

The following document is an early review of the collected data. It is meant to serve as a quick first look at what the gathered Mennonite Church Canada body is saying. It is subject to change with a more thorough review which will follow in the months ahead.

Emerging Themes from the Discernment Process

The group gathered for discernment is sensing a deep longing—and at times, a response to fear—for transformation in several key areas of church life. These themes have surfaced repeatedly across many response forms:

1. A Desire for Better Conversations

Longing for conversations that:

- Engage difficult topics with courage and care
- Are relevant to our current context
- Draw in younger generations and help them see the relevance of faith and the church
- Foster healthy, safe, and meaningful connections for all

This theme was particularly strong and echoed across many submissions.

2. A Call to Relevant and Transformative Mission

Yearning for a church that:

- Aligns with what God is already doing in the world
- Shares faith in ways that are accessible and invitational
- Bears witness to the personal transformation we've experienced and offers that hope to others

3. A Commitment to Greater Inclusion

A church seeking to:

- Create space for all who wish to call this church their home
- Thoughtfully engage with our Confession of Faith, particularly Article 19, in light of this desire for inclusion

4. A Posture of Trust in God

The Church is being invited to trust:

- God's wisdom
- God's voice as heard in the Global South
- God's heart as revealed in the voices of the marginalized