Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference

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 <u>brenda@pnmc.org</u>. See schedule at the end for publication dates and submission deadlines.

From our Interim Conference Minister, Dave Stutzman

Attention pastors and congregational leaders! There is still time to register for the <u>Prevention of Clergy Misconduct Seminar</u>. This workshop is designed to assist pastors and church leaders establish and maintain healthy boundaries while in ministry. To register for the **February 17** event, contact <u>Barb Buxman</u> (503-349-5420).

From our Conference Moderator, Linda Dibble

Seldom do we enjoy budget discussions, whether in our families, congregations or conferences. Yet, we know it takes dollar commitments to achieve certain priorities in our lives. The PNMC Board strives to achieve a balanced budget each year, but a projected flat income for 2012-2013 and higher operating costs make it increasingly difficult. This causes concern as we are in the midst of a search process for a new Executive Conference Minister.

We want to strongly support the work of district pastors, the functioning teams that work with pastors and congregations, as well as the mission and outreach opportunities that arise. Given that, we remind you that our conference and our Board is widely dispersed. The Board meets face-to-face about seven times per year for important communication and decision making. The District Pastors are being increasingly encouraged to contact our congregations to increase healthy communication.

The last several Board meetings, we have spent considerable time "Dwelling" on Ephesians 3:14-21 and pondering what it means to "know this love that surpasses knowledge", and we ask whether our faith is strong enough to believe that He "is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine." You and your congregations are urged to prayerfully consider helping PNMC move ahead in faith as we seek to be faithful to the delegate call to achieve a balanced budget and also support you as desired.

Good news from our sister congregations in NW Mexico: The next work project has begun in Coibampo, Sinaloa, Mexico. Projects include roof and floor installation; office and bathroom construction; and removing the old mud brick building. Proposed project dates are **February 11-20**. Additional time and risk is involved if volunteers travel by bus, but extra expense is involved if workers fly. *Labor of any kind* is appreciated. For details contact <u>Curt & Phyllis Dorsing</u>.

PNMC CONGREGATIONS, ORGANIZATIONS & MINISTRIES

Listed chronologically, then alphabetically by organization

Portland Mennonite Church

Don't miss a great opportunity to strengthen your caring skills. <u>Member Care: Equipping Members for Caring Ministry</u>: The two-day workshop, **January 20-21**, presented by Carolyn Holderread Heggen and Rhoda Shenk Keener will equip congregational members with tools for caring and responding effectively to the needs of others. For <u>registration</u>, contact <u>Allison Miller</u>.

Western Mennonite School

Feb. 8 – Join middle school students and parents in getting to know Western Mennonite School at Visitors' Day. Enjoy a tour, attend class, participate in chapel, and eat lunch with current students. Go <u>online</u> or call Rich Martin at 503-363-2000 for details.

Feb 8 – **WMS Boys Basketball at the Rose Garden:** Purchase your tickets now to see Western Mennonite take on Dayton at the Rose Garden. You also get a Blazer ticket for the evening game. Details and order form <u>online</u>.

The WMS Foundation announced this winter its new capital project, "Gateway to Our Future". Find out how the school campus will be improved by going to <u>www.westernmennoniteschool.org</u>.

PNMC CONGREGATIONS, ORGANIZATIONS & MINISTRIES, continued

Listed chronologically, then alphabetically by organization

Zion Mennonite Church

If you work with children or youth, consider the <u>Safe Sanctuary Awareness Training</u>, Saturday, February 18, from 10:00-noon. Presenter, Marlene Bogard, will explore ways to make churches a safe place for everyone. To register, contact <u>Iodi Hansen</u>.

Albany Mennonite Church

REGISTRATION NOTICE for "Worship and Culture after Christendom", Albany, Oregon, **Friday and Saturday, March 16-17**. Alan and Eleanor Kreider, professors at AMBS and longtime missionaries in post-Christendom England, will be presenting on topics related to their recent book, *Worship and Mission after Christendom*. Please register by March 10 with Larry Eby at <u>breneby@aol.com</u> or 541-812-1498. There will be no formal fee required, but a suggested donation of \$15.00/single and \$25.00/couple will be appreciated for those that are able. Also be aware that they are speaking at the spring meeting of the Pacific Coast Historical Society at Calvary Mennonite Church **Sunday, March 18** at 2:30 PM.

Drift Creek Camp

Please pray for the family of **Steve and Ann Ogg** who, along with their children, were formerly camp caretakers from 2006 until 2007. Their 20-year old son, Steven, died January 3rd when a gun accidently discharged while it was being put away by a younger brother. Steven will be remembered as a hardworking, enthusiastic and faithful young man. He was engaged to be married.

Salem Mennonite Church

SMC invites you to view images of the church's 50th Anniversary celebration and congregational timeline on the church's new website: <u>www.salemmennonitechurch.org</u>.

MENNONITE CHURCH USA & OTHER CHURCHWIDE AGENCIES

listed alphabetically by organization

MennoMedia

You are invited to request a free review copy of two recent releases from MennoMedia:

<u>After We're Gone</u> is a Christian perspective on estate and life planning for families that include a dependent member with a disability. Caring for an adult who is dependent due to a significant disability is a major responsibility. Find resources for the Christian family and faith community as they interact with the legal system to make provisions for ongoing care.

<u>Supportive Care in the Congregation</u> is about providing a congregational network of care for persons with significant disabilities. In the 1980s, a group of Mennonites developed an innovative proposal to support individuals with disabilities, along with their families. In this edition, an expanded chapter on theology looks at the Anabaptist roots of the book's vision. Additional chapters offer a wealth of resources to those who take up the invitation to build supportive, caring, inclusive communities of faith. *For questions, contact <u>Michael Spory</u> toll-free at 866-866-2872 (x43919).*

IN OTHER NEWS

The **Immigration Advocates Network** (IAN) is excited to announce the launch of <u>ImmigrationLawHelp.org</u>, a website to help low-income immigrants find free or low-cost legal help. The website provides information about more than 900 nonprofit immigration legal services providers in all 50 states.

Upcoming e-Bulletins:

Feb. 6 (submissions due by 1/23) Feb 20 (submissions due by 2/13) Mar 5 (submissions due by 2/27) Mar 19 (submissions due by 3/12) If you would like to contribute, please send a **brief announcement** in Spanish & English with website links to <u>brenda@pnmc.org</u>. 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: <u>http://pnmc.org</u>e-Bulletin Archives: <u>http://pnmc.org/Resources/eBulletin</u>