

Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference 2016 Workshops

1. Companions on the Journey

Spiritual support and care for elderly and their families is unique and challenging. Explore resources and discuss the needs of this growing population and how to 'journey' with them in making decisions and promoting healthy family relationships.

Facilitator: Eric Martin and Teresa Moser - Mennonite Village Chaplains, Albany, OR

2. Your Congregation's Story Matters

Christianity is a history-conscious religion, grounded in a historical account of God's dealing with humankind. Congregations are one of the main places where God's story and ours intersect and where history is made. This interactive workshop will focus on the importance and value of preserving and sharing our congregation's stories and documents along with information about ways to make this happen. Congregational historians and persons interested in taking on this vital role are encouraged to attend but everyone is welcome!

Facilitator: Gloria Nussbaum and Ray Kauffman

3. Your Muslim Neighbors: From Distance to Friendship

In this workshop we will discuss knowing the basics (the five pillars) of Islam, and helpful ideas and experiences on friendship and witness to Muslims.

Facilitator: Mathew Swora

4. Walking Together in Mission

Mennonite Mission Network staff and MVS participants will share their personal experiences in mission and how they have connected to the wider church community and partners around the world.

Facilitator: Marisa Smucker, Mennonite Mission Network

5. Introducing Bridgefolk to PNMC

Bridgefolk is a movement of sacramentally-minded Mennonites and peace-minded Roman Catholics who come together to celebrate each other's traditions, explore each other's practices, and honor each other's contribution to the mission of Christ's Church.

After a brief introduction to the purpose of Bridgefolk and affirmation of the significance of ecumenical conversations, and how Bridgefolk came to be, participants will share some summer conference, as well as theology/history highlights. Panel members will share why participating in Bridgefolk has been important, followed by questions and conversation.

Facilitator: Marilyn Stahl, Dirk Giseburt, Weldon Nisly & Pat Shaver

2016 Workshops, *continued*

6. Doctrine of Discovery

This workshop will focus on an exciting movement of interested Mennonites, primarily from the West Coast, who are seeking to educate and inform our church about land settlement, the Doctrine of Discovery, and reconciliation with indigenous people displaced by unjust legal structures. Come and see the myriad ways this group is working to dismantle injustice and discern a new, peaceful vision for our world in alignment with Mennonite core values.

Facilitator: Jennifer Delanty

7. Tired of the Prefix “Re”

No need for retread churches. Our conference and churches do not need to be **re**-vitalized, **re**-stored, **re**-freshed, or **re**-anything. How about simply being vital, full, and fresh? When Jesus gives the Spirit to the apostles (Jn 20:21-22), everything becomes new (2 Cor 5:17). Prepare to become a vital, full, and fresh congregation and conference. Appropriate for all churches, from church plants waiting to take off, mature congregations seeking fresh life, to a conference providing fresh breath of the Spirit.

Facilitator: Craig Morton

8. The Gifts of the Small (<30) Congregations

We often refer to the size of our small congregations as though this is a negative aspect. We all know the challenges of a small congregation. This workshop will be a time to explore together and remind each other of the gifts of small congregations.

Facilitator: Rose Marie Zook Barber

9. Faith Travels (Mennonite Women USA Bible Study)

Faith Travels: exploring a brand new Bible Study from Mennonite Women USA. Join Marlene Bogard in a whirlwind trip of “Faith Travels: trusting God in life’s transitions”, a study authored by Oregon native Marlene Kropf. Scripture, stories and prayer will be explored along the way.

Facilitator: Marlene Bogard

10. Ministry in NW México

With increasing numbers in church growth and size, the building projects needs also are a growing part of what the NW Mexico Team is involved in. Come to our workshop and hear and see what is happening and how you can be involved in the mission opportunity.

Facilitators: Samuel Moran and Simon Rendon

DURING DELEGATE SESSIONS

1. Justice at the Table – Andy Wade

Join this interactive conversation exploring the intersection of food, faith, and social justice. Explore your own food stories and how they connect with our broader food system and begin to develop a personal plan that moves faith to the center of one of our most basic needs, food. Included in this workshop is a list of tools and resources to help you make more informed decisions. But don't just come for answers, come with ideas and stories of your own journey into faithful practice at the table! Andy is an ordained Mennonite Pastor who ministered at Evergreen Mennonite Church during its first five years. Called to overseas ministry, Andy and his family moved to Hong Kong in 1996 to do leadership development, pastoring, and church planting. After 12 years of ministry in Hong Kong, Andy and his family moved back to his home town of Hood River, Oregon. Andy joined Mustard Seed Associates in December 2009.

2. Bird Watching – Ken Pitts

3. Mennonite Central Committee – Material Resources Center Tour – Bob Buxman

Come visit the place where the Northwest MCC Material Resources are collected and packaged to be sent to Akron and then on to international locations.

4. Meet the Speaker – Chuck Neufeld

5. Pacific Northwest Mennonite Historical Society--PNMHS Board Members

The Heritage Center will be open for visitors and guests Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Anyone with a special request or search can plan ahead to meet there for assistance. If that request is fairly specific we'd like contact prior to the weekend so we have the right person available to help. Contact <http://www.pnmhs.org/> or (pnmhs.volunteer@gmail.com).

6. Hope Village Retirement Community – Tour with Bob Kauffman and Pat Hershberger