell.

Abounding in thanksgiving

-Colossians 2:7

with the pandemic easing and travel restrictions lifted, the Church of the Brethren saw an increase in program expenses of \$498,161 over the previous year. Even with this rise,



director-level expenses finished 2022 under budget by \$69,410, and Core Ministries ended the year with a net surplus of \$161,316.

Combined congregational and individual giving to Core Ministries was \$2.26 million, a decrease of \$45,000 from 2021. Income to Core Ministries nevertheless finished the year better than budget by \$91,906.

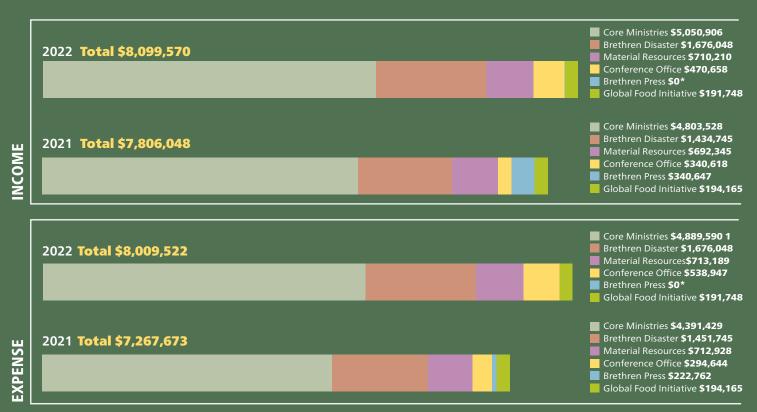
Brethren Press, formerly a Self-Funding Ministry, was merged into Core Ministries in 2022. The publishing house ended with expense over budget of \$36,480. Material Resources had only a small deficit of \$2,979, as donations, processing income, and service fees rebounded after the pandemic. The

Conference Office finished the year with a deficit of \$68,289 because registration income was lower and expenses higher than anticipated.

Both the Emergency Disaster Fund and the Global Food Initiative Fund saw increases in donations. Donations to Brethren Disaster Ministries totaled \$2,209,465, an increase of \$490,104, and giving to the GFI Fund totaled \$322,082, up by \$107,124.

Investments totaled approximately \$33.3 million as of year-end, down \$8.4 million from the 2021 balance of \$41.7 million.

With investment losses, total net assets decreased to a year-end balance of \$39.7 million.



Internal transfers between ministries have been included. For complete financials, see the audited financial report.

^{*}In 2022, Brethren Press was merged into Core Ministries after being a Self-Funding Ministry.



Know, therefore, that the Lord your God is God, the faithful God who maintains covenant loyalty with those



celebrated its 100th anniversary with thousands of church members and guests attending more than a dozen events held in 13 zones across the country. March 17.

attending more than a dozen events held in 13 zones across the country. March 17, 1923, is commemorated by EYN as the date of its founding by H. Stover Kulp and Albert Helser. The culminating events were at EYN Headquarters in Kwarhi, with an estimated 6,000-8,000 people present, and in the capital city of Abuja, where there was standing room only.

Each celebration was also a worship service, featuring prayer and scripture, preaching, singing, music, and traditional

dances by groups representing the local tribes of each zone of the church. A large cake was a highlight at every event.

In addition to a delegation from the Church of the Brethren in the US, there were representatives from Church of the Brethren groups in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, and Burundi, and the German Chapter of Basel Mission.

Greetings were brought by local dignitaries and ecumenical partners. "EYN has made a name for itself in its 100 years of existence," said one guest. "This is a milestone not only for EYN but of Christianity in Nigeria," said another. Others commended EYN as a peace church that is inspiring other denominations across Nigeria to seek the gospel of peace as well.







Global Church of the Brethren
Communion was able to hold its meeting in person. The group was hosted in
December by the Church of the Brethren in the Dominican Republic. They gathered from Brazil, the DR, Haiti, Honduras, India, Nigeria, Rwanda, South Sudan, Spain, and the US. Visa difficulties kept away leaders from the Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda, and

The **Global Mission office** sponsored a FaithX trip to Rwanda, the moderator's travel to Rwanda and Uganda, church-

Venezuela.



planting trips in Ecuador and Honduras, and theological training in East Africa. The growing church in Venezuela has launched a ministry to indigenous people and is starting churches in Colombia. The church in Haiti is strong despite severe violence and breakdown of society.

Agricultural development work in seven countries beyond the US was funded by the **Global Food Initiative Fund**. Projects included animal raising, tree planting, soil conservation, appropriate-scaled mechanization, and training on vegetables and staple crop production. The GFI Fund also gave grants to churches and organizations in the US, including two Native American gardening projects.

A new widget on **www.brethren.org** translates the denominational website into Spanish, Haitian Kreyol, German, Hausa, and Arabic.



Continue securely established







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With the theme "Boundless Faith," **FaithX** returned to in-person opportunities for junior high youth to serve. Rwanda was the destination for a FaithX trip for adults, and the Intercultural Ministries staff person assisted with that experience.

Shine curriculum co-publishers Brethren Press and MennoMedia launched **www.ShineFamilies.org**, a new website for families. The ecumenical collaboration that produces the International Sunday School Lessons, the Bible outlines for *A Guide for Biblical Studies*, celebrated its 150th year.

The **Death Row Support Project,** approaching its 45th year of ministry, made 380 new pen pal assignments. In collaboration with Washington City Church of the Brethren, DRSP created an exhibition featuring artwork created by people, or formerly on, death row.







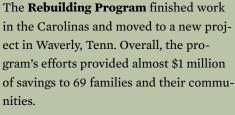


children's Disaster Services sent specially trained Critical Response Care teams to Uvalde, Texas, where they helped children process trauma following the school shooting. Other CDS volunteers responded to both natural and humancaused disasters.

Disaster grants totaling \$215,000 assisted Ukrainians displaced by the invasion by Russia. The work funded was through Church World Service, International Orthodox Christian Charities, and three other partners. Brethren Disaster Ministries continued funds for the earthquake response in Haiti, while also addressing the crisis caused by the collapse of the Haitian government.

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Working on behalf of various aid organizations, **Material Resources** processed 124 shipments totaling 629 tons of supplies, which were sent to 17 states and 23 countries.







in our Lord Jesus Christ. —1 Thessalonians 1:3

eled to Colorado for National

Youth Conference, a week of twice-aday worship services, small groups, workshops, service projects, hiking in the Rockies, and recreation. More than 900 participants attended from 22 districts, plus Spain and the Dominican Republic. The theme, "Foundational," was based on Colossians 2:5-7.

Discipleship Ministries and the New Church Development Committee helped sponsor the **Inhabit Conference**, which attracted a number of district leaders and church planters around the denomination.

Colorado

New resources titled "Jesus in the Neighborhood: Tools for Community Engagement" were posted online by Discipleship Ministries and the Office of Ministry. The tools and resources assist congregations in extending their reach across cultural, community, and geographic boundaries.

The **Office of Ministry** assisted in the work of the Pastoral Compensation and Benefits Advisory Committee, which brought major business to Annual Conference to enhance the work of pastors and congregations. The Part-Time Pastor; Full-Time Church program resourced Brethren pastors, the majority of whom are multivocational.







Plant your roots in Christ and let him be the foundation for your life.

Be strong in your faith



Be strong in your faith, just as you were taught. —Colossians 2:7, CEV

The word of faith Nebraska It's the word of faith that welcomes God to go to work and set things right for us



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mentioned about 70 congregations.

Among five national awards received was a second place in the category of best denominational magazine.

Annual Conference was finally able to meet in person, after the carcellation in

Annual Conference was finally able to meet in person, after the cancellation in 2020 and a virtual Conference in 2021. Registrants for the gathering in Omaha totaled 1,320, including 142 who attended virtually. Delegates welcomed 12 congregations into the denomination and adopted the concerns of a query on "Standing with People of Color."



Under the direction of the Mission and Ministry Board, whose members are elected by Annual Conference, the Church of the Brethren engages in ministries across the United States and around the world.

Annual Conference • Brazil • Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership • Brethren Disaster Ministries Brethren Faith in Action Fund • Brethren Press • Brethren Historical Library and Archives • Brethren Service Center • Brethren Volunteer Service • Burundi • Child Protection • Children's Disaster Services China • Christian Citizenship Seminar • Church Planting and Revitalization • Coaching • Congregational Ethics • Conscientious Objection • Creation Care • Curriculum and Books • Deacons • Death Row Support Project • Democratic Republic of the Congo • Disabilities • Discipleship Ministries • Dominican Republic Ecumenical Relations • Emergency Disaster Fund • Evangelism • FaithX • Fellowship of Brethren Homes Finance Office • General Offices • General Secretary's Office • Global Church of the Brethren Gathering Global Food Initiative • Global Mission • Global Women's Project • Going to the Garden • Haiti • Haiti Medical Project • Healing Racism • Honduras • Human Resources • India • Information Technology Intercultural Ministries • Intergenerational Ministries • Material Resources • Messenger Magazine • Ministry Office • Mission Advancement • National Junior High Conference • National Older Adult Conference National Youth Conference • New and Renew • Newsline • Nigeria • Nigeria Crisis Response • Nursing Scholarships • Office of Peacebuilding and Policy • Older Adults • Outdoor Ministries • Rebuilding Program Racial Justice • Rwanda • Shine • South Sudan • Spain • Spiritual Direction • Thriving in Ministry Venezuela Vietnam Webinars www.brethren.org Yearbook Young Adult Conference



Visit www.brethren.org/annualreport for the full written report, a video report, and a digital version of this pictorial report.

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