



**Mennonite
World Conference**

A Community of Anabaptist
related Churches

**Congreso
Mundial Menonita**

Una Comunidad de
Iglesias Anabautistas

**Conférence
Mennonite Mondiale**

Une Communauté
d'Eglises Anabaptistes



Resource

MWC Strategy 2025-2031

Following *Jesus*, living out *unity*, building *peace*.

Our vision anchors the MWC strategy for 2025-2031. Our call to be a global communion in the Anabaptist tradition has profound implications for prioritizing our work and empowering our churches to impact the world over the next six years.

The strategy is the foundation for the staff and Executive Committee to establish operational goals for the next two trienniums. It was developed over two years involving the Executive Committee, Commission and YABs leaders, Senior Staff, and Regional Representatives.

This engagement emphasized the increasingly polarized contexts in which churches bear witness to the gospel. For our communion this underscored the importance of nurturing our Anabaptist identity, understanding our mission as a foretaste of God's kingdom, and strengthening connections through promoting mutual respect.

We face a world where wars and conflicts are escalating, and record numbers of people are fleeing their homes as the climate emergency reaches increasingly alarming levels. In this context we believe we must concentrate our efforts on empowering churches to embody hope through both words and actions, promoting peace and healing, while advocating for justice and reconciliation. This suffering, accompanied by a growing wave of hate speech, discrimination, exclusion, and oppression, compels our churches to undertake both immediate practical action and profound theological reflection as we strive to demonstrate that, in Christ, "another world is possible."

As we commemorate the 500th anniversary of the Anabaptist movement, this strategy reminds us of some fundamental principles regarding our understanding of the gospel and how we live out our faith. Palmer Becker summarized these principles in three phrases: "Jesus is the centre of our faith, community is the centre of our lives, and reconciliation is the centre of our work."

Likewise, our strategy involves three key areas: who we are (identity), what we do (mission), and how we work (approaches and methods to fulfill our mission). We *follow Jesus*, the center of our faith, guided by our Anabaptist tradition. We *build peace*, understanding it in the biblical sense of *shalom*, which encompasses reconciliation with God, among ourselves, and with creation. We *live out unity* by embodying reconciliation, the communion that God's Spirit enables in the new creation to which we belong. These three elements are inseparable from one another, and each is unattainable without the other two: *following Jesus, living out unity, and building peace*. You can find the biblical and theological reflections that support this strategy at mwc-cmm.org/taglinetheology.

By the end of this strategic period from 2025 to 2031, we hope our member churches will be more closely connected to our global communion while creating a positive impact in their local contexts. This strategy serves as a tool to achieve that goal. It does not encompass everything we do but highlights the areas we aim to prioritize over the next six years.

MWC Strategy 2025-2031

Living out *unity*

As a global communion, God calls us to engage with and build relationships with one another. Loving our neighbours depends on connection and relationships; interacting with others profoundly transforms us. We want to be known as a people who are together despite differences in theological, biblical, and social commitments.

Anticipated Outcomes:

- Strengthened engagement between global Assemblies.
- MWC churches will view themselves as part of a global communion.
- MWC churches will actively pray for and support one another.



Building *peace*

Our peace work involves reconciliation with God, others, and creation. It requires strong roots in Scripture and our Anabaptist spirituality. In our polarized world, where inequity and injustice prevail, we aspire to be a testimony to reconciliation, love, and justice. We can find ways to express our unity that honour our desire to belong to one another while also considering climate concerns.

Anticipated Outcomes:

- Meaningful support for marginalized churches affected by violence, militarism, and trauma.
- Resources grounded in strong biblical and pastoral principles for internal and external peacemaking.
- Assistance for national and global advocacy initiatives.

Following *Jesus*

God invites us to root our faith in Jesus, becoming bearers of God's peace, justice, and healing, thereby making God's presence visible in the world. We must urgently address the need for trained leaders who effectively articulate our Anabaptist identity as we follow Jesus.

Anticipated Outcomes:

- A strong Anabaptist identity.
- Materials that are accessible and user-friendly.
- Discipleship that is deep and transformational.
- New leaders from all generations who are engaged in Jesus-centered leadership.
- A strong Education Fund.