



**Mennonite
Central
Committee**

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Dear Friends,

On behalf of all of us at MCC, I want to take this opportunity to wish you and your congregation a Happy New Year.

In 2025, MCC staff will be reflecting on John 1:39. You can find that verse on the enclosed prayer card. It reminds us of the invitation of Jesus to open our eyes and hearts to the circumstances of all, just as Christ did. The text quoted on the prayer card says that those who followed his call spent that day with him.

I wish you could spend a day with one of our MCC partners around the world, making a real and lasting impact in communities from Myanmar to Afghanistan to Zimbabwe and even here in Ontario. You would meet wonderful people and see with your own eyes the impact of MCC's work sharing God's love and compassion for all in the name of Christ by responding to basic human needs and working for peace and justice.

With all that has filled our news this past year, peace remains an elusive reality for many. We take it for granted that we can go about our daily lives in freedom and not be concerned about how violence and destruction might affect our day. That is not the case for millions living in places like Ukraine, Palestine and Israel or Sudan.

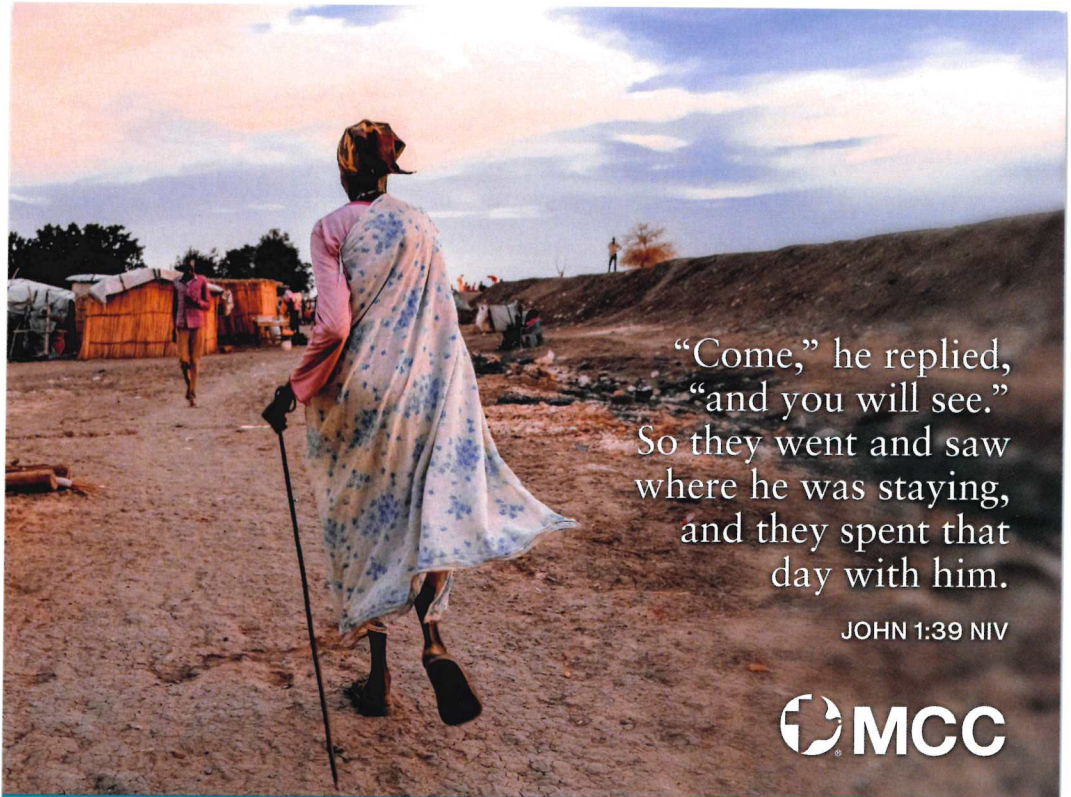
We are grateful for your congregation's support and partnership this year that allows MCC to do the work God has called us to. Whether your gift has been financial, material or both, we are deeply grateful and appreciative. We understand all too well that we could not do the work we do without that support, whether the work is on another continent or closer to home in our own province.

You will also find in this mailing a copy of our annual MCC calendar. I hope you will use it and as each month passes, the photographs encourage you to pray for MCC's work, our local partners and the individuals named in the photo credits.

May you and your congregation know the joy and peace of Jesus this coming year.

Michelle Brenneman
Executive Director
MCC Ontario

Stephen Roy
Church and Community Relations Associate
MCC Ontario



“Come,” he replied,
“and you will see.”
So they went and saw
where he was staying,
and they spent that
day with him.

JOHN 1:39 NIV





*Turning around, Jesus saw
them following and asked,
“What do you want?”*

*They said, “Rabbi”
(which means “Teacher”),
“where are you staying?”*

*“Come,” he replied,
“and you will see.”*

*So they went and saw where
he was staying, and they
spent that day with him.*

—John 1:38-39 NIV

Come and see. Simple words, simple actions. But how profound it is when this invitation lands deep in our hearts, when we step out to follow the call of Jesus, and to open our eyes and hearts to the circumstances of all, as Christ did.

In the coming year, may we make space to focus more deeply on Jesus—on what is happening because of his presence and because people are following him.

And, as we ground ourselves in Christ, may we grow in new ways of seeing and experiencing the world—and being more fully present to others in our own lives and in our work together.

Ann Graber
Hershberger
MCC U.S.
Executive Director

Rick Cober
Bauman
MCC Canada
Executive Director

Michelle
Brenneman
MCC Ontario
Executive Director

(Explore additional calls to come and see in John 1:44-50 and John 4:29.)

Mennonite Central Committee, a worldwide ministry of Anabaptist churches, shares God’s love and compassion for all in the name of Christ by responding to basic human needs and working for peace and justice.

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Photo: Mary Nyashin Tsief, 70, who receives monthly food packages of sorghum, beans and oil through an MCC-supported project, leads visitors to her dwelling in a camp in Rubkona, South Sudan, for families displaced by conflict or flooding. (MCC photo/Mackenzie Schwarz)