

Evangel

Fresh Call to Authentic Christian Service Sets Tone for Mt. View 2006

By Susan McCarthy Palmer

The true nature, life and call of a servant of Jesus Christ was the focus of keynote messages given by Janet Plenert, Executive Secretary of Witness, a missional program of the Mennonite Church Canada, at Mt. View 2006, the PNMC annual meeting held June 23-25 in Kalispell, Montana.

The gathering, which also included key decisions on the 2006-2007 budget, the direction and plans of the Structure and Vision Task force, the PNMC/CIENMN Covenant, new members and chairpersons of various committees, as well as the creation of Faith and Practice Forums, reception of Iglesia Cristiana Roca de Salvacion as a new member church, an update on Weldon Nisly's credential status, and introduction of Sam Adams, pastor of a new church plant, River Mennonite, in Bend, Oregon, drew some 275 delegates, pastors, chaplains and other church leadership to Montana.

Relationship: Key to Authentic Christian Service

The key to authentic Christian servanthood is relationship, Janet told the assembly (Matt. 7:21-23). This relationship with Christ, developed as we follow Him, she asserted, is the foundation of any genuine Christian service (John 12:26).

The ultimate picture of servanthood, Jesus was not only humble, meek, gentle, obedient, loyal and empathetic, but powerful, transformative, disturbing, emotional, passionate, dynamic and angry for justice's sake, Janet told the assembly. We, as His servants, are called to serve in the same, multifaceted way.

We do this, she said, not by ourselves, but as part of that interdependent community, the body of Christ. All of us are gifted in such a way as to provide essential parts of that body which are most fully expressed as a community (1 Cor. 12: 7-12).

The basic focus of that service, she said, is "to gather up all things in Christ, nurturing as a mother hen gathering her chicks. That is our task, if it is God's." (Eph. 1:8b-10)

Youth Are the Church of Today, Not Just Tomorrow!

This task is not assigned to adults alone, Janet said, but to children and youth as well. "We sin against our youth when we make comments like 'Well, there's the church of tomorrow! What a great bunch of kids they are!' or ask them questions like 'What do you want to be when you grow up?'" God has gifted people. Those gifts don't start when we turn 25 or get married. Gifts start in the womb (e.g. Psalm 139, John the Baptist), and it's our job to nurture and release (children and youth) and put them to use for God's Kingdom today, however old or young they are. Their job isn't just playing; it's to be a light. It's to model to their friends. It's to have a sense whether God did something around them today, where God was on the playground or at school today? Where is God in your life? If the youth are not the church of today, they are not the church and will not be the church of tomorrow because tomorrow never comes. Today is our reality and God's church is a church for all people, right where they are!"

Believers are also called to teach what they have learned to our children and our children's children (Deut. 4:1-24), Janet said.



Keynote speaker Janet Plenert, Executive Secretary of MC Canada's Witness mission program, inspired attendees to be the church today, living out authentic Christianity in their daily lives.



A Word from Our Moderator

By any measure, Kalispell 2006 was a huge success. There were over 270 people registered, and more than 35 of them were youth! The members of Mountain View Mennonite Church did a wonderful job of organizing and feeding everyone. The facilities of the Lutheran Church proved to be very comfortable and their members extremely hospitable. Janet Plenert was an engaging speaker, leaving all ages with “many things to think about.” Using the “table model” for discussions at Delegate Sessions was re-affirmed as “the way to do work,” and the weather was gorgeous!

The Structure and Vision Task Force received affirmation for the work they have done the past year on mission and values statements for PNMC, but noted that the “hard work” on structure and finance is just beginning!

The delegates adopted the proposal submitted by the Pastoral Leadership Committee to institute Faith and Life discussion forums.

Both of these last two items need input from all of our member congregations and their delegates and pastors. As PNMC moves into the next few years – our “teenage years” as a conference – we want to be very intentional about how we communicate and work with each other.

As the new moderator for PNMC, I would like to request that you remember PNMC, its committees and board members, its conference pastors and teacher and especially its moderator in your daily prayers.

Shalom,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charlotte L. Hardt".

Charlotte Hardt, Moderator

“Wait for the Lord; be strong, take courage, and wait for the Lord.” Psalms 27:14

A stylized, handwritten-style logo for the journal "Evangel". The word is written in a bold, cursive font with a thick underline.

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THE CHURCH: LOCAL AND BEYOND

By Sheldon Burkhalter
Conference Minister

I have to admit I love attending conference sessions! It's not just that I am now a conference minister and heavily invested in the well-being of a conference of congregations. Ever since I became a pastor thirty-four years ago, I have been impressed with congregations gathering to worship, work, hear what God is doing, and make decisions together. Even in my role as a director of church relations representing one of our colleges at ten or more district conferences a year, I was fascinated with the richness and variety of ways conferences function.

From the beginning, "roll call" has been a particular delight -- hearing the name of each congregation read and seeing pastors and delegates stand to be acknowledged. It makes me feel the bigness of God and His love and activity beyond my little corner. It's wonderful to feel included among God's expansive mission.

This feeling probably started much earlier attending youth conferences in my home state and church-wide.

I don't remember making many new friends beyond my own youth group at such gatherings—I was shyer then—but simply knowing that there were many youth groups like mine helped me gain a larger picture of God's grace. I know such gatherings helped form my sense of calling to be a pastor.

Meeting in Kalispell for conference assembly was for me another highlight in gaining God's vision of church. Our congregations don't all look alike. We even have some sharp differences. But it's so encouraging to see the special effort members make to work together in conference. This year conference leaders feared that meeting in Kalispell on the geographic "edge"—4-12 hours driving-time for most of our churches—might inhibit attendance. But what a pleasant surprise to see 270 register, including 35 youth—equal to past attendance! And what a gift to experience the efforts and warm hospitality of the Mountain View planners! From my experience attending many conferences, PNMC is special with wide participation, the number of engaging seminars, inspiring worship.

The **most important** part of my joy in conference attendance is that it is biblical. It is right that when each of us thinks of church we think first of our local congregation. Where the local congregation fully commits to be the church of Jesus Christ—to worship God, nurture faith, witness in the power of the Holy Spirit—it is truly the church. This is the kind of community the apostles sought to establish. Yet the apostles always thought of the church (in the singular or plural) as many communities: worshipping, nurturing, witnessing in house churches in a city or region or around the known world.

So when congregations gather and work together, to encourage one another to be faithful, to share resources, to live out their unity in Christ, they are being the church God desires. And yes the challenges of our differences (economically, culturally, even convictions) need to help us to more fully seek and experience God's grace.



Mt. View Report (Continued from Page 1)

This call is not only to those of us who have flesh and blood children or grandchildren. It is to all of us. "We place a strong focus on flesh and blood relationships," Janet commented, "And forget that there is another family, held together by the blood of Jesus and His Holy Spirit -- the church."

Janet called those adults without children or grandchildren to find a child or youth without a parent or grandparent whom they could mentor and disciple in the things of God. Equally she called young people to "cry out for", even "demand" mentoring and discipleship from the church. "You get to stand up and stomp your feet and wave your hands and say, 'I need a mentor. I need accountability. I need to be held accountable. I need you to ask me how my spiritual life is going. I need you to care, not just if I'm entertained and having fun but that I see God moving and acting and living in my life and in the world around me. That's your part of making us all accountable to other another. It's critical and we need your voices, not just for tomorrow but in helping the church be what the church should be today.'"

The task God has given the entire body of Christ is "amazing, fun, challenging, and not easy," Janet commented, "but it is right and it is what God wants us to do. We need to remember to tell our children, tell ourselves that we are children of God, called by God to be God's own servants, servants of one Master, and we are to grow into the identity which He has for us."

Stoked with a renewed and heightened vision for all God was calling them to be, delegates, pastors, committee members and the PNMC Board gathered for workshops and business meetings through which they would help chart the course for the Conference in the coming year and beyond.

2006-2007 Budget Approved

Among the chief concerns this year was the 2006-2007 budget. There were more expenses than income in the proposed budget, PNMC Treasurer Don Bacher told the assembly, and the challenge before them was what to do in light of the situation. There were also two positions, Hispanic Conference Minister and Conference Teacher, that the Board proposed be included in the regular budget as opposed to Vision Giving, where they had been in past years.

Some possibilities for handling the deficit, which amounted to approximately \$85,000, Don suggested were: 1) approve the proposed budget with an \$85,000 deficit or 2) pull money from reserves we have invested in stocks and bonds; or 3) do something else, e.g. make cuts to the budget or increase giving.

There was also the question of whether or not to increase the Hispanic Conference Minister's job from quarter-time to half-time, or even one third-time. Keeping the job at quarter time would reduce the deficit by \$15,000, while increasing it to one third-time would save \$10,000.

Other suggestions from the assembly included 1) doing some education -- "Maybe young adults don't have the same commitment to church giving," one delegate commented; 2) reviving active fundraising efforts; 3) challenge ourselves in giving for vision. For example, "the change we spend every day for a newspaper, coffee or other items could add up very quickly," one delegate offered.

Citing the "justice issue" involved in supporting the conference minister for work he was already doing on a half-time basis among a group of churches which constitute 21% of our membership, as well as a group very active in church planting and church growth, the assembly agreed it was right and fitting to increase Victor Vargas' salary by \$15,000 to cover half-time work. Part of this, Don mentioned, would come from CIHAN, who had pledged \$1200 per year toward Victor's salary.

Though people voiced concerns about the deficit, the motion was made and carried (though not unanimously) to pass the budget as presented, with the Board requested to look for ways to make up the \$85,000. Upon suggestion from some in the assembly to start the giving right now, a basket was passed among attendees. A total of \$2,149.56 was collected.



Table groups were an important and integral part of discussion and decision-making at Mt. View 2006.

PNMC also received a gift of \$35,000 this past year from the Joe Jantz estate. Because there were no specific directions as to use of the money from the estate, the Board decided to split the money three ways: \$10,000 to the Sharing Fund, \$10,000 to the Oregon Mennonite Historical Society as a matching grant for their new facility, and \$15,000 held in reserve until the Structure and Vision Task Force (SVTF) completes their work in 2007.

SVTF's Future Vision, Mission, Values and Processes for PNMC Approved

The assembly was also presented with recommendations from the Structure and Vision Task Force (SVTF) which, for the past year, has been examining the current operation and goals of the PNMC with an eye toward where God might be leading PNMC in the future.

The proposed recommendations included the following: PNMC Vision, Mission, Core Values, and Core Processes.

The PNMC Vision flows out of the existing MC USA Vision: Healing and Hope: "God calls us to be followers of Jesus Christ, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, to grow as communities of grace, joy and peace, so that God's healing and hope flow through us to the world."

The PNMC Mission: "To promote personal spiritual development, nurture healthy congregations, make strong connections throughout the Conference, and call each other to fulfill God's purpose for the world."

The PNMC Core Values: "To celebrate our similarities while respecting our differences, to be humble, flexible and patient while faithfully discipling, and to make peace while practicing justice."

The PNMC Core Processes: "Connect, Encourage, Lead and Teach" with each process interacting with (and sometimes overlapping) elements of the mission statement.

Examples of how the Connection portion of the Core Processes might be lived out include communication and interaction via the Evangel; regional gatherings; pastoral clusters; Faith and Life forums (see detailed information further on in this article); the annual meeting; electronic technology such as the PNMC website, as well as audio and perhaps video conferencing; interactions with related organizations and events, including camps, schools, Mennonite Disaster Service and relief sales; resource exchanges via prayer retreats, mediation, and peace and justice efforts/events; and increased fostering of, as well as communication and interaction with, youth groups.

The Encourage portion of the Core Processes could possibly be implemented via such avenues as prayer, pastor/spouse support and annual retreat, sharing stories across congregations, pastoral exchanges, a prayer calendar, relational development, and developing a culture of call.

The Lead portion of the Core Processes might be put into practice by such efforts as applying a long-term vision and ministry of PNMC and of nurturing healthy congregations; program definition and priorities; financial stewardship; cross-cultural connections between, for example, Anglos and Hispanics, Northwest Mexico and Ethiopia; pastoral searches, reviews and credentialing, and congregational reviews.

The Teach portion of the Core Processes could encompass providing core courses for pastors; regional, local and central courses offered in both English and Spanish on such themes as Anabaptist Grounding, Lay Leadership Training, Learning to Speak to Each Other When We Disagree, a variety of topical studies, Christian education workshops, making opportunities for pastoral exchange, and developing a culture of call.

After small group discussion and feedback, all four areas, along with the following overall statement, were affirmed: "It is the desire of PNMC, originally created in 1994, to review and renew our direction together. The Conference affirms the following foundational beliefs, vision, mission, core values and core processes, and offers encouragement to the Task Force during the coming year as they work with others across the conference to discern the impact of these directional statements on the work and structure of the Conference."

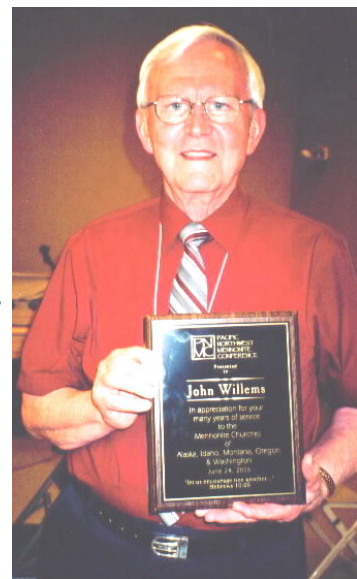
The SVTF will now move from working on these "identity documents," Conference Minister and SVTF member Duncan Smith said, "to the nuts and bolts of structure and finances based on these documents."

"Faith and Practice Issues in the PNMC" to Explore, Discuss Complicated Faith Issues

In response to dealing with a number of difficult issues over the past year, the Pastoral Leadership Committee (PLC) presented "Faith and Practice Issues in the PNMC," a proposal, approved by the assembly, to "provide settings for exploration of faith issues and relevance to Christian life in our current Anabaptist-Mennonite experience" so pastors, other congregational leaders and delegates can carefully consider and attempt to understand (discernment) issues that may be understood variously."

Being established to "unify the body, build up the community of faith, make application to life and provide spiritual growth," the gatherings, which could either be incorporated into the annual meeting or meet at a separate time mid-year, from the annual meeting. The meetings would be "a time of both teaching and community discernment (including discussion of how we discern)" offered in a variety of forms, such as positional presentations, invited guest presentations, table arrangement with guided discussion, and other ideas.

An interim PNMC think tank will be established to make preparation for issues to be discussed, as well as leadership and logistics regarding such meetings until the SVTF recommendations (see previous section) are put in place. The group would be composed of about 8-10 people of different perspectives to do some initial "hammering out" of the issue. They would then bring their findings to the broader group who gather for the larger meeting, whether held mid-year or as part of the annual meeting. The think tank could



Outgoing PNMC moderator John Willems was honored at Mt. View 2006 with a plaque, thanking him for his many years of service to the Conference.

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also receive requests of things for the Conference to process.

Weldon Nisly Update

Following this presentation, Pat Hershberger, the PLC Committee chairperson for 2005-2006, offered an update on the continuing conversations with Weldon and Seattle Mennonite regarding differing positions between himself and the PNMC/MC USA on same-sex covenants. The PLC has decided for the time being to change Weldon's credential from "Suspended" to "At Variance", with the following mutual agreement: 1) The PLC and Weldon commit to mutual yieldedness (gelassenheit) before God through Jesus Christ and to remaining in fellowship with each other. 2) The PLC will return Weldon's ministerial credential to a designation of "At Variance", to be reviewed in one year. 3) Weldon will refrain from performing same-gender covenant ceremonies during this year. 4) The PLC will challenge PNMC to provide forums to discuss issues of faith and life (see previous section), such as the discernment of faithful dissent to the Confession of Faith. 5) Weldon and the PLC will practice respectful representation when speaking about the credential status process in broader venues of communication. The "at variance" designation is understood to be for the time being, not a long-term or permanent credential designation.

New PNMC/CIENMN Covenant Approved

Richard Micklewright, Mexico Transitional Committee chair, presented information and a recommendation on the PNMC Covenant with CIENMN (Convención de Iglesias Menonitas del Noroeste de Mexico). "It is the desire of the PNMC to strengthen the unity of our two Conferences," wrote Micklewright in his report, published in the 2006 Annual Meeting Delegate Book. "We recognize that we have much to learn from our sister conference; we value the exchange of faith experiences. Through this relationship, we are encouraged as individuals to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ and enabled as congregations to bring individuals and communities into a closer relationship with God through Jesus Christ. It is the goal of the PNMC to encourage and support our sister conference as they move toward their vision for the future. Micklewright said. He then detailed three specific current goals of the PNMC/CIENMN Covenant:

1. To support and strengthen the unity and leadership of CIENMN via a) providing a resource person to assist in hosting annual leadership training seminars in the fall; b) providing a resource person to assist in hosting annual youth retreats in the spring; c) enabling annual exchange visits of conference leaders for mutual edification and support; d) providing financial support to supplement the administrative costs of CIENMN. This would begin at \$5000 per year and be reduced by \$750 each year. The PNMC commitment of continued support would be dependent on CIENMN providing an annual budget report each year following the CIENMN annual conference in September. The nature and benefits of this financial support would be reevaluated annually, based on the progress of CIENMN to achieve their goal of economic self-sufficiency. This agreement shall be operative from signing until June 30, 2013.

2. To encourage and support community focused ministries through a) direct contribution to the CIENMN budget for outreach ministries; b) providing resource persons who will encourage and mentor persons with gifts in this ministry; c) encouraging the participation of PNMC congregations in the construction and maintenance of facilities that could be used in these activities.

3. To promote greater interaction between conferences via a) encouraging congregations to participate in "Sister Church" or other similar relationships between congregations; b) encourage the participation of congregations in work projects or outreach ministry activities which would encourage ongoing individual relationships; c) providing for an effective administrative relationship between the PNMC and CIENMN through an oversight committee which would give guidance and support to this ongoing interaction. In addition to overseeing the administration of the above objectives, this committee would also allocate the following funds on an annual basis: a) \$5000 to CIENMN for 2006-2007 budget year, to be decreased by \$750 annually through the 2013-2014 fiscal year; b) \$2500 for local outreach ministry and pastoral training (fall); c) \$1500 for local outreach and youth ministry (spring); c) \$1500 for Leadership Exchange (covers cost of CIENMN delegate to visit and participate in PNMC annual meeting); d) \$500 for incidental expenses (wire fees, phone cards, etc.)

New Board and Committee Members Elected

The full slate of people on the ballot for various Board and Committee positions was approved by the assembly. They include David Hockman-Wert, Moderator-Elect; Audrey Lowen, Director at Large for the Board; Linda Dibble, Western Mennonite School representative on the Board; Terry Rediger, PLC representative on the Board; Lynn Miller, chairperson of the Pastoral Leadership Committee; Byron Gingrich, new member of the PLC; ; Karen Patterson Solberg and Thelma Blackstone, new members of the Nominating Committee; Colleen Kaegele, new member of the Outreach Development Committee; Jack Knox, new member of the Peace & Justice Committee; John Hochstetler and Kevin Rediger, new members of the Western Mennonite School Board; and Faye Claassen, PNMC's representative to West Coast MCC.

Representatives and pastoral staff from 28 of PNMC's congregations were present for Mt. View 2006, where John Willems, outgoing moderator, was honored for his many years of service to the PNMC and presented with a commemorative plaque of appreciation. *Next year's annual meeting will be held June 22-24, 2007, at Albany Mennonite Church, Albany, Oregon. Albany and Corvallis Mennonite Churches will co-host the event.*



Assembly gathers for Sunday service at Mt. View .

Japan Offers Life-Changing Experience for Student-Initiated Class

By Andrea Wall

Western Mennonite students Leah Yoder '06 of Salem Mennonite Church and Jordan Grimms '06 of Silverton Friends Church were among four students and an advisor who traveled to Japan in June as one of eleven Mini-Terms at Western. Other Mini-Term experiences included attending Bethel College Music Camp, traveling to Mexico to study servanthood, exploring advocacy in Washington, DC, Rock Climbing and Service and much more.



Western Mennonite School students on trip to Japan.

Taking Initiative of Learning

The Japan Mini-Term grew out of a student-initiated class created by two Western students, Jordan Grimms and Bryan Olson '06. It started with a desire to travel to Asia and receive education credits for their experience. They took ownership of their learning and approached the administration at Western to develop a student-led class on Japanese Culture and History with advisor and teacher Dottie Kamilos.

"I love history," said Jordan. "I had never been to an Asian country and it fascinated me. Growing up my family believed in travel as a form of education so the class and the trip were a great fit."

The students worked closely with principal Darrel Camp of Calvary Mennonite Church to create their own syllabus including studying a graduate level textbook recommended by the University of Oregon and collaborating with Western's international students from Japan, Yui Aoki '09 and Soichiro Honjo '06. The class learned basic Japanese and developed their own itinerary including home stays in remote villages with Japanese speaking families and visiting historical sites off the beaten path that they studied throughout the year.

Stepping Out of the Comfort Zone

The trip was a life changing experience for the students as they walked in the shoes of the Japanese for 14 days. Throughout this time they were able to see life through the eyes of the Japanese that gave them a deeper love for the country, the people and their own Christian faith.

"I was scared at first because this was my first time in another country. I struggled to pray for the first couple of days, but God never left us. He helped us in so many ways and brought so many blessings," said Leah.

The students watched as their prayers changed from fear and worry to praises for God's faithfulness and blessings as they were challenged to step out of their comfort zone in language, cultural practices and in observing a different religion. "While in Japan, I saw many Buddhists," said Jordan. "I saw the kindness of the people and how devoted they were to prayer. It challenged me to think about how I should live my life and made me ask how committed I am to my faith. If we put as much effort into prayer as they do, our world would be a totally different place. I know that I can put more into my walk with the Lord."

The students were also struck by the attitude of kindness and forgiveness by the people after visiting the Hiroshima Peace Museum. "I didn't expect to get so emotional," said Leah Yoder. "I began to understand as I walked around how God must feel when something like this happens to a big city. Through our studies and meeting the people, I saw how the country has changed from a militaristic society to a peaceful society. The people went from nothing after the bomb to a thriving city in a decade. I was amazed by how kind, accepting and respectful they were to us as Americans."

Walking Away Changed

Walking away from this experience the students had a new perspective of Japan and a deeper understanding of its history. They also came away with a special place in their hearts for the people of Japan and the need for international travel and missions. that I could have an impact."

Record Breaking Auction for Western Mennonite School

Western Mennonite School's 34th Annual Benefit Auction raise a record \$236,000, an increase of \$108,000 over the previous record in 2005. Over 1,100 people were in attendance at the State Fairgrounds on Saturday, May 6.

Proceeds will directly impact students by funding the Christian education program at Western, the Student Grant Financial Assistance Program and Western's new Academic Center. An estimated \$118,000 of this year's total was raised through matching gift projects including a \$50,000 one day matching gift challenge. These funds will be designated for the Academic Center.

The 12,500 square foot Academic Center is the final project in Western's Vision for Excellence Campaign which has raised \$4.8 million to date of the \$6.45 million campaign goal. Currently \$1.4 million dollars of the \$3 million Academic Center project has been raised. The center will add one-third more academic space to Western's 45 acre campus and will house a new library, media center, a computer lab and science classrooms. For more information contact Darrel White at 503-363-2000 or djwhite@westernmennoniteschool.org.

Benefits Outweigh Costs of Community Living for Oregon Service Adventurers

ELKHART, Ind. (MMN) — For Service Adventure participants, community living encompasses the good, the bad, the ugly ... and leaves room for grace.

For 10½ months these young adults live together with a unit leader while they serve in eight communities across the United States. While units have great adventures together, it's not fun and games all the time. Conflict is inevitable in life and even more difficult to avoid when living communally.

"In the beginning I really had a hard time admitting that I make mistakes and that I'm not an angel," said Anne Wahl of the Albany, OR, unit. But living with others has taught her lessons she's thankful for. "Direct and indirect messages throughout the year opened my eyes and showed me behaviors I have to work on."

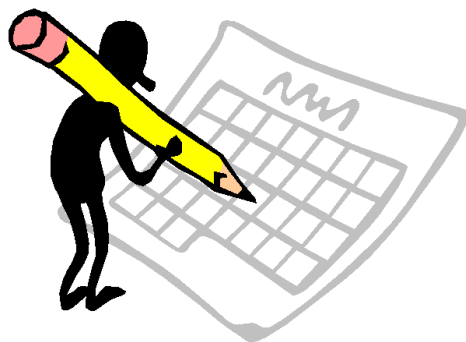
Unit leaders help participants think about their conflicts and how to reconcile with one another. Once a month the Albany unit sits down for a "sharing circle", said Mary Lou Bonham, who leads the unit with husband, Rusty. Each person shares what they're experiencing, uninterrupted. Problem-solving comes later, Bonham said, after each person has been heard. "I believe Christ called us to community because it is the most efficient and direct route to encounter both what is sacred and what [needs work] in myself and another person," Bonham said.

Communication is the key to success in community living, SA leaders say. They hope to guide young adults in figuring out how to work conflicts out on their own. Monthly one-on-one meetings with each participant give them a way to check in, while weekly house meetings are often the place to resolve problems.

The household isn't the only community young adults interact with at SA. Local congregations that support each unit provide a wealth of opportunities for learning about living in right relationships. At Philippi Mennonite Church in West Virginia, young adults play an important role in congregational life. "Here I have been able to try out different areas in which to contribute to the church," said Trish Hershberger of Zion Mennonite Church, Hubbard, who participated in the West Virginia unit activities. Because of her increased role in worship, Hershberger's concept of church has been redefined. "The example they have set before me this year has given me the greatest and most profound view of true discipleship," she said.

Each young adult in Service Adventure is assigned to a host family from the supporting congregation. These hosts help young adults feel connected by including them in family meals, special trips and providing transportation to appointments.

"Living in a household is actually the first occasion many young adults have in experimenting with the concept of compromise and negotiation," said James Krabill, the Mission Network's senior executive of global ministries. Yet the experience prepares these young adults for a lifetime of problem solving and communicating with others.



**Mennonite historian/
author James Juhnke
will speak at OMHGS
Meeting, 2:30 p.m.,
September 17 at
Albany Mennonite,
Albany, Oregon.**

Conference Calendar

September 15-17 - Drift Creek Camp's Fall Quilt & Scrapbook Retreat.

September 16 - Hesston Western Golf Benefit at Trysting Tree Golf Course (34028 NE Electric Rd, Corvallis, OR 97333) with 8:00AM Shot Gun Start. Contact jon.snyder1@comcast.net .

September 17 - Mennonite historian and author James Juhnke from Kansas will be the featured speaker at the Oregon Mennonite Historical & Geneological Society (OMHGS) Fall Meeting, 2:30PM, at Albany Mennonite Church, Albany, OR.

September 29 - November 5 - Dr. Perry Yoder will speak on Creation, Salvation, Peace and Justice at Seattle & Evergreen Mennonite (9/29-10/1); Menno Mennonite (10/6-8); Western Mennonite School (10/10-12); Zion Mennonite (10/13-15); Idaho Mennonite Churches (10/20-22); Regional Peace Gathering (10/ 26-28); Salem Mennonite (10/29); and Drift Creek Camp (11/2-5).

October 7 - Mennonite Country Auction and Relief Sale in Washington.

October 7 - Oregon Mennonite Festival for World Relief at the Linn County Fair & Expo Center (Albany, OR). Info: www.oregonmennofest.org
(Please note: Expo Center scheduling forced date change.)

October 26-28 - "Walking in the Way of Peace" Regional Peace Gathering, Albany Mennonite Church, Albany, OR. Info: www.peace.mennolink.org.

November 3-5 - Drift Creek Camp's Annual Meeting Weekend.

November 17-19 - Annual Pastor/Spouse Retreat at Twin Rocks Conference Center, Garibaldi, OR. Info: Forthcoming.

February 6-7, 2007 - Worship Seminar with MC USA Administrator/Music Instructor Marlene Krypt and Eastern Mennonite University Music Ken Nafziger, Portland Mennonite Church. Info: 503-234-0559.

June 22-24, 2007 - Albany-Corvallis 2007, PNMC's annual meeting, this year at Albany Mennonite Church, Albany, OR.