



e-Bulletin

providing bi-monthly communication for PNMC

Please share widely. If you receive this e-bulletin via more than one address, let us know which address you prefer. To submit announcements or manage your subscription, email brenda@pnmc.org. See schedule at the end for publication dates and submission deadlines.

From the PNMC Office

Updated PNMC Handbook/Directory: We were due to publish an updated conference Handbook (ie Directory) this Spring since our last issue was published in Jan 2010. However, as many of you know, the day after we publish our Handbook, someone's information changes and the publication is quickly out-of-date. To address this dynamic, as well as practicing good stewardship, we have moved our directory online. If you are part of PNMC leadership, you should have received an email with detailed information about this password protected document. Complimentary hard copies will be given to each congregation and district pastors. We will also print a small number of handbooks for those without internet access, or who prefer to pay for a printed copy (\$5). We appreciate your grace and patience as we make this transition and work out any kinks. If you have any questions, please contact Brenda Zook Friesen (brenda@pnmc.org).

Many thanks to Curt Weaver, Pastor of Youth Ministries at Portland Mennonite Church, for designing our Salem 2011 logo! Check it out (and other Annual Meeting details) at http://www.pnmc.org/Meetings/Annual_Meetings/Salem_2011. If you haven't marked your calendar for June 24-25, please do so and plan to join us for this important event!

PNMC CONGREGATIONS, ORGANIZATIONS & MINISTRIES

listed chronologically, then alphabetically by organization

March 25, 6 pm: *Oregon Unit of Mennonite Disaster Service Annual Dinner Meeting* at Western Mennonite Church. The program will follow the meal. Volunteer reports on MDS projects, including work following the tornado in Aumsville, will be featured in the program. Please bring your friends and your appetite and share in the joy of our MDS experiences!

April 1-3, *OR Mennonite Women's Retreat* at Drift Creek Camp with Charlene Epp. *Come, be Renewed!* Register at http://www.driftcreek.org/Programs/Mennonite_Women and check out details for the retreat.

April 15, 7 pm: *Oregon Mennonite Sacred Choral Festival* at 1st Assembly of God in Albany, OR.

Western Mennonite School

Apr 10, 3:30 pm: *49th Annual Mennonite Schools Council Music Festival* at Salem Armory Auditorium. Join WMS and five other North American Mennonite schools for a 180 voice mass choir. This is the first time the festival will be in the Pacific Northwest! See the attached poster, as well as details at www.westernmennoniteschool.org.

May 7: *39th Annual Auction for Western Mennonite School* will be held at the Oregon State Fairgrounds in Salem.

7:30-9:30 am: Breakfast served. 9:30 am: Live auction begins. If you have wonderful items to donate, please contact Charlene Schultz (503-363-2000). Auction info will be posted in April at www.westernmennoniteschool.org.

MENNONITE CHURCH USA & OTHER CHURCHWIDE AGENCIES

listed alphabetically by organization

ADNet (Anabaptist Disabilities Network)

Including "Difficult" People (attached with this email) offers suggestions for cultivating compassionate respect, setting boundaries, and responding thoughtfully to foster inclusion and discover the gifts in people we might have labeled "difficult." The issue was written by Lora Carter Nafziger, ADNet Field Associate, and Christine Guth, ADNet Program Director. Related resources are on our website at http://www.adnetonline.org/Topics/Setting_Boundaries.

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AMBS (Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary)

AMBS is hosting **monthly webinars** to bring resources directly to you. For information and to register, visit www.ambse.edu/webinars. The next two webinars are:

Mar 24, 2-3:30 pm EDT: *Unmarried couples living together*, with Irma Fast Dueck

May 11, 2-3:30 pm EDT: *Six images of the preacher*, with Ryan Ahlgrim

Mennonite Church USA

Historical Committee

Submit entries for the 2011 **John Horsch Mennonite History Essay Contest**. Competition is in three classes: graduate school and seminary, college/university, and high school. All papers should be on a subject related to Mennonite or Anabaptist history. First place winners in each category receive \$100 and a one-year subscription to *Mennonite Quarterly Review*. Second place (\$75) and third place (\$50) will also be awarded. All entrants receive a one-year subscription to *Mennonite Historical Bulletin*.

June 15: Deadline for submissions. Send all entries to history@mennoniteusa.org or on computer disk to Mennonite Church USA Historical Committee (1700 S. Main St., Goshen, IN 46526). Contest winners will be announced in the fall.

The contest is named for John Horsch, born in Germany (1867) and died in Scottsdale, PA (1941). His work as a historian, writer and editor helped rekindle an interest in Anabaptist history among North American Mennonites.

Financial Resources

The *Congregational Budgeting Packet* has been updated for 2011. The packet is a resource for congregational finance committees and treasurers as you work on the annual congregational spending plan. Available in [Spanish](#) and [English](#).

Revitalizing a Congregational Giving Plan Giving patterns and practices evolve from one generation to another. Clif Christopher in his book, *Not Your Parents' Offering Plate*, discusses relevant information for those involved in congregational leadership who are looking to keep the vision for giving alive. Click [here](#) to access.

Mennonite Publishing Network (MPN)

If your congregation is not familiar with MPN's **Browse and Buy program**, visit <http://www.heraldpress.com/browseandbuy/>.



NEW: *Setting the Agenda: Meditations for the Organization's Soul* by Rick M. Stiffney and Edgar Stoesz. <http://store.mpn.net/productdetails.cfm?PC=1703>. There are many books on personal spirituality, and lots of interest in spirituality in the workplace. But little attention has been given to the spirituality of nonprofit organizations. *Setting the Agenda* fills that gap, offering both a reflection on the meaning, importance and expression of spirituality in a nonprofit setting, and meditations that represent the moods and challenges facing non-profit organizations.

Mennonite Women USA

Olga Piedrasanta of Guatemala, coordinator of the Movement of the Latin American Anabaptist Women Theologians, shared on the pilgrimage of Latin American women and introduced the newly published study guide, *El mensaje liberador de Jesús para las mujeres hoy* (The liberating message of Jesus for women today). The book contains reflections and presentations from the 2009 Assembly of Mennonite World Conference in Paraguay, as well as eight Bible study guides produced by Latin American women. Piedrasanta expressed hope that it would "contribute to a more just and equitable world for men and women engaged in building the kingdom of God here and now." Click here for [Spanish](#). For English translation, contact Linda Shelly (LindaS@mennonitemission.net).

Upcoming e-Bulletins:

Apr 4 (submissions due by 3/28)

Apr 18 (submissions due by 4/11)

May 2 (submissions due by 4/25)

May 16 (submissions due by 5/9)

If you would like to contribute, please send a **brief announcement** in Spanish & English with website links to brenda@pnmc.org. Our goal is to provide a valuable resource, not an In-Box jammer. If space is tight, we may omit announcements that are not as pertinent to PNMC. Announcements will run ONE time only, unless specified otherwise. *We welcome your feedback!*

For more PNMC updates: <http://pnmc.org> **e-Bulletin Archives:** <http://pnmc.org/Resources/eBulletin>
