

A large photograph of three women with their eyes closed and hands raised in prayer. The woman on the left is wearing a pink top, the middle one a dark top, and the right one a white top. The background is a brick wall.

God's Mega Project

- our calling



Robert J. Suderman,
General Secretary,
Mennonite Church Canada

Dear friends:

In the last years, Mennonite Church Canada has invited your financial support through a "Gift Sampler," a catalogue of important, bite-sized, ministry projects.

This year we ask you to consider a special gift to God's Mega Project.

Let me explain...



A new Mennonite Church is forming in Cuba



Sichuan Earthquake relief China

In the New Testament, God's mega project is described as reconciling *everything* back to what it was meant to be:

"To unite all things in him [Christ], things in heaven and things on earth..." (Ephesians 1:10).

What a giant task; what an impressive undertaking. This really is a mega project.

But even more amazing is to see **HOW** God wishes to accomplish this mega project. God's chosen **HOW** is expressed in five humbling words:

"... So that through the church..." (Ephesians 3:10).

In other words, **this mega project of God becomes the calling of the Church.** The writer, Paul the Apostle, believes that the Church *should* and *can* be God's primary instrument for the reconciliation of all creation.

It feels almost foolhardy to think such mega thoughts about the church. But Ephesians was written to imperfect churches, exactly like ours, and to imperfect Christians, exactly like we are.

I believe that this is the most worthy of any project imaginable, and I believe our congregations think so, too. This Mega Project best describes Mennonite Church Canada's purpose: *"To unite all things in him [Christ], things in heaven and things on earth..."* (Ephesians 1:10). This is why we exist.

This mega project includes digging wells, supplying clean water, working among people with HIV/AIDS, advocating for peace and justice, witnessing to salvation, constructing church-buildings, inviting people to accept Jesus as Lord and Saviour, feeding the hungry, responding to natural disasters, operating schools, preparing leaders and pastors, worshipping, praising God, teaching children, and much, much more.

This project is worth the investment of the widow's mite, and the millionaire's million.

It is the most important investment we can make, the most important legacy we can build.

Your financial support is needed and greatly appreciated. Together we want to strengthen our capacity to live out this calling. We invite you to respond generously.

Thank you for considering this invitation to give to God's great mission in the world.

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert J. Suderman".

Robert J. Suderman
General Secretary, Mennonite Church Canada

God's Mega Project

Forming a People of God
Growing Leaders for the Church
Becoming a Global Church

In Mennonite Church Canada, we work at *God's Mega Project* in many ways, each one building on our three priorities: Forming a People of God, Growing Leaders for the Church, and Becoming a Global Church.

Forming, Growing, Becoming...

Calling, forming, and placing pastors for our congregations; Christian nurture and formation through our schools, curriculum development, Bible-study and other resources for children, youth, young adults, families, and seniors; publishing and making resources accessible to all; conserving important stories of faithfulness in the Mennonite Heritage Centre, and telling the on-going story of our faith in the Art Gallery.

Growing, Forming, Becoming...

Peace-building initiatives, church planting, evangelism, missional formation, Bible translation, Anabaptist resourcing, solidarity ministries, nurturing the multiple cultures in our church, ministry with First Nations and Métis communities, fostering church partnerships with ministry, and much more.

Becoming, Growing, Forming...

Issues of faith and life in our context; stewardship education; funding, communicating, administering our work; fostering our ecumenical and global relationships; working with Area Churches and congregations; and taking good care of the Human resources we have.

All of these activities gain purpose only as we place them into *God's Mega Project*, to reconcile people to God and to each other; and to reconcile the world to itself.



Becoming a global church - DR Congo. Photo by Ray Dirks



Growing leaders for the church in South Korea



imagine life without war

 Mennonite Church Canada

liveforpeace.org

Canada billboard - Peace in the Public Square

We engage with partners in Canada and around the world in more than 25 countries. These relationships are important because of the way they fit into and make *God's Mega Project* stronger.

Your gift will help with:

- University education from a Christian perspective
- Preparing pastors in our seminary
- Cows and calves low income loan project in Thailand
- Sunday-school curriculum for our children - future disciples of Jesus
- Inspiring encounters for our youth such as Youth Assemblies
- Hymnals for integral worship
- Peace-building in Mindanao, Philippines – and many other places around the world
- Crises such as natural disaster relief funds in Philippines, Burkina Faso, and China
- Ministry among people with HIV/AIDS
- Leadership development for Canadian Aboriginal communities
- Biblically-based teaching curriculum for Aboriginal communities
- Leadership formation in war-torn Colombia



YES, I want to help!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Province _____

Postal Code _____

Telephone (_____) _____

email _____

My donation:

\$1000 \$500 \$100 \$50 Other \$ _____

I would like to donate \$ _____ monthly (please send me more information)

I would like to donate by

Cheque (Please make cheques payable to Mennonite Church Canada)

Credit Card Visa Master Card

Card number _____

Name (as it appears on card) _____

Exp. date ____ / ____