

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT

Trevor Seath, Executive Director

I continue to feel challenged, excited, and thankful for the opportunity to witness and contribute to the story of God's work in our province. I'm encouraged by the love for Jesus, commitment to humble service, and resolve to trust God in a wide variety of circumstances that I see across our Ontario MB family. Our churches are keen to obey Jesus, rely on the Spirit, and live as true children of our Father not only for one another but also for their neighbours. It's a great joy to see!

Day by day, I work most closely with Ryan Jantzi and Kristi Lee. Both are phenomenally gifted teammates who bring tons of diligence, energy, creativity, and care to their roles. Our provincial church family is profoundly enriched by their contributions. This month Kristi is celebrating 10 years of serving alongside ONMB churches. Can you believe it? Through good times and bad, Kristi has chosen to dig deep to help ONMB thrive. She's an inspiring example to Ryan and me and our provincial family is so much stronger because of her resilient service!

In addition to our churches and provincial staff team, I'm deeply grateful for our ONMB board. This team brings lots of care, wisdom, and humility to their work. Repeatedly, I've seen ideas refined and improved through the board's work. And there's commitment to continually improve the board's leadership even though its already strong. It's exciting!

It's also important to note how partnership continues as a dynamic and fruitful component of our story. Later I will mention initiatives that demonstrate how profoundly the people, strengths, and values of Multiply are impacting us in positive ways. We're

also made better by the work of MB Seminary, especially their Teaching Church strategy. And there's no way to tell the ONMB story without mentioning Camp Crossroad's profound and lasting impact. Additionally, we're tremendously enriched by participating in our national and global family. When I consider how Cam Stuart is leading our NMT as CCMBC's National Director, how Ken Esau leads our NFLT and organized an outstanding EQUIP Conference in 2025, or how Jason Kreuger and his team tirelessly serve our churches and leaders with financial and administrative support, I'm deeply grateful. In November, having both Mark Wessner and Jason Krueger join Michelle Knowles, our provincial staff, and Multiply reps for our five regional meetings made the week more significant and fun. And of course, we'll be impacted this month as Brazilian leaders come to pray over our nation and pour into us. God is blessing us through partnership in profound ways. As we dig into this year's Move Together theme at both Leaders Day and our Acts 6:4 Assembly, I'm grateful that we're already on a life-giving journey of collaboration.

OUR VISION

We share a burden with our national MB family, “to cultivate a community and culture of healthy disciple-making churches and ministries faithfully joining Jesus in his mission.” The rubber of this vision hits the road in our everyday lives. Living as disciples is transformative, making us attentive and submitted to King Jesus in all things. No person is excluded. No part of life is overlooked. Everything about who we are and how we live can become an expression of devotion: All of Us. Everyday. For King Jesus.



*Dan Chook Reid, Greg Reed, Derek Parenteau
pray together at the 2025 Prayer Summit*

Pray First

We know that the vision we’re pursuing can never be achieved apart from joyful, whole-hearted dependence on God. We need to be led by the Holy Spirit, we need boldness that comes from being with Jesus, and we need to stand firm as our Father’s children. Simply put, we need to pray. We need to cash in on the privilege of intimacy with God. We need to unburden ourselves of self-importance, self-defence, and self-reliance by bringing all of who we are and what we need into the throne room of God.

Prayer is, thankfully, a life-long journey. There’s always more to learn and experience. In 2025, our prayer journey in Ontario continued in numerous ways as leaders and churches started or strengthened efforts to form lives of prayer both individually and together. Our second annual ONMB Prayer Summit on September 30th was a terrific opportunity to worship, intercede, listen, and receive prayer. Glencairn Church in Kitchener hosted us and Connie Maier and Doris Falkenburger led in discerning how we’d spend our time. Ontario folks were also well represented in our CCMBC national week of prayer that included national gatherings online January 5 – 9.

For me, joining to pray in The King’s House with ONMB friends from Kitchener, Wellesley, together with locals from Parry Sound as René and Lisa Nyland and house leader Mack Moore prepared to launch this new sober discipleship house was another precious prayer experience this year.

Move Together

We can respond to this invitation in numerous ways. We already partner globally, nationally, and provincially. That's fantastic! Over time, engaging with one another as family even though we're often dispersed has an important impact, allowing God to shape and direct us through shared experiences with him and one another.



The fresh collaboration invitation is to discern opportunities God is giving us to collaborate within the six regions where he's established our churches. Moving west to east, we have churches in Essex, Central West, Niagara, Georgian Bay, Toronto, and Ottawa. In each region, we can pray together, listen to God and one another, and look out into our communities for the needs and opportunities where Jesus is calling us to join him. As leaders are identified whom God is calling to step out into new missional expressions, our churches can rally to support them.



[LISTEN HERE](https://www.onmb.org/onmb-podcast/)

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In a recent Jesus Stories podcast episode, Ryan interviewed René Nyland about how The King's House (TKH) was launched in late 2025 as a sober discipleship house for men in Parry Sound. This missional expression is isolated geographically from our ONMB family with Christian Fellowship Chapel, the nearest ONMB church, over an hour away. But The King's House started as a story of significant collaboration. ONMB has been able to help with oversight and financial services as TKH does not have charitable status yet. Members from at least 5 ONMB churches have joined others from both the US and Canada to form an intercession team. Importantly, Bayside Family Church (PAOC) in Parry Sound has wholeheartedly adopted the project and mobilized committed volunteers to come alongside this 24/7/365 ministry. Ryan has more to share in his report about how churches and leaders are moving together to launch other missional expressions.

Join in Globally

In April, seven Ontario MB leaders travelled to Brazil for a week of prayer and learning from Brazilian church and mission leaders. Rather than travelling to explore future partnership opportunities, we went to receive what God wanted to invest in us through our brothers and sisters. As we planned the trip, we emphasized repeatedly how we wanted to sit at the feet of leaders in Brazil. It really turned out that way! As Emerson Cardoso and Franz Wolf (who serve with Multiply) introduced us to church planting pastors as well as to staff and participants in their mission training school, we were challenged and encouraged by how God is stirring up bold faith and joy among His people. Observing Emerson befriend hotel staff and plan to start a Bible study with them in their restaurant the following week inspired us about what everyday mission can look like. Perhaps more than anything else, receiving attentive and generous hospitality in countless ways gave us a fresh understanding of love in God's Kingdom.

ONMB and Brazil Team gather together to worship in Brazil



And of course, the story doesn't end there. This month a team of 6 Brazilian leaders will be in Ontario for a week of intercession for Canada. They will participate both at Leaders' Day and our Acts 6:4 Assembly and will lead times of concerted intercession in Ottawa, Toronto, and Niagara. They also will explore opportunities for future collaborative missional endeavours in Canada.

As we move forward step by step in our journey with churches in Brazil, we're also excited to see the opportunities that are unfolding to connect with new Canadian churches in Ontario especially with brothers and sisters from Ethiopia and Africa's Great Lakes Region. Thinking of these diaspora churches, Doug Hiebert (Multiply) points to three major benefits of relationship: (1) New immigrant churches have so much to offer and we can encourage, assist, and coach so that brothers and sisters coming from other countries can express what God has gifted them to contribute here,

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(2) We have so much to learn by being in relationship with brothers and sisters who have been formed by different cultures and experiences. We can learn so much about things like resilience, community, hospitality, faith, and prayer, and (3) We can help mobilize and participate in vision that new Canadians have for God's work in their homeland which can create bigger, more effective Kingdom impact globally.



Worship gathering at Antioch Mission School

Make Disciples

In addition to The King's House and the other missional expression stories that Ryan has included in his report, I want to highlight three that are teaching me about the power of simple, straight-forward efforts founded on prayer, faith, and boldness.

At the beginning of June, 50 people from a wide range of ages and backgrounds gathered in Toronto for the Antioch Mission School with Nasser al'Qhatani and Derek Parenteau. This shared initiative of ONMB and Multiply included extended times of worship, prayer, and Bible teaching. In addition, we were sent out twice in groups (ideally as small as 2 or 3) with simple instructions to pray for God's guidance and then: (1) Only go where God sends you, (2) Only approach people as God directs you, and (3) Only say what God gives you. I'd never tried something like this, and it was powerful to see how God worked. With most hardly knowing Toronto at all, little groups ended up all over the place and multiple people experienced God directing them into memorable, important conversations. Importantly for those like me who believed that Toronto (where I've lived my whole life) is spiritually cold and hostile, God arranged for numerous groups to connect with Christians from different parts of the world who shared about how they felt isolated in the city. Additionally, we were directed to speak with many who were warmly receptive to the gospel and to prayer.

Derek Parenteau at Antioch Mission School



For some time, Derek Parenteau and a small team of leaders in Sudbury have been gathering as Chains Will Fall. This missional expression is, at its core, a declaration of faith. The vision is to form a disciple-making church for men and women who have been released from Sudbury's jail. God is working powerfully in the jail as hundreds have responded enthusiastically to the gospel in recent years in that dark and often hopeless place. For many, the riskiest discipleship challenge comes after they're released. Too often, addictions and toxic relationships is their true prison. But in Jesus' name, chains will fall! Jesus sets prisoners free! Chains Will Fall is a simple church that relies entirely on prayer, faith, and bold obedience while focusing on a specific, neglected Kingdom assignment to walk with folks who are maligned and marginalized.

A third similar story comes from Brock University. Back in September, Maddy Hiebert shared some of the story with me. She recounted how, as some friends began attending Brock as undergraduates a couple years ago, God gave them an awareness of his mission at the school and his desire to make himself known to students there. The Lord encouraged them with the truth of the authority that He has given them for prayer and bold witness, and they embraced the truth that they didn't have to wait until they were older. They were released to walk in freedom at school, introducing people to Jesus, making disciples, and baptizing people of all nations. With support from Multiply and Cornerstone Community Church where many of the students are members, this new missional expression is extending Kingdom life in a dynamic new way.

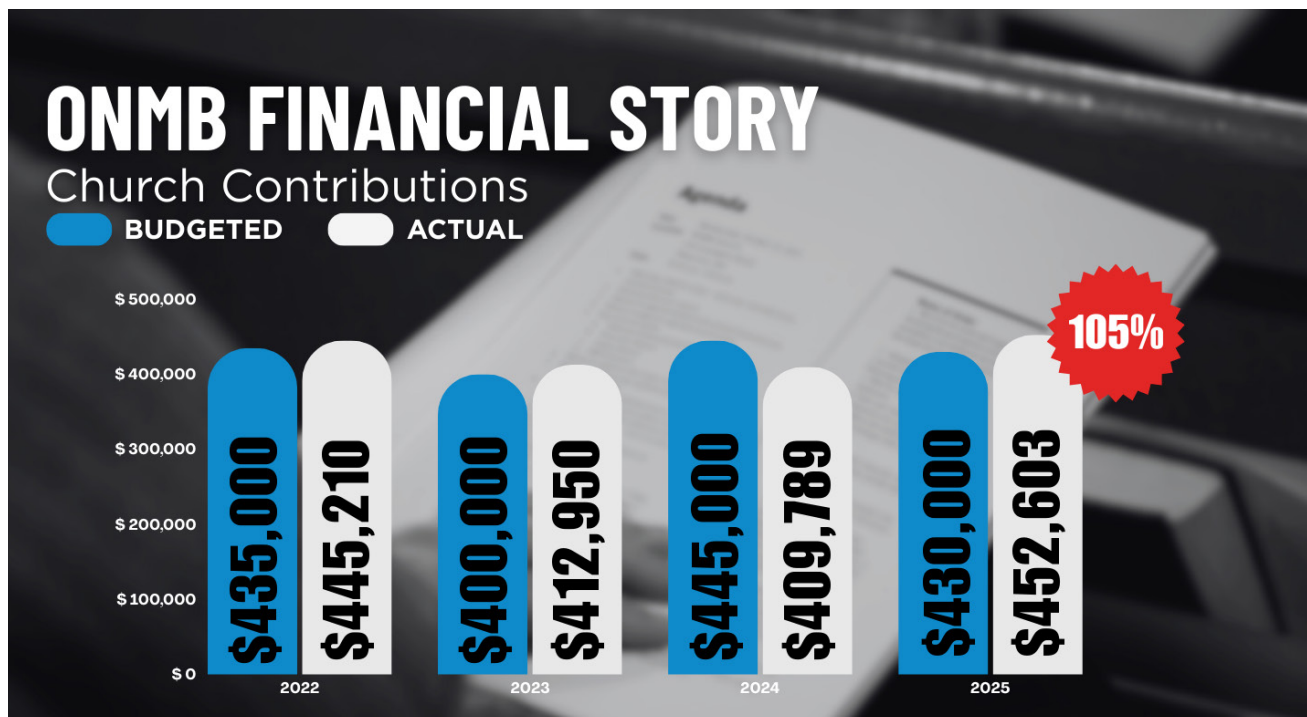


Maddy Hiebert leading worship at Antioch Mission School

A FINAL NOTE

In addition to enjoying our week of ONMB Regionals in November, I had the privilege this year of visiting one by one with most of our church leadership teams. Ryan was able to join me for most of those visits. I learned some things along the way. While I felt strongly about things I wanted to share, looking back I wish I'd made more time to listen. I'll do better at that next time! Still, I'm grateful that so many made time to gather to hear why we're so excited about how we're seeing God move in fresh ways in Ontario.

In those meetings, I was clear that our faith is being stretched as we're facing new opportunities even as our provincial budget is tight. I shared that as we set a deficit budget for 2025, we prayed that God would close the gap. And he did! Hallelujah! Exceeding our budgeted income is important. And not primarily because there are bills to pay. More significantly, giving is one way for us to put our faith in action as we sacrifice to support the direction we're going in response to God's call.



I'm so thankful for how so many churches and individuals gave generously in 2025. While there's more work to do before we'll experience the full potential of the financial model that our board introduced in 2020, I'm celebrating each step leaders take to ensure their churches participate! This year, we're also introducing the opportunity to join ONMB as a monthly donor. We're praying that God will stir many of us to participate in this new opportunity for collaboration.