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## From our Executive Conference Minister, *Katherine Jameson Pitts*

Where have you worshipped this summer? At camp? On the beach? In your home congregation? In unfamiliar congregations as you travelled? Summer offers the opportunity to worship in new and different ways. I worshipped with 5 different PNMC congregations during the last month and was blessed by different cultures, styles of worship, and types of buildings. Yet, in every place I felt the movement of the Spirit, observed the care of members for each other, and heard the gospel faithfully proclaimed. **We are a multidimensional conference at worship but God is present with us in all times and places.** I hope that your worship has been enriched wherever you have been this summer. Consider visiting other Mennonite congregations as you travel and rejoice in all the ways we are growing as communities of grace, peace and joy as we worship God together.

## From the PNMC Office

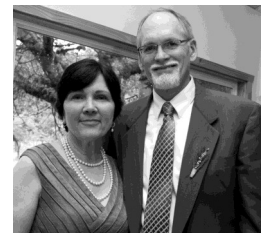
Did you know that Gather 'Round offers a curriculum specifically planned for small churches with too few children to have age group classes? The Multi-age curriculum is designed for children kindergarten through 5th grade but has tips for involving middle-schoolers as well. If your congregation has fewer children, this curriculum may help share the good news with them in a multi-age setting. [www.gatherround.org](http://www.gatherround.org)

## PNMC CONGREGATIONS, ORGANIZATIONS & MINISTRIES

*Listed chronologically, then alphabetically by organization*

### Salem Mennonite Church

You are invited to celebrate with us at the ordination service of Eric Martin at Salem Mennonite Church, **Sunday, August 19, at 3:00 p.m.** Guests will gather in the fellowship hall for a reception following the service.



### Western Mennonite School

Western Mennonite invites you to tell your friends and neighbors to come be a part of the community at WMS. **Applications for students grades 6-12 are being accepted.** [Enroll online today](#) to let Western be a part of shaping your child's future.

Join the WMS community for a time of fun, fellowship, and food while supporting the athletic program at the **15<sup>th</sup> Annual Benefit Golf Tournament**, an 18 hole 4-person team scramble tournament. [More information and registration is online!](#)

Western Mennonite School has **employment openings** for an evening cook and male dorm staff. For information visit [www.westernmennoniteschool.org](http://www.westernmennoniteschool.org).

**Sports Camps** are offered at WMS throughout August! Programs are available for students of all ages in baseball, softball, soccer and volleyball. Information and registration can be found at [www.westernmennoniteschool.org](http://www.westernmennoniteschool.org).

## MENNONITE CHURCH USA & OTHER CHURCHWIDE AGENCIES

*listed alphabetically by organization*

### AMBS

Learning opportunities will be available this fall including *"Preaching Again for the First Time: Refreshing Your Preaching Ministry"* beginning in **October**. Additionally, Marlene Kropf, AMBS professor of spiritual formation and worship, will return from retirement to lead the *Spiritual Guidance* seminar beginning in **September**.

## Everence

Elsa Jewell of Shalom Church in Spokane, WA has received a \$500 scholarship to pursue a degree at Spokane Falls Community College. Jewell is among 42 recipients. The program encourages young people to **explore the integration of faith and finances** while helping them on their educational journeys. Recipients were chosen based on academics, extracurricular activities, leadership, community involvement and responses to an essay question. Students wrote essays about someone who models the concept of stewardship. “We were encouraged to see that so many students have people in their lives who set an example of how to be good stewards of their time and resources,” said Phyllis Mishler, member benefits manager for Everence. “They’re learning important lessons about how much impact a spirit of generosity can have.”



## Goshen College

*Brian O’Leary, of Seattle Mennonite Church, reflects on his summer experience:*

When I made the decision to participate in Goshen’s Camping Inquiry Program (CIP), I wasn’t sure where I wanted to take my experience. It became a choice between Amigo Centre in Michigan or a combination of Drift Creek Camp and Camp CAMREC in Oregon and Washington. I had never worked at Amigo Centre before so I was tempted by the new experience. But in the end, the temperate rainforest of Drift Creek and the mountainous region of CAMREC influenced my decision in a westerly direction.

There is something about these camps and this region which draws me here. Drift Creek is located near the coast within a damp, rainforest climate; whereas CAMREC resides in the mountains where temperatures range from eighty-five degrees into the triple digits and five minute rain storms are followed by cloudless afternoons. Drift Creek is larger and more structured, it seems that Oregon camping people tend to build bigger, housing summer camps of up to ninety-four campers. CAMREC, on the other hand, had a big year with twenty-five campers. Each unique program had something valuable to offer. Drift Creek provided more organized camp time. Activities required forethought and planning in order to keep ninety campers entertained. As a counterpoint CAMREC is more free-flowing with room for spontaneity.

This dichotomy of the way each program functions brings me to what I will take back to Goshen, *cooperation*. Drift Creek and CAMREC are both blessed by being supported by a great conference and each being located in a wonderfully unique area. Yet while the camps are different, it was great to see how the two programs cooperate in order to help the development of young kids. Sending kids from Washington down to Drift Creek in order to experience a new, larger camp setting is just as important as sending kids from Oregon up to Washington to experience slowing camp life down and taking things as they come. I have found this summer incredibly valuable to my growth as a human being as well as to my unexpected development of an understanding regarding cooperation, a theme I had not expected to develop in such different camp settings.



## Mennonite Education Agency

MEA and Mennonite Early Childhood Network (MECN) invite those who work with small children to register for an upcoming webinar entitled “*Using Everyday Experiences to Develop Self-Regulation Skills in Children.*” The webinar, will be available **September 25, 7:00-8:30 p.m.** (Eastern). Presenter Linda L. Martin, of Montgomery Community College in Pennsylvania, will explore how sensory processing, executive functions, gender differences and classroom environment affect self-regulation and behavior. A registration fee of \$35 is required. For details visit [www.MennoniteEducation.org/webinarMECN](http://www.MennoniteEducation.org/webinarMECN).

## Mennonite Mission Network

Michael and Jana Oesch and their four children served with Mennonite Mission Network for two weeks in July through the **SOOP program**, *Service Opportunities for Older People*. Michael and Jana are from Evergreen Heights Mennonite Church in Caldwell, ID. They volunteered at Fraser Valley Gleaners warehouse in Abbotsford, British Columbia.. They sliced and diced fruits and vegetables to be dried, mixed and distributed to people in developing countries. For more information here’s a [link to the story](#).

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### Upcoming e-Bulletins:

Aug 20 (submissions due by 8/13)

Sept 3 (submissions due by 8/27)

Sept 17 (submissions due by 9/10)

Oct 1 (submissions due by 9/24)

If you would like to contribute, please send a brief announcement in Spanish & English with website links to [brenda@pnmc.org](mailto: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>

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