

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO TRUST IN THE LORD...

THEIR LEAVES STAY  
GREEN, & THEY  
NEVER STOP  
PRODUCING FRUIT.

JEREMIAH 17:7-8



2024 ANNUAL REPORT



## Yielding Kingdom Fruit

I'm often asked how MB Foundation has attained the growth it has. I tell them, "Honestly, I don't know." But I believe it is founded in the promise of Jeremiah 17:7-8.

We seek to trust in the Lord, living as trees planted by the water. We work with individuals who trust in the Lord and are rooted in Him, and we partner with other ministries that do the same. Over time, this deep-rooted trust has led to bearing fruit. We praise the Lord for the fruit we've seen in 2024!

As you read this annual report for MB Foundation, I encourage you to view it through this lens. The numbers do not reflect what MB Foundation has done, but rather the ministry efforts of hundreds of donors, investors, borrowers, and stewards — all seeking to yield fruit for the Kingdom. Through the activities highlighted in these pages, ministry has been funded, generosity expressed, and thousands of lives impacted for the Kingdom.

Our trust is in the Lord, who makes our leaves green and enables us to produce fruit as we labor together with Him!

*Jon C. Wiebe*

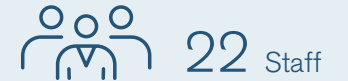
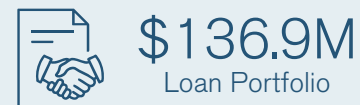
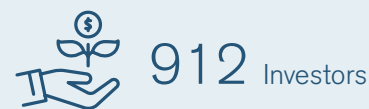
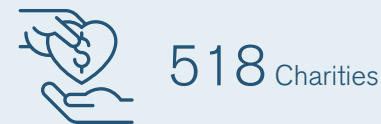


JON C. WIEBE  
PRESIDENT & CEO

BUT BLESSED ARE  
THOSE WHO TRUST  
IN THE LORD AND  
HAVE MADE THE  
LORD THEIR HOPE  
AND CONFIDENCE.  
THEY ARE LIKE  
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 JEREMIAH 17:7-8

## Making an Impact in 2024





# Joy in Fruitful Giving

Tithing and giving have always been central to Richard and Lavone Sawatzky's lives, from their first paycheck as newlyweds to the present day. However, after discovering how a Donor Advised Fund (DAF) can include giving from their farming operation, they found a renewed excitement for generosity.

Wiebe Farms, Inc., located near Reedley, California, specializes in growing peaches, nectarines, plums, and olives for olive oil. The Sawatzkys have been involved in Lavone's family farm for 52 years. Initially, it was a joint effort with Lavone's parents and brother. Today, the farming operation is owned by Richard and Lavone.

"We learned early on that when we gave, what was left stretched further," Richard reflects.

As fruit farmers, the Sawatzkys believe their giving should also yield fruit. They support ministries that are growing, leading people to Christ, and fostering discipleship.

## A POWERFUL GIVING TOOL

It wasn't until recently that Richard realized how a Donor Advised Fund could enable their farming operation to extend their generosity.

"At first, I was skeptical about using a DAF," Richard admits. "But after doing some

research, I realized it could be a powerful giving tool for our farming operation."

The Sawatzkys now allocate the proceeds from an early variety of nectarines to their DAF, a fund they use to direct their charitable giving.

"I walk out there and say, 'Lord, these are yours. We're going to farm them the best we can, but it's up to You now. What do You need, God? Whatever income comes from these crops is Yours.'"

In the first year, frost damaged the crops, yet they felt at peace, believing God knew the outcome. The following year, the harvest exceeded their expectations. In either situation, the funds are ready to give from the DAF as God brings the needs to their attention.

Richard and Lavone are excited about how this giving tool transforms their ability to give more, allowing them to support larger projects worldwide. They find genuine joy in the act of giving.

"We've literally laughed at what we've been able to give," says Lavone.

"Personally, I find great joy in calling MB Foundation and asking them to send a check from our DAF to meet a need we've learned about," adds Richard.

As they live out their giving journey, Richard and Lavone feel God continues to challenge them, allowing them to be involved in even larger ministry projects.



Richard & Lavone Sawatzky

**"IT'S EXCITING FOR US TO GIVE. IT'S AN OPPORTUNITY TO HELP OTHERS DO MINISTRY AND BE A PART OF SOMETHING GREATER THAN OURSELVES."**

 RICHARD & LAVONE SAWATZKY






# Portland Church Renovates for Growing Ministry

## INVESTORS PROVIDE CAPITAL FOR LOANS TO MINISTRIES.

In 2024, we reported the highest total investment dollars to date, enabling the largest loan portfolio in our history.

 **912**  
Investors

 **135**  
Borrowers

 **\$136M**  
Loan Portfolio

Christ Church Sellwood (CCS) is a Mennonite Brethren church in Portland, OR, that joyfully exists for the glory of God, the good of God's people, and Christ in the world.

Since the church began in 2013 with just 20 adult members meeting in a local community center, CCS has experienced steady growth, and its congregation expanded to 70 attendees by 2022.

This growth highlighted the need for a more stable and permanent location where the church could continue its ministry and meet the needs of its expanding community.

Their vision for outreach started to become reality when a nearby facility became available and generous gifts were given to the church. CCS secured the property, which was once a ballet academy, with the intent of renovating and updating the facility in the near future. The new building would allow them to better serve their congregation and make a greater community impact in the Sellwood neighborhood that they knew and loved.

In early 2022, the renovation began, funded by MB Foundation's loan program. The project was

extensive, including a 1,750-square-foot sanctuary, a foyer, two classrooms for ministry and education, office space, restrooms, and the installation of new plumbing, electrical, and HVAC systems.

Exterior projects included repurposing the parking lot, developing a front entry plaza, and enhancing the landscaping and irrigation system to create a welcoming environment.

After the 9-month-long project was completed, Christ Church celebrated their first official worship service in the renovated space. September 8, 2024, marked a new season for Christ Church.

Their new facility has opened doors to exciting opportunities and even greater community engagement. The church now offers a variety of ministries, such as book studies, monthly prayer meetings, and home groups for fellowship and spiritual growth.

Since meeting in their new location, Christ Church has also started Sunday morning classes, a mid-week early prayer ministry, and weekly young adult and youth group meetings.

As Christ Church continues to grow, they are witnessing the Lord work in the hearts of believers, celebrating their first baptisms in the new facility.

Through the faithful support of investors at MB Foundation, Christ Church Sellwood is equipped to continue its ministry and make an impact as they remain committed to serving as a beacon of hope in the Sellwood neighborhood.

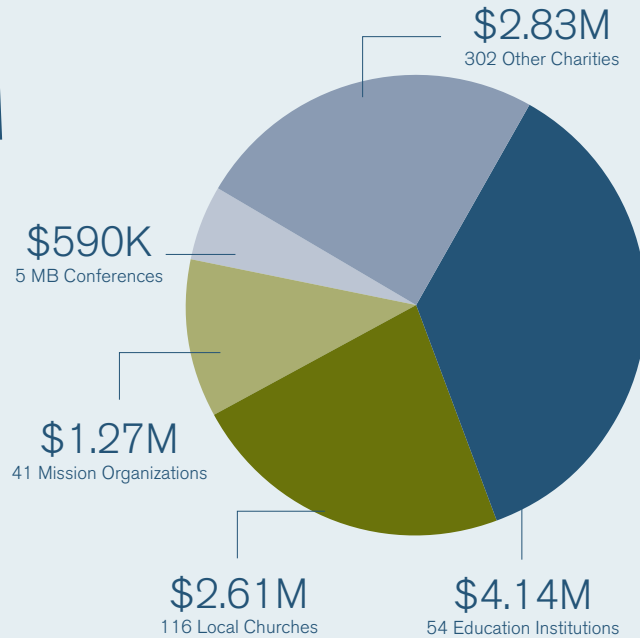
"We are so thankful for the gospel partnership of MB Foundation and their investors," said Pastor Jared Pulliam. "These resources enable us to faithfully proclaim the glories of Christ!"



## DONOR DISTRIBUTIONS

  
**\$11.4M**  
 Distributions

In 2024, we facilitated over \$11 million in distributions at the request of our donor community. These gifts supported 518 charities, including education institutions, local churches, mission organizations, and conference ministries.



## GIFTED ASSETS

Our donors use creative ways to be generous with their resources. 2024 was the first year a cryptocurrency gift was given through MB Foundation.

  
**\$15.6M**  
 in Gifted Assets

**\$10,805,417**  
 CASH

**\$1,713,627**  
 COMMODITIES

**\$1,578,445**  
 STOCKS/MUTUAL FUNDS

**\$1,501,200**  
 REAL ESTATE

**\$50,000**  
 PERSONAL PROPERTY

**\$35,000**  
 CRYPTOCURRENCY

## FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

  
**\$370M**  
 in Assets

Assets under management reached more than \$370 million in 2024, an 11.6% increase from the previous year. Our standard endowment strategy returned 10.50% for the year.



## MB FOUNDATION GRANTS

**\$309,101**  
 FIRSTFRUITS GIFT TO USMB

**\$55,500**  
 CORD MATCHING GRANTS

**\$49,500**  
 FINANCIAL HEALTH GRANTS

**\$29,500**  
 LEADGEN SCHOLARSHIPS

MB Foundation faithfully stewards the resources entrusted to us to support ministry within the Mennonite Brethren family. In 2024, we contributed a record-breaking Firstfruits gift of \$309,101 to USMB, pushing our total gifts to USMB beyond \$2 million. Additional grants help to benefit pastors and church ministry efforts.



**\$443,601**  
 in Grants

## OUR SERVICES



### STEWARDSHIP FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

In August 2024, we released two new resources, designed to teach children and millennials about stewardship.

*A Wise Steward* is a 3-lesson curriculum for grades 1-5 based on concepts presented in the book *Trusted*, by Matt Bell, a nationally-known stewardship author.

We also launched a group study resource—a guide through *Trusted* to help adults teach their kids how to manage money well and to discover natural teaching moments within the rhythms of everyday life.

We are excited to see how these resources impact the next generation as they learn God-honoring money management!

### CHAMPIONING STEWARDSHIP

Encouraging individuals and churches toward a God-honoring use of their resources.

### FUND MANAGEMENT

Managing over \$370 million in total assets. As a fiduciary of these assets, we are committed to stewarding funds with excellence.

### PLANNED GIVING SERVICES

Helping you achieve charitable giving goals that benefit you and the ministries you love.

### INVESTMENT CERTIFICATES

Investing with impact to earn a rate of return AND provide resources for growing churches.

### LOAN PROGRAM

Financing for ministries and pastors for property purchases, building projects, and capital improvements.

### OTHER SERVICES

LeadGen  
Retirement Plan  
Thrive

## FINANCIALS

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION DECEMBER 31

ASSETS	2024	2023
Cash and cash equivalents	\$2,442,457	\$1,675,719
Interest receivable	811,501	592,265
Prepaid expenses and other	2,921,286	476,958
Investments	224,960,395	196,192,753
Loans receivable, net	134,175,095	129,038,841
Property and equipment, net	4,823,827	5,004,828
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$370,134,561</b>	<b>\$332,981,364</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; NET ASSETS</b>		
Earnings, notes and accounts payable	211,834	193,149
Certificates payable	103,479,737	95,830,881
Deferred gifts - liability	27,908,399	26,042,815
Amounts managed for others	68,258,369	59,668,853
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$199,858,339</b>	<b>\$181,735,698</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Without Donor Restrictions	111,271,996	97,308,587
With Donor Restrictions		
Restricted by purpose or time	15,744,556	11,958,954
Restricted by perpetuity	43,259,670	41,978,125
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$170,276,222</b>	<b>\$151,245,666</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$370,134,561</b>	<b>\$332,981,364</b>

### STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31

REVENUES & RECEIPTS	2024	2023
Investment income	\$13,083,545	\$10,649,886
Contributions	16,500,936	10,775,847
Change in value of deferred gifts	797,462	194,905
Other	1,675,869	1,681,588
Unrealized/realized gain (loss) on investments/assets	9,330,826	13,086,260
<b>Total Revenues &amp; Receipts</b>	<b>\$41,388,638</b>	<b>\$36,388,486</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Program	20,325,619	22,347,627
Management/General	2,032,463	1,816,258
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$22,358,082</b>	<b>\$24,163,885</b>
<b>CHANGE IN NET ASSETS</b>	<b>19,030,556</b>	<b>12,224,601</b>
<b>NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR</b>	<b>151,245,666</b>	<b>139,021,065</b>
<b>NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR</b>	<b>\$170,276,222</b>	<b>\$151,245,666</b>



\*Audited financial statements available upon request.

**GATHER. MANAGE. DISTRIBUTE.**  
FOR CHRIST & HIS KINGDOM





PO BOX 220, HILLSBORO, KS 67063  
P 620.947.3151 TOLL FREE 800.551.1547

[www.mbfoundation.com](http://www.mbfoundation.com)

## STAFF

Jon C. Wiebe, President & CEO  
Bruce Jost, Chief Development Officer  
Joel D. Soo Hoo, Vice President & Treasurer  
Guy Burgo, Gift & Estate Design Specialist  
Aleya Ediger, Administrative Assistant  
Rick Eshbaugh, Director of Financial Discipleship  
Cheryl Goertzen, Senior Accountant  
Kendra Goertzen, Operations Associate  
Mark Goodwin, Technology & Database Coordinator  
Brenda Hamm, Director of Marketing  
Tracy Hefley, Executive Assistant

Roman Hofer, Account Administrator  
Jeff Jorgenson, Director of Financial Services  
Jason Klassen, Director of Business Development  
Iris Klein, Marketing Associate  
Jeremy Myers, Client Account Administrator  
Stacie Myers, Staff Accountant  
Sherry Rempel, Executive Assistant  
Garvie Schmidt, Planned Giving Advisor  
Andy Shewey, Planned Giving Advisor  
Heather Silhan, Charitable Gift Administrator  
Shawna Vogt, Account Administrator

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Eyasu Lemma, Assistant Secretary  
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Todd Oster  
Daniel Ray  
Joshua Skarphol