



# 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](mailto:brenda@pnmc.org). See Schedule on second page for publication dates and submission deadlines.

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

Planning is underway for the PNMC Annual Gathering in Portland, **June 21-22**. In addition to times for discernment, fellowship, and worship, this gathering is a prime time for learning. PNMC desires to provide training for congregational leaders as well as opportunities to explore intercultural competency, find your congregation's purposeful plan, provide worship ideas for Lent and Advent, create original children's sermons, address rural ministry needs, and discover new ways to use prayer and scripture. It was difficult to choose which sessions to attend last year and it looks like this year will be no different! I hope you will join us to explore ideas, learn new skills, and grow so that you and your congregation can continue "Speaking About God's Deeds of Power" in your world.

## From the PNMC Office



*We regret to inform you that, due to unexpected circumstances, the Phoenix Express charter bus, scheduled to leave from Seattle south to Los Angeles then on to the Mennonite Church USA convention in Phoenix has been cancelled. We apologize for any inconvenience this cancellation may have caused.*

While you may know that the Phoenix Convention will have programming for adults and high school youth, perhaps you didn't know that activities for children from age zero on up will also be provided. Tonya and Ryan Bartel are giving leadership to a team of creative, energetic folks from Hesston College who are planning a week full of worship and activities for JUNIOR YOUTH. Young teens will engage in opportunities for faith formation and meeting new friends from across the church. If you have a student from your congregation interested in attending, it's not too late!

**Early registration ends April 25.** A short info sheet is available [here](#) to share with junior youth and their parents. Learn more by visiting [www.MennoCon.com](http://www.MennoCon.com). If financial assistance is needed, scholarship information is available [here](#).

## PNMC CONGREGATIONS, ORGANIZATIONS & MINISTRIES

Listed chronologically, then alphabetically by organization

### West Coast MCC



Applications are being accepted for our **2013 Global Anabaptist Peacebuilders Institute June 13-21, 2013**. Global Anabaptist Peacebuilders are young leaders from across the country who participate in active learning in areas of relief, development and peace in the name of Christ. The GAP Institute includes a selection of courses designed to challenge, excite, and stretch minds through classes, field trips and activities. Students will see and experience the effects of global integration from theological, economic, sociological, ecological and political perspectives. [More information here.](#)

The **West Coast MCC Idaho Panhandle Bike Ride** has been scheduled for **August 3-8, 2014**. Unlike other years, the ride will be entirely "rails to trails" (*meaning no hills*), protected bike paths, and out and back rides, so participants can determine their day according to their ability. It will be on the Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes, the Hiawatha Trail, and the Centennial Trail, all in beautiful northern Idaho. The committee is working on camp site selections, determining routes, and securing volunteers. **Save the dates!**

## MENNONITE CHURCH USA & OTHER CHURCHWIDE AGENCIES

listed alphabetically by organization

### Anabaptist Biblical Mennonite Seminary

A webinar, entitled **Discerning the Powers: Moral Discernment, Theology and Mission**, will be presented by Professor Jamie Pitts **Wednesday, May 1, 2:00-3:30 p.m.** Discussion will focus on the theology of the principalities and powers in light of its biblical roots and contemporary theological treatment in the work of Berkhof, Yoder, Wink and others. "Powers theology" will be examined as a practical theology for the church's mission. [Get details and register by April 25.](#)

AMBS is seeking an individual or couple to coordinate the work of short term and local volunteers. If you like to work with people, have basic computer skills and are well organized, please consider this volunteer assignment for a one-year, renewable term. The position opens **August 1**; start date is negotiable. [Get details.](#)

### Everence

Everence, located in Goshen, IN, has been awarded LEED Gold certification from the U.S. Green Building Council for the addition to its new corporate offices. LEED, which stands for **Leadership in Energy and Environment Design**, is a rating system for green buildings. Gold is the second-highest certification awarded by the Green Building Council. Read more [here](#).

### MennoMedia

With the dream of raising a generation of children who are inspired to shine God's light in the world, development of a new Bible story-based curriculum called [Shine: Living in God's Light](#), is underway by MennoMedia and Brethren Press. Work began more than 18 months ago to prepare this successor to *Gather 'Round: Hearing and Sharing God's Good News*. For congregations using *Gather 'Round*, the 2014 transition to *Shine* will be seamless. "We're very excited about *Shine's* emphasis on God's light shining through us," said Rose Stutzman, project director. *Shine's* foundational Scriptures include **Isaiah 9:2** and **Matthew 5:14-16**. "Jesus told us, 'You are the light of the world,'" explained Rebecca Seiling, project developer. "*Shine's* materials take this seriously and serves to inspire children and their families to be that light in the world." Designed for children ages three through grade eight, *Shine* will incorporate the latest understandings of the ways children learn. Sessions include an emphasis on teaching prayer and other spiritual practices, and will highlight peace themes. The flexible multiage resource serves congregations with a small number of children of different ages.

### Mennonite Church USA

When 6,000 Mennonites gather in Phoenix, a lot is possible! In keeping with the theme, "**Citizens of God's Kingdom: Healed in Hope/Ciudadanos del Reino de Dios: Sanados por la Esperanza**," attendees will have opportunities to explore what it means to live out our primary allegiance to God. There will be opportunities to learn about some of the ways our country's definitions of citizenship operate, and how we can engage in conversations about immigration and peacebuilding. Options include a trip across the Arizona/Mexico border; joining a traveling choir of Mennonites singing at sites of suffering and hope throughout Phoenix; becoming part of a dancing Mennonite flash mob; and attending a variety of learning experiences centered on these topics.

For more information, visit [www.MennoniteUSA.org/Convention](http://www.MennoniteUSA.org/Convention).

Mennonite Church USA has announced a new 1/4 time position as **Administrative Coordinator** working with Iris de León-Hartshorn. Iris is Director of Transformative Peacemaking for the Executive Board. A complete job description available [here](#).

### Mennonite Disaster Service

Volunteers are urgently needed to finish, grade, form and pour slabs for a new storage building at the MDS warehouse in **Columbus, MS**. The project includes: 60' x 100' x 6" concrete slab for main building, 10 - 2' wide x 3' deep footings for metal frame "I" beams, 16' x 100' x 6" concrete slab with "swale" or gutter along front of building to direct water, 16' x 40' x 6" concrete slab for wash bay. This can be done at any time with the exception of May 7-9. Housing and food can be provided. Transportation can also be coordinated. For information on tools and logistics, please contact Brett Troyer, Project Logistics Coordinator at [\(717\) 735-3536](tel:7177353536) or [btroyer@mds.mennonite.net](mailto:btroyer@mds.mennonite.net).

Additionally, the Staten Island, NY, ON/NY Unit Project needs a project director, office manager, cooks and crew leaders for the month of May. The Far Rockaway, NY, project needs a crew leader for May and cooks starting May 18. To assist, call 800-241-8111 or email [syoder@mds.mennonite.net](mailto:syoder@mds.mennonite.net) for information.

#### Upcoming e-Bulletins:

May 6 (submissions due by 4/29)  
 May 20 (submissions due by 5/13)  
 June 3 (submissions due by 5/27)  
 June 17 (submissions due by 6/10)

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>