What is the next big idea to address one or more of the world’s needs?

(Participants entered the following comments)

001 Mental health support
002 Intercultural events every year
003 Refugees helping home, citizenship and train
004 Commitment to antiracism
005 Open our church building to community programs or needs for use throughout the week
006 Resettlement of refugees
007 Plant fruit trees in medians to provide fruit for people.
008 Centers where families can go and address addiction and other needs like our home complexes for seniors.
009 Refuge resettlement program reinstatement
010 Community gardens to address food insecurity.
011 Adopt a widow through 1 time gift. Like operation Christmas child
012 A major refugee family hosting program denomination wide.
013 Taking some of our vacant parsonages and church buildings and turning them into homeless shelters
014 Reinvest our energies into Heifer project
015 Purchase one the southern borders private detention centers to run it more ethically and compassionately
016 Use or parsonages for refuge resettlement
017 For each congregation to sponsor three prisoners on death row
018 Alternatives to detention centers
019 Hire a professional lobbyist to go to Washington to do our bidding on Brethren values and ideas
020 work camp reform with more trained directors
021 I would love to see us start a program that buys properties, builds mini homes (tiny houses), to replace trailers or run-down homes for people.
022 For creation care, incorporating sustainable practices into Brethren disaster relief to make the new houses energy efficient.
023 Every CoB to adopt and bring in youth in the community before their teenage years so as to bring them into community
024 Train folks to be immigrant advocates
  Providing a safe space for them
025 develop an ongoing and comprehensive program to address prison reform through: advocating for the abolition of the death penalty, working with prisons to develop restorative justice practices, advocating for skilled labor training for nonviolent drug offenders, becoming welcoming faith communities for incarcerated families and crime victims, and more!!!
026 To make that every congregation have a child safety policy
  Emergency response plans for active shooters and other emergencies
027 By your own admission these are the lesser heard priorities. Why would we focus on these for the vision instead of those offered more frequently from this body?
Friends for the lonely, being there for drug addicts, don’t have jobs, facing depression.

As in the grocery business, home delivery is huge. We need to get out of the church building and go door to door and meet people and build relationships. They will come to our church if they know us.

To be a growing and vibrant church that will live for decades.

Demonstrate to the world that we can function together through theological differences to make a big difference - on any of these topics.

Turning our churches into community centers. We can partner with our schools to find out services where we could help support local needs. Services could include child care, gardening, youth counseling, etc.

Movie and media ministry

Family crisis center for parents who know they’re about to harm their children.

Open our churches to the homeless. Shenandoah County’s Family Promise program housed local families who are homeless overnight for a week, four times a year. This program also provides training to parents to help them find work, and takes the children to school. An ecumenical outreach, the program involves multiple churches who help with supplies and financial donations.

Plant gardens our camps, church properties to grow food for those in need.

Programs for seniors in the community

Built a bridge for accessibility

Hire immigrants to help tend the BDM supply forest

Working with refugees

Isaiah 1:17 house for augmenting child services

Work to provide clean water to the world

Invest in our youth, give them opportunities to envision and join with the church

Adopt an immigrant child

a Brethren co-op with a mental health companies to establish clinics in large cities, start with one

Mental health and racism

I think most of our international friends are going to leave this conference extremely insecure with our position as a church.

Immigrant assistance corp- legal and settlement services for immigrants, sponsorship for immigrant families

Widely publicize our Brethren Disaster and BVS so that more people (not necessarily CoB) can participate.

Make annual conference do more rather than meetings. Lets get out and do something

community gardening project across districts and denomination. produce can be given to food banks.

Child disaster relief at the Mexican border: minister to children and families at the border, flood that area with caring people

Be an example for other denominations in our ideas, faith, actions without every person being in full agreement. Being OK agreeing to disagree but still love as Jesus did.

Build hostels on the Mexican side of the border to house migrants dumped in that side of the border

TODAY in America…100,000 children need adopted to homes

TODAY in America….300,000 churches
Where is the Problem?

Jesus said, see about the Widows, Orphans and those in Bonds!

The Direction is clear!

056 Support of halfway house that transition people from 30 days inpatient programs into the community. these could be for addictions, prisons and mental health. Advocate for human services with @local authorities.

057 Professional Christian counseling and transitional housing provided and encouraged, resources made available

058 Family promise-helping families that are homeless by providing them shelter at their church for a week in the evenings as well as meals-to go breakfast and lunch. Dinner is provided when the family returns for the evening.

059 Table 72--food insecurity---

Sending seeds to those communities affected by food insecurity. Educate on sustainable agriculture. Dig wells if necessary.

060 A larger presence of personnel and equipment in areas of great need. Such as family crisis center or immigration

061 N20

Medicare fraud

062 Reach outside of our congregation to bring together the multitude of gifts and resources of Christians. Use this collaboration to reach out to communities in need. Clearing house that pools funds for those seeking assistance to go to rather than jumping around to different churches.

063 Conversion of abandoned and unused buildings and develop into facilities for homeless, mental health homes, victims of sex trafficking, etc.

064 Help existing mental health facilities by financial contributions and/or volunteers.

065 Recruit healthcare people of all aspects of healthcare to create our own hospital and healthcare and insurance system for those in need

066 Take an active role in legislation to address gun violence in our country

067 Identify programs that are already working and join where God is already doing the work. We do not need to reinvent the wheel.

068 Matching Children's disaster ministries with the current border crisis - to lobby for access to these displaced children

069 Utilizing land for providing affordable housing

070 Provide a safe secure resource for families in crisis both inside and outside our congregations.

071 Each congregation takes in family in crisis or child in foster care, and work to provide restoration for that individual(s)

072 Cob provide training for people who need to learn a skill to work so that the people can get jobs and become similar. A program similar to what happened after the depression.

073 We could encourage reclaiming parts of the rainforest with the planting of forests, sustainable/recyclable work/way for locals to contribute and participate, and live.

074 Provide funding opportunities for a network of family support facilities. Endowment fund.

075 Intentional workshops on mental health and racism

076 Work camps and intentional trips to border to help

077 The next big idea is planting thriving and growing churches that are preaching the Gospel. These churches will then be able to address the listed issues.

Revitalization of churches is vital.
Using Nigerian leadership for this.

078 Share new building expertise--a suggestion esp. concerning Nigeria; in USA, provide home maintenance, repair help.

079 Continue to PUSH through and help "our neighbors", regardless of what the govt does. God knows what WE do on our side.

080 Educate congregations on how to be sanctuaries

081 every church should participate in a community garden in unison with other congregations to supply larger areas with fresh food products to supplement food banks.

082 Nd

Grow community gardening to serve food needs of all persons.
Teach cooking....to local youth from our church kitchens.

083 Orphanages connected to old folks homes.. Intergenerational ministry

084 Job training, search and cultural adjustment counseling for immigrants, food insecure families.

085 What would it take for us to get all of the kids out of the immigration detention centers? Lets do that.

086 Mental health resources designed specifically for those in ministry, so that pastors and staff can be supported.

087 Meet with community leaders to discover community needs.

088 Projects in central American to support economic development

089 Develop community programs for those who are not in the mainstream. I.e. Low income children and homework

090 Equip ourselves to respond to the list of needs, training

091 When meeting needs including the Word of Christ so that while we are meeting physical needs we are meeting the more important spiritual need

092 Brethren housing at border for immigrants

093 Nd20

Sight for the blind
Include glasses, vitamins, cataract surgery

094 Adoption of an immigrant family through the church congregation.

095 Faith based mental health can do things that conventional services can't.

096 System of pastoral support so pastors can take part in service projects

097 Plant MORE churches globally.

098 Open up are church for support programs we can create sponsored by the church of the brethren for people with abuse, drugs use, etc. Use all our church buildings to help other. More accessible. Develop a program or promote church of the brethren based program.

099 Basic life skills help. How to make food. How to use basic tools. Immigrants eating our foreign food.

100 Turning our buildings into shelters for refugees, drug addiction centers, food pantries, etc.

101 BDM be quicker to respond and stay through cleanup

102 More resources for adoption and foster care

103 Families in crisis: coming up with free health clinic, service and supplies are donated. It could serve those who are addicted and also not documented.
Using unused housing for folks who need a place to live.

104 Promote peace effectively online - utilize technology to spread our values
105 Being a safe place.
106 Looking at the environmental sustainability of our churches and properties - solar panels, wind, etc. etc.
107 In Harrisburg there are many immigrants. One church has decided to be a welcoming place and the group calls us if they have someone who is afraid to go to market or doctor and our church will help with transportation and getting food.
108 Some states are providing incentives for solar, etc. Our denomination could provide incentives to help cover the sometimes prohibitive starting cost of greener efforts - and we'll use our extensive roof spaces.
109 Provide the community (schools, businesses, etc.) with a crisis response team.
110 Equip our churches to have space where families in crisis could stay, i.e. unused parsonages or homes purchased specifically for this purpose.
111 Congregational support for new teachers... adopting teacher with housing (partner with colleges) to allow the "ministry" of teaching in under funded/ under supported areas.
112 Peer-navigators with in cities: to address the needs of homeless to identify needs of the people of the city.
113 Housing immigrants.
114 Changing stations for babies in the conference center. In our communities, we could provide childcare for people in our community looking for jobs, who need to go to doctors appointments, etc.
It would be cool to have every church partner with a congregation that's mostly a different race from them - that could be transformative. It could help us know more about the kinds of problems that other people face.
115 Starting homes in high sex trafficked areas that place at-risk people in safety, providing training, education, and jobs to reduce risk.
116 Every COB adopt or foster a children in the system.
117 Boycott all organizations (as a global community) that benefits from private prisons and detention centers. All congregations, the COB organizations and agencies and individual calls for boycott to the congregation members.
118 We need to educate churches on these needs with people who can express what the need is.
119 Start a fund to begin providing affordable housing for low income housing.
120 Trauma-healing workshops in local communities.
121 Use parsonages to consider how it can be used in the local community rather than selling. Perhaps use for housing battered women, or homeless.
122 A fund to assist immigrants in the nationalization process.
123 To further our ideal to live simply by agreeing, creating a plan, for all of us to lower our standards of living in order to have greater resources to share with others.
124 Ultrasounds for pregnant women considering abortion.
125 Provide self-driving cars to shut-ins.
126 Simple living in an immediate effort to reduce waste and stretch resources.
Reduce by 50 percent for radical results.
127 We need to understand that we can tithe more than our money. We can tithe our talents and time. We cannot continue to depend on others. It is time for us to step up.
128 How do we help people to improve their local economies so they don't feel the need to flee to our borders.
129 Broaden the use of our own church facilities (daycare, recovery programs, multicultural groups, etc.)
130 It's hard to dream when we are living in such conflict.
131 Utilize shipping containers, remodeled, as temporary housing use solar panels to provide power.
Develop a Christian social worker assistance program to assist families in navigating the available resources including government Community And Christian

How to nurture and support one parent households? Maybe a mentoring or partner support system?

We have a global food crisis fund. What about a domestic food crisis fund? To be used either directly or to help local churches in their ministry.

Challenge each district to choose one of these and address it for a year, bringing the results back to conference to share.

Encourage financial, personnel, and other support of Christian Peacemaker Teams (get people to join the delegations and 3 month commitments) and encourage other denominations to support this effort and ones like it.

Trauma response teams like children in disaster needs

Helping with citizenship and language and nutrition with immigrants.

All our churches to serve as family crisis centers and we are trained to do this

Church package information so vision can be rekindled

Emphasis on local missions.

Table 33

Transitional housing in communities

Engage in habitat for humanity

Housing for children who are removed from their home

Congregations sponsor dreamers

Nursing home reform

Recruiting and training and supporting missionaries within the US

Don’t put limits on our generosity, provide housing for families from unused property. Help them to find jobs, rent, education

Is it time for a Brethren march on Washington DC to ask congress to legislate a partial solution to one of these problems?

Get rid of plastics

organize a system to meet refugees as they come across the border and distribute them to people willing to take them into their homes and churches. Kind of like when the Vietnamese came to the US in the early 70’s and churches took them in.

Families in crisis- Congregational safe houses

invite encourage financially support and send everyone in the church to serve the denomination for one year in one of the needs

Community gardens

We could increase membership of the church by 40 percent in five years if we intentionally welcome people of color, especially migrants and refugees. To do this, we would have to deal with our racism.

Build low income housing that welcomes all.

We’re such a technological country, and some tech is really not that expensive. What if we send solar radios to S. Sudan, where radio is still a major means of communication? A missionary is currently using radio there to spread the Word, and solar-powered, handheld units could help his work.

Use BVS to serve in these areas

Every congregation supports one refugee family resettling
Refugee and immigration ambassador congregations to provide information in the needs of those communities

Compile a list from many churches on what works for them. List some data from each of the churches i.e. rural, urban, smaller, bigger etc.

Table 72--drug addiction-- create faith based in house and out patient rehab centers for those battling addiction. So we are not just helping with the addiction but also give them something-- hope in Jesus-- that will stay with them.

Back to following the bible

Every congregation should be trained in conflict transformation skills. That way we have more resources.

Host weekly (or otherwise regular) meals within the congregations. Reach out to other churches in the community to stagger the nights these meals are offered. Reach out to restaurants for support (e.g., day old bread from Panera). Use this time to sit and talk with people.

Buy farms, hire people to work them, distribute food to those in needs

Become experts on de-escalation training and engage law enforcement and communities

Global Brethren Housing Association.

Building tiny houses on church land for housing

Establish regional training facilities to support how to deal with mental health concerns

We need lawyers willing to help people become legal citizens

Organize/mobilize/equip to support all families in crisis including refugees

Partner with USDA to get commodities going

Supporting churches where the hungry kids are.

Training on the missional mindset for the church

Offer counseling and educational programs.

Being an advocate for nursing home residence

Create a fund or organization to provide affordable options for adoption

National cooperative effort to increase food security.

Partnersing with immigration advocacy groups to find out needs near congregations and provide for these needs whether it be transportation, safety, help with filling out forms, etc.

Have an all out effort to learn how to evangelize and bring Christ to every person - his love will compel them to love others!

Renovating trailers for housing

Intentionally and boldly Inviting our entire communities to come together at our church to break bread and share our compelling visions, not just for our church, but for our communities and our world

Not have conference every year and putting the money toward these activities...

A stewardship challenge to raise money for these programs: millions of dollars.

Lobby government to change laws to improve mental health service with aim to reduce homelessness

We could provide prepaid cell phones to migrant/refugee families, who need a way to contact their relatives.

How can we find something big enough to unite us (cause us to put the elephant out to pasture to continue our work) when we are questioning the foundation beliefs

School in our community has sat unused for years. It would be great to turn the school into a facility to house homeless persons.

Or malls that sit empty

Get COBYS to plant organizations like theirs in every district
Do more collaboration between COB and other NGOs and other churches in our community.

Helping homeless get ID, get interview clothes, buying more expensive items (steel toed boots),

A program for every child out of school do service for a year with some supplemental income while they work. CoB serve as mentors for the program. Expanding BVS services.

Look for abandoned properties in our communities and use them for ministry.

Grow The garden church model in San Pedro.

Partnering with a refugee resettlement agency so people in our congregations can directly support refugees who do make it into our communities. If we already have that system, making it more widely known/accessible.

Denominational wide commitment to anti racism/ anti oppression training and analysis for a common vision

Give each congregation training and resources to host a refugee or immigrant family.

Accept furniture donations to give to those in need and displaced.

Create rehabilitation centers that provide jobs for the attendees and provide counseling for their physical, mental, spiritual, financial, addiction, relational needs.

Sell some of the big churches held by tiny congregations for these purposes.

Utilize COBYS to help churches aid families in crisis

Resource churches in adopting a local school to offer mentors

Have people open up their homes for children of families in crises

Begin a tree growing program, similar to the model of Heifer Project. these trees would help to stop the encroachment of the desert, the Sahara Desert, and to provide fruit for the people in the area. These trees could also grow fruit for inner city areas where many people have food insecurities. People could also sell the fruit to have income.

Moving properties in New York or other areas to a new location for renewal.

Get politically involved, call your representatives.

Could we as a denomination purchase a property to house refugees that would be supported by us all.

Offering our buildings as Sanctuary spaces for refugees or immigrants as needed.

Build a national orphanage/refugee center/crisis intervention center on the vacant denominational land in Elgin

Perhaps use extra rooms in church buildings as temporary shelter for immigrant families while helping them find housing, jobs etc.

Advocacy center to train and educate nursing home

Addiction crisis: partnering with rehab centers to provide family support/parenting support/mentoring with kids of addicted families

Building a network of funding and donation resources between the church. Having a team of experts for grant writing, helping congregations identify and draw on resources for ministry.

Churches/districts provide life coach/ mentoring services to individuals and families in need, trauma.

How about a denominational prayer meeting and a call to fasting for a specific issue...a series of denominational wide prayer meetings to beg God for a solution?

Job training to help people secure a life. Vocational, technical and otherwise.

Faith community nursing

Church hosts a group of community organizers and we bring in people doing the work. We bring in organizations that are doing the work to tell us how we can get involved in the work already being done

Employ migrant people if you have the ability to hire

Grants/help for adoption expenses
Move into the communities with violence and polarization to be a peace presence to help transform these communities.

Simplify conference to spend monies on these projects

Plastic into cash vending machine, help people on street turn in waste for cash

The big idea should be saving souls. So that the big idea should be a peaceful division.

We need a pipeline for young pastors to fill our churches. Providing healthcare is important to get and keep, young pastors and their families.

our church building is vacation, why not use them for AA, NA, etc.

Partnership with existing community groups to provide Christian-based support for families in crisis and victims of sex trafficking. Provide prayer groups in within the women's shelters or youth group homes.

Family ministries - offer curriculum for parenting classes, family reunification, maybe a conference for families, new family classes and child development classes

Revival within so we can truly reach out for JESUS.

church world service. set a goal of 200 congregations across the denomination to adopt a refuge family.

Thrift shop/food pantry- helps the under employed; evolving/add into helping with current needs at that time ex: taxes at tax time.

Please address creation care Take care of our earth Keep our farmers in our prayers and help them be proactive

Help farmers to feed people with food without chemicals Learn to grow food that’s different Use our farmland without damaging our land

Using our church property and buildings, provide a site a place for these things to happen! Open our churches to all these activities,

Provide office spaces for NGOs

Looking at the direction that our culture is going with increased secularization and distance from creation, a suggestion was made to expand the use of natural settings would give an opportunity to attract youth and share the good news with them. This could be in our own camps or utilizing state parks.

Every congregation is called to develop a local effort focused on systemic issues of violence and injustice in their own area... On their area of passion. Developing imagination, skills, and commitment. This can add effort and energy to our necessary service ministries, but go beyond them to work at shifting root causes in your area. CoB denomination builds a massive new fund to give grants and equips churches to create these efforts.

Denominational office of immigration support

Reach out in relational support to families in crisis. Train people to recognize signs of abuse/neglect and provide specifically Brethren resources for those interested in social work through things like scholarships. Even further train our pastors and minister to better support and walk with people in crisis situations. We dream of two-week intensive course to teach pastors about these issues.

What if our higher age is a strength and we can help mentor others in our communities? Esp. with families

Partner with denominational or local groups serving "the least of these"

60 COBYS spread that model to other districts

Homelessness- providing cost free housing for homeless persons

Resources for mothers experiencing abuse - like Southern Pennsylvania and Children’s Aid

Family ministries that are created by discovering the needs of those in our congregations and even those in the communities around us.
Family training programs for parenting skills, coaching. Social worker sponsorships, to provide human services to families in need.

Address food insecurity by helping people build grocery store in community where there is not food available. Establish food pantries in food insecure communities with shopping options. Food delivery for those without transportation. A network of community gardens in these communities

Every brethren family "adopts" or mentors a family to support them in whatever way they need, or help direct them to services and support their success

Open our doors, membership, boards, and conferences pulpits to anyone who will come.

Network with multicultural communities to be more aware of specific needs

Drug rehabilitation programs that are free or affordable.

Find a way to have free adoption service

D73: A congregation-wise support to adopt a homeless family every year until they can support themselves

Create family programs or activities with sharing the faith to support family engagement and togetherness

Grow our lobbyist body to try and influence our government officials to try and make situations like Mexico non toxic so that less people are pushed for their own safety to flee their home country to try and slow down the flow of refugees

A ministry to PTSD to eliminate suicide

stay at home for a year and work in your community making this possible by church supporting this individual/family

Partner with other local agencies already working on food insecurity to provide numbers and additional finances to combat food desserts or food insecurity. Especially during the summer.

Mental health care and education and support groups

Helping build housing and rehab program for pregnant women with other children to be able to get help and take their children since most don't have help with kids

60 build tiny house villages for homelessness

Education about healthy relationships

Use education resources to develop free tutoring programs for farming, languages, and business.

Transforming under-utilized and abandoned warehouses and manufacturing facilities from the past existing in our small towns into homes and community spaces for those that need them.

Train people to teach English to those who need to learn a language, to immigrants.

If hosting immigrant/refugee families, we should provide training and support to those families to try to let them know what to expect, since it's such a big scary concept to some people, so it would be good to have that training and support.

Annual Conference collection for host city families in crisis

Creating a national mental health advocacy program to provide information and resources to congregations and their community regarding suicide, addiction, abuse and healthy family and personal life

Life skills to immigrants.

Table 72--sex trafficking/ human trafficking-- we need more awareness/ education on the prevalence of human trafficking. Then we need to create safe houses for those enslaved.

Establish a think tank to look at how needs can be met in both the urban and rural settings

Provide desalination plants for areas near oceans
Could the denomination help our congregations understand how to adopt a refugee family and bring that family into their community?

By buying distressed homes and refurbishing them, partnering with Disaster relief teams and community agencies serving the homeless, to provide temporary housing until something more permanent is available. As a side benefit, it would increase the capital worth of the church.

Creating classes for those in need debt job interviews

Online COB. Launch an online campus to reach the younger generation. Advertise well.

Develop an online forum for people to share communication on the issues on this list... Crowd sourcing information

Family ministry that each church body has that incorporates both our youth and their parents which teaches our parents how to disciple their children in a life of Christ

Sponsor refugees, nurture and advocate for them.

Create a CoB nationwide adoption service/care facilities

Free training for someone in each congregation to become counselors - drug, family crisis, veterans, marriage, etc.

Anything we choose to focus upon, we need to nurture the passion...

Rediscover our First Love.

Provide spaces for addiction meetings,

Large denominational farm growing food for those in need. Like community gardens but on a large scale. There are many farmers in the denomination that could come together like disaster ministries do.

Provide a place for folks to come to meet for AA and NA meetings

Offering basic life skills to those in our local communities

Community meals with family training by professionals on mental health issues

Create ministry to receive foster care children and possibly lead to adoption. Develop networks of churches to support those who are looking to adopt. Also, provide housing for mothers etc. who need help and are wanting to raise their own children or perhaps are considering abortion because they have no place to go.

System to encourage recycling. For example, a cob advocate visiting churches to help them set up the system and connect with local resources. Possible cob fund to enable churches to pay costs with recycling pick up if necessary

Renovate old homes for housing

Habitat for humanity but for refugees at camps or secondary locations

Families in crisis having places to go with churches supporting, such as a COBYS service model attached to each congregation wholistic services to family

Build housing for refugees while also helping them navigate the system. Having citizenship classes for immigrants. Similar to what we had done for Vietnamese and Cambodians after the Vietnam war.

Nb-1

Take fresh produce to the poor.

Walk with refugees to help become legal.

Take cooking classes from our refugees....

Address and improve marriage and family ministries to address needs. Plug into ministries and support effective current ministries like teen challenge

Trainings in congregations - abuse, violence, etc.

We can financially help churches to start community gardens.
294 Legal Disaster Relief - Brethren lawyers, judges, and paralegals could donate time and services to those in need along the border or elsewhere in crisis.

295 Start ethnic stores or other businesses that employ refugees or families in counseling for abuse.

296 Reinvest in our Washington office to advocate for our values

297 If every congregation in the denomination sold their building and moved into a rent space, we would have hundreds of millions of dollars that we could use for ministry.

298 allowing parking lot to be used for homeless

299 Bamboo farming - purchase land here and there in small plots - its a renewable resource and easy to grow. We could sell it to fund outreach. Also, could it be grown in our overseas communities for building projects there?

300 Be more involved with government and make our voices known on the issues that call to our peacemaking and service passions

301 Establish a pregnancy center that advocates adoption and parental assistance for both mommy and daddy

302 Life classes for those in need

303 Open church kitchens to Other agencies to do cooking of meals in your establishment

304 open up unused parsonages for the homeless or persons needing a place

305 Create a sermon bank of info around these topics

306 Have each church stop mowing grass and use there yards to grow gardens to address food insecurity and climate change.

307 Congregations could repurpose their assets, or even sell their old buildings and build a multipurpose facility, to provide family crisis centers, mental health centers, shelters. Might even evangelize others in the midst of it.

308 Sadly we have seen a number of churches close, but why do we sell the buildings? We should repurpose the church buildings into shelters or safe homes for families in crisis, immigrants in transition, the homeless, etc. We could also repurpose the parsonages that are no longer needed due to the increase of multi-vocational pastors.

309 We need more direct instruction in how to speak about salvation and our faith - we are good at providing the help.

310 60 prison ministry support families at holiday time

311 Helping families thrive! A positively stated proactive program. Possibly trauma informed education.

312 I'd like to see some sort of mentoring program that our congregations can participate in to help addicts trying to stay clean.

313 Why do we need another big program? Empower local communities for the work nearby.

314 Have the churches who have successfully engaged in refugee/asylum care, etc. educate the denomination on how they have done it. Provide resources on how to go about doing it. With this knowledge, many churches may be able to sponsor a family. Then, how many families are being helped!

315 Prison system doesn’t have reform, when someone gets out they go back to the same difficult situation...what if COB set up a program to send inmates to a different COB district so that new patterns could be established

316 Reduce tax breaks to big corporations that fuel inequality. Advocate for economic justice

317 Community garden plots that are either church supported or on church property. Education on gardening.

318 Get the responsibility of planting churches back in the hands of local congregations, single or congregational partnerships, share resources to get momentum going to select a site and get started.

319 Ministry similar to or in addition to Heifer International to provide better and more accurate farm equipment and training for better farming practices

320 Be open to solutions that are not "our way" - for example, Americans expect certain living arrangements, i.e. single family housing units, where other cultures value multi-family/intergenerational arrangements
321 Use digital and mobile technology to communicate with young people and connect them with resources and needs, using their language and addressing their concerns.

322 Repurpose extra spaces in churches for homeless people, day care, counseling services, etc.
   Work with other churches to create and support these spaces.

323 Send delegations of volunteers to the border to witness first hand and report back to our congregations.

324 Collecting change en mass to fund projects to provide water and food

325 Habitat for humanity but for homelessness issues, e.g. tiny home communities supported by townships or counties

326 Link families in crisis and criminal justice. Set up classes to help teach personal responsibility....perhaps court appointed classes

327 Network churches to do joint ministry

328 What if every congregation called, in addition to a pastor, a community contact, whose express purpose was to coordinate services for the community members, not necessarily church members. Examples would be based on need, so perhaps one community would need a job training program, another may need addiction support, and another may need reduced childcare.

329 Training in how to create compromise in highly polarized situations. Build on work of On Earth Peace to develop more capacity in every local congregation.

330 Pick up perishable food from grocery stores to donate to humans and animals in need. See if food banks and soup kitchens will accept them. If not accepted, let the community know they can pick up rations from church on Sunday mornings.

331 Helping ways to utilize of excess foods from restaurants, grocery stores.

332 Idea to start a Brethren Construction Company-a big non profit corporation, like our own Lowes store, to help people/churches when they need something built. Not volunteer but paid positions. Volunteers could help but there would be a set of employees.

333 Develop programs that encourage churches to sponsor families or persons in need in our surrounding communities

334 dc central kitchen, warehouse by Georgetown law, the provide housing and schooling.

335 Develop templates/"blueprints" for churches that would like to use their buildings to house either refugees/immigrants or folks who are homeless/fleeing domestic violence that would enable churches to follow and understand the necessary processes and paperwork. This could also involve developing programs that could offer meaningful work or volunteer opportunities for those housed at the church-supporting food pantries, or other local needs.

336 Establish homes for drug addicts where they can rehab, recover, and come to know Jesus

337 Many of these require legal assistance, we need a COB legal agency.

338 En

339 For families in crisis - free counseling services, respite care for children so parents can get some time to work on their issues, afterschool care, more support homes for elders, teens in crisis, etc.

340 Isaiah 1:17 House- staffed with volunteers with in the community
   Fostering those children who are in situations- while we are looking at future ideas -- lets address and assist in the those programs that already exist

341 Providing day care for families who cant afford it while parents are working

342 Programs loving drug addicts into Christ's kingdom. Christ centered recovery for the addicted, released from prison, etc.
Find out what resources are available in the community for families in crisis and support them, and then for resources that are not yet available, find ways locally and denominationally to address them.

Invest in drug abuse and prevention.

Food gardens address relationships, community, creation care, mental health - so many things.

Teaching drama skills to pastors and members to share with others.

2 years of service through Brethren education in exchange for college debt.

Habitat for humanity but abroad. E.g. bill hare work in Honduras, lets support that work more.

Start a program to address video game violence and a way to help get children out of the addiction of violent video games and the influence it has on those using them on a regular basis. (program being built by one of table members)

Start with prayer, what one thing are we called to?

Teach cooking skills to convicts or people who don't know how.

Creation care- through OMA investigate and educate the denomination on carbon sequestration.

Organizing effort with small farmers to help them compete with the monopolistic food cartels and to distribute food where it is needed most.

Mentoring programs to connect mental health issues, drug addicts.

Make our service more inclusive to 35 and younger by making are services more contemporary and alive.

Helping to educate churches on the needs of families in crises, including specific needs and ways to help. Churches often don’t know how to help in these often underdiscussed needs.

Safe houses

Resource sharing

60 children support during disaster, enlarge to address needs daily

Emergency shelters - list of people across the country who would be willing to house people in crisis.

Creating more community gardens in food deserts and also community collaboration and community building.

Addressing needs of children of incarcerated.

Partnerships with local food banks.

-churches offering a Christian Big Brother/Sister spiritually based program in contrast to secular program.

Connecting family farms with hungry people to address food insecurity- create and support farming cooperatives to maximize food distribution to less food is wasted... Have congregations buy shares to share with the hungry.

Create training that can be shared with churches to teach people to recognize abuse, trafficking, food insecurity, economic issues that are hurting neighbors.. Get support for health clinics, offer support to existing clinics--transportation, etc.

Network with doctors, barbers, nurses, business owners, food ministries and businesses etc. to volunteer time to go into homeless communities to meet basic needs.

College ministry

Solution to the refugee crisis... women’s shelters, safe houses, ecumenical work with partners outside the brethren denomination.

inpatient and out patient mental health facilities sponsored by the COB.

Work with the local government, connecting with resources already in place in the community.

Raise awareness to the crisis, time in worship, social media, petitions.
Developing urban coops for food distribution.

D73: Providing kibbutz (farms) to bring people in for various assistance: skills, trade, addiction relief, prison reform, etc.
Denomination provide grants for assistance to existing programs or creating programs for people to gain a skill, trade, addiction, etc....

Find success in partnering with existing programs and organizations. Working with CWS and support refugee families. Work with social services to provide for needs of families in crisis.

Making safe places for families to be sheltered in churches. In GA there is the interfaith hospitality network. Homeless families would spend a week at a time at a church then rotate to the next church after a week. Provided sheltering/showers/food/ and volunteers allowed people to see God's love. While we were meeting people's physical needs we are also spreading God's love

Vocational job training.

These questions started out well creating dialog. Now the questions are too specific.

Create cooperative communities, like local markets, but for everything, where people contribute and everyone benefits.

Having a mentoring program our churches can help people transitioning from the prison system back to normal life and be more than just a bus ticket and set of clothes for them.

Work at providing opportunities for safety and prosperity in the places where refugees are coming from

Improve and train churches in refugee resettlement programs assist churches in becoming involved. Encourage districts or churches clustering w/ other CoB or denomination

Transportation services to get those in need where they need to go

Not just providing food, but getting to the root of why people don't have food...providing job training services and helping people to know what to do with fresh produce and give them literally the seeds to grow some rather than hand it to them and assume that they know what to do with it

Provide communities with hotlines for prayer, suicide prevention, etc.

Provide sanctuaries for undocumented immigrants and provide assistance for a pathway to citizenship

Using the church facility to address homelessness, hunger, job training, any specific that the community needs

Aquaponics can be used to grow fish in aquariums, and then use the wastewater as fertilizer to grow vegetables. This could be done in a greenhouse, and the water would circulate, and not be lost to evaporation.

Challenge every congregation to be in community and do one thing. For example, foster care. Doesn't need to be done by denominational staff.

Some towns may need the Brethren to start shelters for families in crisis where communication, cooking and life skills are taught.

Hire social workers/counselors to help in family crises.

Narrow our focus, cannot address all issues.

Combine resources of several districts to meet needs.

Offer food banks, paper products, baby items to those in need.

World-wide radio ministry to address family issues.

Eliminate our Strong attachment to our church buildings so our energy, money, and passion can be directed to our mission priorities.

Have a conference concentrated on out reach instead of in reach.

church in PA, opened church up to the homeless. " mediating, sometimes they snore"

Hosting immigrant and refugee families in our churches, communities. Helping them with housing, job training, counseling
Becoming a people of The Book again,

Allow the church to be a haven to people with mental health issues

Transforming our lawns into native plant gardens. Reduce mowing and provide a habitat for migrating birds and insects.

Buy and maintain with several other churches an apartment complex, for the use of homeless to live without rent

Encourage congregations to look at developing community gardens using abandoned properties or land in rural areas

Mentoring prisoners that are being released- buy them a suit- get them an interviews

Conference of people from all over the US come and listen to what each other needs.

Training churches for prison ministry

Expand COBYS (Church of the Brethren Youth Services), which works out of Lancaster, PA, nationwide to provide parenting classes, adoption and foster aid, etc.

A house near district offices for refugees or homeless to escape extreme weather and to have somewhere to live (maybe even done through rotation)

Establish a design for a mentoring program in congregations between grandparent age and youth, intergenerational.

Make grants/support available for building projects that would be used for community support and outreach ministries

Health and dental clinics

Making quality food available, community gardening...center to provide food, education, play.

Community gardens can be a salve for the community, particularly in food deserts or in places with food insecurity

build houses and make disciples, plant new churches at disaster or conference sites, invite ethnic churches and BDM workers and church planters to become new fledgling congregations built off of existing relationships...Combine Evangelism, Discipleship, Service, Ethnic equality, Great Commission/Commandment hand in hand.

Employment help for those coming out of prisons.

Districts purchase safe houses for abuse victims, district congregations rotate serving families in those houses

Phone chains to check in (be a support system) for shut ins, those struggling with addictions or mental health issues

More evangelical and outreach events

Take abandoned neighborhood houses, refurbish them, and use them as refuge houses for families in crisis or halfway houses for those in rehab. We can train people in social work or legal processes to further help people break out of oppressive systems

Having a contact list for people to contact these individuals as a resource about specific resources. Ex: contact for family promise, contact for adoptions

Encourage organized programs that reach out to families - children's programs to feed and instruct kids.

Create models for small churches to aid community families. Create places where congregations can discuss possibilities and ideas for outreach. Maybe some of the grant money can be used to stimulate more interest for local congregations.

Build a safe house for those whom are rescued from human trafficking. Help those victims to be renewed through mind, body and spirit.

Jesus massive feeding of 5000....yet did not keep feeding them....they/we need more than food...
Need new outpouring of the Holy Spirit.....

Purchase boarder property to extend/expand on current detention centers or create our own. This could also apply to families in crisis.

Universal basic income. And advocate for living wage

Network of safe houses for families in crisis

If we had more training for opioid epidemic within congregations, not just insight sessions at annual conference. Also partner with other churches outside our denomination for intentional prayer over those affected.

Providing a center for financial training to assist people out of poverty. Providing showers and clothing for homeless folks. Providing local addiction services. Walking with folks through each of these processes to meet the roots of the issues

Can the denomination have the districts assemble teams to discuss needs in the surrounding communities and think of ways to help those needs through local congregations.

re previous comment about training for highly polarized conflict, it would need to be created outside the structure of On Earth Peace. Because of Perceptions of OEP in the denomination.

We need to address the fact that we are not at peace with each other.

Developing a safe haven for prostitutes

Agape satyagraha being replicated in urban areas.

Facilitate a meeting between COB and government officials

Develop a leadership bank

Supporting congregations to sponsor refugees and asylum seekers

Sanctuary & support for refugees wanting to enter the US

Develop a denominational crisis line for people to call with spiritual and personal crisis....link churches with people in need. Include an immediate response crisis component

mental health: build antibias cooperate group, to address the needs i.e. mental health, family crisis.

Marketing plan for Church of the Brethren

Help trauma victims through education and being involved as a church use scripture to let them know they are loved. teach about what trauma really is through local training.

Solar panels and windmills installed on and by every church to move to a cleaner energy

Third world telehealth operations could provide healthcare to people that live in remote areas. A nurse could communicate with a doctor in another locations.

Women and children’s home that can grow them until they can get out on their own

Brethren crisis line, where people can call in to be heard, and to get help and information about services and resources.

More intention with drug prevention and reaching out to addicts.

Churches could adopt an immigrant or refugee family to assist with the journey through citizenship and adaptation to the new lifestyle and society.

Create a questionnaire to go to each congregation to discover best practices related to various types of ministry named in the previous question and then facilitate training by connecting congregation.

Help communities establish backpack ministries to help with food insecurity issues for families

Be a center for discussing polarizing concepts.

Provide temporary housing in your churches in the community for the homeless. Share with churches that are already doing this program.
Full-scale implementation of immigration response plan, sending insight groups to address the needs of immigrants and refugees, having New Windsor gather and send out the needs, then send teams to implement needs

Creatively vision for oppressed folks to help them get jobs, etc. AND then employ them in your community's businesses and organizations.

Establish and fund COB Christian schools

Develop teams from colleges that can travel around the country to camps and churches during the summer to teach on church and worship in a modern context. Lots of other Christian colleges form travel bands to do this. It promote the college too.

Unlock our churches campaign to emphasize our openness to everyone

Parenting classes/parenting partnership around supporting the role in a complicated world from the church in its local community

CoB created/sponsored immigration centers at the border to provide shelter and care for families as they attempt to gain legal access to the US. While allowing families to remain safe and intact.

Whatever we decide to do I would hope that it is done not just in loving kindness but with accountability and critical awareness to the communities we serve. Avoid white savior complex

Witness at the border

Creating mental health centers, programs, services that are Christ centered that can help individuals, families, or groups (including Native American Reservations) with many of these issues.

Get into school-age programs where volunteers create, long-term relationships with youth and provide a model for behavior and living. Open the eyes of our children to the world around us.

Training and teaching for ministers and others about healthy family, marriage, and parenthood. Address domestic violence, too-rapid divorce, etc. Have denominational or district sponsored marriage retreats.

Promote community volunteering as a form of discipleship

Obedience to the call of God for each individual congregation

Search for the one thing that can lead to the bigger things

Encourage the starfish mentality - it makes a difference to that one

Set up a system of congregational contacts that are all tied to a "concierge" at the denominational level. These individuals would share information and resources via electronics means. This may help meeting family needs by sharing resources that others may not know of. This would also go the other way in that if a congregation had someone with an unmet need or a situation they didn’t now how to handle they could reach out to this denominational network for information and ideas and gather support from across the country and world

Every church family take in house, welcome into your house. teach....love....

Table 72--homelessness--address some of what could be perceived as the root causes of homelessness. Create spaces and opportunities for those struggling with mental illness to get the care they need, but also access to affordable medications for their well being. Help those battling addiction by getting them help. If we work and eradicate the root causes of homelessness, we can and will address homelessness in a healthier way.

cross anabaptist co-fund organization

Support for family ministries. Sustaining the family unit.

Get God & Christ back in our government and schools

A foster closet in every town that there is brethren churches. This is a place that foster parents can get things for their new foster children that come in emergency placement situations.
Partner with an agency that offers sanctuary and protective services. Collect for different shelters— toiletries, bedding, food.

Adoption and foster care centers that provide support to pregnant women and their children, supplementing food and medical care.

We want to use our church buildings seven days a week.

Make it a goal to grow a community garden in every food desert we as a denomination can find.

Fleet of tiny homes! Mobile for disaster relief or other specific needs.

Working to minister wholistic in the inner cities. Traveling buses with food and health clinics that are mobile.

Build more church of the brethren churches around the world. That every country can have at least 50 COB churches.

Sell every church property and with district approval, reinvest these funds in the community. Congregations meet in homes or somewhere else.

Build a refugee settlement.

Open your church as a shelter.

Vo tech center!!!, helping folks deal with student debt, help folks figure out what they’re good at, give them income.

Have job training available/connections for those that are looking for/need work.

Creating an education program/teacher-core to teach over the internet or in areas with low education availability.

That annual conference grant permission to pastors and congregations to officiate same sex marriages without being penalized.

Adoption foster care programs, if you cant adopt or foster, you can be a supporter for supplies, resources etc.

Tent revivals!

Big town hall with government leaders, religious leaders and nonprofits.

Outreach needs to be emphasized as just important as maintained our identity.

Never gain projects, sending people in between those who commit genocide and their victims.

Provide housing in every district every 10sq miles for families that need escape from crisis with necessities i.e. food daily needs and more or even bigger every congregation.

Emergency shelters for victims of sex trafficking, homelessness, or any person that has fallen victim to any of the needs.

Start a mentoring program for church members.

Free up our investment funds to do something big.

Partnering with local businesses and churches to provide housing specifically for abused and neglected people in the community.

Call people to the ministry.

Every church being involved.

Hold a community revival that involves being in the public with activities for children, programs or resource groups that help address needs of everyone, and preaching evangelism. Multiple churches could get together and organize. Not holding it at a church that may be intimidating for general public.

Provide for food insecurity by community gardens, classes at seminary of agriculture and growing food.

Develop economic assistance programs for brethren communities in countries struggling with flight.
Electronic closed groups (Facebook) to be a place for people needing support to find it in collaboration with CoB focus.

Building family crisis centers and youth centers.

Our recent history shows that we don't always marry the gospel and the needs of the world we desire to meet.

Expand Children's Aid Society, based in southern Pennsylvania, nationwide.

Restoration program once people are removed from a situation.

Helping families afford adoption and navigating.

We need to win our communities for Jesus Christ. Try to change the culture of our communities.

Open church of the brethren grocery stores/ co-ops in a food desert that includes providing fresh produce, fresh dairy.

The denomination funding the smaller districts/ churches in developing a healing prayer ministry.

Specifically for college and young adult ministry, we should develop resources to aid churches in college towns so that they can reach out to students and impact them with the Gospel.

Using churches as a hub for home school networks. Also, use church buildings for release programs or after school ministries where kids can come to receive tutoring, a safe place to hang out etc.

Contact your community about their needs and address them as a church make it a theme to work on long term.

Tools to equip those who will host safe houses.

Training on evangelism.

Ecumenical partnerships. Plug in.

Applying those top three to our sister churches in Nigeria- their family crisis, their displacement, their food insecurity first. How embarrassing that they are in this room and not even on the screen.

Get behind children's disaster ministries to model how to care for immigrant children in detention centers and other facilities, and help with supplies and finances.

Provide vouchers for gas or other needs with a network of the churches to ensure cross checking to make sure the same ppl are not abusing the system.

Sex education program, family education.

Make use of the Christian affiliated colleges and universities to raise awareness of the human trafficking/immigration issue among the younger people. Start a college ministry based on these things.

Affordable daycare in churches and retirement communities to support families, allows intergenerational interaction with volunteers.

One idea for free with attendance to church.

Lead the charge to become a sanctuary city. House refugees in congregation members homes.

A group to help older/disabled people with transportation, home maintenance, chores, etc.

put special focus on family separation. sponsor some families. encourage members of the denomination to travel to the border and learn and serve there. promote at NYC.

Use our buildings to their full potentials so that they aren't just sitting there. This can be for childcare, to host people who don't have a place to live, etc. Also, if needed, another congregation can share the building.

Sponsor and nest new congregations within the brethren church buildings.

Warehouses across US that churches can send supplies to help families in crisis to provide immediate help.

There are a lot of homes that do not have Bibles. We would like to see an initiative to distribute Bibles, through schools (?), or other means.

Encouraging voting with our values.
In Tennessee spend 8 dollars a day on kids and 27 dollars on prisoners- evangelize to the prisoner to hopefully save them and this will prevent them from coming back to prison.

Turn our annual conferences into evangelism events. Bring more disciples and communities into meeting these needs and more. Invite all our neighbors in the host city to our sermons, concerts, exhibits, insight sessions, etc.

Rebrand the denomination so are uniqueness as to what we bring into the world becomes more evident.

Denomination opens up substance abuse.

Food pantries similar to Little Free Libraries, where folks can come and get food items for meals free.

Government says they cannot support education, enrichment, etc. for refugees at the border. Let's help with that!

the need to address a peaceful division.

The Tiny house concept could be used by churches that have some extra land. You could have several tiny houses around, and have a central restroom area.

Inner city day camps through all COB

Building orphanages and facilities to bring in children and youth off of the streets

many people in of our service are already Christians.

Hosting/organizing free community gathering events (concerts, block parties, etc.) that promote civility and local economies

Expand how facilities are used so they are not only used once or twice a week

Peacebuilding training center to equip the global Brethren and others in peacemaking skills.

Every church being involved in addressing the problem of food insecurity.

Supporting kids in and entering foster care and protective custody.

Is it possible set up services for migrants on the other sides of the border...before they get to the U.S.? Would they get services more easily that way?

Actually living peacefully, simply, and together, and proclaiming Christ while we do it.

There a second to training on evangelism. In the district and in our churches.

A concerted effort to become informed and engaged in local resources and how they work and how ppl can plug into them

Education to help the churches with the healing prayer ministry

Let us purchase Cedar Point and evangelize people at each ride showing them that they can get through the ups and downs of life if they will commit to ride with Christ. Ultimate goal would then be to purchase other amusement parks over the next 20 years.

Individuals/congregations do their activities like knitting, sewing, building, and use them (maybe money in sales) to help meet needs in community and world. Continue to share ideas others are doing. ALSO -- 5th Sundays be actual hands on Service Sundays.

Make a conference center or area that we could gift to these cities during the rest of the year. Or make it a facility that we could use each year for the "Meeting"...it could be dedicated towards each or any of the priorities named. Go to broken cities and transform a broken area (that would be cheap) and gift it that city...THEN move to another poor city and do the same...

Lobby governments for faith based exemption to regulations to relax standards to allow full utilization of our buildings to house and/or feed people in community.

Providing child care for folks going back to school, or when they go to work during the day. Child care is super expensive and creating day cares or volunteers to help would be great!
Ice cream food truck to come to Annual Conference and Brethren events that helps support the ministries of the church. BVSer job. Unanimous at our table 23.

Open up the church to the community in the evenings to give people a place to fellowship and worship. Open to all, refugees, criminals etc.

Partnering with organizations such as big brothers big sisters. Partner with organizations that support adults in families that are struggling

We want to work to resettle displaced people. Could each district choose a church to be the organizing hub of that effort? One congregation could work to place families while another could work to collect supplies, for example.

Develop housing for homeless people to help them back on their feet

Could there be a network or Christian social work branch of the COB to offer and make references to whatever variety of resources are available, so that it does not all depend on the local congregation. Perhaps a "Brethren Social Services" agency?

Programs to support access to medical equipment (walker, wheelchair, crutches, etc.) for those in need

Reach out with other churches of other denominations and nondenominational churches to reach our communities

Somehow respond to the crisis at the border with those who are detained. We are challenged to think about how to do this given government restrictions and the immediate nature of this need. Perhaps a conduit for avenues to help ... the logistics of working through the government system.

Housing to keep refugee families together, children's home

More creation care

Work with ecumenical groups, across denominations.

An initiative for people in congregations to drive to the "other" side of town and minister with churches who don’t look like us

Affordable housing community that could be somewhat self sufficient by those who live there that will give development skills

create a program for preteens to help them deal with sexuality, puberty, and other issues that occur in that age group.

A great need in America is the need for our youth to be loved and for direction. We have a surplus of retired folks. Can we develop denominational programs to model and provide opportunity to mentor kids in after school programs to help with school work, to provide love and listening ears.

Make available through technology through Bethany the training offered by COBYS for family life education.

National advocacy group in dc for families in crisis

Getting involved politically based on our values

Just use the money we have in our churches, stop sitting on money and start helping...partner, start programs, etc.

We need to work together more as a united body for our youth ministries and worship services. Local service projects can be completed more efficiently through joint efforts. The global needs met by BDM and BVS are excellent but we cannot forget the local need at home.

Encourage, work together side by side on volunteer work

For each person in each of these needs to have eternal life through education (celebrate recoveries, shelters, Loving hands... young men addicted to drugs come for recovery and learn about the love of Jesus.
mentoring programs for families, drug addicts. Training individuals and equipping them with resources to be mentors.

Evangelistic push taking Jesus to people. Knocking on doors. Revival tent meetings. Traveling youth teams ministering to other youth. Free concerts for kids.

Awareness for what’s already available

Support groups for parents with troubled children.

Develop a brethren brand for surplus produce and milk by partnering with producers to ensure that surplus isn’t wasted

Table 72—Immigration and Refugee Crisis
We as Christians should create advocacy groups that protect the dignity and humanity of those seeking asylum.

Need to have new emphasis on brethren response funding to challenge each member to give monthly to that fund for denomination to address any of the big needs or an emerging crises. Set yearly goal of 25 million dollars.

Make use of church buildings, beyond worship. Financial and ministerial benefits.

We don't know how, but we think this denomination should somehow promote Biblical literacy.

Congregational organization of political action through an effort to contact politicians to initiate policy change.

Have a program for mother especially stay at home mom that allow them to bring their children to play and interact with each other.

Suicide prevention/intervention. Place church ads online to intervene at predatory websites.

Gather farmers in community and have conversation on how to grow better food have a young farmers institute Partner with local farmers

Communicating well for personal evangelism.

There’s a church that we drive by that has a huge sign in the parking lot that says "no parking, cars will be towed." In another church, there are kids with skateboards and sings that say "no skateboarding," we should look at the risk and accept it so that we can serve others, maybe open up our parking lots to the community.

Help parents of college students or adults get connected to the foster network so that they can continue to impact the lives of children who are in that broken system and keep them from falling through the cracks. Further, have a congregation-wide resource network for supplies like cribs and diapers to aid those parents willing to take on a foster child

develop curriculum/resources for Family Night at home to include worship and Christian ed ideas

D73: provide resources to those affected in sex trafficking

D73: provide funds for insurance, mortgages to those who need
Mentoring program to teach and assist on how to manage money

Book group for unchurched people - half the books are secular, half are Christian.

Grow and develop pastors

Providing how to stretch your food money with the foods people are given through banks

Drug addiction: treatment, not punishment. Some communities in rural Indiana are creating treatment programs to help those addicted to drugs overcome their addiction and rejoin society. We can support those efforts, or start our own with community leaders.

Drug addiction can be the foundation of many other societal problems. We really need to think outside the box and find ways to solve this issue.

Also, work release programs that remove teens from the prison system and put them on farms or elsewhere in the community serve others as their penance.

Using our church buildings (and other properties) for transitional or refugee housing
Grow a community garden and allow people to help but have the food be free

Bringing together couples dealing with infertility and children being thrown away thru the church

Provide counselling to children who are going through challenges and equip persons - Christians who can guide them- there are grants

Offer afterschool program for latchkey children

Get churches in the same area to focus on a ministry item and coordinate to conquer the problem...

Live call-in programs.

Bill board --you have problems, we have answers & give a number to call.

We need to pray for non Christians to come to Christ

go to the community governments to ask the needs to work with them to take care of local needs

Re-establish "the body of elders" and district evangelists

Have districts sell all of their properties and sink the money into a mutual fund or interest bearing accounts. Congregations could rent space within their communities at schools, bars, etc. without the chains of upkeep. The interest from the large account could be doled out to the contributing congregations. Additionally, they would have offerings and other fundraising efforts. For example, 20 properties sold at $5 million each = $100 million. At 5% interest that equals $250000 per congregation annually.

Tools to help people feel worth and to use skills people have to run communities

Small businesses growing vegetables, and can train and hire the homeless to help take care of them, so that they have gainful employment. They may need to microloans to start a small business.

Use of grants /fundraising to drill well in areas around the world with dirty water

Educate/ train on how our daily actions contribute to human trafficking and how to make personal changes. For example, our the hotels we are staying provide pornographic channels to customers? If so, we are contributing to it. Are our clothes made in a place where people are forced to work against their will at unfair wages? If so, we are contributing to slavery. Help us know how to make personal changes so we are not contributing to trafficking and slavery.

Open up our churches (perhaps with volunteers) to the homeless for shelter overnight or in rough weather

Help renovate empty buildings for sliding scale housing to meet needs greater than supply. Perhaps buy or start co-op groups for community people to own apartments so the maintenance is better than with absentee landlords.

Community garden- "teach a man to fish" have gardens at our churches and allow those who receive food at our local food banks to work and tend the garden with us to learn how to cultivate crops and learn about growing a garden their own. Gives them fresh and nutritional food while teaching them how to do it themselves. Give them the produce and allow them to receive seeds for future planting.

Create the shelters if they are not available

Blankets to first responders

Welcome baskets for shelters, prisons, foster children

Make the church name known in community as a safe place and welcoming place so that people will be able show up when in crisis

Centers for families. Lots of places for women, women with children, men, but maybe not as many for families

Brethren Big Brothers and Sisters

Giving kids in our community the resources they need for literacy through Little Free Libraries and other initiatives
Address the issues at the heart of the problem of families in crisis (magazines, films, talk shows, etc.) through lobbying and boycotts of specific products.

Identify the needs in the community where the church is located. Do our part to research what agencies already exist and what they are already doing and ask many questions about how to partner.

Refocus on the value and model of families and family values with training.

Racial reconciliation and social justice is important. What does it say about us that it wasn’t even brought up as an issue.

Brethren Crusades or tent revivals

Apply Creation Care positions and theology to practical helps, resources and programs for our churches. Increase awareness of grant opportunities for Green Energy retrofits, Teach and model sustainable living practices even at our institutions; ask Brethren landowners to grow sustainable building material crops like bamboo and sugarcane or replant trees on cleared land; churches leading local recycling campaigns and educating people on recycling best practices.

Help to resettle people, help them get started with jobs etc.

Rehab houses for income and help families that need a leg up.

Let the youth and young adults lead the way. Whose big idea was BVS? The youth. Give them their heads to charge ahead. They are the future of the church and need ownership of it. Make sure we have young people on every board and committee.

Equipping sessions at the conference level - have them frequently.

tree farms to create revenue

Address opioid crisis, offer addiction recovery support programs and better community understandings (would have to include racial justice elements for historical addictions and treatment of previous crises that were less white in nature)

Development and sponsorship of pregnancy centers (heavy focus on adoption and foster care) in our communities.

Under the umbrella of “helping families thrive” a

Everyone can address the issues

They are led to.

create a denomination wide lobbying program, information from the Brethren Washington office, to descend on Congress to demand action to restrict availability of automatic guns.

Think about how we can help countries stabilize their environment so that they can flourish in their own homes. Global commitment to justice and fairness. N

Address climate change to all and have a debate in your church to make an awareness of climate change and discuss how our lifestyles are effecting the climate.

Send people around the world for on site listening up front in person.

Jobs are still a big issue. Encourage churches to use the unemployed for tasks around the church

Challenge each church to become 100% sustainable.

Each every congregation should have a trained mediator

Renovate old, derelict hotels into places for people to stay

Partner with mental health agencies to be able to be a support presence for their work and help share their resources with our churches and communities.

Connect churches that want to help with refugee and immigrant crises but aren't in that area with churches that are already addressing these needs so they can help those churches financially or in other ways.
Develop links to local schools

If there isn’t a lens of Jesus in these areas of service, then we are not being the church, we are a non profit organization.

Use facilities for town hall meetings

Go to the schools, homeless shelters, soup kitchens and other places in our local communities to provide bible studies and prayer services.

The problem is not with finances it is with awareness. Congregations need to be more informed of needs and services that are available. Creating a system of connection within the denomination like an email group with a contact at each church would help with sharing info

create and support after school activities.

Denominational blueprint for alternative energy use at congregations. Mentoring program connecting congregations who already use alternative energy with those who want to pursue it.

Gardening classes, food classes, financial classes.

Invite the community to our churches to attend Programs developed to equip them to deal with these issues

More generosity in congregations so there are more resources to meet needs

Wish we could think of a big idea that would solve the gun violence so our young children didn’t have to learn active shooter training in elementary school.

grow mj

Support every congregation to have at least one house to offer to individuals in local community for family or individuals in crisis, immigrating, return to community from prison, homeless, mental illness, etc., with intention that local church would build relationship and address individuals holistically.

A big issue for all these subjects is ignorance to/about them. Wouldn’t it be amazing if all our congregations were hubs for finding info on what to do for creation care or if you want to support immigrants or if you are struggling with depression? Having trainings for congregational leaders and resources that are accessible and encouraged for congregations to have and use would be amazing. Then our churches can pass on that info to our communities, and work with individuals and communities to enact lifestyle changes that will better our world. Education is a huge problem for all of these issue, so let's educate!!

Create a Peace Blog for both local and global issues.

Provide a model for community conversations between those who bring diverse life experiences, perspectives, much like what is occurring here that we can take into our communities for dialogue

Commit to supporting nation wide programs already addressing issues of reform. Climate crisis, prison reform, racism, violence, etc.

Help drug addicts by using our parsonages as halfway houses...

Support and expand Children’s Disaster Services.

Intervene to stop a family problem from continuing from one generation to the next.

Increase awareness in churches of the refugee crisis and clean water in Haiti, etc.

Have the denomination develop gospel-centered ministries for drug addicts and alcoholism something akin to the Village Church's STEPS ministry.

Every pastor should be mediation trained

A denominational emphasis on teaching English as a second language.

Partnership with big brothers big sisters

grown hemp

Working with local stores to provide essential goods-bread, milk, eggs for our food banks.
Network of legal experts to advise and help with immigration issues, encourage younger Brethren to pursue this area of study, financially sponsor students.

We would like to see an intentional emphasis on church planting out of the global mission and service office. We can use our existing relationships in places like the DR, Rwanda, Spain, etc...to help identify, train and provide initial financial support for these efforts. This kind of intentional effort would be financially supported.

Having a "store" of personal items people may need that people can pick up for free when needed.

Use vans to take books to needy community, or support backpack programs that give needy children food over the weekend. Churches could work with school districts to better gauge needs. Could be food, blankets, hygiene kits, could be mental health care.

Half-way house ministries.

Ecumenical community building (bible school, special community events, etc.)

Provide training for teenagers and adults on life skills, such as finding a job, banking, technical skills, cooking, etc.

Equipping churches to better support refugee resettlement or migrant justice issues by helping them provide churches with the resources and funds to support hosting those families.

Grants to put up windmills, etc. for ways to address climate change.

Community victory gardens

Outdoor food pantries that allow people to come by and grab food if they need it without having to walk inside somewhere and avoid any personal feelings of shame that they may have.

Update kitchens and convert space in our churches to apartments or rooms, that could house and feed the homeless or families/abused women.

Learning about human trafficking and how a church can be part of the solution.

Clothing and food donations to support the homeless.

Grow a "hemp" forest, which will grow and replenish faster than wood. Hemp can be used for the wood and textiles, and the flower sold to the medical marijuana companies to sustain the project.

Have more social media for the church. Snapchat/Instagram/Facebook/twitter

Build a network of trained mediators that can serve the surrounding congregations.

Have a challenge like the ice bucket challenge and raise funds for some of these projects...

World farm big enough to supply the worlds food banks.

Community garden: churches with extra land.

Wells and equipment to help others with water and equipment to help other countries with farming and teaching them rather than just sending food or money.

Using the internet to connect the ideas that our individuals and churches are pursuing.

(follow up on opioids comment), huge family component present, re: "families in crisis"

Channel our resources to partner with persons already providing services. Don't reinvent the wheel...make it stronger. Stick to our core values.

Regional conference - something in between district conference and annual conference so that districts can have more specific conversations.

Use our local congregations to bring all these people in and they will find deliverance from these problems through Christ.

Blend evangelism with social concern.

Resourcing and ideas for a place for after school and weekend activities that are Christian based for teens.

Making greenhouses in cities to grow fresh food when there is no place to buy affordable fresh food.
We need purposeful education on any need in the community that the Church could fulfill

Train everyone in mediation

Spend dollars locally to support small businesses in the communities where churches reside as a ministry to support the local economy

Start a program in the church for volunteer care giving

Addressing the meaning and purpose of life and the future

Immigration remains a Big need. What about offering legal services for refugees?

healthy food for those in need

Create partnerships to leverage resources, within the denomination and ecumenically.

Provide seeds and teach simple agricultural methods to those with food insecurities

Urban-rural partnerships to meet needs in each community

Rely on each other to identify needs of each other

Offer adopt a parent/grandparent program to offer support to young people

Brethren career/business network

Do more with after-school programs for religious education.

Can the church somehow help change or make easier the adoption process or help make adoption more affordable

Reach out to the communities the refugees are fleeing from to re-establish peace, allowing those displaced to return home

Crop walk. Helps community embrace use of crops internationally, go out from there and teach

Each congregation take in a refugee (family) and walk with them as they transition and integrate

Partnering with police dept. church police officer, doing community walks with church police officer so everyone knows everyone

60 fully trust God

Partner with other cob or cluster w/ other denominations to provide vbs in cities

Resources to better find local volunteering opportunities

Conflict resolution, Christian peace maker teams to Central America to help find creative, nonviolent solutions to the violence and conflict that lead to people fleeing the countries in the first place

Start an agenda to fight homelessness. Look at availability of unused FEMA trailers to be repurposed as shelter for homeless

Help people to learn how to be debt free so that they are not consuming resources that impact the world and it's climate.

We need training about our prejudices and racism. To recognize them and address them.

A drive to address our ingrained and systemic racism.

God owns 1,000 cattle—ask him to sell one!

Better engagement from local churches to young kids and after school

Piggyback to previous answer: utilize unused money in congregations and districts to update church buildings to house and feed people

Peace crusades, witnessing to the peace ministry. A model is Teen Challenge.

Nigerian crisis fund
Prison ministries for those locked up. Resources for those released from prison. Housing, job skills training, life skills training, etc.

The food industry in the US has a lot of waste. Develop relationships to distribute that food to areas of need before it becomes waste.

Church camp was very important to me in terms of growing my faith.

Develop personal relationships with people to share the gospel with them.

every church has a community garden, cooking classes at church

Work locally with other churches to address local needs

Continuing to educate about how to deal with and recover from drug addiction, basic financial training, building healthy family relationships, etc.

We need to plant churches in the areas of need that we desire to serve.

Community gardens at every church

Adopt a school and interacting with those needs

Use annual conference time to form ministry groups around certain ministry areas. For example learning about others in foster care. Or peacemaking training for several hours. Training for lay pastors, pastoral ethics training

Set goals as a church, district, or denomination. Example: lets dig 100 wells in Africa. Set service goals and keep them in front of your church, district and denomination.

Grow a life skills education program for any who want to attend and help reconnect relationship and community

Love every side not just the children, or not just the victims, but also the abusers,

Have more youth programs

Have a racism audit, where we deeply look at ourselves and generally develop a better sense of racial sensitivity.

-develop and promote Family/Marriage Enrichment Programs

That our annual conference business be working on these big ideas together.

In Kansas lots of illegal aliens jobs are there no commitment for job longevity

Have a "Brethren Social Services" office located within each district. The office would have employees that are social workers, counselors, refugee assistants, or church members that have a passion for a certain crisis or need within their area. The office can help identify a particular need within in their area and contact local churches for personal assistance. Another take on this theme is that the churches in a district can help identify individuals that have a calling or passion to a certain cause and form this "office" to work at addressing them.

Providing funding for working through the legal immigration process and working with people through it

To get big, we need to start small. We, as individuals, need to grow in our selflessness and willingness to commit fully to the larger church body.

Denomination should sponsor more workshops and create more resources on how to recognize, address the problems.

Brethren "take home a backpack" programs for hungry kids. Pantries for needy

Initiate programs to partner with other organizations to create safe havens for women or others.

Partner with heifer international to infuse them with a specific program that has a yearly focus such as supporting wells, providing farm equipment, teaching farming, providing sustainable means

Sustainability in churches! Solar panels or dish use etc.
Denominational grants to host immigrants

Perhaps buy back the New Windsor property or a college that closes and make a legal refugees settlement center.

Expand BVS for local commitment with short term commitments

Having an open space for people in the community to come if they are about to do wrong or have done wrong. Ex-if someone is drunk they can come sleep it off in a safe space.

60 help the immigrants where they are, and support churches and agencies that are along the boarder

Sponsor an event for each district for worship and resource fair....providing resources to do that.

Utilize social media more to address life skill training

Create a program to train youth with hands on help, community activism, legislative knowledge and skills, sending them to congregations who will support them to create and implement programs to work on greatest needs in the community.

Expand BVS for local commitment with short term commitments

Employment centers in several cities to train the unemployed to enter the work force

D73: We need to bring awareness to local and global needs by using technology by creating simple tasks to donate "Click here to donate" or "How do I donate?"

Trauma informed care training for pastors and churches

Offer our buildings to be used by organizations and groups

Instead of vbs provide sports camp -- draw more ..get name recognizable leaders or college teams

Run a media campaign (TV, radio, web and social media) to get our denomination's name out into the public. Sharing about our disaster ministry and other key projects. Another national Christmas service...

Clean and safe water distribution

Agricultural needs undocumented workers to pick fruit.

Educate people by teaming up with other denominations to provide for some our dreams. The Brethren are not the only ones to help change the world.

Help people released from incarceration transition back into society

Work with schools to hold joint events to address Mental illness among youth...

"Light a candle"-- fund raiser....raise funds to accomplish the ideas raised...

Networking and more ecumenical connection in service

COB wide effort offering training on how to share your faith personally toward disciple-making in local congregations.

More community gardens in America and other impoverished areas

Partnering with local, state, and national agencies in helping and reaching out to help what's already going on. Red cross does disaster relief, church world service.

Making use of modern technology -- Facebook, etc.

Hold a revival

A BVS for baby boomers, that is perhaps not a full year. Short term volunteerism.

Provide services to the homeless, like meals, and laundry a few times a week, and help educate the parents.

Backpacks sent home with children for them to have food over the weekend.

Food waste in this country, and in school lunches needs to be reduced. This would need to have management to make a difference.

Programs to support mental health wellness
Could there be a denominational grant for churches to decrease carbon footprint? E.g. financial aid for a church that wants to install solar panels

cooperation with local schools for need

Send out a tweet or text everyday from the COB. It would be a way to connect us.
Send out a thought for the day, or a question of the day to ponder.

More and more community gardens.

If we don’t have our own food banks, being able to align with already existing food banks in our areas. Either volunteering, delivery, etc. local congregations aligning themselves with local foodbanks to address the crisis.

Call for focus through church to increase awareness on volunteer needs

Put up a presidential candidate

Online equipping sessions, little free libraries,

Family to family mentoring.

Have a CoB facility for those struggling with substance abuse and addiction that has no cost and no minimum stay.

Make an effort to plant a church in every community in which BDM does disaster response.

Create Prison ministry committees in every district

Somehow address the healthcare crisis

Being politically engaged to promote brethren ideas at a national level

A green park developed by the brethren in cooperation with the town or city utilizing land that needs redevelopment

Building a reputation in the community for being giving and a family.

develop a program to create more trust and communication across the community. have community events at churches or public places.

one session at AC continuing to reevaluate our vision, just like we are doing now and to gather around tables. have this be a focus for non-delegates.

Food finders. Groups to collect almost expired food from grocery stores and restaurants. Reduces food waste, and hunger.

If the CoB was able to provide refugee training to help make refugees self sufficient and able to survive. We need to set up places of training for refugees.

Offer more short-term service opportunities to get more congregants involved and committed to the church

Pop-up potlucks in high need area, not asking for donations, just free good food for people who need it.

Inviting and encourage people to share their stories, as a way to increase connection, know each other more fully and at a deeper level

Is there a system we can put in place (maybe online) to list our resources or skill sets or area of expertise? So we can go to our own sisters and brothers to fix something or help someone?

Community gardens

A free Church of the brethren app that helps people with mental health, abuse, family issues.

Address leaders and politicians and call them to value life of every person as people, not objects.

We should jump on bandwagons instead of reinventing wheels. Let’s work with ecumenical groups that are already addressing these issues

Partner with other churches to provide food, shelter, provisions for those in need
After holding a revival, hold a foot washing service

Experiential learning (getting a ration box like a refugee) learning through experience

Set a goal for all congregations to reduce their carbon footprint

Have a "National Desegregation Sunday" where we intentionally integrate our churches to be more racially diverse

Make a program so that no child is left alone after school, parents and community members sign up to take a certain amount of children, read and feed and care for each child until they can go home

Help congregations move towards renewable energy.

Christian concerts to raise funds for these projects

Create new, non traditional gatherings. For example, coffee houses. Forming "communities" around variety of interests, needs... Even dog training! Creating building materials. Starting with things that don't look like traditional church. Look where need is.

Don't reinvent the wheel. Invest in researching who is doing these things best. Such as world vision and heifer.

Create more supports when we have people able to walk alongside, rather than just having to refer and then hope for the best.

Support groups....to teach parenting....
Loving Inc.
Prayer conference for direction.

Find secular organizations that are already addressing these needs and unite with them

Community gardens and lot clearing

A focus at annual conference and better reports during business sessions in the feet in the ground work that is being done. Less discussion and more presentation of what is being done and what can be done

Have BDM develop a program for congregations doing "projects in place" like the new BVS option. Provide leaders, training and other resource support. Go local.

free food truck

We can offer a work ministry that creates a network of individuals gifted in different areas. When a local community or a church develops a need, the network can establish a team to go out and complete the project. This is similar to a work bank. We could call it service bank.

Utilize outdoor camps for training and sessions on drug addiction , children of parents in prison, foster care, adoption, latch key kids,....

Promote alternative healthcare through nutrition, exercise and prevention

Sponsor regional events where people of the can get energized, gain resources for work in their local community...resource people for work within their own community

D73: have the church distribute teams to churches on how to attend to needs. Local and global needs

Become aware of resources such as the counselor who gave insight session last night who offered his services for suicide and depression identification

60 immigration assistance with not being able to go back and get documents needed to make it legal

Gun manufacturers stop making automatic weapons, not all guns, just the larger ones.

Teaching the churches to go out and cast out the demons. Like in Matt, Mark, Luke, Elgin help the church learn to Preach the good news, heal the sick, cast out demons.

Plant 250 Living Peace Churches over the next 10 years. Commit $25 million a year to support these church planters ($100k per year)... Specifically created to be experiments in faith communities that exemplify Christ's reconciliation, dynamic faith, justice, nonviolence. Would not look like church as normal business. Show us what
relevant church focused on following Jesus, transformation in Christ, Brethren DNA of discipleship, peacemaking, nonviolence can look like today. Many forms and shapes!

833 Greater financial support for district leadership
834 Solidarity market, people can bring what resources they have (food from the garden, hair cuts, etc.) which they can be exchanged for other resources and services to save their money for their bills
835 Early intervention programs for school aged children. Addressing many of their physical needs, life skill needs, etc.
836 Have a local spot to distribute food and how to cook it more healthy
    Use extra space to grow a community garden
    Start having more study groups on how to take care of our growing and our land around us Have materials available to help understand these process's
837 Needs and resource denominational command center where local congregations can share. The center would match needs and resources.
838 Develop home health care programs.
839 Utilizing excess food from restaurants and grocery stores to use for the hungry
840 Annual conference as a combination of business meeting and revival. Learn what other churches are doing
841 Teach stop giving away, learn stop distancing ourselves from the issues.
842 Teaching peace in our local communities. Peace institutes
843 Some sort of method for sharing what others are doing to create ideas and streamline the planning process for those looking to start new programs in their churches
844 We need to improve on what we have now. People are not participating like they used to.
845 Provide community gardens, with mentoring for participants.
846 Programs that are Christ centered can help if the individuals surrender to Christ
847 Adopting immigrant families
848 restaurants pay what they can
849 Teach financial strategies to the impoverished
850 Providing food that was fresh and available that you pay a low price for a large package of vegetables.
851 Get out of our own comfort zones. To be able to volunteer our time and gifts.
852 Use TV as a platform for national coverage of what the COB is doing. Go BIG!!
    How does the COB share the great work of the COB without patting ourselves on the back?
    Social Media ministry team within the COB.
    Finding a way to get on national networks to share the ministries of the COB.
853 Partner with other denominations to provide training to address specific needs of communities
854 Nd-1
    Reevaluate what we are doing.....making sure it is Christ centered...known and professed.
855 Can we have a way for the denomination to harvest ideas from churches all around - and disseminate this in a regular and accessible way to all the other congregations? I think I'm the only one in my church who reads COB literature. If we had a more regular and accessible way to share ideas - a better way to connect...
856 Lobby philanthropists for funding for CoB projects
857 Subsidize your first mission trip.
We need to get our church into opioid treatment centers. Without Christ in their lives, it will be very hard for them to get their lives back on track.

A renewed and updated "Passing on the Promise" emphasis.

Give a man a fish and he eats for a day, teach a man to fish, he eats for a lifetime, we need to be sharing the gospel with the folks whose needs we are trying to meet and sharing or teaching them that God provides for all of us daily and for a lifetime.

Brethren Colleges offering focused college degrees

Nationwide backpack program to provide food for children on weekends.

Halfway homes in other communities for young adults that are coming out of alternative housing so they aren’t coming right back to the people/circumstances that got them into trouble in the first place.

Healthy families education programing, sponsored by the congregation

Raise up the voices of our youth and elders to see what passions and wisdom is in our denomination.

We are frustrated. Big ideas usually happen grassroots and then are shared/supported via annual conference and denomination.

Program for intentional intensive discipleship/learning connected with community development/farming

More cooperation with local congregations in the Districts. This would take a desire and humility with all involved. Things need to change.

Increased emphasis on back and forth communication between national leadership and the local congregations.

Reclaim a basic understanding of our calling to care for creation, actually using Genesis

Provide long-term mentorships to people we serve so that we are not just teaching and releasing.

Meet the needs of all of the generations in our churches so that we can support them in their growth, try to keep them from falling into some of the issues mentioned on this list.

Place on COB website with ideas and stories of what other churches are doing

Perhaps we Americans need some training to become less scary to the people coming in.

US churches pair up with global churches to be "pen pals"

A brethren construction company building housing for homeless, refugees, and immigrants, with all employees having been drawn from those categories also.

Be the central place in our local community where people can get networked to the services they need. We need information hubs and trained people who can essentially case management for people in need rather than duplicate the services that already exist. As we recognize bottle necks or gaps in service we as the local church can push to fill those needs.

so many educators, healthcare professionals, financial experts in our local churches...can we become leaders in preparing immigrants for life skills in America.

Develop a "passing it along" program for service in urban settings.

charter school or after school program

SHOW UP

A lot of family issues are finance based. Both finance mentorship and training and advocacy programming.

Table 72--refuge crisis-- faith based English instruction in our churches... To help folks learn English and move into society safely using the Laubach Method

Open our churches to believers from different countries so that they have a place to worship... Story of a church that opened their doors to a Hispanic Church, who in a year and a half was able to buy an abandoned urban church so that they could open a food bank and create other ministries to the neighborhood.
Whatever we do, we have to be in it for the long haul - these ideas are big and hard, if we're not committed, it's not going to work

Brethren grants for updating churches.
reuse vomit as fertilizer
Address our doorstep need, the messy, difficult, sacrificial, time-consuming; not the far away
Developing at our elderly home a way to house children, even only temporarily
Start small, but GET something started in your community. Can we offer GRANTS to start their big ideas? Give them a chance! Then at A. C., we can highlight those successes together. Then re-fund!!!
Provide solar and other renewable power sources and teach the locals how to operate and repair these
Projects that the people in the area are already skilled at and assist in a way that the Community need
Find ways to support churches as they transition into the modern world with music and millennial thought process
After school tutoring.
Education resource center for taking care of creation.
Learn from the Mennonites
Prison red
Form. Reduce the sentencing of first time drug offenders
The denomination helping the churches have resources for, Healing gifts inventory. to enable the Christians to find spiritual gifts and callings.
Website resources, and contacting other congregations who do that thing
Pairing COB in the US with another congregation from a different country to create more awareness.
A COB legal aide building around the world
Solar panels, LED lightbulbs, and gardens at every church
A Brethren adoption agency that helps to facilitate international and domestic adoptions.
Challenge each member to lead one person to Christ
Pastors write and submit articles for local news outlets.
Is there a way we can use technology to connect us more easily, especially in times of crisis
Provide spaces for two opposing groups to come together and fellowship and participate in activities to get to know each other without the need to confront the differences, just build relationship.
I want to help immigrants who are hungry for the word to see and know Christ (multi-lingual bible study, support group, combined church services, etc.)
Communicate ideas beyond the denomination to share and combine our resources.
How do we bring people who wouldn't normally go to a certain insight sessions to mix it up. Not necessarily the elephant in the room insight sessions, but going to insight sessions outside our comfort and learning something new.
Samara parenting course ... Become aware of such resources
Make workcamps combined junior high and high school trips.
Schedule annual conference, rent the rooms, then fill them with homeless in the area...
In regards to carrying out the ideas presented in the previous response, meetings could be held with people in homes for teaching and worship to keep the experience personally impactful and to keep costs down - this might lead to new congregations...
Create a database of resources that ministers can access on any myriad of issues. Have numbers for halfway houses or social workers or anything else in the area that a pastor could need.

Seminary for all - with no assumption or expectation of pastoral vocation - biblical learning, theological reflection, conflict resolution - distance education opportunities - Bethany??

Encourage every church to adopt one family in their community....not paternallyistically, but to love and support.

Healthcare plan for Brethren!

Renew Lafiya teaching - to address whole person in the church and community.

- Families in crisis: For churches to become safe places. Place for education, planning with community organizations
- Immigration and refugee crisis: Educate on needs, support for refugee resettlement.
- Food insecurity: we have been farmers - sharing produce from community gardens, food banks,
- Drug addiction: Church programs offering parenting education for young people, recovery programs
- Develop video games for children that teach peace and nonviolence, as well as encourage peacemaking toys.
- Collaborate with ecumenical groups, interfaith groups to address these needs in our communities. Encourage congregations to collaborate in districts. Apply for more grants to address need and develop programs to educate and teach skills. Churches work together to teach healthy living skills. Plant trees to grow a forest. Work together for wiser use of materials, recycling,

For creation care... Create a low waste challenge that limits the amount of plastic and waste at district and denominational events like annual conference

Prayer intervention as public protest - fall on your knees in a public place that needs god's love

Every congregation could adopt a local school or classroom. They could volunteer in the classroom to read with students and help with homework, and provide food to families.

Creation care: take seriously reduce, reuse, recycle. Products that are compostable. Will be different for each congregation.

Embedding peace studies and nonviolent conflict resolution classes at all community colleges nation wide.

Have grant writing workshops to enable people to access federal block grant money.

Youth Responses

Creating a mental health mission that includes professionals and doctors to educate and respond to crisis and struggle. The problem starts at home, and we could create small community-based shelters to address substance abuse, mental health, and domestic violence.

Conflict mediators in areas of conflict
- Good neighbor fund (money that is set aside to help people in need)
- Program that helps provide food to those that are starving

Get an organization that organizes groups that talk to people in a specific area, find out what their problems are, and then show them God's love by helping them with their problems and staying so that the people always have support.

Resources for those with disabilities

International food pantry that connects small local food pantries together so that there is constant support across the world. Start small in a state and then a region and then eventually the whole country and then the world. They give each other constant support, both in food and money.

We feel people need HOPE, which is not a readily available resource. We feel the church can help with that in the following ways.

Food and water - expand Heifer Project.
Mental health - develop and host a support group for your community. Building community around the issue
and informing others that they are not alone. Offer donations toward therapy and possibly pay for a therapist/speaker to be onsite at no charge for community members.

Program to teach individuals to self-sustain in farming and agriculture to address hunger. Build small schools in areas without them to educate the children. Work to meet healthcare needs in rural areas in America and other countries.

The international food pantry name is Food Bank International (FBI).

Hybrid idea integrating two of our bigger ideas already
Develop a tree plantation, which we grow and manage for the strict use of growing our own resources for disaster ministries. With the idea of continually growing to a point where we could self-sustain the majority of our lumber needs for disaster relief.

Brethren Talk shows.

Drug related issues - safe housing, places for them to go to get help (without judgement)
Hunger (local) - having gardens throughout, backpack programs, fresh food program s- giving food (fruit) out for free to the community
Hunger (abroad) - taking life skill classes abroad

Internationally-- Giving bikes to those who live far away from the churches or other buildings they need to go to. Since its dangerous to walk to most places