

Missions Means Us



HOW can they call on the one they have not believed in?

HOW can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard?

HOW can they hear without someone preaching to them?

Romans 10:14

Mission Festival 2025
November 2-9

MISSION FESTIVAL 2025

Theme - "Missions Means Us"

Verse - Romans 10:14

Song - "Facing a Task Unfinished"

SCHEDULE

Sunday, November 2

Sunday School and Morning Service — Aaron Kauffman

MCC School Kit Service Project and Lunch 12:00 pm

Evening Service 6:30 pm - Aaron Kauffman

Wednesday, November 5

Ethnic Potluck Meal 5:45 pm - Patio

Evening Service 7:00 pm — Charles Buller

Thursday, November 6

Service at Swiss Village 9:30 am - Eldon Claassen

Sunday, November 9

Morning & Evening Services — Jerry Sauder

MISSION FESTIVAL FOOD DRIVE

Home-size food items will be collected on the tables in the patio for Compassionate Ministries Network.



Aaron Kauffman

Aaron Kauffman has served as President of Virginia Mennonite Missions since 2014. He leads a growing team of staff and mission workers as they join God's movement to change the world. Drawing on his own cross-cultural experiences on five continents, Aaron loves connecting with leaders, speaking in churches, visiting local and international partners, and encouraging people on their journey with Jesus.

Aaron and his wife Laura have four children, Abby, Sophie, Asher and David. They attend Mosaic of Grace Church in Harrisonburg, Virginia. In his free time, Aaron enjoys running, reading and a good cup of coffee.



*Charles Buller
Leonard Kiswangi*

Charles Buller was born to missionary parents in the Congo DRC and came to personal faith in Christ as a teenager. After studies in the U.S., he returned to the Congo for inner-city youth work with Africa Inter-Mennonite Mission (AIMM). He later helped lead a church in Indiana and spent 15 years in pastoral ministry, including work with AIMM and Mennonite Mission Network in planting a church among the Wolof people of West Africa.

For the past eleven years, he has focused on the Africa Leadership Coaching Network, forming learning cohorts to equip leaders in Christ-centered living, with special attention to marriage and family.

Charles hopes to include Leonard Kiswangi in this presentation. Leonard, of Congolese descent, came to faith through the ministry of Mennonite missionaries.

Today he serves as country director for Africa Enterprise International in DRC and co-leads the Africa Leadership Coaching Network alongside Charles.

Eldon and Jan Claassen have served with Youth With A Mission (YWAM) for nearly 30 yrs. since 1996. YWAM schools led them to live in Central Asia for over 8 yrs. where God did mighty things to bring people to faith in Jesus. In 2006, they returned to the USA to care for aging parents. Since then they have been engaged with the refugee community in Ft. Wayne. They have served refugee families from a number of ethnic groups. Refugees often feel confused and alone and want an American friend they can trust. Eldon has many opportunities to both give the message of Jesus to them while



*Eldon & Jan
Claassen*

helping with their practical challenges. Many in the refugee community are from 'Unreached People Groups'. Reaching them with the Gospel in their homelands would be extremely difficult, but God has brought them here. Once a week, Jan helps teach English classes with refugees at the 'International House', a Christian ministry to refugees and immigrants. Jan also connects with incarcerated youth by leading weekly Bible Studies at both the local juvenile detention center and at the 'Redemption House', a home for women serving the last 6 months of jail sentences. The Claassens attend Broadway Christian Church and are involved in the Global Outreach mission team and children's church. They love to spend time with their 7 year-old grandson and 2 daughters.

Jerry Sauder grew up in the Baltimore, MD area, where he, and his wife Donna belonged to LMC churches. They were married in 1983 and have four reasonably well-adjusted adult children: Jonathan (married to Lia Kauffman with daughter Renee), Andrew (married to Nita Kopan with two daughters, Eden and Anna), Sarah and Rebekah. After working for almost 25 years in corporate finance mostly for IBM, Jerry moved to Columbus in January 2016, to lead the finance department at Rosedale International. Jerry and Donna served for 2 years in Kenya under RMM back in the late 1980's, and he has served in a wide variety of church leadership roles over the years (Sunday school teacher, elder, deacon, trustee, pastor,



*Jerry & Donna
Sauder*

Royal Ranger commander, missionary). His life-long allegiance to Baltimore sports teams has not wavered despite living for 30 plus years outside of Maryland. One of his favorite hobbies is dabbling in real estate investment and property rehabilitation.

LET'S GO!

2025 KIDS MISSION FESTIVAL

El Nido



a ministry of



Kids offering will be for El Nido ("The Nest"),
a crisis pregnancy center at VidaNet in
Heredia, Costa Rica.

NEWBORN clothes and burp rags will also be
collected to send back with Conner Hyman.

SCAN ME!



JOURNEY to the ENDS of the EARTH



What is God's plan for the nations? The preschool children will be going on a "JOURNEY to the Ends of the Earth" to find out. They will learn Psalm 67:5, "May the peoples praise you, Oh God; may all the peoples praise you." Their journey will include Paul's example in the Bible and how one's heart, mind, prayers, offerings, and obedience is why Missions Means Us.

Missions Means Us

What can kids do in Berne, IN?

PRAY

Kids will pray for the missionaries we support and about what it means to us to "make disciples of all the nations"

GIVE

Kids will raise money to support a crisis pregnancy center in Costa Rica and participate in the MCC relief kits project

TELL

You don't have to be a grown up to tell others about Jesus! Kids will be challenged to share the gospel - and practice doing it!

MATTHEW 28:19-20 Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.