



# Mennonite Women USA Annual Report

## Ministry highlights from February 1, 2010–January 31, 2011



**Sister Care seminars: Equipping Women for Caring Ministry** completed its pilot development following a revision and expansion of the manual and presentation of the seminar in Ohio, Idaho, Oregon, Washington (left), and Iowa. Carolyn Holderread Heggen was affirmed as a primary co-presenter of the seminar for the next two years. *The two-day seminar validates women's gifts of caring and equips them to respond more effectively and confidently to the needs of others in their lives and in the congregation.*



**Women in Conversation retreats**, co-sponsored with Laurelville Mennonite Retreat Center, focused on "Living a Life of Gratitude" with speaker Megan Ramer. Kansas participants are pictured right.



**timbrel magazine**, the publication of Mennonite Women USA, addressed themes in 2010 of: Women's Prophetic Voice, Loneliness in Community, Honoring our Mothers, Human Trafficking: Modern Slavery (left), Disabilities and the Church, and Living a Life of Gratitude.

**2010 Women's Bible study: Seek Peace and Pursue It: Women, Faith, and Family Care**, was written by Elizabeth Soto Albrecht.



**International Women's Fund scholarships** for church leadership training were given to 11 women from Honduras, Nicaragua, Colombia, Tanzania, Paraguay, Panama, and Guatemala. Hellen Bradburn (right), Tanzania, serves as president of the African Anabaptist Women Theologians and is pursuing a degree in Christian Education.



Since 2004, Mennonite women have given 152 wall hangings to new home owners through our **Housewarming Sister-Link** which partners with Mennonite Disaster Service. Eloise Yoder, Archbold, Ohio, coordinates the project.

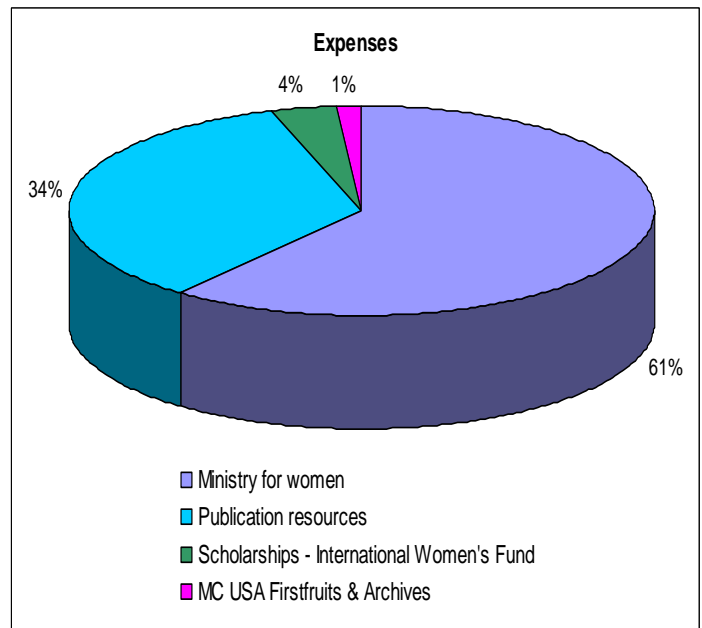
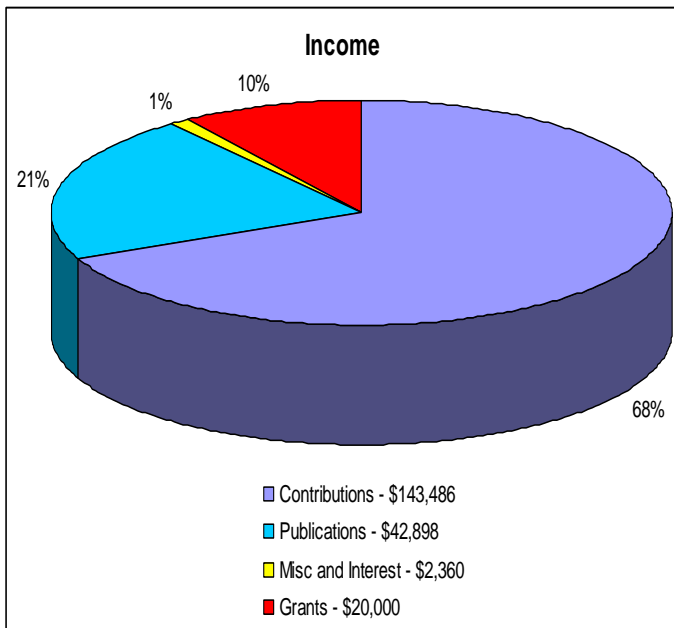
**MW USA board approved a new staff structure** beginning May 1, 2011 for Rhoda Keener and Ruth Lapp Guengerich to work in a job-share as co-executive directors.

**Women from 12 Mennonite Church USA conferences gathered in Henderson, Nebraska (above) for Preparing, Resourcing, Encouraging, Praising leaders' meeting; input was provided by Sharon Kennel.**

**Mennonite Women USA financial report  
February 1, 2010-January 31, 2011 (fiscal year)**

**Income**

<b>Contributions</b>		<b>\$143,486</b>
Groups, churches, and conferences:	\$71,361	
Individuals:	\$72,125	
<b>Grant income:</b>		<b>20,000</b>
<b>Miscellaneous and interest income</b>		<b>2,360</b>
<b>Publication income total:</b>		<b>43,898</b>
<i>timbrel</i> subscriptions	\$41,301	
-Total paid and gift subscriptions, 1/31/11: 3,350		
Bible study guide/Women Together	229	
Mennonite Women Canada publication partnership	2,368	
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$209,744</b>
Transferred from board restricted funds	18,214	
Transferred to board restricted funds	(22,500)	(4,286)
<b>Total:</b>		<b>\$205,458</b>

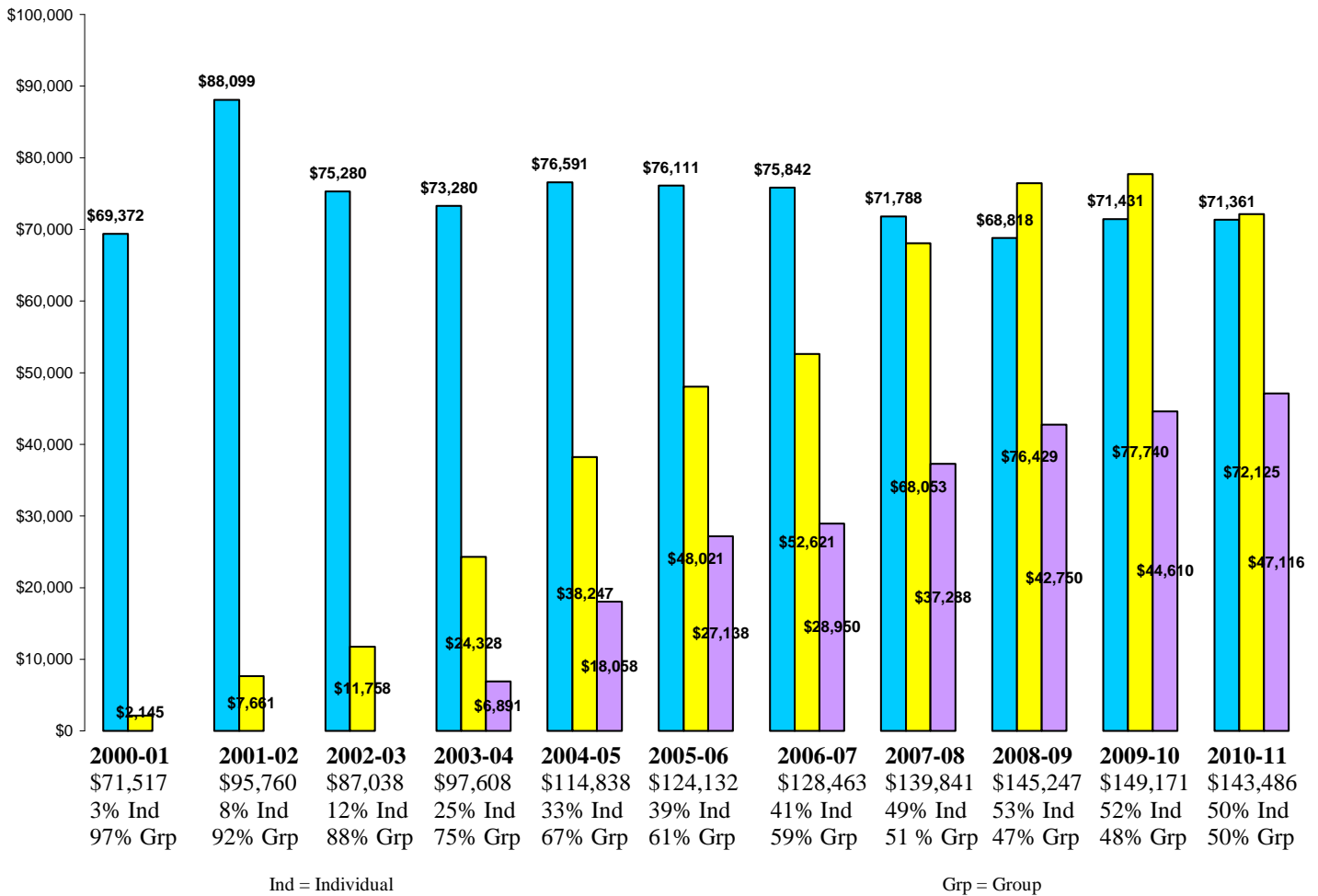


**Expenses**

<b>Ministry for women</b>	<b>\$117,123</b>
-Sister Care seminars, support and networking for group leaders, conference leaders' week-end (PREP)	
-Women in Conversation retreats and Sister-Link staff time for leadership and administration	
-International Women's Fund communication and administration	
-Website resources: <www.MennoniteWomenUSA.org>; Postcard & Prayer e-letter	
-Connecting to MC USA: events for women at denominational conventions, Constituency Leadership Council	
-Board of Directors	
<b>Publication resources (<i>timbrel</i>, Bible study guide)</b>	<b>\$66,231</b>
<b>International Women's Fund scholarships</b>	<b>\$ 7,000</b>
<b>Mennonite Church USA Firstfruits funding and contribution to archives</b>	<b>\$ 2,700</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$193,059</b>
<b>Net decrease in undesignated reserve funds</b>	<b>- \$1,774</b>
Current cash reserves are at \$72,548 (about 4 months operating expenses).	

# Mennonite Women USA Contributions

■ Groups     
 ■ Individuals (including Lydias)     
 ■ Lydias only



The **Lydia Circle** began in 2003 and is comprised of individuals who contribute \$500 or more per year to the ministry of Mennonite Women USA. In 2010-11, new and continuing Lydia Circle gifts were donated by **70** persons/households. Since its beginning, **120** persons/ households have given at the Lydia level.

The **Miriam Circle** began in 2006 to honor the faithful support of women's groups. Miriam Circles are comprised of groups which make contributions and purchase *timbrel* subscriptions at the combined level of \$1,000 or more per year. In 2010-11, new and continuing Miriam Circle gifts were donated by **18** groups and churches. Since its beginning, **30** groups and churches have given at the Miriam level.

**Projected budget needs for 2011-12: \$217,652**

***Our mission*** at Mennonite Women USA is to empower women and women's groups as we nurture our life in Christ through studying the Bible, using our gifts, hearing each other, and engaging in mission and service.

***Our vision***

Mennonite Women USA invites women across generations, cultures, and places to share and honor our stories, care for each other, and express our prophetic voice boldly as we seek to follow Christ.

## Guiding Mennonite Women USA

Board of Directors



**From left to right:** Ruth Lapp Guengerich, President (Goshen, Ind.); Rhoda Charles, Vice President (Lancaster, Penna.); Karen Lehman, Treasurer (Sandy Springs, Md.); Gail Shetler, Secretary (Goshen, Ind.); Cora L. Brown, African American Mennonite Association (Elkhart, Ind.); Maria Tijerina, Iglesia Menonita Hispana, (Archbold, Ohio)



Carol Roth, Native Mennonite Ministries (Clinton, Miss.); Mary Clemens Meyer, Editorial Advisory Council (Fresno, Ohio); Carolyn Holderread Heggen, West Coast (Corvallis, Ore.); Denise Nickel, Central States (Goessel, Kan.); Regina Shands Stoltzfus, Great Lakes (Elkhart, Ind.); Twila King Yoder, East Coast (Harrisonburg, Va.)

### *Mennonite Women USA Staff*

**From left to right,** Berni Kaufman, Executive Assistant (Moundridge, Kan.); Lois Loflin, Projects and Volunteer Coordinator (Halstead, Kan); Rhoda Keener, Executive Director (Shippensburg, Penna.); Patricia Burdette, Editor, (Moundridge, Kan.)



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