

# Walk by faith



Church of the Brethren



Germany

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

**W**ith 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,



Nigeria

Cheryl Brumbaugh-Cayford

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.

INCOME

2022 **Total \$8,099,570**



Core Ministries **\$5,050,906**  
Brethren Disaster **\$1,676,048**  
Material Resources **\$710,210**  
Conference Office **\$470,658**  
Brethren Press **\$0\***  
Global Food Initiative **\$191,748**

2021 **Total \$7,806,048**



Core Ministries **\$4,803,528**  
Brethren Disaster **\$1,434,745**  
Material Resources **\$692,345**  
Conference Office **\$340,618**  
Brethren Press **\$340,647**  
Global Food Initiative **\$194,165**

EXPENSE

2022 **Total \$8,009,522**



Core Ministries **\$4,889,590.1**  
Brethren Disaster **\$1,676,048**  
Material Resources **\$713,189**  
Conference Office **\$538,947**  
Brethren Press **\$0\***  
Global Food Initiative **\$191,748**

2021 **Total \$7,267,673**



Core Ministries **\$4,391,429**  
Brethren Disaster **\$1,451,745**  
Material Resources **\$712,928**  
Conference Office **\$294,644**  
Brethren Press **\$222,762**  
Global Food Initiative **\$194,165**

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.



Great is God's **faithfulness**



Nigeria

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

## Ekklesiyar Yan'uwa a Nigeria

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, 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.



Photos by Cheryl Brumbaugh-Cayford

who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations. —from Deuteronomy 7:9



**F**or the first time since 2019, the **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 Venezuela.

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

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.



Jeff Boshart



Global Mission



Global Mission



Jeff Boshart

Continue securely established



A group of people are working in a field with reddish-brown soil. In the foreground, a woman in a red top and a yellow patterned skirt is using a large banana leaf to guide a line. To her right, a man in a light blue shirt and jeans is also using a banana leaf. In the background, other people are visible, some using tools like hoes. The field is surrounded by lush greenery, including banana trees and other tropical plants. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting it is daytime.

# Steadfast in the **faith**

Burundi

and **steadfast in the faith**, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel. —Colossians 1:23



Live by **faith**



Idaho

The one who is righteous will **live by faith.** —Romans 1:17





## Brethren Volunteer Service

marked the 50th anniversary of BVS in Northern Ireland. Current and former volunteers gathered there, and staff reflected on the milestone for a feature article in *Messenger*. After adjustments to orientation during the pandemic, BVS made more permanent changes in 2022—placement of volunteers ahead of time, online sessions before meeting in person, and then a shortened in-person orientation.

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.

### Indiana



FaithX

### Arkansas



Benjamin Hoffman

### Pennsylvania



FaithX



Brethren Volunteer Service



Your work of **faith** and labor of love



Moldova

Remembering before our God and Father **your work of faith and labor of love** and steadfastness of hope





Rwanda



Brethren Disaster Ministries

**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 human-caused 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.

Tennessee



Ed Hendrickson/BDM

Church World Service

Florida



Martha Reish/CDS

Haiti



Brethren Disaster Ministries



**Y**outh and their advisors traveled to Colorado for **National Youth Conference**, a week of twice-a-day 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.

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.

Colorado



Glenn Riegel

Colorado



Glenn Riegel

North Carolina



Youth and Young Adult Office

Chris Brumbaugh-Cayford

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



Be strong in your **faith**



Colorado

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



## Germany



**A**t the 11th Assembly of the **World Council of Churches**, held in Karlsruhe, Germany, representatives from the US Church of the Brethren and EYN, the Church of the Brethren in Nigeria, were among participants from more than 350 member communions. US delegate Liz Bidgood Enders helped present a paper on “War in Ukraine, Peace and Justice in the European Region.”

The **Office of Peacebuilding and Policy** expanded its work to combat drone warfare, and also focused on Nigeria, Haiti, immigration policy, and a broad range of peace and security issues.

In **Messenger magazine**, article topics ranged from Afghanistan to young adults. Content was written by 113 writers and

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 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.”

## Germany



Cheryl Brumbaugh-Coyford

## Nebraska



Jan Fischer Backman

Glenn Riegel



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 • Newline • 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](http://www.brethren.org) • Yearbook • Young Adult Conference



## Church of the Brethren

Visit [www.brethren.org/annualreport](http://www.brethren.org/annualreport) for the full written report, a video report, and a digital version of this pictorial report.

Produced by Wendy McFadden. Designed by The Concept Mill.