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From the PNMC Office

The Conference Communication Council meeting at Zion Mennonite Church, Hubbard, OR, is **Saturday, February 8**. The gathering begins at 9:00 a.m. and concludes at 4:00 p.m. Each congregation is invited to send one pastor and one delegate. The discernment foundation will be based on Romans 14-15. The agenda includes reflection on what was learned about immigration in Phoenix; affinity group sharing and asking, "How can we strengthen relationships and find value in our diversity in the midst of theological and ethical differences?" If you have not yet arranged housing and would like assistance, let Barb Buxman know when you register by email to office@pnmc.org. (Please note that Barb will be out of the office until **January 27**.) *There will be no charge for the event but lunch donations will be appreciated.*

Pastors' and Leaders' Retreat, **March 2-3, 2014** at [Menucha Retreat Center](#), Corbett, OR: Congregational leaders and pastors, along with spouses, are invited to this time of rest and reflection prior to the season of Lent. Check-in begins at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday and the retreat will conclude following supper on Monday. Costs are \$80/person for overnight or \$40 for commuters. PLEASE NOTE: Registrations need to be received prior to the **February 7** deadline. Even if you have already indicated that you plan to attend, please confirm your registration by contacting [Barb Buxman](#) at your earliest convenience. *Send payments to PNMC, PO Box 301036, Portland, OR 97294.*

PNMC CONGREGATIONS, ORGANIZATIONS & MINISTRIES

Listed chronologically, then alphabetically by organization

Albany Mennonite Church

All are invited to participate in a benefit lunch to support the important work of **Sister Care International** led by Rhoda Keener and Carolyn Heggen on **Saturday, January 25, 2014** at Albany Mennonite Church, beginning at 12:00 p.m. Participants will enjoy mealtime music by Festival Band and Carolyn will share how God is working in women's lives around the world through Sister Care. *The RSVP date has been extended to **Wednesday, January 22***. Contact [Nancy Friesen](#) (541-928-1865) to reserve your spot.

Drift Creek Camp

PNMC women are all invited to the annual **Women's Retreat, April 4-6** at DCC. Guest speaker, Carol Honderich, of Mennonite Mission Network in Goshen, IN, will present sessions based on Jeremiah 29:11 with the theme being *For I know the plans I have for you: Lessons from the Women of the Bible*. Participants will enjoy group sessions, forest hikes, time for creativity and learning new skills as well as an optional book discussion on *The Invention of Wings*, a novel by Sue Monk Kidd. The retreat cost is \$95, but \$10 can be deducted if you register before **February 28**, reducing the cost to only \$85. Please take advantage of this opportunity! Register today at www.driftcreek.org.

Portland Mennonite Church



PMC has invited Don Blosser, A Bible scholar and retired Professor for Goshen College, to spend the **February 21-23** weekend in the Northwest talking about the Bible. The purpose is to hear basic ideas about the origin, history and context of the Bible but also begin to see the overarching themes from the text and ask ourselves questions about what it means to live with these themes. In Don Blosser's words, "We want to read the Bible with integrity. We recognize its culture and history, but our goal is to be faithful to its radical vision that keeps tugging us into our shared future."

[Registration & schedule details here](#). *Space limited to 70 participants; a free-will offering accepted. Questions? Call 503-234-0559.*

MCC West Coast

Registration begins today, **January 20th** for the 11th Biannual **MCC West Coast Bike Ride, August 3 - 8**, in the Idaho Panhandle. More information is available at <http://westcoast.mcc.org/bikeidaho>. *(Please note that the website in the last edition of the e-Bulletin was invalid.)*

Salem Mennonite Church

Salem Mennonite Church, Salem, OR, is seeking qualified applicants for a quarter-time **Community Center Coordinator**. Responsibilities include providing social service programming at the church for a high-needs neighborhood. Desired qualifications: strong interpersonal skills and organizational abilities. Spanish language skills desired. Position open until filled. Job description and application available at <http://www.salemmennonitechurch.org/>.

MENNONITE CHURCH USA & OTHER CHURCHWIDE AGENCIES

listed alphabetically by organization

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary



Two new professors appointed:

Malinda Berry, PhD, (*left photo*) will begin this summer as assistant professor of theology and ethics. She currently is on the faculty of Bethany Theological Seminary in Richmond, IN. Previously she earned a Master of Arts: Peace Studies from AMBS.

Janna Hunter-Bowman, PhD candidate, (*right photo*) will begin in summer 2015 as assistant professor of peace studies and social ethics. She is completing her PhD at the University of Notre Dame. She also earned a

Master of Arts: Peace Studies from AMBS. Sara Wenger Shenk, AMBS president, describes these new professors as "two exceptionally dynamic, intellectually creative witnesses to God's reconciling mission in the world."

Everence

The Everence Board of Directors has announced a Presidential Succession Committee to appoint a new CEO for employment in September 2014. The board asked Pat Swartzendruber, who has served on the Everence Board for nine years, to chair the committee. "The board has asked the committee to seek a leader with financial services leadership experience and one who has joined Anabaptist beliefs with stewardship practices," said Swartzendruber. "A leader with experience in mutual fund operations, investing, banking, charitable services and insurance will be sought as well as one with a commitment to the principles of socially responsible investing."

MennoMedia

Beginning **January 1**, MennoMedia increased its prices in Canada by 10 percent. This difficult decision was due to increased costs of doing business in Canada, including shipping expenses, as well as a yearlong drop in the Canadian-U.S. dollar exchange rate. Russ Eanes, executive director, said, "We regret that we have to do this, but the difference in the exchange rate over the past year is the primary reason. Since late spring the Canadian dollar has dropped against the U.S. dollar. For several years we have had a policy of adjusting prices, based on that exchange rate. It has gone both ways [up and down] more than once."

Mennonite Church USA

Follow this [link](#) for the January edition of *Equipping*.

Mennonite Disaster Service

The **All Unit Meeting of Mennonite Disaster Service** is being held at the DoubleTree Hotel in Bakersfield, CA, **February 7-8, 2014**. The meeting begins with dinner on Friday night and ends with a banquet on Saturday. Registration is available at mds.mennonite.net. Registration cost is \$95.00 including meals; when registering by Saturday January 4th; after January 4th it is \$110. Room rates at the DoubleTree are \$95.00/night in the MDS room block which is available through January 4, 2014. The group name is California Unit Mennonite Disaster Service Code MDS. Must be used to receive the \$95.00/night rate plus tax. Phone number for room reservations is [888-779-4694](tel:888-779-4694) or local number at the DoubleTree [661-323-7111](tel:661-323-7111).

MDS has opportunities for skilled workers, especially in building trades, site supervisors, project directors and cooking staff, but the program can put volunteers to work regardless of skill level. *To schedule an assignment, call (800) 241-8111.*

Mennonite Women USA

Twenty-two women from Tanzania, Kenya, Congo, South Africa, India, Korea, Paraguay, Colombia, Honduras, Guatemala and Mexico are the recipients of the **International Women's Fund** scholarships awarded by Mennonite Women USA for 2014. These women are all studying theology and church leadership in local Bible schools, colleges or universities to prepare for pastoral leadership, teaching and pastoral care in their communities. The Board of Directors of MW USA annually awards \$10,000 for women who are referred by local church leaders. These scholarship funds have assisted more than 80 women over the past 15 years. Graduates have gone on to serve in significant leadership roles in their congregations, conferences and internationally, with organizations such as Mennonite World Conference. Visit MW USA's website for [a complete list of the 2014 grantees](#).

Upcoming e-Bulletins:

Feb 3 (*submissions due by 1/27*)

Feb 17 (*submissions due by 2/10*)

Mar 3 (*submissions due by 2/24*)

Mar 17 (*submissions due by 3/10*)

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>