

# **Mission and Ministry Board**

Fall Meeting

October 15-18, 2026

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 2026-2027

|                                                                                                               |        |                                                                                                               |        |                                                                                            |        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| *Michaela Alphonse<br><i>At Large</i><br><a href="mailto:kaylaa930@yahoo.com">kaylaa930@yahoo.com</a>         | (2027) | Adelia Lucatorto<br><i>At Large</i><br><a href="mailto:aalucatorto@gmail.com">aalucatorto@gmail.com</a>       | (2031) | Deirdre Moyer<br><a href="mailto:d1m0301@gmail.com">d1m0301@gmail.com</a>                  | (2028) |
| Daniel Butler<br><i>At Large</i><br><a href="mailto:bagona@yahoo.com">bagona@yahoo.com</a>                    | (2030) | *Josiah Ludwick<br><i>Chair-Elect</i><br><a href="mailto:josiahludwick@gmail.com">josiahludwick@gmail.com</a> | (2029) | *Colby Patton<br><a href="mailto:chzplz01@gmail.com">chzplz01@gmail.com</a>                | (2029) |
| Edward Cesar-Fincher<br><i>At Large</i><br><a href="mailto:edward1cesar@gmail.com">edward1cesar@gmail.com</a> | (2029) | Terri Welch Luzynski<br><a href="mailto:PastorTerri@montezumacob.org">PastorTerri@montezumacob.org</a>        | (2031) | Eric Ramirez<br><a href="mailto:eric_ramirez65@hotmail.com">eric_ramirez65@hotmail.com</a> | (2030) |
| *Joel Gibbel<br><a href="mailto:joelgibbel@gmail.com">joelgibbel@gmail.com</a>                                | (2027) | *Kathy Mack<br><i>Chair</i><br><a href="mailto:kathymack411@gmail.com">kathymack411@gmail.com</a>             | (2027) | Janice Shaw-Morgan<br><a href="mailto:jshaw301@msn.com">jshaw301@msn.com</a>               | (2029) |
| Tina Hunt<br><a href="mailto:tmh4957@gmail.com">tmh4957@gmail.com</a>                                         | (2028) | Sarah Mason<br><a href="mailto:levsarmason@gmail.com">levsarmason@gmail.com</a>                               | (2030) | Gretchen Zience<br><a href="mailto:zienceg@gmail.com">zienceg@gmail.com</a>                | (2031) |
| Robert Jackson<br><i>At Large</i><br><a href="mailto:robertbjackson2@gmail.com">robertbjackson2@gmail.com</a> | (2028) | Rosanna Eller McFadden<br><a href="mailto:2rosannatim@gmail.com">2rosannatim@gmail.com</a>                    | (2027) | * <i>Executive Committee Member</i>                                                        |        |

---

### Ex Officio Board Members

David Steele  
General Secretary  
[dsteale@brethren.org](mailto:dsteale@brethren.org)

#### **Annual Conference Officers**

Dennis Beckner  
Annual Conference Moderator  
[moderator@brethren.org](mailto:moderator@brethren.org)

Amy Gall Ritchie  
Annual Conference Moderator-Elect  
[moderator-elect@brethren.org](mailto:moderator-elect@brethren.org)

David Shumate  
Annual Conference Secretary  
[acsecretary@brethren.org](mailto:acsecretary@brethren.org)

#### **CODE Representative**

Pete Kontra  
*Ex Officio*  
District Executive, Atlantic Northeast  
[pkontra@ane-cob.org](mailto:pkontra@ane-cob.org)

#### **Agency Representatives**

Nevin Dulabaum  
President, Eder Financial  
[ndulabaum@eder.org](mailto:ndulabaum@eder.org)

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

Jeff Carter  
President, Bethany Theological Seminary  
[president@bethanyseminary.edu](mailto:president@bethanyseminary.edu)

## **Board Committees and Assignments 2026-2027**

### **Executive Committee Members**

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

### **Finance and Sustainability Committee**

Rosanna McFadden, chair  
Joel Gibbel  
Robert Jackson  
Daniel Butler  
Terri Welch Luzynski  
Staff: Madalyn Metzger, Shawn Flory Replogle, and Ed Woolf

### **Board Development Committee**

Josiah Ludwick (chaired by MMB chair-elect)  
Colby Patton  
Edward Cesar-Fincher  
Gretchen Zience  
Staff: Shannon McNeil Smith

### **Facilities Stewardship Committee** – 3-year term

Joel Gibbel, chair (2027)  
Deirdre Moyer (2027)  
Daniel Butler (2028)  
Janice Shaw-Morgan (2029)  
Staff: Shawn Flory Replogle

### **Strategic Planning Committee**

Sarah Mason, chair  
Tina Hunt  
Deirdre Moyer  
Janice Shaw-Morgan  
Adelia Lucatorto  
Staff: David Steele

### **Revelation 7:9 Committee**

Michaela Alphonse, chair  
Colby Patton  
Edward Cesar-Fincher  
Eric Ramirez  
Robert Jackson  
Staff: Founa Badet

**Governance Monitor** – 2-year term

Rosanna McFadden (2027)

Tina Hunt (2028)

**Brethren Faith in Action Grant Oversight** – 3-year term

Colby Patton (2028)

Eric Ramirez (2029)

**Mission and Ministries Planning Council** – 2-year term

Michaela Alphonse (2027)

**Program Feasibility Committee** – Appointee: 4-year term

Ed Woolf (2030)

**HEAR Scholarship Committee** –

Deirdre Moyer (2027)

**Church of the Brethren**  
**Mission and Ministry Board**  
General Offices, Elgin, Illinois  
October 15-18, 2026

---

**Mission and Ministry Board**  
**Meeting Schedule and Agenda**

*All times Central Time*

**Thursday, October 15**

|             |                                     |                |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| 2-5:30 p.m. | <b>New Board Member Orientation</b> | Room E         |
|             | Prayer for the meal                 | Terri Luzynski |
| 5:30 p.m.   | <b>Dinner</b>                       | Dining Room    |
| 6:30 p.m.   | <b>Shuttle to Holiday Inn</b>       |                |

---

**Friday, October 16**

|            |                                                                                                |                  |
|------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| 8:00 a.m.  | <b>Shuttle to General Offices</b>                                                              |                  |
| 8:15 a.m.  | <b>New Board Member Orientation</b>                                                            | Room E           |
| 8:30 a.m.  | <b>Executive Committee closed session</b><br><i>(Includes General Secretary and Moderator)</i> | Room B           |
|            | Prayer for the meal                                                                            | Josiah Ludwick   |
| 12:30 p.m. | <b>Lunch</b>                                                                                   | Dining Room      |
| 2:00 p.m.  | <b>Mission and Ministry Board open session</b>                                                 | Room A           |
|            | Gathering song                                                                                 | Rosanna McFadden |
|            | Welcome and introductions                                                                      | Kathy Mack       |
| 3:00 pm.   | Consent Agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Approve meeting agenda</li></ul>        | Kathy Mack       |

- Approve MMB minutes
  - June 28, 2026, meeting
- Approval of minutes of email actions
  - June 28, 2026, EDF allocation (Bethlehem Bible College Shepherd Society – Israel-Hamas War Response)
  - August 11, 2026, EDF allocation (Eglise des Freres au Congo [Church of the Brethren in the DR Congo] – Invasion of Goma and the Eastern DR Congo Response)
  - August 11, 2026, EDF allocation (Church of the Brethren in Venezuela (ASIGLEH) – Earthquake Relief)

|           |                                                                                          |                                                         |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
|           | Opening prayer                                                                           | Michaela Alphonse                                       |
| 3:05 p.m. | General Secretary's report                                                               | David Steele                                            |
| 3:20 p.m. | Financial Update – Q&A<br>2026 Year-to-date                                              | Ed Woolf<br><i>Exhibits 1&amp;2</i><br><i>Handout 1</i> |
| 3:35 p.m. | Finance and Sustainability Committee report                                              | Rosanna McFadden                                        |
| 3:45 p.m. | 2027 Budget Proposal Review – Q&A                                                        | Ed Woolf<br><i>Exhibit 3</i>                            |
| 4:00 p.m. | <b>Break</b>                                                                             |                                                         |
| 4:10 p.m. | <b>Mission and Ministry Board Closed Session</b><br><i>(Includes ex officio members)</i> |                                                         |
| 5:00 p.m. | Prayer for meal                                                                          | Gretchen Zience                                         |
| 5:30 p.m. | <b>Dinner</b>                                                                            | Dining Room                                             |
| 6:30 p.m. | <b>Shuttle to Holiday Inn</b>                                                            |                                                         |

**Church of the Brethren**  
**Mission and Ministry Board**  
General Offices, Elgin, Illinois  
October 15-18, 2026

---

**Mission and Ministry Board**  
**Meeting Schedule and Agenda**

*All times Central Time*

**Saturday, October 17**

|            |                                                              |                                       |
|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 8:00 a.m.  | <b>Shuttle to General Offices</b>                            |                                       |
| 8:30 a.m.  | <b>Mission and Ministry Board Open Session</b>               | Room A                                |
|            | Gathering song                                               | Rosanna McFadden                      |
|            | Welcome and introductions                                    | Kathy Mack                            |
| 9:00 a.m.  | Opening worship                                              | Janice Shaw-Morgan                    |
| 9:15 a.m.  | Executive Committee report                                   | Kathy Mack                            |
| 9:25 a.m.  | Envisioning the Ministry Focus of the Next General Secretary |                                       |
| 11:25 a.m. | Future of Annual Conference Committee Report                 | Rosanna McFadden                      |
| 11:40 a.m. | Revelations 7:9 Committee Report                             | Michaela Alphonse                     |
| 11:50 a.m. | Strategic Planning Committee report                          | Sarah Mason                           |
| 12:00 p.m. | Prayer for the meal                                          | Adelia Lucatorto                      |
|            | <b>Lunch</b>                                                 | Dining Room                           |
| 1:00 p.m.  | <b>Mission and Ministry Board Open Session</b>               | Room A                                |
|            | Gathering song and prayer                                    | Rosanna McFadden                      |
| 1:00 p.m.  | National Youth Conference Report                             | Rachel Johnson and<br>Anna Schweitzer |
| 1:15 p.m.  | Annual Conference Moderator report                           | Dennis Beckner                        |

|           |                                                                                                                                               |                              |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1:30 p.m. | 2027 Budget Proposal<br><b>(Action: Adoption)</b>                                                                                             | Kathy Mack                   |
| 1:50 p.m. | Facilities Stewardship Committee report                                                                                                       | Joel Gibbel                  |
| 2:10 p.m. | On Earth Peace report                                                                                                                         | Matt Guynn                   |
| 2:25 p.m. | Mission and Ministry Board picture                                                                                                            |                              |
| 2:35 p.m. | <b>Break</b>                                                                                                                                  |                              |
| 2:55 p.m. | Prayer                                                                                                                                        | Tina Hunt                    |
| 2:55 p.m. | Ministry Sharing in small groups<br>Discipleship and Leadership Formation, Engagement &<br>Communications, Global Mission, Service Ministries | Church of the Brethren staff |
| 4:25 p.m. | Board Development Committee Report                                                                                                            | Josiah Ludwick               |
| 4:35 p.m. | <b>Mission and Ministry Board Closed Session</b><br><i>(Voting members only)</i>                                                              |                              |
| 5:30 p.m. | Prayer for the meal                                                                                                                           | Robert Jackson               |
| 5:30 p.m. | <b>Dinner</b>                                                                                                                                 | Dining Room                  |
| 6:30 p.m. | <b>Shuttle to Holiday Inn</b>                                                                                                                 |                              |

**Church of the Brethren**  
**Mission and Ministry Board**  
General Offices, Elgin, Illinois  
October 15-18, 2026

---

**Mission and Ministry Board**  
**Meeting Schedule and Agenda**

*All times Central Time*

**Sunday, October 18**

|            |                                                                                                                                     |                                       |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 8:00 a.m.  | <b>Shuttle to General Offices</b>                                                                                                   |                                       |
| 8:30 a.m.  | Worship –<br>Bethany Theological Seminary Students                                                                                  | Chapel                                |
| 9:15 a.m.  | <b>Break</b>                                                                                                                        |                                       |
| 9:25 a.m.  | <b>Mission and Ministry Board – Open Session</b>                                                                                    | Room A                                |
|            | Prayer                                                                                                                              | Amy Gall Ritchie                      |
| 9:25 a.m.  | Bethany Theological Seminary report                                                                                                 | Jeff Carter                           |
| 9:40 a.m.  | Report from Mission and Ministry Board closed sessions                                                                              | Kathy Mack                            |
| 9:50 a.m.  | Brethren Faith in Action report                                                                                                     | Colby Patton and Eric Ramirez         |
| 10:00 a.m. | Communication Policy<br><b>(Action: Approval)</b>                                                                                   | Kathy Mack<br><i>Exhibit 4</i>        |
| 10:15 a.m. | Eder Financial report                                                                                                               | Nevin Dulabaum                        |
| 10:30 a.m. | Eder Request –<br>Plan Sponsorship of Ancillary Insurances for Pastors<br><b>(Action: Approval)</b>                                 | Kathy Mack<br><i>Handout 2</i>        |
| 10:40 a.m. | Everence Transition Needs<br>Board Resolution<br>- Authorization of Investment Management Relationship<br><b>(Action: Approval)</b> | Kathy Mack<br><i>Handouts 3&amp;4</i> |

MMB Serving as Designated Contact with Everence  
**(Action: Approval)**  
Housing Allowance for Retired Pastors' Pension Funds  
**(Action: Approval)**

|            |                                                                               |                                |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 11:00 a.m. | Upcoming MMB meeting dates                                                    | Kathy Mack                     |
|            | Approve 2031 MMB meeting dates<br>March 14-16, 2031<br>October 16/17-19, 2031 |                                |
| 11:05 a.m. | Governance Monitors' report                                                   | Rosanna McFadden and Tina Hunt |
| 11:20 a.m. | MMB Meeting evaluation                                                        | Kathy Mack                     |
| 11:20 a.m. | <b><i>Adjournment</i></b>                                                     |                                |
|            | Prayer for the meal                                                           | Sing Doxology                  |
| 11:20 a.m. | <b>Lunch</b>                                                                  | Dining Room                    |