



MENNONITE DISASTER SERVICE MISSION STATEMENT

Mennonite Disaster Service is a volunteer network of Anabaptist churches that responds in Christian love to those affected by disasters in Canada and the United States.

While the main focus is on clean up, repair and rebuilding homes, this service touches lives and nurtures hope, faith and wholeness.

MENNONITE DISASTER SERVICE CORE VALUES

Faith – As members of Anabaptist churches, we believe in and practice a life of service and proclamation founded on the Bible and modeled after the life and teachings of Jesus Christ.

Service – We welcome all who are in our churches and others who share our values to join Christian service opportunities through volunteering, praying and giving.

Compassion – We practice servant leadership, compassion and cultural sensitivity with fellow volunteers, constituents and those we serve.

Relationships – We engage all people, partners and organizations with mutual respect, humility and accountability.

Integrity – We work in an ethical, honest, moral and legal manner.

Sustainability – As God's stewards, we strive to incorporate quality materials and workmanship, and environmental awareness in providing safe, affordable and sustainable housing.

History – We are guided by our MDS history of responding to disasters through grassroots volunteerism, binational mandate and mutual aid.

Adopted by MDS Board of Directors and Delegates Feb 10, 2011

Shared Convictions

By the grace of God, we seek to live and proclaim the good news of reconciliation in Jesus Christ. As part of the one body of Christ at all times and places, we hold the following to be central to our belief and practice:

1. God is known to us as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, the Creator who seeks to restore fallen humanity by calling a people to be faithful in fellowship, worship, service and witness.
2. Jesus is the Son of God. Through his life and teachings, his cross and resurrection, he showed us how to be faithful disciples, redeemed the world, and offers eternal life.
3. As a church, we are a community of those whom God's Spirit calls to turn from sin, acknowledge Jesus Christ as Lord, receive baptism upon confession of faith, and follow Christ in life.
4. As a faith community, we accept the Bible as our authority for faith and life, interpreting it together under Holy Spirit guidance, in the light of Jesus Christ to discern God's will for our obedience.
5. The Spirit of Jesus empowers us to trust God in all areas of life so we become peacemakers who renounce violence, love our enemies, seek justice, and share our possessions with those in need.
6. We gather regularly to worship, to celebrate the Lord's Supper, and to hear the Word of God in a spirit of mutual accountability.
7. As a world-wide community of faith and life we transcend boundaries of nationality, race, class, gender and language. We seek to live in the world without conforming to the powers of evil, witnessing to God's grace by serving others, caring for creation, and inviting all people to know Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord.

In these convictions we draw inspiration from Anabaptist forebears of the 16th century, who modeled radical discipleship to Jesus Christ. We seek to walk in his name by the power of the Holy Spirit, as we confidently await Christ's return and the final fulfillment of God's kingdom.

*Adopted by Mennonite World Conference
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