

## **PNMC Board Meeting, Friday, June 23, 2017, at Menno Mennonite, Ritzville, WA**

Present: Jack Swaim, Katherine Jameson Pitts, Brett Tieszen, Kathleen Aeschliman, Janet Szabo, Twila Lehman, Jenna Schlegel-Preheim, Jan Yoder, Barb Buxman, Jeryl Hollinger, Nelly Moran-Ascencio, Tom Brenneman

### **Updates on Peace Property developments since June 5 (our previous board discussion):**

—Katherine shared that Steve Kimes sent an email stating that Anawim will be leaving the property at the end of June. At that time they will cease to rent it from PNMC. Anawim is dividing into 2 branches, a spiritual life branch that will be led by Steve and will remain a member of PNMC, and a homeless services and advocacy branch that will not be a part of PNMC.

—Brett and Barb met with Bethel leadership (Simon, Lucy, and Grace) about the board's plans to sell the property. Simon, Lucy, and Grace expressed desire for Bethel to purchase the property from PNMC. Brett explained some of the details of actions they need to take in order to buy the property. They have been told that an offer from someone outside the Mennonite Church will not be accepted until August 1, so this is the timeline they are working under to find money/backing to purchase the property.

—Jack spoke with a representative from a church that is very interested in purchasing the property as is. This church has stated a willingness to pay a specified amount if the property is available, but it will be available to purchase only if Bethel is unable to put together a viable offer by August 1.

—Jack updated Gerry Langstraat about these recent property-related events. Gerry is supportive.

—Next steps—Pertinent information from the above will be shared with PNMC delegates on Saturday (June 24) during the moderator report, treasurer's report, and Katherine's report. The Property Management Committee still has some work to do until the property is sold and closing has occurred. The property sale workgroup (Jack, Jeryl, Brett, with staff support from Katherine and Barb) will manage the details of the sale and will involve the board as appropriate.

### **Other Announcements and Updates**

—Katherine's Covenant of Understanding with PNMC ends Jan. 31, 2018, and so we need to refresh it. Also it's time to initiate a formal performance review. In other words, a new Covenant of Understanding and a Performance Review are due. These actions will hopefully be completed by the end of Dec. 2017. Jack will take the lead in the review process and the new Covenant of Understanding.

—A Shared Understanding of Ministerial Leadership is a MCUSA publication that has been recently revised. It covers many topics, one of which is same-sex marriages. (Barb will order copies of the book for the Board.) The Pastoral Leadership Team has been working on what to do if and when pastors in PNMC perform same-sex marriages. PLT is trying to discern how to apply the MCUSA agreement to review a pastor's credentials and how this should look in the PNMC. Katherine said that the Board may help the PLT in this discernment (if asked).

—Next Board meeting—Friday and Saturday, Sept. 29-30, 2017, in the Portland area.