



e-Bulletin

providing bi-monthly communication for PNMC

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From the PNMC Office

As the final advent candles are lit, carols are sung, and children play shepherds and angels, may the Good News of Great Joy that angels brought to the shepherds long ago be made known in our congregations, homes, and hearts. **Merry Christmas, Feliz Navidad, Joyeux Noël** from the staff of PNMC, *Katherine Jameson Pitts, Barb Buxman and Brenda Kauffman.*

Important Dates:

JANUARY 18: DISTRICT PASTORS

Portland Mennonite Church, 1312 SE 35th Ave. Portland, OR 97214

Gathering from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. (Lunch provided.) (If you require lodging, please specify dates with [Barb Buxman.](#))

Nancy Kauffmann will provide input on *“Helping Congregations Make Difficult Decisions.”*

JANUARY 19: CONFERENCE COMMUNICATION COUNCIL *(Includes DPs, PNMC Board Members, one pastor along with one delegate from each congregation as well as the CIHLAN Moderator and one representative.)*

Warner Pacific College, 2219 SE 68th Ave. Portland, OR 97215 (No registration fees; donations for lunch will be received.)

In the Kardatzke building from 8:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m.

To register, send your name and Affinity Table Topic choice to Barb Buxman at office@pnmc.org.

AGENDA: Worship, sharing how/where congregations are experiencing God leading them in mission. Discussion about congregational and conference involvement with the Phoenix convention.

If we participate, how can we do so in a “not business as usual” manner?

AFFINITY TABLE TOPICS:

- Going through a pastoral transition
- Becoming a multicultural congregation
- Doing church without a paid pastor
- Life-giving worship
- Caring for the poor
- Studying your congregation and dreaming about the future
- As your congregation ages....
- Having a sister-church relationship
- Using technology to communicate in the congregation

JANUARY 20(2pm-8pm) - 21(8:30am-2:30 pm): PNMC BOARD MEETING

Pony Soldier Best Western, 9901 NE Sandy Blvd., Portland, OR 97220

(If you require lodging, please specify dates with [Barb Buxman.](#))

PNMC CONGREGATIONS, ORGANIZATIONS & MINISTRIES

Listed chronologically, then alphabetically by organization

Western Mennonite School

Come hear WMS choirs celebrate Christmas through song!

Dec 18: Middle School Christmas Concert, 7:00 pm

Dec 19: Choirs at the Capitol, 12:00 pm

Dec 20: High School Christmas Concert, 7:00 pm

Resources Available

Are you looking to expand a congregational library? Or perhaps you are a new Mennonite pastor needing more biblical commentaries? Thanks to a generous donor, the following library of books (or portions of it) can be yours for a financial donation to the PNMC: 16 volumes of the Believers Commentary, 5 volumes of the Mennonite Encyclopedia, Barclays Bible Commentary, Tyndale Bible Commentary and more. If interested, please contact [Barb Buxman.](#)



MENNONITE CHURCH USA & OTHER CHURCHWIDE AGENCIES

listed alphabetically by organization

Anabaptist Disabilities Network

Anabaptist Disabilities Network (ADNet), a small non-profit headquartered in Goshen, IN, is seeking to hire a half-time Director. ADNet is dedicated to transforming faith communities and individuals with disabilities by full inclusion in the Body of Christ. Roles include focusing on donor development, overseeing office and staff, guiding organizational communications and relating to the board of directors. For more information see web site: www.adnetonline.org. Request job description or send resumes to becky.gascho@gmail.com.

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary Feeding the Spiritual Hungers of Contemporary Christians

Many people in our congregations have an underdeveloped capacity for intimacy and fidelity, but simultaneously hunger to experience the reality of God's presence. Group spiritual direction offers possibly the simplest, most effective way to meet this hunger outside of Sunday worship. Participants will be introduced to group spiritual direction and hear from leaders who use it in their congregations.

Presenters: Marlene Kropf, Dan Schrock

Date: Monday, January 28, [Get details and register by January 7](#)

Mennonite Central Committee

This Christmas, choose a gift for family and friends that helps one more child sleep in a safe shelter, one more family add to its herd or flock or one more community have safe drinking water from a nearby source. Even a small donation can make a big difference. For details: donate.mcc.org/christmas-giving.

Mennonite Church USA

A new edition of [On The Way](#) is now available. This issue features Iris de León-Hartshorn sharing ideas on how to adapt in a rapidly changing world as well as a study guide entitled [Undoing Racism and Advancing Intercultural Transformation](#).

Mennonite Education Agency

MEA is pleased to announce recipients of the Fund for Peoplehood Education grants for the 2012–2013 academic year:

- Goshen College: \$4,000 for the "strengthening Mennonite colleges as faith mentoring environments" project directed by Bob Yoder.
- The Hispanic Pastoral and Leadership Education office of MEA: \$3,000 for Instituto Bíblico Anabautista (IBA) Tutor Retreat.
- The Lancaster campus of Eastern Mennonite University: \$2,500 for the comprehensive review and revision of the STEP Curriculum, led by Director of Pastoral Ministries Mark Wenger.
- MEA: \$2,000 towards the online Anabaptist Learning Institute project, a cooperative project of Mennonite Schools Council and MEA.

The Fund for Peoplehood Education is a donor-restricted term endowment. The fund supports initiatives that promote the distinctive features of church-sponsored education and encourage strong ties between Mennonite Church USA and its schools. Since 1995, Fund for Peoplehood Education grants have been given to interpretive projects that advocate church-sponsored schools; innovative ways of calling and orienting gifted members to the teaching ministry; orientation programs for teachers, administrators and trustees; and action-oriented research that enhances church-school relationships.

Mennonite Mission Network

Looking for leaders! Service Adventure is looking for people ages 24+ to commit to a two-year term (beginning August 2013) as unit leaders. As a leader, participants live in a unit house with a small group of 17-20 year olds and offer guidance and support as they serve and live in community. If you are committed to your Christian faith and would enjoy walking alongside young people in this way, contact Diana Cook at DianaC@MennoniteMission.net.

Upcoming e-Bulletins:

Jan 7 (submissions due by 12/26)
Jan 21 (submissions due by 1/14)
Feb 4 (submissions due by 1/28)
Feb 18 (submissions due by 2/11)

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>
