



# 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.

## PNMC CONGREGATIONS, ORGANIZATIONS & MINISTRIES

Listed chronologically, then alphabetically by organization

### Eugene Mennonite Church



The congregation celebrated with member, **Susan Ban**, as she was named the 2013 recipient of the **Regional Journey Award** from the Everence office in Denver, CO. This award recognizes that Ban has responded to God's call by using her many gifts to work in the local community with those who are less fortunate and the least powerful: *homeless families and adults with disabilities*. The award was presented November 10, 2013, during the worship service at Eugene Mennonite Church. Created in 2001, the Journey Award highlights what people of faith are doing as stewards of their God-given gifts. "Susan consistently emphasizes the importance of the stewardship of our presence, as well as of our talents, time and money. As we (Eugene Mennonite) witness the way Susan uses her gifts with joy, enthusiasm, and humility, we are inspired to examine our own lives to explore how our own gifts can contribute to God's work." Becky Schenk, Everence Advocate at Eugene

Mennonite said. Ban exemplifies her own core values of healing, hope, possibility for renewal and recovery to achieve greater good in the world in the way she lives out her stewardship journey. She is an example to many of how it is possible to integrate your faith in all aspects of life. Ban attends Eugene Mennonite Church and is the Executive Director of ShelterCare, a human service non-profit agency in Lane County, Oregon.

### NW Mexico Ministry



While attending the MEDA convention in Wichita, KS, Curt and Phyllis Dorsing from Warden Mennonite Church, Warden, WA, were amazed by how MEDA partners with agencies to achieve far-reaching goals affecting millions of people around the world. Here in the northwest PNMC has accomplished much in the past by sending missionaries, starting schools, and planting churches. Like MEDA, PNMC partners with like-minded agencies. In April 2013, a leadership training seminar was held in Navojoa, Sonora, Mexico. Six contributing mission groups came from Pennsylvania, Mexico and PNMC. Rick Troyer, Simon Rendon and Samuel Moran represented PNMC by teaching and

leading at the conference. In northwest Mexico, PNMC has helped build 6 churches and 2 parsonages in the last 12 years. But we didn't do it alone. Brothers and sisters from the Mennonite Colony in Durango, Mexico stepped up to install the roof. This is the second year they have lent a hand to do what we from the PNMC and the local brothers and sisters in Mexico could not have done. *Left is a photo of the 2013 sanctuary project in Tabejojeca, Sinaloa.*



The future for the NW Mexico Mennonite Churches is both exciting and challenging. It is exciting because growth is happening at an amazing rate! The church at Las Lajitas recently baptized 25 of 85 new converts, and Cohuibampo has gained 150 attendees in the past two years. It is challenging because the region has been suffering from a drought and most local worshipers are day laborers with only a subsistence wage. Further reasons for excitement are the two congregations on the waiting list for new sanctuaries. But this is difficult because they have had to wait several years for their chance to have new worship space. *Left is a photo of the present sanctuary in El Refugio whose congregation has been waiting for 6 years for a sanctuary to replace the lean-to in which they now worship.* What an opportunity for us to help fulfill their hopes and dreams!

It takes approximately \$45,000 to build the average sanctuary there. If God has put it in your heart to partner with PNMC, the colony Mennonites in Durango, and the local congregations in Mexico, then please send contributions to Harold Nussbaum earmarked for Mexico Work Projects. We hope for willing hands to build, and enough funds to support a work project in February 2014.

### Zion Mennonite Church

ZMC is extending an invitation to all to attend its annual **Sing Your Own Messiah**, an unrehearsed selection of choruses and solos from Handel's oratorio, **Sunday, December 15 at 4:30 pm**. All are welcome to either join in the singing or just listen. There will be a time for fellowship and refreshments afterward. Zion is located at 6124 S. Whiskey Hill Road, Hubbard, OR.

## MENNONITE CHURCH USA & OTHER CHURCHWIDE AGENCIES

listed alphabetically by organization

### Goshen College

Follow this [link](#) to read how Goshen College alum and Oregon-native, Mark Histan of Corvallis Mennonite Fellowship, joined his brother Martin in Africa to help spread peace through peanut butter.

### Mennonite Central Committee



In the Dalinding village on the island of Cebu, Philippines, community members took shelter in elementary school classrooms until the roof blew off. Dan (*left*) and Jeanne Jantzi, Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) area directors for southeast Asia, visited the school on Nov. 19, meeting with students and teachers who had returned to classes in the damaged school. The third-grade teacher asked the children to move their desks out under the awning to provide shelter from the sun. "Their teacher told me she didn't know what else to do, so they did math problems this morning," Jeanne Jantzi reported. "Usually the children bring their lunches, but today there was nothing to bring." As MCC increases its response to the typhoon, the Jantzis, who are from Lowville, N.Y. and based in Chiang Mai, Thailand, are in the Philippines to meet with partners and determine further responses. The Jantzis traveled to this area with Church World Service (CWS), which provided a food distribution in the community on Nov. 20. MCC is partnering with CWS in a \$200,000 response on the island of Leyte in three communities south of Tacloban. Visit [mcc.org/typhoon](http://mcc.org/typhoon) to see more photos from their visit and read more about MCC's typhoon response. (MCC Photo/Jeanne Jantzi)

### Mennonite Disaster Service

**MDS RESPONDS TO MIDWEST TORNADOS:** Investigations and responses are continuing after recent tornados that devastated multiple communities in the Midwest. Many communities are not yet open to volunteers as the command centers are still organizing and search and rescue operations are still underway. MDS is in contact with Mennonite Churches in Washington and Normal, IL, and Kokomo, IN, and is currently working on the logistics of a response. Updates will be posted as they come in. Please pray for all of those who were affected. [Click here to see photos from Washington, IL, on Facebook.](#)

### Mennonite Women USA



Carolyn Heggen and Rhoda Keener just returned from leading a Sister Care seminar in Santa Cruz, Bolivia Nov. 13-16 for 39 women leaders from six South American countries – Paraguay, Uruguay, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, and Bolivia. Energy and participation were high during the four days the women were together with many women sharing their stories in the context of the teaching. Leaders were given close to 500 additional copies of the manual, "Cuidandonos Entre Mujeres" to use in their congregations. Doreley Fernandez, Bolivia, reflected: "Thanks for enriching our lives through this workshop." Ester Bornes, Argentina, said, "Thanks for your knowledge and care in addressing sensitive issues." Carolyn noted after the workshop, "How rewarding it is to see that even though the educational level of the participants ranged from illiteracy to graduate degrees, the materials engaged all of the women and they were anxious to return to their communities and share what they had learned with their congregations and communities."

*Pictured L to R: Elizabeth Masabi, Carolyn Heggen, Rhoda Keener, and Martha Morales.*

---

#### Upcoming e-Bulletins:

Dec 16 (submissions due by 12/9)

Jan 6 (submissions due by 12/25)

Jan 20 (submissions due by 1/13)

Feb 3 (submissions due by 1/27)

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>

---