



Pacific Northwest  
Mennonite  
Conference

May 15, 2017

# e-Bulletin

Providing bi-weekly communication for PNMC

Please share widely. If you receive this e-bulletin via more than one address, let us know which address you prefer. To submit announcements or manage your subscription, email [brenda@pnmc.org](mailto:brenda@pnmc.org). See schedule on second page for publication dates and submission deadlines.

## From the PNMC Office

The PNMC Annual Meeting is a wonderful opportunity to strengthen our congregations. We hope you will join us for Eastern Washington 2017! The event will be hosted by both the Warden and Menno congregations, but take place at Menno Mennonite, located between Ritzville and Moses Lake. Visit [pnmc.org](http://pnmc.org) where registration details are available! We are pleased to include (*optional*) intensive [learning experiences](#) on Friday afternoon, **June 23**. The knowledgeable instructors have a **breadth of knowledge and experience to share**. (*Check out [pnmc.org](#) for details about class offerings.*) We hope attendees will take advantage of this great opportunity to connect with others from across the conference.



## PNMC CONGREGATIONS, ORGANIZATIONS & MINISTRIES

Listed chronologically, then alphabetically by organization

### International Bethel City Church

Folks in the Portland area are invited to attend a summer concert at IBCC on **Saturday, July 1, 2017**. The purpose of this event is to bring people of different cultures and values together to **experience the love our Lord Jesus Christ**. The gathering will include networking, dancing and a variety of foods to enjoy. *This will be a big event!* In addition to a stream of car washes, the church is looking for other means of raising funds to cover the hosting costs, such as singing and dancing at different Mennonite churches and events. IBCC also hopes to make and sell African donuts. If you are interested in supporting this ministry, the folks at Bethel are ready and willing to serve! To inquire, contact Grace by phone at [\(503\) 875-1956](tel:(503)875-1956) or via Bethel email: [ibccpdx@gmail.com](mailto:ibccpdx@gmail.com).

### Mennonite Village

A **70th Anniversary** celebration is planned at Mennonite Village on **Sunday, July 30, 2017**. A worship service will begin at 2:30 pm outside under a big tent next to Quail Run (2525 47<sup>th</sup> Ave SE, Albany, OR). Rick Stiffney from Mennonite Health Services will be a special guest. *All are welcome!*

### Mountain View Mennonite Church



Earlier this year, our brothers and sisters in Montana participated in a **Love Not Hate** rally, where pastor Jeryl Hollinger was asked to speak. The event was held on a cold January day in Whitefish, MT, a small town near Glacier National Park and several people from the Mountain View church participated. The event was organized by Jessica Laferriere and Dominica Cleveras in response to the United States' divisive presidential election in hopes of promoting love, peace, and tolerance. The outdoor rally drew 200-300 participants, showing up in subzero temperatures, from the entire Flathead Valley and nearby cities. The area had been noted on national news because of local resident, Richard Spencer, a white nationalist. Questions had been circulating locally about him and his mother (who lives in Whitefish also, but purports to not share his views on race). As public awareness increased, so did an online troll storm from some white supremacists. Hate targets included the local Jewish community, a few businesses, and the local Love Lives Here organization. Hateful messages were sent to individuals as well as their teenage children. Support and interest in the Love Not Hate movement grew following this event. To read more, follow [this link](#).

## Anabaptist Witness

Follow a wide collection of **blogs and book reviews** on the Anabaptist Witness website [here](#).

## Mennonite Central Committee

Thousands of people gathered on the Fresno Pacific University campus in Fresno, CA, April 7 and 8 to mark the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the **West Coast Mennonite Relief Sale and Auction**. People have been working together to organize 50 sales and auctions since 1967 when the first one took place in a fruit-packing shed between Reedley and Dinuba, with attendees parking in the nearby orchards, said Bill Braun, 50th Anniversary Sale committee chair. It moved to Fresno Pacific College (now University) in 1981. “The focus has always been supporting the work of MCC and international relief,” Braun said. “This is a place where family gathers, where you go to see friends you haven’t seen in a while. It’s a festive atmosphere. People have other reasons to be there, certainly, but underneath all that is the good work of MCC.”



This year, a special 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary quilt was auctioned off for a record-setting \$7,500, helping to raise the overall total of the sale to about \$215,000. The 50 stars on the quilt are all unique. Each person who made a star used some sparkly gold and dark cream fabric that was provided and combined it with her own fabric of different colors and prints to make a star. One person made several stars using fabric from Africa and Indonesia as well as stars with Native American and Latin American motifs. “That quilt brought in the most money of any quilt at the sale by far,” Braun said.

Nine Hispanic Mennonite Brethren churches from as far as Los Angeles – some of whom had never heard of MCC before – volunteered at the sale or offered to make 50 school and infant care kits to mark the occasion. Together the churches made nearly 500 kits. Christóbal Alemán is the pastor of Iglesia de la Comunidad West Park, Fresno, California. He explained through a translator that his church hadn’t really engaged with MCC prior to this. “We had known about the work of MCC and had learned about what it was doing in the world, but it’s different knowing more about it and becoming participants. I think it’s really important for us to be participating in the world in this way.” “It’s carrying out the mission the Lord has for us, to give something that we have to people who are in need,” Pastor Alemán added.

One of the things attendees can always expect from the relief sale is good food. Aside from the traditional Russian-Mennonite food, tacos and burritos usually found at the Fresno sale, this year Salvadoran food was on the menu. More than 50 church members from Comunidad Cristiana City Terrace Hermanos Menonitas in Los Angeles drove four hours to sell pupusas – fried, flattened dough filled with savory meat and cheese – for the first time. “Whatever your ethnic background, the sale is still the place where everyone comes together. Mennonite Brethren, Mennonite Church USA folks and Brethren in Christ all come together, so I think it’s terribly important,” Braun said.

## Mennonite Church USA

Follow [this link](#) for the latest MC USA news and [this link](#) for the latest edition of *Equipping*.

- **Jeryl Hollinger**, pastor of Mountain View Mennonite Church in Kalispell, MT, is featured [here](#).
- **Jennifer Delanty**, member of Seattle Mennonite Church and former PNMC moderator, is featured in [this reflection](#).
- **Britt Carlson** is pastor of community life & outreach at Portland Mennonite Church, read her thoughts on *Love is a Verb* [here](#).

## Mennonite Disaster Service

Check [this link](#) for current service opportunities.

## West Coast Mennonite Central Committee

MCC is providing two upcoming Border Learning Tours, **July 22-26** and **November 11-15**. Each tour costs \$70/day/person, or \$350 for the 5 days, which includes van rental, food and lodging. Participants need to arrange and pay for travel to Tucson. Each tour is limited to 12 persons. This [link](#) provides a good overview of tour activities. If you would like to participate, contact [Bob Buxman](#) ASAP to reserve a spot.

---

### Upcoming e-Bulletins:

June 5 (submissions due by 5/29)  
June 19 (submissions due by 5/12)  
July 3 (submissions due by 6/26)  
Aug 7 (submissions due by 7/31)

If you would like to contribute, please send a brief announcement in Spanish & English with website links to [brenda@pnmc.org](mailto: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!*