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From the PNMC Office

The new website is up and running! Please take the time to check it out. Thanks again to Ken Pitts for all the great work!

Registrations for **Annual Meeting** in Kalispell have begun to come in. If you are planning to attend you may register at this <u>link</u>. If you prefer to not use a credit card to pay on-line, then please send payments to PNMC, PO Box 301036, Portland, OR 97294.

Churches are encouraged to contribute to the **Delegate Assistance Fund** to help others in our conference who would otherwise be unable to attend.

All pastors, spouses and chaplains are invited to the PNMC board-sponsored Pastor/Spouse Dinner, Thursday evening, June 19, at 6:00pm at Mountain View Mennonite Church in Kalispell, MT. *Plan to arrive early for the gathering to kick-off Annual Meeting activities.*

PNMC CONGREGATIONS, ORGANIZATIONS & MINISTRIES

Listed chronologically, then alphabetically by organization

Drift Creek Camp

Each year, the long list of things to accomplish seems to grow! That's why DCC is grateful for the wonderful supporters who give of themselves to help prepare the facilities for summer campers. Lend a hand at the 2014 Work Weekend, Friday-Saturday, May 16-17.

Filer Mennonite Chruch

We continue to grieve with pastor Tim Gascho and the congregants at Filer Mennonite Church who are mourning the loss of Tim's wife, <u>Nannette Gascho</u>, who passed away unexpectedly on Friday, April 18. *Our prayers are with you*.

Iglesia Menonita Roca de Salvación

Iglesia Cristiana Roca de Salvación has changed its name to Iglesia Menonita Roca de Salvación. The congregation continues to meet in the Calvary Mennonite Church building in Aurora, OR, however the new contact number for pastor Victor Estrada is 971-388-1694. The church email is rocadesal@live.com and the Administrative Assistant is Gregorio Chavez Bazan. Gregorio can be reached at gregorio.chavez.bazan@outlook.com or 971-258-7970. The congregation is looking forward to celebrating 15 years, June 6-8.

Zion Mennonite Church



Mathew and Becky Swora moved to Canby, OR in January in order for Mathew to serve as lead pastor at Zion Mennonite Church in Hubbard. They moved from Minneapolis, MN, where he had served as pastor at Emmanuel Mennonite Church for nearly sixteen years. Prior to that, Mathew was pastor of First Mennonite Church in McPherson, KS; worked at church planting in the Detroit metropolitan area; and taught grade school. He and Becky also served with Africa Inter-Mennonite Mission in Burkina Faso, West Africa, in the 1980's. Mathew graduated from Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary with an M.Div. in 1990. Becky is a Certified Nurse-Midwife (M.S. U of Minn.), providing pre-natal care in Clackamas County. They have two daughters, Claire Swora, in Madison, WI, and Emily Swora, in Pittsburgh, PA. Despite having grown up and lived so long in the Midwest and overseas, Mathew and Becky appreciate the climate and the beauty of the northwest and, of course, *the people*.



MENNONITE CHURCH USA & OTHER CHURCHWIDE AGENCIES

listed alphabetically by organization

Mennonite Central Committee

Michael and Lisa Bade, from Seattle Mennonite, are serving in Prey Veng, Cambodia. In Seattle, Michael produced educational videos for PBS, NASA, NIH, MCC and other humanitarian agencies. Michael originally went to Cambodia with wife, Lisa Bade, who is a skilled educator. When Michael's assignment didn't pan out for reasons unrelated to him or MCC, he looked for what he could do. Initially he created a video to raise awareness of the 2010-11 flooding in Cambodia and the resulting desperation for basic needs, like rice. The video got an exceptional response on the internet and MCC was able to fund rice, salt and water filter distribution. Soon a position was created for Michael to use his skills. He helps local and regional organizations that MCC works with tell their stories in videos and photos. Michael reflects, "It is a great privilege to document the stories of people's lives who have been



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changed by the generosity of those who give to MCC. It is a reciprocal relationship. We are giving local people support in education, health, agriculture and they give us stories to tell which make us want to give more. It's a win/win when we can see these connections. I try to interview real people and share their lives directly with MCC donors. This connection reduces the separation between real people." Michael went on to explain that life as an MCCer has ups and downs, just like any job, but with the added challenge of language & cultural barriers, governmental bureaucracy and differing expectations. While he realizes that no single organization can turn around poverty or health issues for an entire country, he is hopeful about the results he has seen in the almost four years they've been in Cambodia. "Individuals are getting opportunities they wouldn't otherwise have if MCC wasn't here," he shared. Click to view their gorgeous collection of photos & videos.

Mennonite Church USA

Keith Harder of Hillsboro, KS, retired March 31 from his position as director of The Corinthian Plan (TCP), a Mennonite Church USAsponsored health coverage program based on mutual care practices. Duncan Smith, of Beaverton, OR, who has been an area plan representative for the West Coast since 2010, began **March 15** as interim director for one year. TCP, inspired by 2 Corinthians 8:14, was developed in response to a resolution passed by the Delegate Assembly in 2007 that called for the Executive Board to develop a plan that would provide pastors with basic health coverage. Learn more at <u>www.mennoniteusa.org/executive-board/the-corinthian-plan/</u>.

Mennonite Disaster Service

Volunteer crew leaders are needed in Staten Island, NY between June 16 and August 2. *Please consider serving for four weeks*. For information about week-long volunteer opportunities, call 717-735-3536 or email <u>ahurst@mds.mennonite.net</u>.



Mennonite Women USA

Carolyn Heggen and Elizabeth Soto Albrecht taught the <u>SisterCare</u> seminar in Aibonito, Puerto Rico **March 21-22** for 76 women from around the island. Carolyn is pictured here with Eileen Rolon, who served as the local host. Carolyn and Eileen were grade school classmates at Academia Betania in Puerto Rico in the 1950s. Eileen shared with Carolyn, "I know God sent you here with this material because this is just what we have been needing in our churches! It is so good to have Mennonite materials for our women because we've not had that before. You have given me hope for our churches and for my own healing. This has truly been **the work of the Holy Spirit**."

Mennonite World Conference

MWC Assemblies are reunions of the Anabaptist-Mennonite family worldwide and take place every six years. The 16th Assembly will be **July 21-26, 2015** in Harrisburg, PA. Planners are seeking presenters for workshops which will **challenge and inspire faithful witness**. The Assembly theme is *Walking with God*. MWC is looking for topics and leaders that reflect the cultural and linguistic diversity of our global communion. Submit applications to <u>workshops2015@mwc-cmm.org</u> by **November 1, 2014**. *Travel costs are not covered for presenters*.

Additionally, a global assembly highlight has been **Assembly Scattered** events. These are opportunities for churches on the continent where the global assembly is held to host Anabaptist brothers and sisters from other congregations. Plans are being made for Assembly Scattered events throughout North America as part of **Pennsylvania 2015**. Groups of churches in communities around North America are invited to apply to be an Assembly Scattered location and host participants either before or after the Harrisburg event. *To learn more*, <u>click here</u>.

César Garcia, MWC General Secretary, will be in the Northwest in June. Contact <u>Bob Buxman</u>, <u>503.502.5402</u>, if you would like to meet with him.

Upcoming e-Bulletins:

May 19 (submissions due by 5/12) June 2 (submissions due by 5/26) June 16 (submissions due by 6/9) July 7 (submissions due by 6/30) 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>