



Thanks to your support, MCC canned meat brings joy to families across the globe, including this boy* whose mother is raising three children on her own in Zaporizhzhia, Ukraine. *Names are not used for security reasons. Photo courtesy of AMBCU

Join the canning crew or volunteer at a canning site.
mcc.org/canning

MCC canned meat shipments

Fiscal year is April 1, 2024 – March 31, 2025.

Country	Cans shipped
Chad	19,200
Cuba	84,480
Ethiopia	288,000
Malawi	59,520
South Sudan	24,000
Ukraine	72,000
Zambia	36,480
U.S. (Puerto Rico)	15,840
U.S. (other locations)	12,000
Totals	611,520



Mennonite Central Committee

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**Mennonite
Central
Committee**

The Canner Times

2025–2026

Providing nourishment in Ukraine

By MCC staff

Despite constant shelling by the Russian military, about 150 people come to the cafeteria at New Life Charitable Fund (New Life) in Nikopol, Ukraine, each day for a hot lunch. Several times each month, lunch gets a protein boost from MCC's canned meat.

Some people need a nutritious lunch because Russia's invasion has made it

difficult for Ukrainians to provide for themselves. People with disabilities and those who are elderly are especially at risk. Families with multiple children and those who fled violence in their own communities tend to need help to feed their families.

"Thanks to the canned meat that we add to the dishes, lunches are more tasty, nutritious and enriched with



These men are eating soup made with MCC's canned meat at New Life Charitable Fund's dining room in Nikopol, Ukraine. Photo courtesy of New Life Charitable Fund

proteins, which are so necessary for maintaining health and vital activity,” wrote Pavlo*, manager of New Life, a faith-based charitable foundation.

Between April 2024 and March 2025, MCC partner churches and organizations, which are located throughout Ukraine, received 72,000 cans of meat. This supply was part of 611,520 cans of meat that volunteers in the U.S. donated and preserved for people in crisis throughout the world.

The Association of Mennonite Brethren Churches of Ukraine (AMBCU) also distributes MCC’s canned meat, food parcels and hygiene kits and provides trauma care as part

of its ministry.

“The aim of our church now is to help the suffering,” says Roman, leader of AMBCU. Most of the people AMBCU serves are elderly people, who struggle to live on a minimal government pension.

“Sometimes benefactors receive this aid with tears in their eyes. We see how dire the need is,” says Andrey, the humanitarian coordinator for AMBCU. “We realize we can’t provide people with everything they need, but people are still grateful.”

**Last names are not used for security reasons.*



From May 1 to 14, 2025, the MCC canning team participated in a learning tour to Malawi. They learned how canned meat and other assistance provided by MCC help inmates in the Malawi Prison Service and residents in Dzaleka Refugee Camp in the Dowa district of Malawi. They also visited the headquarters of MCC’s long-term partner, the Mennonite Brethren Church in Malawi, in Mponela, Dowa district. In front of the headquarters are (left to right) Lars Braun, MacGregor, Manitoba; Matt Buller, Henderson, Nebraska; Andrew Widrick, Lowville, New York; and Kenan Broersma, Harlan, Kentucky. Lars, Matt and Kenan will serve on the 2025-2026 MCC canning team, along with a new member, Thomas Carter, Honeoye Falls, New York. MCC photo/George Eckman

Interested in serving a two-year term as a canner operator? To learn more, contact George Eckman at georgeeckman@mcc.org or call 717-925-1424.

2025–26 MCC meat canning schedule

Date	Location
October 6–10	*Sterling, Ohio
October 15–17	Middlefield, Ohio
October 20–23	Kidron, Ohio
October 28–November 11	**Newton, Kansas
November 13–14	Milford, Nebraska
November 21–25	Henderson, Nebraska
November 29–December 2	Fairview, Oklahoma
December 4–5	Pryor, Oklahoma
December 8–9	Kalona, Iowa
December 11–15	Freeport, Illinois
December 17–19	Williamsburg, Indiana
January 5–16	Goshen, Indiana
January 19–21	Montgomery, Indiana
January 23–24	Berne, Indiana
January 27–30	Berlin, Ohio
February 2–5	Spartansburg, Pennsylvania
February 9–13	Lewistown, Pennsylvania
February 16–20	White Horse, Pennsylvania
February 23–27	Hinton, Virginia
March 2–6	Chambersburg, Pennsylvania
March 9–13	Kirkwood, Pennsylvania
March 16–20	New Holland, Pennsylvania
March 23–27	*Sterling, Ohio
March 30–April 2	*Penn Yan, New York
April 7–9	Lowville, New York
April 13–15	Souderton, Pennsylvania
April 17–21	Manheim, Pennsylvania

** MCC partner organization*

*** canning takes place at the MCC Central States warehouse*