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From the PNMC Office

Enjoy this great [video](#) about why folks from the Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference attend Annual Meetings, then make plans to travel to **Lebanon in 2015!**

The next opportunity for delegates and pastors to provide discerning input is our annual Conference Communications Council (CCC) meeting, **January 10, 2015**, at Zion Mennonite Church, Hubbard, OR. One pastor and one lay member (preferably a delegate), from each congregation is invited to spend the day engaging with our Board, District Pastors, and Staff. *We were disappointed when last year's CCC meeting was canceled due to inclement weather, and look forward to getting back on track in 2015.*

Minutes from the most recent **PNMC Board Meeting** are posted [here](#).

PNMC CONGREGATIONS, ORGANIZATIONS & MINISTRIES

Listed chronologically, then alphabetically by organization

Mennonite Central Committee

Across the globe, one in six people do not have access to clean water. Participants in the **2014 Oregon Mennonite Festival for World Relief** will help make a difference by supporting the global ministries of Mennonite Central Committee. This fun annual event comes to the Linn County Fair & Expo Center in Albany **October 11**, 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. In keeping with the festival's water theme, the first auction item will be a ceramic pitcher by Dick Lehman, an internationally recognized Mennonite artist from Elkhart, IN. Other auction highlights include a 1981 Beechcraft boat and trailer, a vintage Strohber parlor piano, handcrafted wooden jewelry box, new men's Nike Fuelband, antiques, artwork, beach getaways, and a beautiful array of quilts. Details posted [here](#). To contribute, contact auction director [Tim Steiner](#) at [503-772-1520](tel:503-772-1520). Volunteers of all ages and abilities are wanted for festival set-up, sale activities, and clean-up. To learn about volunteer opportunities, contact [Mark Diller](#) at [541-704-0451](tel:541-704-0451).

Among other great food choices, pozole, a savory Mexican stew, will be offered at a new food booth, thanks to friends from Comunidad Cristiana de Vida Nueva and Salem Mennonite Church.

Spring Valley Mennonite Church

The Spring Valley congregation has been gathering for **ninety years!** An anniversary celebration is planned for **Sunday, October 12**. Morning worship will begin at 10:00 with a presentation, sharing and a time of remembering to follow.

Portland Mennonite Church

TED & Co's latest creation, [Listening for Grace](#) will be presented at Portland Mennonite Church **Friday, October 24, at 7 pm**. The production comes at a time when the church is struggling with internal relationships around questions of sexual identity. Ted's belief in stories as **powerful tools of transformation in our lives and our faith is a belief rooted in the Biblical story itself**. The play [Listening for Grace](#) is at its heart simple story telling. We hope you will join us and come prepared to go on the imaginative journey that all good stories provide. Admission is free; an offering will be held to help support the work of Ted & Co and cover the costs of bringing the play to the NW.

Lebanon Mennonite Church

Plan to attend the **Trauma & Resiliency Workshop** at Lebanon Mennonite, **Saturday, October 25**. *For details, see the attached flyer.*

Western Mennonite Church

Western Mennonite Church is seeking a .25FTE Youth Leader. Contact Kay Nussbaum at raykay@teleport.com for job description and application.

Western Mennonite School

Considering WMS for your student? **Visitors Day** is **Wednesday, November 12**. For details, visit www.westernmennoniteschool.org.

MENNONITE CHURCH USA & OTHER CHURCHWIDE AGENCIES

listed alphabetically by organization

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary

In January, AMBS-Kansas Center is offering two opportunities to **explore rural ministry**, both led by S. Roy Kaufman, a pastor with 38 years of experience leading rural congregations. A one-credit-hour course will meet **January 20, 22 and 24** in Hesston, KS. Seminar registration is \$39 per individual, or \$100 for an unlimited number from one congregation. [Learn more.](#)

Eastern Mennonite University

For Eastern Mennonite University's **100th anniversary in 2017**, EMU's centennial planning committee is soliciting ideas for special productions of music, theater and the visual arts. "We would like to debut a major theater or music production for our centennial celebration," said Louise Otto Hostetter '79, chair of the planning committee. Homecoming & Family Weekend, **October 17-19, 2017**, will be a pivotal point for the celebration, but commemorative activities will be held throughout the 2017-18 academic year. Other artistic ideas are also welcomed, Hostetter said, such as wall murals, fresh art for EMU's gallery spaces, photo-journalism projects, and film productions. To submit proposals, visit emu.edu/centennial or email centennial@emu.edu. Submissions are due **January 1, 2015**. *The centennial committee's selections will be announced on August 1, 2015.*

Mennonite Church USA

Mennonite Church USA's Executive Board (EB) met recently to focus on questions of denominational structure, data from a survey of credentialed leaders, and various other topics in preparation for next summer's Delegate Assembly. EB members appointed an ad hoc committee to explore possibilities for new denominational structures, with the intent of bringing an action to the **Delegate Assembly at Kansas City 2015 (June 30–July 5)**. Joy Sutter, EB member from East Norristown, PA, will chair the group. The EB also appointed the following board and Constituency Leaders Council (CLC) members to the committee: Isaac Villegas, EB member and pastor of Chapel Hill (N.C.) Mennonite Fellowship; Katherine Jameson Pitts, conference minister for Pacific Northwest. The impetus for forming this committee grew out of feedback received at the **March 2014 CLC meetings** held in North Newton, KS. *To learn more, visit www.mennoniteusa.org.*

Mennonite Women USA



Women in Paraguay and Argentina met in August for SisterCare seminars. The women came from Mennonite Church and Mennonite Brethren denominations as well as Pentecostal and Catholic churches. Varying ethnicities included Latinas, Indigenous, and Germanic Mennonites. These women united with the simple, yet profound teaching at the heart of the Sister Care seminar: **to be an effective healing presence for others, we need healing from our own wounds.** And...*God can use our tears to help others.* Presenters Carolyn Heggen, psychotherapist specializing in trauma healing, and Rhoda Keener, Mennonite Women USA co-director, guided participants through four units beginning with the truth that each woman is a beloved daughter of God; then, the importance of self care when caring for others, the healing power of compassionate listening, and transforming loss and grief. Rhoda Keener said, "Our mission with Sister Care is to provide practical tools for women to help in their healing journeys. When we heal, our response becomes like the woman at the well. She ran back to her village to tell others about the Messiah. Women are often surprised that Sister Care begins by looking at our own need to know that we are beloved daughters of God and by taking seriously our life experiences and personal story. But that is also where Jesus started with the woman at the well." The Sister Care presenters state that "good theology and good psychology can work together to help in healing." Many women said they have heard from their churches that psychology and psychiatric medications are not needed if one's faith is strong enough.

Carolyn Heggen summed up the experience of teaching in Paraguay and Argentina: "Once again I have been blessed by the emotional warmth, responsiveness, and openness of our Latin American sisters. Beyond our differences in culture, history and politics many of us share a common longing for our beliefs and faith to make a practical difference in our lives. One woman said, 'I've been a Christian for many years but this is the first time the concept of salvation has been made practical for me. You've helped me know how to apply God's healing and salvation to my personal story and wounds. This will help me in my own healing and as I share God's plan of salvation with others who are hurting.'"

Upcoming e-Bulletins:

Oct 20 (*submissions due by 10/13*)

Nov 3 (*submissions due by 10/27*)

Nov 17 (*submissions due by 11/10*)

Dec 1 (*submissions due by 11/24*)

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>
