

BALLOT 2018

Brief Biographies **Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference** Boise, ID

PNMC Board of Directors Positions

Moderator Elect (2-year term, then transition to Moderator for 2 years)

Dianna Eshleman – Portland Mennonite Church, Portland, OR

Dianna lives in Portland, OR, with husband Leon and is a member of Portland Mennonite Church. They have 3 children and four grandchildren. After their return in 1990 from 2 years of service at Mennonite Christian Hospital in Taiwan, Dianna served on the Western Mennonite School Board (the last term as board chair) and later on the Mennonite Village Board. Since retirement she has exchanged her role as a Nurse Practitioner for the enjoyment of time to spend with grandchildren, freedom to travel with husband Leon, quilting, teaching children's Sunday school, yard work and family genealogy research.

At Large -- Jan Yoder (4-year term) – Shalom Church, Spokane, WA

Jan grew up in Hawaii in a Presbyterian home where church was a central part of her life, and made her way to Spokane, WA to attend Whitworth College. While there she discovered her Anabaptist roots, met Gary Jewell, who also attended the Mennonite fellowship, and proceeded to become her husband and then an ordained Mennonite minister. Gary and Jan have 2 wonderful adult daughters and a wonderful son-in-law. Jan is a full-time Public Health Nurse in Spokane, working with first-time pregnant moms and their infants in their homes. She attends Shalom Church mostly and other churches where Gary might be. Jan has enjoyed being the Everence Advocate at Shalom for many years, and also enjoys bike riding, backpacking, canning, sewing and attending conference meetings.

Secretary – Twila Lehman (3-year term) – Albany Mennonite Church, Albany, OR

Twila came to Oregon from Ohio 34 years ago for a voluntary service assignment with Bethany Mennonite Church in Albany, OR. There she met her husband and has lived in Albany ever since. They have three grown children and are expecting their first grandchildren this summer. She taught business technology courses at Linn-Benton Community College for 27 years retiring in 2016. Twila's husband, Rich, also retired in 2016 after 31 years of teaching at South Albany High School. She enjoys spending time with family, traveling, and hiking.

Gift Discernment Team (1-year term)

Renee Johns – Hyde Park Mennonite Fellowship, Boise, ID

Renee and her husband found the Mennonites through friends who recommended MCC. After an MCC term they ended up in Boise and joined the Hyde Park Mennonite Fellowship. Renee teaches ESL and GED for a local non-profit. She has a young adult daughter living in Boston and a son who attends Goshen College. In her free time Renee enjoys reading, hiking and spending money on flowers for her yard!

Joseph Penner – Salem Mennonite, Salem, OR

Joseph is married to Erin Boers and he owns and operates a small coffee roasting company in Salem, OR 'Steel Bridge Coffee, LLC.' He enjoys jogging, cycling, and playing soccer.

PNMC Appointments Board of Directors

Treasurer – (completion of Brett Tieszen’s 3 year term – June 2020)

Dave Hockman Wert – Corvallis Mennonite Fellowship, Corvallis, OR

Dave is a member of Corvallis Mennonite Fellowship and, like all CMFers, has taken on many roles to help the fellowship function (song leading, worship leading, preaching, worship committee, pastoral team, and delegate). He works as a biologist/GIS specialist for the U.S. Geological Survey, doing stream and fish research. Dave has served on the PNMC board on three different occasions (1997-99; 2006-10; 2014-15), including one term as Moderator (2008-10). He was a member of the Board, Owner Relations Committee, and Finance Committee for the First Alternative Natural Foods Cooperative in Corvallis (2005-08), including serving as Board Treasurer for one year. Dave also serves on the Mennonite Creation Care Network leadership council (2006-present) and Peace and Justice Support Network (PJSN) Advisory Council (2012-present). With PJSN, his role has also included Treasurer duties. Last, but definitely most important, Dave has been married to Cathleen for 21 years.

PNMC Appointments, *continued...* Board of Directors

Gary Martin (2-year term) – Prince of Peace, Anchorage, AK

Gary Martin (and his wife Kim) moved to Alaska in 1999 to lead MMN’s Service Adventure Program in Anchorage for two years. Gary and Kim have stayed in the Anchorage area and are active members in Prince of Peace Mennonite Church. Gary has served for many years on the local Service Adventure support committee as the chair, served on two pastor search committees and has been on the leadership team. Gary and Kim have two sons, Simon (age 13) and Avry (age 11). Gary enjoys all the benefits of living in the beautiful state of Alaska and is looking forward to bringing the PNMC and his church closer together by serving on the board.

CIHAN Representative – Nelly Moran Ascencio (2-year term) – Ministerios Restauración, Portland, OR
Nelly is a member of Ministerios Restauración Iglesia Hispana Menonita. She is also moderator of CIHAN. Nelly is married to Edin Ascencio and they have 2 sons: Abraham (12) and Uzziah (7).

Pastoral Leadership Team

Sam Adams (4-year term) – Bend Mennonite Church, Bend, OR

Sam Adams, with his wife Andrea, planted Bend Mennonite Church in 2006 where he continues to serve as the pastor. Sam earned his PhD in theology from the University of St Andrews and for the past 5 years has taught theology at the graduate level as a professor at Kilns College, also in Bend. Sam and Andrea have three kids, Owen (16), Everett (14), and Eleni (12) and will be celebrating 20 years of marriage this June. Sam owns a carpentry business and, when he gets a few spare moments, enjoys trail running and rock climbing. As someone who believes deeply in the mission of the Mennonite church and the importance of our mutual support and accountability, Sam is looking forward to serving the PNMC and our churches by being a part of the Pastoral Leadership Team.