It will give priority to congregations with memberships of 150 or fewer.

"We know there is much work we can do as a church to bring the peace of God to our communities, especially with these needed resources," said Iris de León-Hartshorn, MC USA associate executive director. "As peace churches, it is our responsibility to get actively involved in justice where we are."

To apply for a Justice Fund grant, congregations must complete an online application. Contributions to the fund may be made online. — *MC USA*

California judge dismisses solicitation case

A California judge granted a motion Aug. 24 by a former Mennonite Brethren leader to dismiss a case of alleged solicitation of prostitution in January 2019 in Fresno, Calif.

Gary Wall, former district minister of Pacific District Conference of the U.S. Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches, initially pleaded no contest Aug. 26, 2019, to the misdemeanor charge that resulted from a Fresno Police Department operation at a Fresno massage parlor. At that time, he entered into a settlement agreement with the Fresno County district attorney's office that would allow him to withdraw the plea and have the case dismissed if he took a required class and had no arrests since the incident.

California Superior Court Judge David Gottlieb dismissed the case on Aug. 24, 2020, and granted a motion to withdraw the plea in proceedings that lasted roughly one minute.

Wall was district minister of the Pacific District from 2002 until July 2, 2019, and accepted the role of U.S. national director with the International Community of Mennonite Brethren, to begin this year. ICOMB announced that Wall withdrew from plans to serve with ICOMB on Nov. 5, 2019.

— *Anabaptist World staff*