



YABs Fellowship Week 2025

Worship Resources

Prepared by the
YABs Committee for
22-29 June 2025

mwc-cmm.org

Theme and texts

a. Theme:

One body, many parts: loving and embracing our differences

b. Why this theme was chosen:

Each of us is uniquely made and deeply loved by God. Yet too often, difference becomes a wall. Because of appearance, language, identity, ways of thinking or living, some are unable to find their place, even in the church.

1 Corinthians 12 tells us that we are all part of one body, and that each part is valuable.

This isn't just a beautiful metaphor. It is a call to live out our faith.

Jesus always looked to the margins. He made space for those others overlooked. As followers of Christ, we are invited to do the same: to approach those who feel pushed aside because of their differences, **not with pity, but with love.**

c. Biblical texts:

Matthew 25:40

"...just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me." (NRSVUE)

2 Songs suggestions

1. [You're not alone](#) (Canada)
2. [Siyahamba](#) (South African traditional)

Please check your congregation's copyright protocols before using these songs in public gathering.



3 Additional resources in this package

- **Testimonies** of a moment of encountering "difference" in the church
- **Prayer requests:** young Anabaptists from around the world share concerns and joys for communal prayer

Estika Nanda



Iglesia Cristiana Menonita de Colombia

4 Discussion Questions

1. When have you felt your own difference welcomed or misunderstood?
2. What kinds of differences does your church struggle to embrace?
3. How best can we resolve our differences to bring back a missing or hurting part of Christ's body?
4. What kind of community do you think God desires us to become?



Kondwani Kwendanyama

5 Additional resources online

mwc-cmm.org/yabs

- Greeting videos
- Follow our Facebook ([@younganabaptists](https://www.facebook.com/younganabaptists)) and Instagram ([@younganabaptists](https://www.instagram.com/younganabaptists)) for updates during YABs Fellowship Week!
- Join our Discord server discord.gg/RzJghptWnS



6 Share!

- 📷 Post your photos, videos and comments as you celebrate YABs Fellowship Week. **#YABs #mwcmm**
- ➡ Send pictures or testimonies through Messenger or email to yabscommittee@mwc-cmm.org
- ✉ Help us prepare for future fellowship weeks and YABs projects by sending your suggestions to yabscommittee@mwc-cmm.org or commenting on our Discord server.

The biblical texts, prayers, song suggestions, sermon ideas, testimonies and other resources in this package have been prepared by members of MWC out of their experience in their local context. The teaching does not necessarily represent an official MWC position.



Irma Sulistyorini

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Testimonies



Irma Sulistyorini

North American YABs delegates (l-r): Raquel Mireles, Sebastian Mireles (United States Conference of Mennonite Brethren churches), Laura Rodriguez-Reyes (Mennonite Church Canada), Nyah Tindsley (LMC), Reba Yoder McGloughlin (Mennonite Church USA).

Worthy of being rescued

My church is fairly diverse, which is something I love about it. People come from different cultures, languages and perspectives. I find that valuable but it can also bring disagreements due to our differences. When working with people who may be different than me, I've had to continually ask God to teach me how to extend grace and patience.

I'm one of the youth leaders at my church and I've had to learn, and still am learning, how to navigate working with my co-youth leader. We're two very different people that share a common goal of shepherding the youth at our church. Finishing up our second year of youth leading, I've realized that the reasons why we work well together are the same ones why we may clash or have disagreements. He's very good at bringing people together, giving energy to a space and making people feel welcome. I'm good at the logistical side of things and am more behind the scenes. These are two helpful skills to have and allow us to balance each other out.

But sometimes, it's easy for me to become frustrated if he doesn't operate in the skills that I do well the way that I would like him to. We both have talents that God has blessed us with and we can choose to use them for helping to build God's kingdom.

God has shown me that working together with people different than you requires patience, compromise and grace.

While disagreements are inevitable, God has shown me a different mindset to approach leading together with others. It's ok to have different perspectives and ways of doing things but also that it's important to recognize the gifts that we both have.

I've learned that there's beauty in the different ways that we operate.

—Nyah Tinsley, YABs delegate for LMC – a fellowship of Anabaptist Churches, USA

Celebrating our unity in Christ

One Body, Many Parts resonates deeply with me. Through experiences, I have realized we are unique individuals with different strengths, weaknesses and passions. Yet, united in purpose and love, we become extraordinary. Each of us, with our unique talents, backgrounds and perspectives contributes to the whole in a meaningful way.

I witnessed this unity in action as we collaborated on various projects during the GYS (Global Youth Summit). Some excelled in brainstorming, others in execution and some in fostering community. Despite our differences, we shared a common goal and passion to serve the Lord.

This experience taught me that our diversity is our strength. Like a body, we need all parts to function effectively. Each part, no matter how small, plays a significant role. It's the collective effort of every individual that makes us who we are as a community.

During our Young Anabaptist Fellowship Week celebration last June 2024, unity in diversity was on display. Our group played a treasure hunt game, divided into two teams. Each team member brought distinct strengths, and we relied on each other to navigate challenges. This experience taught me to appreciate and celebrate our differences. I have learned to recognize my strengths and weaknesses and value other's contributions.

When we work together, embracing diversity and unity, we become a powerful force for good. For me, "One Body, Many Parts" is a way of life – because we realise that we need each other and that together, we can achieve greatness.

YABs Fellowship Week celebrates this unity in diversity, reminding us that we're interconnected and stronger together across our differences as we celebrate our unity in Christ.

— Siphso Moyo, YABs delegate for Ibandla Labazalwane kuKristu eZimbabwe (Brethren in Christ Church), Zimbabwe.

Siphso Moyo



More than 68 youths from Brethren in Christ Church Zimbabwe participated in a treasure hunt, discussion on the YABs Fellowship Week theme and other team building activities last June.



Siphso Moyo (l) from Zimbabwe and Fousseni Dembele (r) from Burkina Faso pray together during opening worship at the Global Youth Summit (GYS).

Elina Ciptadi

Prayer requests

Young Anabaptists from around the world share concerns and joys for communal prayer.



MWC general secretary César García participates in meeting of the Conference of Secretaries of Christian World Communions in Kenya in 2024.

Africa

Please pray....

Burkina Faso

- For employment for the youth of Burkina Faso.
- For a serious spiritual awakening and commitment among our youth.
- For the youth projects of Église Évangélique Mennonite du Burkina Faso.

Kenya

- For a stronger unity in the leadership of Kenya Mennonite Church.
- For a commitment to serving Christ among the youths.
- For job opportunities to the young.

Malawi

- For the youth of Malawi to be committed to the positions that they have been assigned and involve themselves in the church activities
- For the youth of Malawi to not be involved in very sensitive activities that take their focus away from their faith in Jesus Christ.

- For the youth ministry of Malawi to grow and reach more youths.

Zimbabwe

- That youth might have courage in sharing their faith and be bold when facing challenges like substance abuse because we the Moses of today.
- For guidance and wisdom for young people in making wise decisions concerning education, career choices and relationships.
- For a stable country and that God would change the economy of Zimbabwe.

Asia

Indonesia

- That the young people stay faithful in God.
- That the young people uphold holiness and have a longing to know God more deeply.
- That the young people may have hope for the future.

India

- For more responsible and visionary youth leaders in our churches.
- For the youth to take on leadership roles and mentorship of the church.
- For youth to come away from worldly enjoyment and repent for their distractions from phones and social media, and for them to attend church regularly.
- For youth to give priority to the Lord and their spiritual growth.
- That youth can do work effectively with proper communication channels and help their church's youth to grow closer to God.
- For the church to transform their traditional ways to be more inclusive of youth.
- For those who are facing depression, anxiety and suicidal thoughts.



Philippines

- For growth in quantity and faith.
- For the next generation of leaders and present leaders.
- For reconciliation between those who are divided.

Nepal

- For those who are persecuted for their faith.
- That political divisions would be decreased.
- For proper leadership in the country.
- About the economic problems many people face.
- Regarding internal church divisions.
- For more faithful people in the church.

Europe

Netherlands

- Regarding the climate crisis.
- About polarisation.
- About militarization in response to the threat of war.

Spain

- About loneliness.
- For a heart for missions.
- For people to feel loved and cared for.

France

- For young people who are honest and faithful to God and God's Word.
- For personal encounters with the Holy Spirit.
- For welcoming, caring churches that are open to others and to young people.

Germany

- For courageous youth who stand up for their faith.
- For young people to take responsibility in their lives and also in church.
- To live a prayer-filled and prayer-led life.
- For the people to realize that more weapons will not bring peace.

- For more social justice and respect for everyone's work and existence.
- For more loving conversations with each other, more listening, less shouting and more trying to understand the other.

Switzerland

- For a common desire to follow Jesus.
- For mentoring well and teaching that youth in the church.
- For building bridges between bilingual communities.



Young people of Conferencia Evangélica Menonitas in the Dominican Republic celebrated YABs Fellowship Week in 2024.

Latin America

Colombia

- For new leadership for the young people.
- For strength, renewal and interest from the youth.
- For our churches to truly understand and live discipleship in the way of Jesus.
- For the Spirit to guide us to build safe spaces to welcome and receive people.
- That we may be willing to work on healing emotional wounds and restoration.

Belize

- For youth to have courage to share God's word with their friends.
- For a willingness to take part in church ministry.
- For faith in God even in difficult times.



Argentina

- For unity among us as Jesus prayed in John 17.
- For formation of a national leadership group on prayer for the country (that unites all churches).
- To continue to stand firm against the currents and ideologies of this world that want to bring confusion to Christians.

Paraguay

- For the young people are not that interested in God anymore: addictions and the influence of nonChristian ideologies are leading the youth away from God.
- For a hunger for God.
- For openness to share what is going on in their lives.
- For boldness to be a witness and grow in identity in Christ.
- For youth that have problems of depression, anxiety, etc.
- For those young people that are the only ones in their family that go to church, that they may persevere.

Brazil

- That they may have a life of prayer.
- That they may live in unity.
- That they may boldly spread the Word of God.
- That they may stand firm in their principles even if society says they are wrong.
- To have wisdom when facing the political and economic problems of our country.
- To live in unity and communion in a biblical church.

Mexico

- For strength to overcome temptations.
- For wisdom and courage for the youth leaders.
- For the youth struggling with addictions.
- God may help the youth find their identities in Christ.

Costa Rica

- That there may be a greater desire to seek God.
- That the young people who are already in the churches may remain rooted and firm in their faith.
- That there may be an awakening in the youth groups.

Uruguay

- For the youth to be more passionate about Jesus, to believe that God is the greatest treasure.
- For strength, rest, blessing in everything and to get ideas from God for a good ministry. Many youth leaders don't have the time for ministry.
- That new young people may remain in the church and not attend only because it feels new or exciting.
- That young people may continue to be involved in the church services.
- That good relationship may continue to be maintained among the older members.

El Salvador

- For spiritual growth and to grow in number.
- That young people have a heart willing to serve God.
- That they may create and maintain a true relationship with God.

Peru

- That God may guide us physically, spiritually and mentally in our lives.
- For revival and genuine communion among young people.
- Strength to avoid falling into the temptations of social media.



Adam Ramer (l) and Nick Martin (r) of Mennonite Action present a workshop at the GYS.

North America

United States

- That we as churches, and also youth leaders, can continue to be discerning and find ways to effectively integrate youth from outside the church into our youth activities.

- That the young people can have life changing encounters with God and that they can learn to hear his voice.
- To not be afraid to ask hard questions so they can learn more and make their faith their own.
- For the undocumented youth of my country and congregations who are facing mass expulsion and disruption of life. Our churches are being raided and intruded upon and these children and families are not safe.
- For hope as nationalism rises and world violence rages. Be with us as we work to reconcile the world in front of us.

Canada

- For clarity.
- For fellowship.
- For guidance.