

Mission and Ministry Board

Fall Meeting
October 16-19, 2025

Elgin, Illinois

Agenda



Church of the Brethren

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN MISSION AND MINISTRY BOARD

VISION

Jesus in the Neighborhood

Together, as the Church of the Brethren, we will passionately live and share the radical transformation and holistic peace of Jesus Christ through relationship-based neighborhood engagement. To move us forward, we will develop a culture of calling and equipping disciples who are innovative, adaptable, and fearless.

MISSION

The Mission and Ministry Board is called by the Church of the Brethren to extend the church's witness around the world. It leads out in God's mission, serving as a bridge between the local and the global and creating opportunities for service and partnership.

The Mission and Ministry Board supports congregations in their task to create joyful communities of faith that proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ, cultivate discipleship, respond to human need, and make peace.

The Mission and Ministry Board cares for the whole fabric of the community, building up the Church of the Brethren as a distinctive part of the body of Christ, cherishing its unique heritage, and strengthening its witness.

CORE VALUES

Christ-likeness: Reflecting the love and heart of Jesus.

Servant leadership: Serving the church with both humility and boldness.

Discernment: Seeking the leading of the Holy Spirit through prayer, scripture, and the gathered community.

Community: Cultivating relationships and building up the body of Christ.

Stewardship: Caring for all God's gifts and the resources of the Church of the Brethren.

Simplicity: Living simply so that we have room in our lives for God and for others.

Hospitality: Following Jesus' example of respecting all people and inviting them into his fellowship.

Peacemaking: Acting as instruments of reconciliation and justice.

Church Of The Brethren Mission And Ministry Board 2025-2026

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|---|--------|---|--------|---|--------|
| *Michaela Alphonse <i>At Large</i> kaylaa930@yahoo.com | (2027) | Tina Hunt tmh4957@gmail.com | (2028) | Deirdre Moyer d1m0301@gmail.com | (2028) |
| Erik Brummett notyourtypicalpastor@gmail.com | (2029) | Robert Jackson <i>At Large</i> robertbjackson2@gmail.com | (2028) | Karen Shively Neff neff3559@bellsouth.net | (2026) |
| Daniel Butler <i>At Large</i> bagona@yahoo.com | (2030) | *Josiah Ludwick <i>Chair-Elect</i> josiahludwick@gmail.com | (2029) | *Colby Patton chzplz01@gmail.com | (2029) |
| Edward Cesar-Fincher <i>At Large</i> edward1cesar@gmail.com | (2029) | *Kathy Mack <i>Chair</i> kathymack411@gmail.com | (2027) | Eric Ramirez eric_ramirez65@hotmail.com | (2030) |
| Barbara Daté paxdate@gmail.com | (2026) | Sarah Mason levsarmason@gmail.com | (2030) | Joanna Wave Willoughby <i>At Large</i> joanna.wave.willoughby@gmail.com | (2026) |
| *Joel Gibbel joelgibbel@gmail.com | (2027) | Rosanna Eller McFadden 2rosannatim@gmail.com | (2027) | | |

* *Executive Committee Member*

Ex Officio Board Members

David Steele
General Secretary
dsteale@brethren.org

Annual Conference Officers

Don Fitzkee
Annual Conference Moderator
moderator@brethren.org

Dennis Beckner
Annual Conference Moderator-Elect
moderatorelect@brethren.org

David Shumate
Annual Conference Secretary
acsecretary@brethren.org

CODE Representative

Pete Kontra
Ex Officio
District Executive, Atlantic Northeast
pkontra@ane-cob.org

Agency Representatives

Nevin Dulabaum
President, Eder Financial
ndulabaum@eder.org

Marie Benner Rhoades and
Matt Guynn (Alternating)
Co-Executives, On Earth Peace
mrhoades@onearthpeace.org
mguynn@onearthpeace.org

Jeff Carter
President, Bethany Theological Seminary
president@bethanyseminary.edu

Board Committees and Assignments 2025-2026

Executive Committee Members

| | |
|--------------|---------------------------------|
| Chair: | Kathy Mack (2027) |
| Chair-elect: | Josiah Ludwick (2029) |
| Member: | Michaela Alphonse (2026) |
| Member: | Joel Gibbel (2026) |
| Member: | Colby Patton (2026) |
| Ex-Officio: | David Steele, General Secretary |
| Ex-Officio: | Don Fitzkee, Moderator |

Finance and Sustainability Committee

Rosanna McFadden, chair
Joel Gibbel
Robert Jackson
Daniel Butler

Board Development Committee

Josiah Ludwick (chaired by MMB chair-elect)
Barbara Daté
Colby Patton
Erik Brummett

Facilities Stewardship Committee – 3-year term

Joel Gibbel, chair (2026)
Deirdre Moyer (2027)
Daniel Butler (2028)
Karen Shively Neff

Strategic Planning Committee

Joanna Wave Willoughby, chair
Tina Hunt
Deirdre Moyer
Karen Shively Neff
Sarah Mason

Revelation 7:9 Committee

Michaela Alphonse, chair
Joanna Wave Willoughby
Colby Patton
Edward Cesar-Fincher
Eric Ramirez

Governance Monitor – 2-year term

Rosanna McFadden (2026)
Erik Brummett (2027)

Brethren Faith in Action Grant Oversight – 3-year term

Joanna Wave Willoughby (2026)

Mission and Ministries Planning Council – 2-year term
Michaela Alphonse (2026)

Program Feasibility Committee – Appointee: 4-year term
Ed Woolf (2026)

HEAR Scholarship Committee –
Deirdre Moyer (2027)

Church of the Brethren
Mission and Ministry Board
General Offices, Elgin, Illinois
October 16-19, 2025

Mission and Ministry Board
Meeting Schedule and Agenda

All times Central Time

Thursday, October 16

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| 2-5:30 p.m. | New Board Member Orientation | Room E |
| | Prayer for the meal | Eric Ramirez |
| 5:30 p.m. | Dinner | Dining Room |
| 6:30 p.m. | Shuttle to Holiday Inn | |

Friday, October 17

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| 8:00 a.m. | Shuttle to General Offices | |
| 8:30 a.m. | New Board Member Orientation | Room E |
| 8:30 a.m. | Executive Committee closed session <i>(Includes General Secretary and Moderator)</i> | Room B |
| | Prayer for the meal | Colby Patton |
| 12:30 p.m. | Lunch (New Members lunch with Shawn) | Dining Room Room B |
| 2:00 p.m. | Mission and Ministry Board open session | Room A |
| | Gathering song | Tina Hunt |
| | Welcome and introductions | Kathy Mack |
| 2:30 pm. | Consent Agenda | Kathy Mack |

- Approve meeting agenda
- Approve MMB minutes
 - June 23, 2025, videoconference closed meeting
 - July 2, 2025, meeting
- Approval of minutes of email actions
 - July 18, 2025, resolution for estate distribution

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|-----------|--|-------------------------|
| | Opening prayer | Erik Brummett |
| 2:35 p.m. | General Secretary's report | David Steele |
| 2:50 p.m. | Immigration Support Update | Founa Badet |
| 3:00 p.m. | Lybrook Ministries Update | Shawn Flory Replogle |
| 3:05 p.m. | Material Resource Recognition | Roy Winter/David Steele |
| 3:15 p.m. | Break | |
| 3:45 p.m. | Mission and Ministry Board Closed Session <i>(Includes ex officio members)</i> | |
| 5:30 p.m. | Prayer for meal | Sarah Mason |
| 5:30 p.m. | Dinner | Dining Room |
| 6:30 p.m. | Shuttle to Holiday Inn | |

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Saturday, October 18

| | | |
|------------|--|---|
| 8:00 a.m. | Shuttle to General Offices | |
| 8:30 a.m. | Mission and Ministry Board Open Session | Room A |
| | Gathering song | Tina Hunt |
| | Welcome and introductions | Kathy Mack |
| 8:45 a.m. | Opening worship | Karen Neff |
| 9:00 a.m. | Executive Committee report | Kathy Mack |
| 9:10 a.m. | Financial Update – Q&A 2024 Year-end and 2025 Year-to-date | Ed Woolf <i>Exhibits 1,2,3,4&5</i> |
| 9:25 a.m. | Finance and Sustainability Committee report | Rosanna McFadden |
| 9:35 a.m. | Statement – Renewing the Call to Prevent Gun Violence (Action: Adoption) | Kathy Mack <i>Exhibit 6</i> |
| 9:45 a.m. | Break | |
| 10:05 a.m. | Prayer | Barbara Daté |
| | Board Growth “A Place for Everybody” | Jeanne Davies |
| 12:00 p.m. | Prayer for the meal | Robert Jackson |
| | Lunch | Dining Room |
| 1:00 p.m. | Mission and Ministry Board Open Session | Room A |

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|-----------|--|------------------------------|
| | Gathering song and prayer | Tina Hunt |
| | Board Member Sharing – National Junior High Conference | Edward Cesar-Fincher |
| 1:05 p.m. | Annual Conference Moderator report | Don Fitzkee |
| 1:20 p.m. | 2026 Budget Parameter Review – Q&A | Ed Woolf <i>Exhibit 7</i> |
| 1:35 p.m. | Strategic Planning Committee report | Joanna Willoughby |
| 1:45 p.m. | On Earth Peace report | Matt Guynn |
| 2:00 p.m. | Ministry Sharing in small groups | Church of the Brethren staff |
| 3:30 p.m. | Break | |
| 3:30 p.m. | Mission and Ministry Board picture | |
| 3:50 p.m. | Prayer | Edward Cesar-Fincher |
| | Board Member Sharing – National Older Adult Conference | Dierdre Moyer |
| 3:55 p.m. | Bethany Theological Seminary report | Jeff Carter |
| 4:10 p.m. | Brethren Disaster Ministries – Imagining the Future | Roy Winter/David Steele |
| 4:30 p.m. | Revelations 7:9 Committee Report | Kayla Alphonse |
| 4:40 p.m. | Germantown Trust Appointments (Action: Affirmation) | Kathy Mack <i>Handout</i> |
| 4:45 p.m. | Board Development Committee Report | Josiah Ludwick |
| 4:55 p.m. | Mission and Ministry Board Closed Session <i>(Voting members only)</i> | |
| 6:00 p.m. | Prayer for the meal | Daniel Butler |
| 6:00 p.m. | Dinner | Dining Room |
| 7:00 p.m. | Shuttle to Holiday Inn | |

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Sunday, October 19

| | | |
|------------|--|--------------------------------|
| 8:30 a.m. | Shuttle to General Offices | |
| 9:00 a.m. | Worship | Joanna Willoughby Chapel |
| 9:45 a.m. | Break | |
| 9:55 a.m. | Mission and Ministry Board – Open Session | Room A |
| | Prayer | Dennis Beckner |
| | Report from Mission and Ministry Board closed sessions | Kathy Mack |
| 10:05 a.m. | 2026 Budget Parameter (Action: Approval) | Kathy Mack |
| 10:25 a.m. | Eder Financial report | Lynnae Rodeffer |
| 10:40 a.m. | Annual Conference Assignment – Breaking Down Barriers (Action: Affirmation) | Kathy Mack <i>Exhibit 8</i> |
| 10:55 a.m. | Facilities Stewardship Committee report | Joel Gibbel |
| 11:05 a.m. | Brethren Faith in Action report | Joanna Willoughby |
| 11:15 a.m. | Atlantic Southeast District Query – Request | Kathy Mack <i>Exhibit 9</i> |
| 11:20 a.m. | Upcoming MMB meeting dates November 24, 8:00 p.m. EST (Budget Meeting – virtual) March 6-10, 2025 (Spring meeting) | |

Approve 2030 MMB meeting dates
March 8-10/11, 2030
October 17/18-20, 2030

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|------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 11:20 a.m. | Governance Monitors' report | Rosanna McFadden and Erik Brummett |
| 11:35 a.m. | MMB Meeting evaluation | Kathy Mack |
| 11:35 a.m. | <i>Adjournment</i> | |
| | Prayer for the meal | Don Fitzkee |
| 11:35 a.m. | Lunch | Dining Room |