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From the PNMC Office



This week we join together to pray for [Portland Mennonite Church](#). PMC's leadership team includes Rod Stafford (*Lead Pastor*), Curt Weaver (*Pastor of Children & Youth*), Britt Carlson joined the staff in October as *Pastor of Community Life*, and Rachel Joy balances her time between studying online at AMBS and serving as PMC's *Congregational Administrator*. PMC is an active congregation involved with both the community and the broader Mennonite Church. This year a new [Stephen Ministry](#) began which trains individuals to meet the needs of others in the congregation and community who are experiencing hospitalization, retirement, financial setback, the loss of a loved one, or any of the other challenges that are part of our lives. Volunteers meet weekly with their 'care receiver' for as long as is needed to listen, pray, support, and offer encouragement. Portland Mennonite has a long history of advocacy for peace and justice in their city and in the world. Together they work with Mennonite Central Committee, Ted and Co., Anawim, Night Strike, Mainspring Portland, New City Initiative, and have responded to the issue of immigration through the development of a Radical Hospitality Team. Follow [this link](#) to read more about PMC's successful fundraising evening in November with Ted & Company.

Partner Congregation relationships – If your congregation would like to learn to know another congregation from a different cultural or geographic setting more deeply, Executive Conference Minister, Katherine Jameson Pitts, is happy to match congregational pairs. Such partnerships provide opportunities for sharing stories and praying for one another in meaningful and personal ways. Partnering congregations might also consider pulpit exchanges or perhaps a joint meeting of Leadership Teams, as well as the potential for a shared retreat or service project. Contact [Katherine](#) to participate.

The [Conference Communications Council](#) will meet **Saturday, February 4**, at [Albany Mennonite](#) from **9am to 4pm**. Each congregation is invited to send one lay leader and one pastor (or two lay leaders if you don't have a pastor) to participate in this time of connecting and conversation. We will again be having a video link with congregations in Idaho. The morning will be spent with Alex Awad, former Dean at Bethlehem Bible College. Dialogue will focus on the proposed resolution on Israeli-Palestine issues which will be voted upon at the MC USA Delegate Session in Orlando. *The afternoon will include worship, sharing and fellowship.* Register [here](#).

PNMC CONGREGATIONS, ORGANIZATIONS & MINISTRIES

Listed chronologically, then alphabetically by organization

Albany Mennonite Church

During the busy-ness of the holiday season, you are invited to slow down and wait during a day-long retreat led by Juel Russell (Salem Mennonite Church). As a group and individually we will wait -- with patience, with God's people, and in hope -- anticipating the celebration of the coming of our Savior and Lord. We will gather on **Saturday, December 17, 2016**, from 9:00am to 4:00pm at Albany Mennonite. The \$20 cost includes lunch. Register [here](#) by December 10.

Pacific Northwest Mennonite Historical Society

Mark your calendar! The 2017 PNMHHS Annual Meeting is scheduled for **Saturday, January 21** beginning at 12:00pm at Zion Mennonite Church. "[Crossing the Loange: Congo Pax Service and the Journey Home](#)" will be presented by Larry Graber of Dallas, OR. The program and lunch is \$20/person. Please contact [Gloria Nussbaum](#) to RSVP by Friday, January 13.

PNMHHS is in the Ivan & Pearl Kropf Heritage Center at 6030 South Whiskey Hill Road in Hubbard, OR and is open on Wednesdays, 9:00a.m.—3:00pm. It is staffed by volunteers Mike Barber, Archivist/director, Shirley Martin, family histories; Carolyn Gingerich, librarian, and John Gingerich, technology specialist, Margaret Shetler, Archivist emeritus. The volunteers are happy to assist with questions. If you would like to make an appointment, call 503-266-6447.

Zion Mennonite Church

Mark your calendar! [Zion Mennonite Church's](#) annual Sing Your Own Messiah is **Sunday, December 18, 3:30pm**.

MENNONITE CHURCH USA & OTHER CHURCHWIDE AGENCIES

listed alphabetically by organization

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary

Leadership Clinics 2017: **Monday, Jan. 23** (9 a.m. – 3 p.m.), prior to Pastors Week (Jan. 23–26)
*While leadership clinics are designed for active church leaders, they are valuable for **lay leaders** as well. Participants need not be ordained or in a ministry role to take advantage of this opportunity to learn!*

Sustaining Long-Term Pastorates (Duane Beck, Janice Yordy Sutter and David Sutter)

How can pastors move toward thriving, fruitful, long-term ministries? In this leadership clinic, we will discuss how several practices can bring joy and vitality to both pastors and congregations, even as we acknowledge our need for God's grace when facing the unexpected:

- developing a pastoral "rule" to sustain the inner life
- shaping a web of support
- paying attention to group processes, including family and congregational systems
- understanding leadership within the congregation's mission
- leading in conflict transformation
- establishing habits of lifelong learning

Participants will be invited to contribute their own pastoral wisdom to the conversation.

[Early registration deadline is Jan. 7. Sign up now!](#)

Mennonite Church USA

Ministerial Sexual Misconduct Policy and Procedure provides updated process for the church. This work builds on previous policies and procedures developed by denominational leaders throughout both national church bodies in 2000 as a guide for congregations and area conferences in addressing ministerial misconduct, including sexual and ethical misconduct. Read more [here](#).

Mennonite Church USA, Executive Board

Mennonite Church USA's Racial Ethnic Council (REC) recently met for the first time with the MC USA Executive Board to engage **questions of power and authority in the church**. The REC includes representatives from the [African American Mennonite Association](#), Native Mennonite Ministries, *Iglesia Menonita Hispana*, Asian Mennonite Ministries, Indonesian Mennonite Association, and African, Belizean, Caribbean Mennonite Missions Association. The REC meets once a year and functions to keep people of color in Mennonite Church USA connected to each other and to the broader denomination. "We can be blind to the power we have," said Jim Caskey, EB member from Goshen, IN. "And it's really important for us to address the question of what informal power we do acknowledge. We have to start naming some of these things." Read [more](#).

West Coast MCC

West Coast MCC invites all pastors (*lead, associates, youth, etc.*) to a free lunch and interactive gathering on **Monday, January 30 at 11:00am** at **Salem Mennonite Church**. PNMC churches have faithfully supported MCC in generous and significant ways. West Coast MCC wants to express gratitude, share updates, and *hear from PNMC about how we can partner with your congregations, increasing our connection with you as we explore additional services in Oregon*. Please RSVP to [Bob Buxman, 503-502-5402](#), by **January 16th**. -Nate Yoder, WCMCC Exe. Dir.

Mennonite World Conference

Follow [this link](#) to read the *Courier* for the latest MWC news.

PNMC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Dec. 17, *Advent Retreat*, Albany Mennonite Church, Albany, OR (9-4)
- Dec. 18, *Sing Your Own Messiah*, Zion Mennonite Church, Hubbard, OR (3:30pm)
- Jan. 21, *PNMHS Annual Meeting*, Zion Mennonite Church, Hubbard, OR (12:00pm)
- Jan. 30, *West Coast MCC Lunch*, Salem Mennonite Church, Salem, OR (11:00am)
- Feb. 4, *PNMC Conference Communications Council*, Albany Mennonite Church, Albany, OR (9am)
- March 9-12, *Drift Creek Quilters*, Drift Creek Camp, Lincoln City, OR
- April 7-8, *Fresno's 50th Anniversary Relief Sale*, Fresno, CA
- April 21-23, *OR Mennonite Women's Retreat*, Drift Creek Camp, Lincoln City, OR
- April 22, *Idaho Relief Sale*, NNU, Boise, ID
- May 6, *Western Mennonite School Benefit Auction*, Salem, OR
- June 23-24, *PNMC Annual Meeting*, Menno Mennonite Church, Ritzville, WA

Upcoming e-Bulletins:

Dec 19 (submissions due by 12/12)

Jan 2 (submissions due by 12/26)

Jan 16 (submissions due by 1/9)

Feb 6 (submissions due by 1/30)

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>