A grant from PSMC helped launch the Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery Coalition seven years ago with our first gathering at San Francisco Mennonite Church, in a response to calls from Indigenous Peoples seeking justice and solidarity in their struggles for life. Since then, we have grown by leaps and bounds as a movement that calls the Church to address the extinction, extraction, and enslavement done “in the name of Christ” on Indigenous lands. We see it as our role as Christians to dismantle the practices, policies and theologies that continue to harm Indigenous Peoples and all the earth, and to do this all in the name of Christ, by the power of the Spirit of life.

Many of us experienced this past year as an apocalyptic “unveiling” of the systems of death. Racialized violence was exposed from the streets of Minneapolis and beyond, and we saw the COVID-19 pandemic devastate poor and Indigenous communities. At the same time, incredible movements for change and justice for Indigenous peoples have born fruit as the Dakota Access Pipeline was overturned, colonial statues were torn down (and conversations seeded about the origin myths of the U.S.), and the Supreme Court ruled that half of Oklahoma is Native land.

In the midst of all these ruptures and awakenings, we see our role as a Coalition to call the broader Church to repentance and to join the Spirit’s work of mending and repairing historic and ongoing violence. We feel grateful for continued partnership with PSMC as our fiscal sponsor and ministry partner that supports our witness for peace in the spirit of Jesus. See below for an overview of our work this past year, and be encouraged by our persistent work to dismantle the Doctrine of Discovery!

**Energizing and Organizing the Church**

- We were able to hire Katerina Friesen (based in Fresno) as a PSMC employee on behalf of the Coalition. Katerina’s part-time work (about 7 hours/week) allows us to amplify our volunteer-led movement and do more congregational organizing to build a base for broader repair work. We are grateful for the support of PSMC administration and bookkeeping, which have allowed us to
focus on growing our Coalition and spreading the call to repentance and repair in Anabaptist circles and beyond!

- In August 2020, we held our annual gathering in conjunction with a conference hosted by the Indigenous Values Initiative entitled *Mother Earth's Pandemic: The Christian Doctrine of Discovery*. Wide ranging topics and speakers from around the world connected the dots between our current pandemic, environmental devastation, the Doctrine of Discovery, and a way forward. We welcomed over 45 participants and spent time in prayer, strategy, and listening to speakers like Sarah Nahar, Manuel May, Carol Rose, and Dan Peplow share about their work for dismantling. You can read *Lynda Hollinger-Janzen’s reflections on her participation in the conference here*.

- Two years ago, the Coalition made a commitment to give 60% of all donations toward repair work with Indigenous people, with 40% going towards the continuing work of the Coalition to build relationships and educate the Anabaptist community.
  - Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we were able to send a check for almost $6000 to our 2020 “Repair Partner,” Suriname Indigenous Health Fund (SIHF). SIHF used those repair funds for two efforts: to purchase mercury test kits for the Wayana, who are being poisoned by mercury contamination used in gold mining. And now, in response to COVID-19, they helped with pandemic-related food relief efforts among the Indigenous Wayana people of Suriname to, French Guinea and Brazil.
  - Makoce Ikikcupi is the Coalition's new Indigenous repair partner until the fall of 2021. This Dakota-led organization is working toward cultural survival and land recovery. *You can read more about their work in our flier here*.

- We launched two campaigns in the past year, led by our Structural Change Committee:
  - Save Oak Flat Campaign: We are backing the San Carlos Apache in their efforts to save Oak Flat from destruction by a proposed copper mine. Oak Flat, (Chi’chil Bildagoteel) is a sacred site of the San Carlos Apache from time immemorial. It is a place of ceremony and other prayer, a place to collect acorns and medicinal plants, and a burial site. We join Coalition member Carol Rose and her congregation (Shalom Mennonite Fellowship) accompanying Apache leaders with prayer, advocacy, and presence on the land. Coalition efforts have engaged thousands of additional people and their congregations in prayer and action to protect Oak Flat.
Maya Solidarity Campaign: We have been cultivating a partnership with *Ka’ Kuxtal Much Meyaj*, a Maya community-led organization in southern Mexico, and are following their leadership in advocating for supply chain accountability. Our committee is working with allies in Europe to raise awareness about legislation under consideration that would require corporate due diligence on human rights and establish liability for social and environmental harms in their supply chains. We invite you to read Manuel May's powerful reflection, "*Maya Struggles for Mother Earth*" on our website. Manuel and other Maya leaders link current neocolonial resource extraction with the Christian “discovery” doctrines and conquest dating back to the 1500s.

- We are launching a “Repair Congregations and Communities” network of Anabaptist congregations and communities (camps, colleges, seminaries, etc.) that are participating in truth-telling and repair work in response to learning about the Doctrine of Discovery. We started with a pilot group of 7 congregations, and have already heard interest from many others in joining the network. We received a grant from the Schowalter Foundation to continue this work in 2022.

Creating Educational Resources for the Church:
- Our Cultural Change Committee developed two new educational resources for congregations, with the input of Indigenous advisors. These will be released in May of 2021:
  - 1) “Land Acknowledgment Guide” for congregations to acknowledge Indigenous lands where they live and worship.
  - 2) “Stories of Repair” reparative justice resource that shares case studies of reparative actions in response to the Doctrine of Discovery and biblical/theological reflections. We received grant funding through the JustPax Fund and MCC to support this resource development.
- Our Board Game Subcommittee raised $10,000 to develop a fun board game for engaging with historical concepts related to the Doctrine of Discovery. We signed an MOU to collaborate with the *Tesa Collective*, which has significant experience in designing and producing social justice themed board games.
- Coalition members published articles on the Doctrine of Discovery in *Vision, Anabaptist World*, and did a podcast episode with Mennonite Mission Network.
- Coalition co-founder Sarah Augustine wrote a powerful book about the DofD called *The Land is Not Empty: Following Jesus in Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery*. The book will be released on June 22nd by Herald Press: [https://heraldpress.com/books/the-land-is-not-empty/](https://heraldpress.com/books/the-land-is-not-empty/). She will be speaking
about her book in a webinar with MCUSA and MennoMedia on June 3rd at 4 p.m. PDT and on June 23rd with the Center for Sustainable Climate Solutions.

- The Coalition is producing a podcast featuring Coalition co-founders Sarah Augustine and Sheri Hostetler. They hope to launch this podcast in June of 2021!
- The documentary that we created in 2015, “Doctrine of Discovery: In the Name of Christ,” continues to be used by Christian groups around the country. The study guide and Bible reflections that accompany this documentary are also in widespread use. These materials are free and available on our website.
- We continue to maintain a regularly updated Facebook page and just joined Twitter! — @dismantlediscovery.
- We are designing a Virtual Booth space for the MCUSA Convention in July of 2021.

**Pictured Below:** Structural Change Committee Members meet with Manuel May and Álvaro Mena, members of Maya organization Ka’ Kuxtal Much Meyaj to organize in support of supply chain accountability for Indigenous and environmental rights.