

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 on second page for publication dates and submission deadlines.

From the PNMC Office

The Corinthian Plan has begun an open enrollment, which will continue until **March 31, 2014**, for employees of eligible Mennonite Church USA congregations. The open enrollment matches that of the Insurance Marketplaces, set up as part of the Affordable Care Act. (*If congregations would like to enroll in the plan outside of the open enrollment window, they still may apply but must go through an underwriting process.*) Despite a projected national medical inflation rate of 10.5%, the average premium increase for *The Corinthian Plan* will be less than half that amount, but costs will vary by congregation, based on demographic changes. Congregations participating in the plan but waiving health coverage will see a reduction in the waiver fee in 2014. Other costs, such as dental and vision premiums and Fair Balance Fund contributions, will remain the same. *The Corinthian Plan* continues to maintain stable participation and a strong financial position as the 2014 plan year begins **January 1, 2014**. Keith Harder, director, said the board will continue to evaluate *The Corinthian Plan* to ensure that it continues to advance the goals of the church and the needs of the congregations it serves. As part of The Church Alliance, *The Corinthian Plan* administrator, Everance Financial, also continues to encourage lawmakers to make changes to the health care law that would solidify the ongoing value of *The Corinthian Plan* for the denomination. Questions? Contact Keith Harder, at <u>keithh@mennoniteusa.org</u> or by phone at (866) 866-2872 ext. 34255.

PNMC CONGREGATIONS, ORGANIZATIONS & MINISTRIES

Listed chronologically, then alphabetically by organization

Drift Creek Camp

You are invited to the **2013** Annual Members Meeting and Family Camp at DCC November 8-10. Participants are invited to a festive weekend of fellowship featuring homemade donuts and crafts for kids. The annual business meeting will take place Saturday morning followed by a benefit auction to raise funds for improving DCC's caretaker cabin. Participants will be able to experience making apple butter in a copper kettle over an open fire throughout the day on Saturday. On Sunday, guests will have the opportunity to hear Dave Hockman-Wert's presentation on "The Breath of God, a closer look at trees." *To register, visit <u>www.driftcreek.org.</u>*

Eugene Mennonite Church

Join folks from Eugene for a local earning opportunity! <u>THARS</u>, (*Trauma Healing and Reconciliation Services*), will be in Eugne presenting a seminar for professionals and the public **Thursday**, **October 24**, **8:30** a.m. until **3:30** p.m. at Eugene Friends Church, located at 3495 West 18th Avenue. The seminar is presented by Dr. David Niyonzima, a Quaker pastor and Executive Director of THARS, a non-profit psychological healing agency based in Burundi. *The organization presented at Seattle Mennonite last week*.

MCC West Coast

Mark your calendar! The 11th Biannual MCC West Coast bike ride will be **August 3 - 8, 2014** in northern Idaho with mostly rails to trails paths. For more information, contact Beth Landis, committee chair, at <u>bethelandi@aol.com</u> or <u>208-939-6030</u>.

Seattle Mennonite Church



Please join Seattle Mennonite on **Saturday**, **November 16** to **celebrate the ministry** and presence of Weldon and Marg Nisly. Come share your memories, offer a tribute and wish them well. If you would like to share, please contact <u>jonathan@seattlemennonite.org</u> or 206-361-4630, ext. 7. A potluck dinner will follow. The main dish will be provided. Folks with last names beginning with A-M bring salads and N-Z bring desserts. Please RSVP to <u>Marsha@seattlemennonite.org</u> or 206-361-4630 by **November 2.** *All are welcome to attend the SMC worship service* **Sunday**, **November 17**, *beginning at 10:00 a.m.* (*Event link on PNMC's page on <u>Facebook</u>.*)

MENNONITE CHURCH USA & OTHER CHURCHWIDE AGENCIES

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listed alphabetically by organization

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary

Pastors Week, Jan. 27–30, will explore how different perspectives can bring unity and clarity. "*Help me see Jesus! Help me see, Jesus!*" is the theme that will link presentations from five viewpoints. These professors believe that helping the congregation focus on Jesus is an essential leadership task, and that diverse points of view make the picture of Jesus more clear. Presenters are:

- Rachel Miller Jacobs, D.Min., who believes the Bible is best read in diverse communities;
- Andy Brubacher Kaethler, Ph.D., who asks Christians to be readers of both the Bible and culture;
- Safwat Marzouk, Ph.D., who invites faith communities to think critically about how they see "the other";
- Jamie Pitts, Ph.D., who challenges us to be oriented by Scripture and attuned to global currents of Anabaptism; and
- Allan Rudy-Froese, Ph.D., who encourages pastors to embody God's gift of words.

Pastors Week is an annual event, offering congregational leaders an opportunity for learning, worship and fellowship. Details and registration are available at <u>www.ambs.edu/pastorsweek</u>. Day-time <u>leadership clinics</u> will be offered **Jan. 27**. Offerings include the place of Anabaptism in our current post-modern context, ministering with sex offenders in the congregation, and an opportunity for new pastors to learn from each other about challenges and gifts of early ministry.

Everence

The chance to share a message and win is now open for video producers and filmmakers of all levels. The Everence video contest **"Money Talks: What Are You Hearing?"** is now accepting entries until the deadline of **November 15, 2013**. The contest is open to anyone ages 15 to 25 and features cash prizes to the top three winners—who will be selected during an online voting campaign, December 16 to January 13, 2014. The winners will be announced January 14. Details are available at <u>Everence.com/moneytalks</u>.

Goshen College



The GC worship team, **Parables**, uses music, stories and original drama to guide others in worship. This year's program was developed by the eight student members, with direction from Deb Brubaker, professor of music, and Gwen Gustafson-Zook, minister of worship. Their theme, "Where the River Will Never Run Dry," focuses on songs and stories of healing and home, addressing the deep-seated need to experience God as the ever -present source of our belonging. "As the students worked with the music, biblical texts and their own stories, central issues of healing and home emerged," said Gustafson-Zook. *Members include: Prashansa Dickson, Allahbad, India; Miranda Earnhart, Milford, IN; Martin Flowers, Nappanee, IN; Benjamin Ganger, Goshen, IN; Rachel Mast, Corvallis, OR; Becky Snider, Broadway, VA; Brody Thomas, Springs, PA; and Paul Zehr, Carthage, N.Y.*

Mennonite Church USA

Mennonite Church USA's Women In Leadership blog recommends two **worship resources**. "Do You See This Woman?" is a worship series that focuses on stories of biblical women in ways that give voice to the dynamics of patriarchy today. In addition, this year's worship materials for Mennonite Heritage Sunday on **October 27** titled "The Gifts of Women," focus on remembering the many different ways that the church sometimes has and other times has not valued the gifts of women. To learn more, see the Women in Leadership blog at <u>www.mennoniteusa.org/category/women-in-leadership</u>.

Mennonite Mission Network

Brian O'Leary of Seattle, WA, began a one year term of <u>Mennonite Voluntary Service</u> August 22, 2013 in Madison, WI, as a Food and Gardens Division Manager with Community Action Coalition. O'Leary, son of Robbin and Michael O'Leary, is a member of Seattle Mennonite Church and a 2013 graduate of Goshen College.

James Lang, of Portland, OR, began a one year service term with the <u>Service Adventure</u> August 17, 2013. Lang will be living in community with other young adults in a unit house in Raleigh, N.C. James is a 2013 graduate of Madison High School and the son of Debra and Timothy Lang. He is a member of Portland Mennonite Church, Portland, OR.

Upcoming e-Bulletins:

Nov 4 (submissions due by 10/28) Nov 18 (submissions due by 10/11) Dec 2 (submissions due by 11/25) Dec 16 (submissions due by 12/9) 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>