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From the PNMC Office



Plan now for our **regional conference gathering, June 18-20** in Lebanon, OR. Follow [this link](#) for registration details and lodging information. Most of the events will take place at Lebanon Mennonite Church, 2100 S. 2nd Street in Lebanon. For questions, contact LMC at 541-258-5789 or lmc.secretary@gmail.com.

Kansas City 2015: Folks from PNMC met yesterday afternoon for a time of prayer at Zion Mennonite Church. Thirty people participated from nine congregations. The meaningful time together included scripture, singing, silence, spoken prayer, and a shared meal.

Earlier this month, more than 50 people from 15 congregations within the PNMC met with Ervin Stutzman, MC USA director, to hear plans for this summer's delegate assembly. If you missed the gathering, you may register for an informational webinar [here](#).

The church is encouraged to use this [six week spiritual discernment resource](#) in preparation for the MC USA convention in Kansas City, MO, **June 30 - July 5, 2015**. Significant dialogue and decision-making will be taking place that calls us to seek God's will for the future of the church. We must ask, "*Where is God leading us as a people?*" The primary hope of the resource, designed and illustrated by Leo Hartshorn, is to help individuals listen to and encounter God in daily life. Through spiritual discernment and preparation, there is hope that we can move beyond

simply coming together to press for own perspectives to dominate the church, but to seek the will of God together for the church in all its diversity. This calls for the practices of prayer, surrendering ourselves and our wills, in order to be open to God's leading through the practice of spiritual discernment.

The **2015 Mennonite Church USA Convention** in Kansas City, MO, is quickly approaching. There are just three weeks left to [register!](#)

Our hearts go out to the family of [Joel Kauffmann](#), who passed away on **Friday, May 8**, after sustaining a head injury. Joel was the spouse of Nancy Kauffmann, a denominational minister of MC USA who has worked closely with PNMC. Joel was born in Hopedale, IL, to Ivan and Lola (Good) Kauffmann in 1950. A Goshen resident since 1970, Joel was well-known for his cartoon strip "**Pontius Puddle**." He was working as content coordinator for the Museum of the Bible in Washington, D.C. He was developer of Israel's Nazareth Village and Menno-Hof in Shipshewana. Joel was also an accomplished screenwriter for numerous films, including "The Radicals" and the award-winning Disney movie "Miracle in Lane 2," which he co-wrote with Don Yost. *If you wish to send condolences to Nancy and their family, the CaringBridge link is [here](#).*

We lift up **Eric Martin**, chaplain at the Mennonite Village of Albany and former principal at Western Mennonite School. Eric was involved in a mountain biking accident on May 9. He was released from OHSU May 16 and is now home hoping for a quick recovery from rib and clavicle fractures. Eric expressed gratitude for your prayers for healing and the good care he has received.

PNMC CONGREGATIONS, ORGANIZATIONS & MINISTRIES

Listed chronologically, then alphabetically by organization

Salem Mennonite Church

SMC will host a **valley-wide hymn sing May 31st at 6 pm**. *All are invited!* Hymn requests will be encouraged. If you are willing to help lead singing, please contact [Trudy McKinnell](#). Please bring finger foods to share at the fellowship time following the singing.

Western Mennonite School

Thank you to all those that prayed, donated items, volunteered, and showed up to bid at Western's 43rd Benefit Auction! WMS is deeply grateful for the generous support. Though numbers are not final, the auction grossed approximately \$120,000.

MENNONITE CHURCH USA & OTHER CHURCHWIDE AGENCIES

listed alphabetically by organization

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary

To read the latest issue of *Anabaptist Witness*, follow this [link](#). This edition, (Issue 1, Volume 2), focuses on what interaction with people of other religious faiths might look like for Anabaptists. Essays explore the field of the "theology of religions."

Poetry is also an important part of this publication. If you have a poem or other artistic contribution you'd like to share that relates to Anabaptism and mission, please send an email. [Anabaptist Witness](#) is your publication. Join the conversation!

Eastern Mennonite University



Loren E. Swartzendruber, president of EMU, announced to the university community that he plans to retire next year, on **June 30, 2016**, making 13 years of leadership as the university's eighth president and 33 years in Mennonite higher education roles. "I believe more than ever that the **Anabaptist witness is needed in our fragmented world**, and that we are called as followers of Jesus to offer our gifts in peacemaking and to build a more compassionate and sustainable world," Swartzendruber said, adding that his years at EMU have affirmed a personal belief in education's role in the continued call to faith. To read the full story, follow this [link](#).

Goshen College

If you missed hearing Garrison Keillor's **May 2nd** broadcast from GC's campus, follow this link: [A Prairie Home Companion](#).

Hesston College

Many in the Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference were able to enjoy an opportunity to listen to **Hesston's Bel Canto choir** perform this past week.

MennoMedia

Love church potlucks? Some congregations eat together monthly and even weekly as a way of enhancing fellowship and offering hospitality with shared, regular meals. Capture and share images of your potlucks with MennoMedia and photos could be used in cookbooks or featured on Mennonite blogs. Cash prizes are also available. Learn more [here](#).

Mennonite Central Committee

As residents of Nepal were just beginning to feel safe after the April 25 earthquake that violently shook the country, the nation now faces the aftermath of a second 7.3 magnitude earthquake that struck on **May 12**. MCC continues its work of providing relief to rural areas of the country where resources are scarce. Learn more [here](#).

Mennonite Church USA

The Executive Board (EB) is presenting a resolution on the status of MC USA's **Membership Guidelines** for consideration by the Delegate Assembly at convention in Kansas, City. Read more [here](#).

The **May 2015** edition of the *Equipping* newsletter is available [here](#).

Mennonite World Conference

MWC planners hope that attendees will take advantage of this unique opportunity to build global friendships. After each morning presentation at the **July 21-26** MWC Assembly, participants will meet in **International Friendship Groups**. The same groups will meet each day so friendships can develop. We don't want anyone going home and saying they never talked with anybody except friends they knew before." *Don't miss the chance to expand your friendship circle!*

Upcoming e-Bulletins:

June 1 (submissions due by 5/25)

June 15 (submissions due by 6/8)

July 6 (submissions due by 6/29)

Aug 3 (submissions due by 7/27)

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>