

24th Annual Meeting

DELEGATE HANDBOOK



Pacific Northwest
Mennonite
Conference

An area conference of Mennonite Church USA

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Welcome to Boise, 2018

Come Walk With Us

Dear Delegates of the PNMC,

On behalf of the Board of Directors, we welcome you to the 24th annual assembly in Boise, Idaho. Boise is among the fastest growing cities in the nation, and there are three local area Mennonite churches with decades of history. We are grateful that these congregations (Emmaus Mennonite Church, Evergreen Heights Mennonite Church, and Hyde Park Mennonite Fellowship) are hosting our time of worship, fellowship, and discernment of God's will together.

We are excited for all of you who are traveling from across our broad conference, eager to renew and begin relationships with one another—as we Journey Forward together. We have inherited the marvelous story about Jesus Christ's life and resurrection that informs our identity as Christians, as well as our relationships with each other as sisters and brothers. For this very reason, our Board looks forward to our annual meeting each June, so that we might gain inspiration and courage as we walk together and tell stories about how we follow Jesus, witness to God's peace, and experience transformation.

So come from east and west, from north and south, to share, sing, listen, learn, fellowship and love. This is our time to take our turn bearing witness to God's unchanging nature of goodness, creativity, majesty and love. Read the reports contained herein that tell the stories of the wonderful work of our church agencies. Depart from our meeting refreshed and renewed, with stories to bring back to your congregation. May God be glorified during our time together!

Grace and peace,

Jack Swaim

PNMC Moderator

Report from Executive Conference Minister

Submitted by Katherine Jameson Pitts ~ May 2018

*“Holy is the place I stand, to give whatever small good I can.”**

As I prepared for this Annual Meeting, I was distinctly aware that this is my six-year anniversary as Executive Conference Minister of the Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference. Perhaps I was more aware of this space of time because of our Annual Gathering speaker. At my first annual meeting with you all, our speaker was then Mennonite Church USA Executive Director, Ervin Stutzman. Now Ervin has retired and we are welcoming Glen Guyton, both to that role and to our time together. So, there are bookends to these past six years. It is time that has gone quickly, and time that has been filled by so many new experiences and new relationships.

These years have been a time of learning to live with change. We live in a time of rapid social and technological change which impacts our own lives and the lives of our congregations. I got my first smart phone six years ago, now I can't imagine life without it, for better or worse. But the church is not built for quick flexible change. Our roots go deep, our traditions hold us tight. At the retirement celebration for Ervin Stutzman this spring, I found myself remembering my first conversation with him, sitting in a coffee shop on Hawthorne Avenue in Portland during my first months in this role. As I shared with him the things I was discovering in PNMC, I made the off-hand comment that many of our congregations were small, and what we did were only tiny sparks, not wildfires. And he replied that perhaps my most important work would be fanning those sparks so they would continue to burn.

We are a people of long slow change and small good things. It is both our calling and built into our way of following. And it's not a bad kind of people to be. It has its frustrations. We seem to have longer pastoral search processes than most of us would want. Our congregations don't experience explosive growth. New things happen among us as small sparks. This year we have seven congregations in some stage of pastoral transition. I have had several conversations with people who are interested in planting Anabaptist faith communities in the Pacific Northwest. And in our congregations new small things do take root and grow. The ways that our congregations stand with our neighbors and invite others to join us in our witness to God's great shalom for all the world are exciting and real.

It's a time of change for Mennonite Church USA on many levels. As we join in the Journey Forward process with our brothers and sisters across the country may we see and name the new growth among us. May we fan the sparks into flames. May seeds hidden in the earth sprout and bear fruit!

To the glory of the One we serve,
Katherine Jameson Pitts

**Carrie Newcomer*

Board of Directors Report

2018 PNMC Annual Meeting

Submitted by Jack Swaim, PNMC Board Moderator

The role of the Board of Directors is to give leadership to and act on behalf of PNMC. This role is in the context of our shared vision to follow Jesus Christ and, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to grow as communities of grace, joy and peace...so that God's healing and hope flow through us to the world. Directors are accountable to Member Congregations, who are the core organizational units of PNMC.

During the past year, the Board's primary focus has been on discerning the direction of the Holy Spirit for the future of our conference. Here are some of the discernment activities:

- At the 2017 annual gathering we shared that PNMC had explored other options but eventually decided we would offer the Peace Mennonite property for sale. It had been deeded to PNMC when its congregation closed in 2010. Then, at the Conference Communications Council in early 2018, we shared that our offer had resulted in selling the property to another, non-PNMC church.
- The Board spent considerable energy determining how best to use the proceeds from selling this property. We decided to establish a "sustainability" endowment fund plus a separate "healthy congregations" grant fund, working with Everence Financial Advisors. The board is continuing to work out the details and we will share additional information at the 2018 annual gathering.
- One of the Board's responsibilities is to gather feedback every three years from people across PNMC for Katherine Jameson Pitts' performance feedback. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive; and we're pleased to share that we've updated and extended her Covenant of Understanding as our Conference Minister through January 31, 2021.
- The Board itself met four times. In each of these meetings, we began with prayer and worship. As part of our governance responsibility, we reviewed how our Board and staff are nurturing healthy congregations by supporting them during pastoral transitions, strengthening the ministry of our pastors, helping lay leaders share ideas, and supporting congregations who are developing their own future vision. We also pay attention to conference policies, and to fiscal responsibility. As part of our discernment for the future, in each meeting we shared updates and dialogue involving PNMC congregations, other conferences, and the denomination as a whole. In the spirit of openness and transparency, we post board meeting minutes on our PNMC website (pnmc.org).
- Delegates from PNMC participated in each of the meetings of church leaders from across the country. These meetings are held twice a year and provide an opportunity for networking with other conferences and constituencies—as well as the denominational staff and board—to share ideas and thus to influence policies and direction.

The Board is grateful to our congregations for supporting congregational members to serve on the Board and to serve in many other ways through committees, teams, and related organizations. The Board also highly values the work done by PNMC staff to support and nurture congregations.

Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference

DELEGATES: WHO THEY ARE AND WHAT THEY DO

(March 2013)

WHO IS THE PNMC DELEGATE BODY?

1. Each PNMC member congregation is entitled to one delegate for each twenty-five of its members, or fraction thereof. (PNMC bylaws, Article III, 3, g)
2. All ordained or licensed ministers, whose ministerial credentials have been recognized by PNMC and who are considered active, with charge are entitled to be delegates. (PNMC Bylaws, Article III, 3, g)

WHO SHOULD CONGREGATIONS CHOOSE TO BE THEIR DELEGATES?

1. Congregations have the freedom to choose who will best represent their congregation in the PNMC delegate body.
2. Delegates should be members of the congregation they represent. Preferably, some of a congregation's delegates will bring a congregational leadership perspective having continuity with the congregation, understanding the range of views in the congregation and their own views respected within their congregation.
3. Delegates should hold to the vision and commitments of PNMC (Bylaws Article III, 2):
 - a. The vision and mission statements of Mennonite Church USA and PNMC
 - b. Common Confession of Faith in a Mennonite Perspective, as updated from time to time, as their “statement of faith for teaching and nurture in the life of the Church”
 - c. Commitment “to seek to understand and interpret Scripture in harmony with Jesus Christ as we are led by the Holy Spirit in the Church”
 - d. Commitment to participate in discerning and living out statements of Christian faith and life made by Mennonite Church USA and PNMC
 - e. Commitment to participate in the life and mission of PNMC and Mennonite Church USA through delegate representation and financial support.

WHAT DO DELEGATES DO?

1. **Fulfill the role as defined in the PNMC bylaws:** (Article IV, 2):

Purpose: Delegates appointed by the Member Congregations have the authority to transact the business of PNMC, including but not limited to the following actions:

- a. Discuss and decide major issues of policy for PNMC, and discern the voice of the Spirit in the midst of the Member Meeting.
- b. Provide opportunity to speak to the establishment of general policies and the development of programs to carry out those policies.
- c. Receive reports from the Board, PNMC staff, teams and other conference activities. Reports shall be presented in writing and shall include financial accounting.

WHAT DO DELEGATES DO?, CONTINUED

d. Elect the following as needed:

- (1) Moderator Elect.
- (2) Board members to fill new terms and vacancies.
- (3) Secretary and Treasurer.
- (4) Gift Discernment Team members. This team identifies and recommends persons to the Board to fill elected positions which need to be affirmed by the delegates at the annual Member Meeting.

(There may also be other elections as deemed necessary by the Board of Directors.)

2. Gathered Discernment:

PNMC is comprised solely of Mennonite congregations in the Pacific Northwest. These congregations meet in annual assembly the fourth weekend of June. The delegate body assembly is a forum for these congregations to talk together and to discern together the voice of the Holy Spirit. This forum helps the church move beyond its usual congregational ways of thinking and acting. Discernment happens as delegates together dwell in the Word, meditate, pray, share, discuss and listen to one another. The value of this discernment is not realized primarily in formal actions. It is realized in the worship and dialogue itself as it informs, inspires and builds up our conference, denominational and congregational life.

3. Communication channel:

It is our intent that delegates help the conference stay focused on the value of PNMC to congregational life: 1. guiding through pastoral transitions; 2. helping plan for the future; 3. resourcing lay leaders; and 4. strengthening the ministry of pastors. This is accomplished by:

- a. Delegates represent their congregation's voice into the PNMC body. They receive PNMC staff and board reports and interact with the board and staff to provide counsel and direction.
- b. Delegates represent the PNMC body to their home congregations by relaying annual delegate session discussions.
- c. Throughout their term as delegate each provides a primary interaction service between PNMC staff and board and their home congregation. They may be sought for counsel or communication between the annual delegate sessions via email or snail mail.
- d. One congregational delegate shall serve on the Conference Communications Council.

THE DELEGATES' TERM OF SERVICE

In the fall of each year, the PNMC office will request a list of its delegates from each congregation. One of the delegates should represent the congregation, along with a pastor, at the winter Communications Council meeting. We hope that all the delegates shall represent the congregation at the summer annual assembly. Delegates shall serve in that role until a different list of delegates is requested the following fall.

2017 PNMC Delegate Session Minutes

PNMC Annual Delegate Session – June 24, 2017
Menno Mennonite Church, Ritzville, WA

Saturday, June 24, 2017, Morning Session:

1. **Roll Call**—Moderator Jack Swaim welcomed participants and called on member churches to share “we stand with our neighbors by or who ...”.

2. Sharing around tables:

—ECM Katherine Jameson Pitts asked that table groups introduce themselves, then build a Lego block structure that demonstrates how congregations are “building up” in their community.

3. **Approval of 2016 Minutes:** There was a motion (Lenae Nofziger) and second (Amy Epp) to approve the minutes, and it was affirmed.

4. ECM Report (Katherine Jameson Pitts):

-Our primary task is to nurture healthy congregations.

-There are 32 member congregations of PNMC currently. River of Life and Logsden Mennonite Church have both withdrawn this year. Katherine emphasized that the process for withdrawal from the conference has some important steps. Spring Valley Mennonite Church has decided to close after 90+ years of ministry. The congregation has dropped down to 10 regular attenders. They will have a closing celebration. We shared a time of prayer for this congregation as they move on in their Christian lives. Anawim Christian Community is now operating in 2 different branches. One will be a benevolent organization that will not have a religious affiliation, while a small group will continue to meet with Pastor Steve Kimes and remain a member of PNMC. Anawim is also withdrawing from its rental of the Peace property.

-There are two new pastors in PNMC, Kevin Chupp from First Mennonite in Aberdeen, ID, and Britt Carlson, pastor of community life at Portland Mennonite Church.

-There are five congregations currently searching for pastors—Menno Mennonite, Prince of Peace of Alaska, Salem Mennonite Church, Albany Mennonite Church, and Evergreen Mennonite in Seattle.

-Both Filer Mennonite and Eugene Mennonite will be seeking pastors due to the retirements of Tim Gascho and Rose Marie Zook Barber.

-The District Pastors team will remain the same as last year. An evaluation of the District Pastor program will occur this summer.

-Seed NW Grant Program—It’s a matching grant program. Lebanon Mennonite has applied for a grant to work with the Boys and Girls Club. International Bethel City Church received a grant to bring in musicians from around the US for a fundraiser in July. PNMC is going to suspend this program as it currently exists and introduce some changes in order to improve its effectiveness; but Rick Troyer and Joseph Penner would love to have new members to help disperse funds.

-Constituency Leadership Council—Jack Swaim is now the vice chair of this group.

-Sexual Abuse Prevention Panel—Pastors have been encouraged to attend a Healthy Boundaries workshop. We now have the ability to provide the training in our area in English and Spanish. We are exploring ways to prepare a team to respond to accusations of sexual abuse, and Katherine is encouraging individual congregations to work on connecting resources in their communities.

5. Treasurer Report (Brett Tieszen):

-Peace Property (Sanctuary/Peace property)—The property was professionally appraised. If it were to be sold, the appraiser recommended selling the property for church use since doing so would bring a higher value than selling it for housing use. The Board has decided to sell the property (please refer to the Moderator Report, some of which preceded the Treasurer report).

-Last year’s Peace property rent proceeds were mostly put back into the property. The Peace property had a negative income in the past fiscal year, although it had been slightly positive in previous years.

-Aggregate revenue from member congregations was at 98% pledged budget. Staff expenses were under budget. Program expenses came in under budget. Travel expenses were under budget as well as annual meeting expenses. We had one unexpected expense from the Pacific Mennonite Historical Society because we gave them a \$6,000 block grant that was used to address some unexpected and serious plumbing problems. We were about \$14,000 in the red on our budget, but most of this is because of expenses to the Peace Property. (See Brett's report for more detail).

-Year to date giving is better than expected for Fiscal 2018 at this time.

6. Presentation of Ballot:

-Jack distributed the ballots for delegates to use to affirm nominees and to recommend others for future consideration. He explained that the Board of Directors has 10 positions in total, with varying terms and with a rotating schedule of which positions to fill each year. The delegate body affirms nominees for most of the positions, although the Board appoints two positions.

-The Gift Discernment Team includes five positions, of which the delegate body affirms two nominees each year.

-The Board also appoints persons for positions on the Pastoral Leadership Team, with input from the Gift Discernment Team.

-Jack introduced persons who have been nominated for the Board as well as the Gift Discernment Team; he also confirmed the Board's appointments for the Pastoral Leadership Team, the Sanctuary Property Management Committee, and West Coast MCC Board representative from PNMC.

7. Announcements:

-On July 27-30 the Bridgefolk Program will be held in Seattle and all are welcome.

-Camp Camrec will have a celebration and fundraising event on Sept. 1-3; all are welcome.

Saturday, June 24, 2017, Evening Session:

1. Reports from Discussion Groups

2. Moderator Report (Jack Swaim)

-Jack described the past, present and future use of the Peace Mennonite Property. Since 2010 Anawim Christian Community and International Bethel City Church have had rental agreements with PNMC to use the property for their respective ministries, while they discerned (2010 through 2013) whether to purchase the property from PNMC. The PNMC Board has reiterated that longer term it doesn't want to be a landlord.

-The Board has actively explored alternative uses for the property while continuing the rental agreements, with a focus on the possibility of developing the property for low-income, affordable housing; one of the considerations was potentially including a meeting space for congregational and possibly neighborhood use. Updates about alternative use were shared with delegates in last year's annual meeting and again in the 2017 Conference Communications Council. After about two years of exploration, the Board determined that the financial and regulatory barriers were too high, and so PNMC will sell the property. Jack thanked Brett Tieszen for his leadership in this exploration.

-Concurrently, Anawim is ending its rental agreement. International Bethel City Church is now interested in purchasing the property, and another group has expressed interest as well. A small workgroup is pursuing the details of selling the property. At the same time, Gerry Langstraat will continue to chair the Property Management Committee that addresses operational management as long as PNMC owns the property. Jack recognized Gerry for his ongoing leadership of this committee, and Barb Buxman for her support as Board representative on the committee.

-The Board met five times during the last year. We always began with a prayer and worship time.

-Discerning the future vision of Conference was one of the primary board topics this year. There were many sources of input and dialogue, such as delegate input at the 2016 annual meeting and the 2017 Conference Communications Council, input from board conversations with PNMC member congregations, and

discernment during all board meetings in conjunction with seeking the direction of the Holy Spirit. A focus on how we stand with “neighbors” emerged as a primary theme for the future vision for PNMC—particularly because it resonates with the passions and actions of our member congregations who have identified a wide range of neighbors.

3. Affinity/Discussion Group Session—Topics discussed were:

- How do we stand with those who are immigrants—Wendell Amstutz
- How do we stand with those who are homeless—Rhoda Blough
- How do we stand with Indigenous communities—Jennifer Delanty
- How do we stand with those who are marching for justice—Megan Ramer
- Confronting racism—Iris de Leon-Hartshorn
- How do we stand with those who are in Israel and Palestine—Rod Stafford
- Resolving conflicts in the congregation—Duncan Smith
- How do we build Ecumenical/Interfaith relationships—Marlene Kropf
- How do we stand with children and youth—Curt Weaver
- Faith formation for adults—Nancy Kauffmann

4. Ballot Results

- People who were nominated were affirmed.

5. Announcements and Thanks

- Next year’s annual conference will be held in Boise, Idaho in late June 2018. Kathy Bilderback and Marc Schlegel-Preheim invited all to participate.
- All participants thanked the team from Menno for such warm and effective hosting.

6. Blessing and Closing

- Nancy Kauffmann offered a blessing for the Board, members of Pastor Leadership Team, Gift Discernment Team, and PNMC staff.

Minutes submitted by Tom Brenneman, PNMC Secretary

Table Group Covenant

The Delegate Body of Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference

Adapted from "Confession of Faith in a Mennonite Perspective"
Article 16, Church Order and Unity

We gather as a part of the church of Jesus Christ, one body with many members, who by the work of the Holy Spirit are brought together into a dwelling place for God.

As God's people gather at **Boise 2018**, we are the church, a holy temple, a spiritual house, with Christ Jesus himself as our foundation.

We recognize the need to consult together in order to maintain unity on important matters of faith and life. Love and unity in the church are a witness to the world of God's love.

In our deliberations and decision-making we covenant with each other to listen and speak in a spirit of prayerful openness and with the Scriptures as the constant guide. In humility we are open to both give and receive counsel. We know that discernment will include points of agreement and of disagreement, words of affirmation and of dissent. In our discernment we are prepared to wait patiently as we seek a word from the Lord leading toward consensus rather than make hasty decisions.*

We rejoice in the multiplicity of people, gifts, ideas, and opinions that are present in this gathering of the delegate assembly of the Pacific Northwest Conference.

We covenant together:

- to assume the best intentions of all persons who participate at this table and this assembly.
- to pray for one another and the Conference leaders.
- to be patient and kind.
- to speak honestly and directly.
- to practice humility and be willing to change or be corrected.
- to listen actively and carefully.
- to respect the views of those who may not agree with the majority.
- to respect the wisdom of the greater assembly and of those at our assigned tables.

(Table leaders may lead their table in prayer.)

** Consensus means that the delegate body has listened carefully to all voices, majority and minority together, and sought the unity of the Spirit. Consensus is reached when the delegate body has come to a common mind on a matter, or when those who dissent have indicated a readiness to accept a group decision. Consensus does not necessarily mean complete unanimity.*

Treasurer's Report / Financial Reports

PNMC Treasurer's Report – Fiscal Year 2018

PNMC's biggest financial news of Fiscal Year 2018—or any recent year—was the sale of former Peace Mennonite Church property in Gresham, Oregon. When the sale closed PNMC received \$700,000. A sale of the Peace property was not anticipated when the FY 2018 budget was written. The budget included net operating income from the property of \$11,600 but the actual result was a net operating loss of \$12,520. The was due to lower-than-expected rental income (you don't collect rent on property you no longer own) and higher-than-expected maintenance and improvement costs (largely for work incurred prior to PNMC receiving the offer to purchase the property).

The other weak spot for income was the annual meeting. Net income for the 2017 meeting at Menno Mennonite Church was \$3508, or \$392 below budget. Other income lines (contributions and interest/investment income) exceeded budget, in some cases substantially. Of particular note is that member church contributions were \$4357 over budget.

Almost all expenses came in at or below budget with the exceptions of translation service (\$1171 over budget) and office expenses (\$852 over budget, \$450 of which was renting equipment for translation). In total, expenses were \$7925 under budget.

In fiscal 2018 PNMC received contributions totaling \$5242 which were designated for funds or organizations outside of the PNMC general fund.

PNMC had a net *operating* loss for the year was a loss of \$27,214, compared to a budgeted loss of \$25,184. The Peace property sale was reported as *other* income instead of *operating* income because property sales are not a typical part of the conference's operations. The gain on sale is \$265,530 because the land was already on PNMC's balance sheet at a book value of \$434,470. When the property sale is included, the final net income for fiscal 2018 is \$238,316.

On the balance sheet most changes of note are again due to the property sale. The increase in cash accounts is due to proceeds from the sale. Having an accounts receivable balance at the end of fiscal 2017 was unusual and reflected a congregational contribution which was intended to have been received in the fiscal year but arrived later. The fixed asset account which was zeroed was the property.

In the equity section multiple lines were zeroed. 1) The Peace Rental Funds account recorded income from the sale of a separate piece of property received from Peace Mennonite Church which was sold shortly after acquisition. The board intended the income to defray the costs of disposing of the remaining Peace property. Once the sale happened in 2017, segregating the fund was no longer justified and it was rolled into net assets available. 2) PNMC did not aim to make a profit off renting the property and created the Peace Campus Funds to segregate accumulated rental income in excess of property maintenance expenses. The account was significantly drawn down in fiscal 2017 and reached zero in July 2017. 3) Land equity in the property was rolled over to net assets available.

Seed Northwest grants were given for translation at a Sister Care seminar and to International Bethel Church and Lebanon Mennonite Church.

Retained earnings were zeroed out with Net Assets Available because for PNMC's purposes they are the same. Net Assets Available increased due to the gain on sale, operating loss, and other balance sheet changes listed above.

Submitted by PNMC Treasurer, Brett Tieszen
April 2018

Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference

Budget vs. Actuals

February 2017 - January 2018

	Actual	Budget	over Budget	% of Budget
Income				
Member Church Contributions	122,857	118,500	4,357	103.68%
Other Contributions	6,850	4,700	2,150	145.74%
Annual Meeting Income	7,723	12,100	(4,377)	63.83%
Interest/Dividend Income	1,050	50	1,000	2099.88%
Investment Gains/Losses	1,540	600	940	256.62%
Peace Mennonite Properties	22,275	36,300	(14,025)	61.36%
Total Income	162,295	172,250	(9,955)	94.22%
Expenses				
Exec. Conf. Minister Support	85,177	86,398	(1,221)	99.35%
District Pastor Expense	15,175	16,600	(1,425)	91.42%
Administrative Asst	11,996	12,918	(922)	92.86%
Communications Coordinator	2,871	3,768	(897)	76.20%
Pastoral Leadership Team	247	1,650	(1,403)	14.96%
Theological Education Team	87	1,000	(913)	8.71%
Mexico Work	2,500	2,500	0	100.00%
Contracted Services	5,171	4,000	1,171	129.27%
Conference Office	5,202	4,350	852	119.58%
Travel Pool & Meeting Expense	18,478	25,450	(6,972)	72.60%
Annual Meeting	4,215	8,200	(3,985)	51.40%
Other Expenses	3,528	5,900	(2,372)	59.80%
Peace Mennonite Property	34,795	24,700	10,095	140.87%
Total Expenses	189,441	197,434	(7,993)	95.95%
Net Operating Income	(27,147)	(25,184)	(1,963)	107.79%
Other Income				
Designated Contributions	5,242			
Gain on Disposal of Assets	265,530			
Total Other Income	270,772			
Total Other Expenses	5,242			
Net Other Income	265,530			
Net Income	238,316			

Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference

Balance Sheet

As of January 31, 2018

	As of Jan 31, 2018	As of Jan 31, 2017 (PY)	Change	% Change
ASSETS				
Bank Accounts	1,096,438	437,767	658,671	150.46%
Accounts Receivable	0	5,125	(5,125)	-100.00%
Fixed Assets	0	434,470	(434,470)	-100.00%
Endowment Funds	14,604	13,314	1,290	9.69%
TOTAL ASSETS	1,111,042	890,676	220,366	24.74%
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY				
Liabilities				
Accounts Payable	0	(25)	25	100.00%
Miscellaneous Pass-Through	3,458	3,458	0	0.00%
Mexico Project Fund	13,533	19,570	(6,037)	-30.85%
Payroll Liabilities	1,490	1,456	34	2.35%
Total Liabilities	18,481	24,458	(5,977)	-24.44%
Equity				
Peace Rental Funds	0	104,352	(104,352)	-100.00%
Peace Campus Funds	0	3,910	(3,910)	-100.00%
Peace Mennonite Church Land Equity	0	434,470	(434,470)	-100.00%
Memorial Loan Fund (Equipment)	2,290	3,160	(870)	-27.53%
Ministry Funds				
Seed Northwest	82,878	91,728	(8,850)	-9.65%
PNMC Mennonite Women	783	633	150	23.70%
Sharing/Reserve Funds	8,715	8,318	397	4.77%
Net Assets Available	759,578	224,448	535,130	238.42%
Retained Earnings	0	10,604	(10,604)	-100.00%
Net Income	238,316	(15,406)	253,722	1646.86%
Total Equity	1,092,561	866,218	226,343	26.13%
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	1,111,042	890,676	220,366	24.74%

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.

TEAM / MINISTRY REPORTS

Pastoral Leadership Team

Submitted by Rod Stafford, PLT Chair

The primary responsibility of the Pastoral Leadership Team (PLT) is the credentialing of pastors and other church workers in the Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference (PNMC). In the past year this has included the following:

- Juel Russel Yoder of Salem Mennonite Church, whose ordination for ministerial leadership has been re-activated for her ministry of spiritual direction on June 7, 2017.
- Kevin Chupp, of First Mennonite Church of Aberdeen, was approved to be licensed for pastoral ministry on June 23, 2017.
- Kenneth Hawes of Prince of Peace Mennonite Church in Anchorage, Alaska, was approved for licensing for pastoral ministry on March 7, 2018.

Other actions of the PLT have included:

- Drafting a Credential Review Process to follow if a PNMC pastor presides at a same-sex wedding and a review is initiated by the PLT. The process is grounded in the statement of the PNMC Executive Board:

‘We are a diverse conference and we will continue to treat one another with a spirit of forbearance, grace, trust, and love on this as well as other issues that divide us. As a member conference of MC USA our pastors are not free to preside at same-sex weddings with the blessing of the denomination or conference. Those whose conscience and faith leads them to do so will have their credentials reviewed as the Membership Guidelines state. PNMC is committed to remaining a member conference of MC USA and supporting all our congregations as they individually find ways to be authentic witnesses to the gospel of Christ wherever they are.’ – PNMC Executive Board (2015)

- The Process was affirmed by the Executive Board
- Discerning next steps with Todd Lehman, whose credential was suspended in 2017.

In the past year, Gary Jewell’s term on the PLT ended. We are very grateful for the sensitivity and wisdom he brought to the Team. Amy Epp of Seattle Mennonite Church was appointed to PLT and we are glad to welcome her insight and experience. Linda Dibble, Angel Campoz, Matthew Swora and Rod Stafford (Chair) continue their terms. Katherine Jameson Pitts sits on the Team as PNMC Executive Conference Minister. And we are very grateful for Barb Buxman’s outstanding work as recorder.

- Submitted by Rod Stafford (March 27, 2018)

PNMC Historian's Report

Submitted by Gloria Nussbaum, PNMC Historian, April, 2018

PNMC Historian's Report – 2018

The PNMC is a supporter of the Pacific Northwest Mennonite Historical Society (PNMHS) and since the only activity I have to report relates to the Pacific Northwest Mennonite Historical Society and since the society would like to share its own report with the members of the PNMC, please find that report on the following page.

It continues to be my goal as conference historian to have a “congregational historian” in every congregation that is part of the PNMC. If your congregation has not yet identified your congregational historian, I urge you select such a person and have her/him get in touch with me.

We also request that congregations and other organizations affiliated with the PNMC, send or bring their important documents to the archives. If you aren't sure what we are looking for, please get in touch with us. 503-266-6447 OR info@pnmhs.org

We also ask that you prayerfully consider adding the Historical Society to your budget since your ongoing support is critical to the work that we do on your behalf.

Gloria Nussbaum
PNMC Historian

Pacific Northwest Mennonite Historical Society

Submitted April 2018

Mission: *“We seek to collect and preserve historical materials and to celebrate the heritage of Mennonites in the Pacific Northwest in order to educate, inspire, and witness to the church and broader community.”*

Our aim is to serve all who claim Mennonite as their faith identity, heritage and lineage and to others who simply love church history. With that purpose in mind the volunteers give time to the continuing work inside the building that houses the archives, library and work space located at 6030 S Whiskey Hill Rd, Hubbard. The board is very grateful to weekly volunteers who sort, categorize, keep a web index and photo gallery and assist any questions that come with visits, emails or phone calls.

Visitors are welcome to explore the archival materials and borrow from the extensive library of Mennonite authors, search church history or family history both in story or genealogy, and in past and current periodicals, even cookbooks! *Looking for an old time recipe? Did you ever write a letter to Words of Cheer seeking a pen pal? You may find that letter in one of the old copies!*

PNMHS annual meeting this past January *“Conscience over Convenience” –Little known NW stories from World War II*, was a highlight and many of you attended to hear personal stories from our panel members, Earl Kenagy, Ruth Goertzen and Sterling Roth (Margaret Shetler was unable to participate because of illness). Our panelists broadened our reach with three different streams of Mennonites: Mennonite Brethren, Conservative Mennonite, and MC USA. Find photos, video and audio files of the meeting at this site <https://www.pnmhs.org/annualmeeting>.

In the past months we have received boxes and materials from several congregations of PNMC and personal papers and files. Recently Ruthy Kanagy brought materials and memoirs of both her parents, Lee and Adella Kanagy, missionaries to Hokkaido, Japan. Ruthy grew up in Japan. We have also received several home movie reels of CPS camps and cattle boat experiences from the participants.

Currently we are seeking an archivist as Michael Barber, along with his wife Rose Marie, is moving from Oregon to Kansas. We are grateful for Mike’s contribution in the past two years bringing his background in archival work and ability to gather in collections.

Another thanksgiving is to several PNMC congregations who have included PNMHS in their annual budget giving. We believe we serve the PNMC congregations and individuals and we call other congregations to share financially in this ministry.

One other need is for board members, currently we are small in number and want more to share in the direction of PNMHS. You may nominate yourself or someone else!

Search and browse us at www.pnmhs.org for more than you ever expected to find.

Board Members: Pat Hershberger, Lin Rush, Gloria Nussbaum, Jerry Barkman, John Goertzen.

Northwest México Ministries Report

Submitted by Rick Troyer

March, 2018

Greeting from the Passion-Based México Committee of the PNMC.

As I reflect on the past several years of this committee's 'Passionate Work' in NW México's Sinaloa & Sonora regions I am reminded anew of God's faithfulness over the years. Many years ago some missionaries from the northwest felt God calling them to journey south into México. That calling continues today. In the years of my time traveling to México to preach, teach & build, such events are only part of this vision of earlier persons' passions and God's designs. I thank God I, and others, have been given these opportunities. Past and current committee members with names of Simon, Samuel, Miguel, Curt as well as many other volunteers and NW churches have given much time and talents and finances in these efforts.

In the past eight years the PNMC México Committee has raised and invested over \$150,000 within the "Kingdom Efforts" in NW México. Investments have included four major church building projects in Cohuibampo, Tabeojeca, El Rifugio and Las Lajitas. Several pastoral leadership and teaching events have also been sponsored in various church ministries. We have been able support the needs of our brothers and sisters in NW México.

Our committee has a vision for PNMC and NW México congregations to continue joining in new and existing 'Sister-Church' relationships. For a number of years some of us have been part of numerous passion-based ministry trips consisting of many miles and days and weeks during the year of preaching and teaching among the churches there in which persons have been saved, healed, delivered, called and equipped for ministry among the local churches causing revival and renewal and ongoing growth. There are still more local churches and new fellowships needing places for worship to be built as well. **We invite you to join with us in these future efforts.**

This past year the newly constructed church at Las Lajitas was completed and dedicated in October. Several of us traveled there to celebrate with them and the other area church brothers & sisters. I was privileged to be part of this and being asked to baptize a number of new believers in the gulf amidst the beaches and waves there that weekend. I was there again in the spring for a time of preaching and teaching in Western Mennonite Church's sister-church at Chuibampo. We, as a church, are also part of a new ministry work of passion in the Baja around La Paz among the children of El Centeranio and the farm labor camp located at Melatone. Simon also spent a number of weeks passionately preaching & teaching among the churches in Sonora and Sinaloa. He can testify that the churches are alive and well and that God's Spirit has moved and still is moving in mighty ways during the many years of ministry spent among our brothers and sisters in México.

Space in this report is not enough to share all this and what our committee has been blessed to be doing and continues to dream of doing. We invite you to speak to us and consider continuing to partner with us in our 'Ministry Passions' in the days ahead this year.

Submitted for the PNMC México Ministries Committee
Dios le Bendiga, Rick Troyer

PNMC AREA ORGANIZATION REPORTS

CAMP PALISADES

Submitted by Kevin Chupp

The ministry of Camp Palisades continued this past summer. While we only had a couple youth from our own congregation, we were excited to have 26 campers at our two camps combined. Junior Camp was held July 9-13 and Senior Camp followed July 13-16.

Both camps were without any major trouble. We had some issues with our bus, with one tire blowing out just before arriving for junior camp, and another tire blowing out while transporting the senior campers to camp. We had to make a few adjustments to the schedule since the bus was out of commission for one day. But while they were costly repairs, it did not affect camp too much.

Leading up to last summer, we made some repairs to our fence that keeps cattle and wildlife out of the camp and a new ping pong table (a popular attraction) was donated. Some electrical repairs were made during camp with the generous help and expertise of Gary Krehbiel, Scott Oesch, and Rod Garton. We also recently purchased a new bus from the Aberdeen School District that we are excited to utilize this summer.

This was my first summer at the camp, and I served as director and speaker. The camp had been directed by former pastor Monty Ledford for the previous 24 years. However, I came to the church with experience in directing camp ministry and I was excited to take over in the director role when asked by the camp programming committee. For the most part, we continued in the way it had been done in the past, keeping with some of the same hikes and activities—including a popular whitewater rafting trip—and keeping a similar schedule.

Now that I have one season under my belt, and after soliciting feedback from our senior high campers, we are excited about making some changes and updates for this year. This summer will see another decrease in campers from our own congregation, but we are encouraged by the prospect of continuing this camp as an opportunity to minister to those from other congregations and those from non-church backgrounds.

Kevin Chupp
Pastor – First Mennonite Church, Aberdeen, ID
Director – Camp Palisades

Drift Creek Camp

Submitted by Brenda Hostetler Kauffman

There is never a dull moment operating in the heart of a wild, remote location. Sometimes it feels like we're constantly climbing uphill just to overcome the workload, let alone the natural elements, *which do impact camp!* The 2016/2017 school year was unexpectedly extended due to a higher than usual number of snow days. There was more snow than there were built-in cancellation days so we had to do some last-minute scrambling. The extension meant children would still be in school when camps were supposed to start. So we shuffled things around, shortened 3rd & 4th grade camp and moved it to the beginning of the season. Even with the adjustments, some 3/4 graders were still in school after camp started. Sadly, children either had to arrive late, make the choice to miss the last day or two of school, or were unable to attend camp. However, the high school program was Drift Creek's best attended camp on record!

Planning for the 2018 season felt the same pinch as schools built-in extra days. DCC didn't have the option to push our schedule back because groups, accustomed to what had been "normal" most years, were already scheduled. With one arriving the day DCC's camps end, and 5 other back-to-back groups following until September, we had to make the tough choice to adjust the 2018 schedule as well. Eventually we hope to move our camps, and the rental groups back by one week in order to build in flexibility. However, that will not happen in 2019. *Next year we will most likely face another road closure.* The Forest Service and other local agencies have been working to obtain more than \$1,000,000 to dismantle the fish ladder and failing culvert at North Creek, less than 1 mile from Drift Creek's entrance. The hope is to replace the culvert with a more natural fish passage which would require bringing in massive boulders to support a natural bridge. The project was originally scheduled for 2017 but has been bumped back twice due to insufficient funds. The project is currently awaiting approval on a \$370,000 grant. The project is bigger in scope than the 2012 culvert replacement. The camp's access road will be closed for three months, leaving an operating deficit of approximately \$80,000. *We tentatively plan to run abbreviated camps in the short window between the end of the school year and the road closing.*

The 2017 camp season survived the delayed start with a great crew of camp pastors, including Stephen Obold Eshleman, Hanna Heischman, Kayla Mast, Cynthia Hockman-Chupp and Andy and Serenity Coulombe. The season endured a rocky start when one counselor suffered a severe ankle break the first night of camp. He was from out of state, needed surgery and ended up requiring more than a month to recover. The generous people of Salem Mennonite carried the burden, with much of the load falling on Ruth and Stan Steffen. *We are so grateful!* Thankfully all of the many volunteer needs were covered throughout summer camp! We were grateful for all the medical professionals who gave generously of their time: Denise Diller, Janette Wisseman, Sarah Acosta, Trish Handrich, Stephanie Moyer and Gina Umble. We managed to piece together enough kitchen help. Some weeks the volunteers were spread more thinly than others, but somehow we survived!

It was a delight to welcome Steve Thomas to DCC in September for a first-time Mennonite Men's Retreat, focused on conflict resolution. And in April, we joyfully welcomed Megan Ramer from Seattle Mennonite for the Women's Retreat, focused on *Gratitude*. We are also looking forward to hosting a **Sister Care workshop September 28-30, 2018.**

Rebuilding the Caretaker Cabin has been a huge project and taken longer than hoped, but it is coming together. We are still in need of volunteers to do the inside finish work. The roof and siding will be installed this June.

Another \$35,000 grant from the Gray Family Foundation funded various other projects this year. While the grant was a blessing, it also added the pressure of additional maintenance work. The grant structure has changed so we won't be eligible for broad grants in future years. Instead we will need to apply for specific ideas.

There are many opportunities to volunteer at Drift Creek. Throughout the year cooks are needed to prepare meals for groups, mostly on weekends. However, with more schools planning for outdoor schools, our weekday foodservice needs are growing. And more immediately, we are looking for volunteers this late July and throughout August to assist with transitions between rental groups. Typically there is a 4-hour window between camps. The turnover requires a tremendous amount of work for DCC's small staff. If you are available to give just a half day, your assistance is both needed and appreciated! **Transition dates for 2018 are July 29, August 10, August 12, 16, 19 and 24. Cooks are needed August 10-12, August 13-16, September 28-30, October 18-21, 25-28 and November 9-11.**

We are grateful for every volunteer, every donor, each congregation and camper, who together, make camp operations possible! *We ask for prayers and your partnership to sustain DCC for generations to come*

April 2018

Mennonite Village
ANNUAL REPORT TO THE
PACIFIC NORTHWEST MENNONITE CONFERENCE
JUNE 2018

Submitted by Ron Litwiller, President/CEO

Mennonite Village serves nearly 700 seniors on our campus and many others in their off-campus homes. Construction of a three-story building adjacent to our nursing home is scheduled for completion in November of 2018. This building will provide private rooms and baths for 42 nursing home residents as well as a state-of-the-art therapy service. We are so grateful for the \$12 million donated towards its construction.

A new housing development for 21 more homes has begun. Nearly half of these homes have already been sold. Most of these are duplexes with either two or three bedrooms.

Our warm water exercise pool opened in January. It is much appreciated by residents, as is our well-equipped Wellness Center with its exercise gym. Our fitness coaches are in high demand.

We are grateful to have Teresa Moser, Byron Gingrich, and Linda Dibble as our current chaplains. We value our relationship with the PNMC. The support of local congregations, donors and volunteers helps us make a difference in the lives of those we serve. Thanks to all, for your support and encouragement, as we seek to fulfill our covenant to be a Christ-centered community providing Life-Enriching services.

Ron Litwiller



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April 2018

This past year has been a time during which OMRS has chosen not to develop more group homes, but instead to focus on growing and supporting our staff. We want to do better what we already do and provide opportunities for the people who work at OMRS to grow both personally and professionally. Everyone in the organization, including the people OMRS supports, benefits when staff are well trained and feel confident and capable.

OMRS has created a Wellness Committee that is focusing on the different aspects of wellness – not just on our physical health but also on our emotional health and our relationships with those around us. Believing oneself to be valued and strong has a huge impact on both work and one's life outside of work. Sometimes we talk about separating the two, but we really aren't able to do that. It is easier said than done to leave our home lives at the door when we come to work.

OMRS is challenged to hire and retain good staff. We are not alone. Our Direct Support folks have difficult jobs, and though OMRS is able to pay better than some, these very vital people should be compensated relative to what is expected of them. OMRS is blessed to have a Board of Directors that cares deeply about the staff and how they are treated, and we participate with other providers to advocate for fair wages. Fortunately there is more to work than the money one is paid. Going home at the end of a shift knowing you have made a difference in someone else's life inspires people to come back.

OMRS is thankful for the congregations and individuals who make an effort to relate to the people who live in our group homes. Several of our residents have minimal contact with family, so having people in their lives who aren't paid to be there is a significant gift.

Blessings to the caring people of the PNMC.

Submitted by Karen Litwiller

Mennonite Central Committee seeks to reveal the compassionate heart of God by providing relief, development, and peace in the name of Christ.

For it is out of the abundance of the heart that the mouth speaks. Matthew 25:40

Providing Relief in the Face of War: *First-hand look at resilience and hope in Syria* - J Ron Byler

For a week in February, I, along with others from MCC, visited our partners in Syria. Amidst the rubble and rocket fire, we found an amazingly resilient people. They carry on despite the seven-year Syrian war that has killed 500,000 people and caused the world's largest displacement crisis: Of approximately 17 million Syrians, 6 million have left their homes for other parts of Syria and more than 5 million are refugees in other countries.

Sixty-nine percent of the population of Syria lives in extreme poverty, so the humanitarian needs are overwhelming. Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) has responded since early 2012.



MCC photo/Emily Loewen - J Ron Byler (left) and Rick Cober Bauman (center) play games with children from the orphanage run by the Syrian Orthodox Church in Homs.

Tell your people in your churches who are supporting us that they are helping to bring life back to Syria." - Syrian Orthodox Church staff

Here is a story of your donations at work:

"We are happy you are here to see this with your own eyes," the leader of the Islamic Charities organization in Deir Attieh tells us. "We can't express enough our heartfelt thanks to you."

Islamic Charities works with 3,000 at-risk families affected by the war, and MCC provides food boxes for its distribution. When I visit five families who received these food boxes, I recall the heartfelt thanks but feel mostly heartbroken.

We visit two families living in an unfinished apartment complex. The first has a small two-room apartment for the mother, her five children and her father. Her husband is serving in the army. The second family includes seven people living in one room. The woman and her five children and her sister have lived here for four years. "I thank God for this room," she tells us.

Later that day, we travel to Fairouza to meet with the Um Alzennar Relief and Development Center, the relief arm of the Syrian Orthodox Church in this region. Staff tell us MCC was among the first agencies to respond to the needs in this city during the war. MCC support has included food and other humanitarian aid, peacebuilding workshops, monthly cash allowances,

winterization support and more. Riad Jarjour, our partner in Lebanon and Syria and the director of Forum for Development, Culture and Dialogue, reminded us that, *as the struggling disciples on the road to Emmaus discovered the "hidden Christ" in the breaking of bread, so too do the struggling people of Syria discover the "hidden Christ" through the support of MCC.*

Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference Partnership:

PNMC churches contributed \$38,216.06 directly to MCC in 2017, in addition to hundreds of material resource donation like comforters and relief, health, and school kits. Other fundraising efforts include, Mennonite Country Auction in Washington: \$95,859.49; the Oregon Mennonite Festival: \$95,000; and the Idaho Mennonite Relief Sale: \$48,000. Windows to the World in Kalispell, MT, contributed \$4,070, and the Et Cetera Thrift Store in Lebanon, OR, contributed \$6,322.16. MCC is deeply grateful to the many members of PNMC churches who also contributed to MCC throughout the year. *Thank You* for making a difference in the name of Christ!

Currently serving with MCC from Pacific Northwest region:

- Olivia Litterell from Bonner's Ferry, Idaho – currently serving with SALT in Beirut, Lebanon
- Jacob & Annalisa Brenneman from Portland, Oregon – currently serving as Exchange Coordinators in Cambodia
- Derek Hostetler & So Soleakhena from Portland, Oregon – currently serving as Representatives for Cambodia
- Malcolm Stovall from Seattle, Washington – currently serving with SALT in Rwanda, East Africa.

Current PNMC representation on the West Coast MCC board of directors: Beth Landis – Hyde Park Mennonite ▪ Galen Martin – Eugene Mennonite ▪ Pedro Olvera – Salem Mennonite ▪ Nancy Chupp from Seattle Mennonite.

Your financial gifts, prayer support, and volunteer hours enable MCC to share the love of Christ with some of the most needy people in our world. Thank you for helping us extend God's grace, mercy, and peace to all.

West Coast MCC - 1010 G Street, Reedley, CA 93654 - 559.638.6911 - westcoast.mcc.org - westcoast@mcc.org

Western Mennonite School

PNMC Annual Report 2017



PNWMC Annual Report

April 3, 2018

Dear Conference Members,

The psalmist wrote, “The Lord helps me, and my heart is filled with joy.” It is with a sense of joy I am reporting to you today from Western Mennonite School. God is doing some beautiful things in our midst, and I am excited to share with our greater Mennonite family His faithfulness.

Our summer began with my addition to the staff at Western. In my role as Head of School, I immediately felt a kindred spirit with not only our board but with our staff as well. I have witnessed over this year, on occasion after occasion, these dedicated men and women of God pour into the lives of our students. We have seen some breakthroughs spiritually as the Lord has saved some and called others to His work. I can report that the mission of the school to lift Christ up is primary in our ministry to our students and each other. The Lord is doing great things, and we are continually grateful for the prayer support we receive from our Mennonite brothers and sisters in this effort.

We started this year with 130 students (6-12), and grew over the year and now have 142. We are very excited to announce that next year we are adding a K-5th-grade program to our school. This addition will make Western a K-12 school experience for families looking for continuity throughout their child’s primary educational years. Since we made the decision to move away from boarding students a couple of years ago, it was an easy choice to utilize our space for an elementary age program.

Academically the school remains a strong choice for college-bound students. However, to reach students with different career desires we are establishing a “vocational track.” This educational path will not only secure a diploma but will create opportunities for work-study programs and vocational training in woodworking, auto repair, etc. We also are adding additional A.P. and honors classes to our schedule.

As we finish this year, we remember those who have gone before us, their faithfulness and reliance on the Lord. As the school’s contemporary leaders, we stand on the shoulders of our past brothers and sisters as we follow the Lord’s commission to transform the next generation. We welcome your continued prayer support and encourage you to visit and see for yourself all that the Lord is doing.

Blessings,

Al Stefan
Head of School
Western Mennonite School

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION REPORTS

Everence

Mennonite Church USA

Mennonite Education Agency (MEA)

MennoMedia

Mennonite Mission Network (MMN)

Mennonite Men

Mennonite Women USA

Neighbor to neighbor

Everence 2018 report

Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference
Annual Meeting
June 21-23, 2018

Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

– 1 Thessalonians 5:11

Everence values our strong congregational partnerships

For nearly 75 years, Everence® has worked with congregations and their members to help people of faith “build up the common life” through their financial decisions.

These connections are vital to us, and we look forward to many more years of focusing on the best interests of your members – helping them create and implement plans tailored for their needs and aspirations to share with others.

As we have since 1945, we will continue to serve the faith community as partners in stewardship throughout 2018 and beyond.

MyNeighbor users generating charitable contributions

The MyNeighbor credit card generated more than \$180,000 in donations for charitable organizations from the start of a concerted marketing/awareness campaign in spring 2017 through the end of January 2018.

The MyNeighbor card from Everence is available for business or personal use. Everence donates 1.5 percent of each transaction total to the charity the

cardholder chooses from a list of thousands of possibilities, including churches.

The MyNeighbor card gives people a chance to name the nonprofit (the Neighbor) where they want contributions to go.

Cardholders can even use MyNeighbor to donate to a charity, then designate the same charity as the recipient of the 1.5 percent contribution.

Complete information is available at everence.com/myneighbor.

Subsidies available for comprehensive financial planning

From debt reduction to retirement readiness, pastors face some unique financial issues and situations.

Through a generous grant from the Lilly Endowment Inc., credentialed and active Mennonite Church USA and Conservative Mennonite Conference pastors may receive a \$1,000 subsidy toward the cost of a first-year Everence comprehensive financial plan. Pastors are asked to contribute a \$200 co-pay, which congregations and conferences may help to pay.

And credentialed and active pastors from any of our affiliated churches may receive a Pastoral Financial Plan Grant of \$400 toward the cost of a first-year Everence comprehensive financial plan. Pastors are



responsible for \$400, and the pastors' congregation is responsible for \$800 – half of which will be reimbursed through the Pastoral Financial Plan Grant.

By working with a knowledgeable Everence financial advisor, you can develop a financial plan to find relief from financial burdens and a path to meet your short- and long-term financial goals – all while integrating your money decisions with your faith and values.

Sharing Fund helps churches provide financial relief

Thousands of people every year get financial help through the Everence Sharing Fund, which supplements congregational outreach efforts.

Sharing Fund grants help our partner churches assist more people with basic, everyday needs such as medical care, rent, food, clothing and utilities.

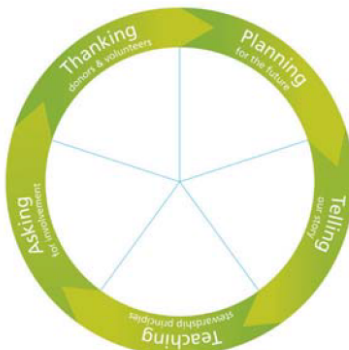
Here's an example: The fund recently reimbursed a church that helped a woman who needed surgery to get back on her feet. She wasn't able to work during her recovery – she's her family's financial provider – and fell behind on her mortgage payments.

Her bank threatened to foreclose on the family home, but a bank employee told the woman she'd be in compliance if she made a payment by the end of that month. Her congregation made the payment and received a matching Sharing Fund grant.

Gain a deeper understanding with the Stewardship Ministry Wheel

Everence stewardship consultants are helping our congregational advocates, pastors and other church leaders strengthen their stewardship efforts

through the Everence Stewardship Ministry Wheel.



The wheel was created to help people gain a deeper understanding of what stewardship is all about.

The wheel features five areas of stewardship – planning for the future, telling our story, teaching stewardship principles, asking for involvement, and thanking givers and volunteers.

The tool can help congregational leaders assess which activities may need more attention and which are already working well.

Talk to an Everence advocate or stewardship consultant to find out more.

Everence Charitable Services is ready to help you maximize your generosity

Generosity's outlook is bright. Americans broke all records for charitable giving in 2016, according to a Giving USA 2017 report.

Everence Charitable Services is prepared to help you and other members of your congregation realize your vision for generosity.

You often can be more generous than you imagined and realize tax benefits as well. Our financial

advisors can help you map out a plan for your giving.

You'll find a variety of individualized options, including a donor advised fund that offers simplicity and flexibility. You can donate cash or other assets, such as stocks, land and farm commodities. The assets are sold and the money is available for distribution to charities you recommend, whenever you wish.

Contact your Everence office, visit everence.com/charitable-giving or call (800) 348-7468.

Confidential counseling can help with debt, overall money management issues

Everence has partnered with Lutheran Social Service Financial Counseling since 2008 so our members and others we serve can access free, trustworthy, expert help with credit card and student loan debt, foreclosure prevention, and overall money management.

To date, more than 1,100 people have sought this help, and as of Jan. 1, 2017, LSS helped them pay off \$1,832,429 in debts.

Every person is eligible for up to six sessions per year of financial counseling through LSS. The service is confidential; LSS only reports total utilization numbers to Everence – never any names or personal details.

The counseling is designed to help people assess their situation, create a spending plan and do a better job of budgeting to help them pay off debts and plan ahead with more confidence.

Call (877) 809-0039 to set up a telephone appointment with a certified LSS financial counselor.



Report to Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference of Mennonite Church USA

"Let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works." —Hebrews 10:24-25
Through its ministries, Mennonite Church USA seeks to show the love of God to one another and the world. Here are some ways we have worked together as the church in 2017.



The MC USA biennial convention was held July 4-8 in Orlando, Florida with the theme "Love is a Verb." Over 3,200 people attended.

The MC USA Delegate Assembly in Orlando passed a resolution on "**Seeking Peace in Israel and Palestine.**" The resolution encourages

support for Israeli and Palestinian peacemakers. It also laments Mennonite historical complicity with anti-Semitism and calls for further learning.



A significant part of last year's convention was the **Future Church Summit**, the first step in a churchwide discernment process inviting delegates and key stakeholders to envision an Anabaptist future for MC USA. Delegates voted to affirm the outcomes of the summit as "a guide for living into God's calling for our church."

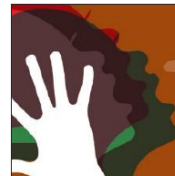


Growing out of the priorities from the Future Church Summit, MC USA continues discernment through **Journey Forward**, a churchwide process to develop an identity document centered around MC USA's shared beliefs and goals. The initial draft emphasizes three pillars of MC USA faith as being "Grounded in the whole story of Jesus";

"Transformed by the Holy Spirit in community"; and "Empowered to join in God's reconciling work." In December 2017, a writing group began creating a study guide that seeks to engage congregations and gather feedback for updating the document in 2018.

The **MC USA Archives** moved from Goshen College to MC USA's Elkhart (Ind.) offices. Researchers can now access those materials in a more accessible and better preserved space. Bethel College continues to house the General Conference archives collection.

MC USA began offering **Healthy Boundary Trainings** and held a "Train the Trainer" event in March 2017 as a commitment to addressing sexual abuse in the church. It is the intent that every new MC USA pastor will receive this training and that all current pastors receive it in the next three years. The Leadership Development staff also updated "**Ministerial Sexual Misconduct Policy and Procedures,**" MC USA's procedure for addressing ministerial sexual misconduct.



In December 2017, the **Panel on Sexual Abuse Prevention** completed its term, submitting a proposed policy outlining appropriate response when non-credentialed leaders are accused of sexual abuse.

Ervin Stutzman announced his plans to retire from executive director of MC USA in spring 2018. The search committee for his replacement gathered denomination-wide priorities for the position and revised the job description to emphasize goals of the Future Church Summit and Executive Board.

The final payment was made on the **Elkhart offices** that house MC USA and Mennonite agencies. The Constituency Leaders Council met to ceremonially burn the mortgage and celebrate in the space. Generous donors made it possible to pay off the mortgage years ahead of schedule.



In January 2018, the **Women in Leadership Project** released a second collection of essays based on presentations at the 2016 Women Doing Theology (WDT) conference, *I've got the power! Naming and reclaiming power as a force for good.* The next WDT conference is scheduled for Nov. 8-10, 2018.



www.MennoniteUSA.org
www.facebook.com/MennoniteChurchUSA
Toll-free: 866-866-2872



MENNONITE EDUCATION AGENCY REPORT TO THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST | MAY 2018

Greetings from MEA! In this report, you can get a glimpse of some of the work we do in cooperation with six colleges/universities/seminaries, two Ministerios Hispanos programs, more than two dozen primary and secondary schools in the Mennonite Schools Council (MSC), Mennonite Early Childhood Network (MECN), and others. Some of the particular activities and initiatives of the past year include the following:

The **Higher Education Future Church/School Relations Committee** presented its final proposal to the colleges, universities, seminaries, MEA and MC USA last January. At the writing of this report, the overall proposal, including the creation of a Mennonite Higher Education Association (MHEA) has been affirmed by all, but still has a few questions that need clarification. The MHEA had its first meeting at the end of April. The primary purpose of the proposed structure is to ensure the ongoing Anabaptist/Mennonite identity and mission of the schools of Mennonite Church USA, so that church and schools can continue together in higher education, despite the rapid changes that each are experiencing.

The next part of the implementation process will include working with individual boards for the signing of a new SOA (Statement of Arrangements) and working out details like MEA presence at board meetings.

Presidential Transitions: We are in the midst of significant transitions in both MCUSA and Mennonite Higher Education. This coming fall, five out of the six Mennonite Higher Education presidents will be new to their position. In this new academic year we will celebrate the installation of Dr. Jonathan C. Gering at Bethel College and Dr. Jane Wood at Bluffton University.

Investment Committee Report - Follow up to Denominational Israel-Palestine Resolution concerning Investment: After several years of processing and discernment, Mennonite Church USA delegates, meeting in Orlando last July, adopted a resolution entitled [Seeking Peace in Israel and Palestine](#). One of the commitments in the first section is "Avoiding Economic Support for Occupation while Investing in Peace and Justice." The resolution further urges "all Mennonite Church USA agencies, related organizations, and members to similarly review their investments."

The MEA Investment Committee (IC) supports the Resolution passed by the Delegate Assembly. The topic has been on the IC agenda dating back to discussions with students at EMU in 2009. At the March 2, 2018, IC meeting, the committee reviewed and reaffirmed its current practices and documented guidelines as a framework for addressing Resolution.

Hope for the Future: The annual Hope for the Future (HFF) gathering took place Feb. 8-11 in San Antonio, Texas, with the theme "The people are marching! Where are the

saints?" The conference, co-sponsored by MEA and other Mennonite Church USA agencies, brings together people of color who are leaders in Mennonite churches and institutions for networking and generating change. The gathering brought together nearly 70 pastors, leaders, directors, coordinators, educators, change-makers, and others with connections to Mennonite Church USA (MC USA).

Journey Forward: MC USA is inviting congregations, conferences, and institutions to engage in the *Journey Forward* process. The MEA Board had been focusing on the Church Summit that took place last summer at the Mennonite Churchwide Convention and its implication for education; including looking at ways in which Mennonite education could be involved and interact with the process. The MEA Board and Mennonite Educational leaders recently engaged with Executive Board representatives on the propose statement and how it connects with education.

The **Panel on Sexual Abuse Prevention, a jointly appointed panel by MC USA Executive Bord and MEA**, officially completed its term in December 2017. Since the summer of 2016, its primary priority became outlining a process for responding when a complaint arises against a non-credentialed leader. *Prevention and Response: Sexual Abuse and Non-Credentialed Individuals* contains general recommendations regarding this process, as well as specifics for congregational, conference and denominational/institutional settings. The document is useful in the context of church affiliated organizations and educational institutions, conferences and congregations. Non-credentialed leaders often hold leadership positions in these settings. Non-credentialed leaders are those who do not hold a credential within an MC USA conference both paid staff and unpaid volunteers. This document also applies to anyone who participates and attends congregational or organizational activities.

Thank you to Pacific Northwest congregations who support Mennonite education with total giving of \$17,616.32 from July 1st 2016 to June 30th 2018.*

**Giving includes gifts for higher education, MEA, Racial/Ethnic Leadership Education and Ministerios Hispanos.*

REPORT TO PACIFIC NORTHWEST MENNONITE CONFERENCE

At MennoMedia and Herald Press we publish highly readable, thoughtful curriculum and books on Christian faith, discipleship, spirituality, reconciliation, and theology from an Anabaptist perspective. Our product lines reach a broad spectrum of readers—from evangelical, mainline, and Anabaptist backgrounds—and offer a “third way” approach between the sometimes contentious camps of the culture wars. Our Herald Press books target readers and thinkers who seek to live by Jesus-centered principles and values such as community, simple living, peacemaking, and social justice, as well as people who are curious about Amish and Mennonite communities. Our MennoMedia curricula and periodicals reach congregations that share these same affinities, and cultivate passion for faith formation and an active life of faith rooted in trusting God and following Jesus.

NEW RESOURCES FOR THE ENTIRE CHURCH, FROM HERALD PRESS



As a young Christian, Sarah Quezada had a heart for social justice. She was also blissfully unaware of the real situations facing today's immigrants. Until she met someone new . . . who happened to be undocumented.

In *Love Undocumented*, Quezada takes readers on a journey deep into the world of the U.S. immigration system. Follow her as she walks alongside her new friend, meets with lawyers, stands at the U.S.-Mexico border, and visits immigrants in detention centers. With wisdom from Scripture, research, and these experiences, Quezada explores God's call to welcome the stranger.

Available January 2018. \$15.99 USD



Your kids are spreading their wings. Are you ready? In *Fledge*, counselor, educator, and mother Brenda L. Yoder helps Christian parents navigate the many transitions of the launching years. How do you parent

tweens at home and young adults away from home at the same time? What's a good balance between boundaries and freedom? How can you pray for your fledgling youth? And what do you do with all that mom grief? Your job as a parent isn't over; it's just changing. Equip yourself with biblical wisdom for this season of transition in your family life.

Available March 2018. \$15.99 USD



The message of Jesus changed the world . . . until the world changed the message. Is a truncated and fragmented version of the good news masquerading as the full, forceful gospel of Jesus? A growing

movement of truth-seekers and Jesus-lovers believe so, and they are calling for a return to the first and foundational message of Jesus. Dig into Scripture with Bruxy Cavey as he unfolds God's message for the world. Learn why you shouldn't follow the Bible—but why you will want to read it to learn how to follow Jesus.

Available in paperback May 8, 2018. \$16.99 USD.
Available now in hardback. \$21.99 USD.

A NEW WORSHIP AND SONG COLLECTION FOR OUR CHURCH

A worship and song collection marks a particular threshold between where the church has been and where the Spirit of God may be leading. It earnestly and prayerfully looks forward. It preserves some of what is familiar while leaning into challenge and prophetic action, to continue to welcome and inspire worshipers new to the church and those who have been present for many years. As patterns of church life and identity shift from generation to generation, worship rhythms respond to this Spirit-led movement.

Resonate
JOIN THE EVERLASTING SONG

HOW MUCH IS IT COSTING TO DEVELOP?

It will cost between \$600,000 and \$700,000 to develop this collection before any sales are made. That includes expenses for a project director, editorial assistant, music editor, text editor, worship editor, and the 14-member volunteer committee working over three years to learn new songs, explore available resources, and consult on the best ones to keep or add to our worship lexicon. Consider a financial gift to come alongside the committee's substantial volunteer effort to bring this project to completion. Learn more, or make a gift via credit card, at MennoMedia.org/Resonate.



Annual Report to Conference

Mennonite Men is the men's organization of Mennonite Church USA and Mennonite Church Canada. Our mission is *Engaging men to grow, give and serve as followers of Jesus*. Our two programs, *JoinHands* and *JoinMen*, served this mission in several ways in 2017.

JoinHands: Raising Funds for New Churches

Through our JoinHands Mennonite Church Building Program, we have granted nearly 2 million dollars to help new congregations acquire their first church building.



In December, Mara Christian Church received a \$40,000 grant. The Mara Church is a member of Virginia Mennonite Conference in Charlotte, North Carolina. This church is largely made up of Myanmar religious refugees, many of whom have fled their homeland to escape violent persecution under the past military dictatorship of Burma. We are grateful for the opportunity to assist this congregation in purchasing a meeting place. We invite individuals and congregations to give to JoinHands so more grants like these can be made to congregations in need.

JoinMen: Providing Retreats and Resources for Men

JoinMen promotes the growth of men in community. In partnership with Mennonite camps and retreat centers, we offer retreats on various themes and provide resources for men on our website.



Retreats last year in Ontario, Oregon, Michigan and New York focused on our spiritual journey, making peace with conflict and healthy masculinity. Men of various ages and ethnicity gathered for these events. Plans for 2018 include retreats to engage men and publishing *Peaceful at Heart: Embracing Healthy Masculinity*, an in-depth exploration of masculinity from an Anabaptist perspective.

To learn more, support our work, download resources, or schedule a retreat, visit MennoniteMen.org.

Greetings from Mennonite Women USA!

Report to Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference, spring 2018

Greetings from Mennonite Women USA!

At our recent Spring Board meetings, we considered the image of a bulb which has sturdy roots but has much work to do as it breaks through cold wet soil to bring forth a vibrant flower.

As an organization, we have over 100 years of sturdy roots and we have broken through tons of compacted soil to blossom in thousands of ways. Our challenge, as we look to the future is to continue our growth, expand our vision and increase our ministries and influence to all women of Mennonite Church USA. We will continue to flourish!

- We are intentionally crafting that future as we contracted with Chantelle Todman Moore, as our **IDI** (Intercultural Development Inventory) facilitator. Our entire staff and board (16 of us) participated in the inventory, then were guided in further engagement with our group profiles by Chantelle of **unlock Ngenuity**. The most immediate result is our newly shaped mission and vision statement which is still being tested but we pray will reflect a more intercultural mindset. We heartily recommend this experience for all Mennonite organizations. It will truly change who we are, how we act and how the future will be shaped.
- Strategic planning is on the horizon!
- Our Sister Care ministry is morphing as we will train a team of certified trainers in October to carry on the Level 1 events in the United States. Carolyn Heggen and Rhoda Keener will continue to provide resourcing for SC Enrichment (Level 2) and SC International.
- We celebrate our on-going collaboration with many Mennonite Church USA agencies: MennoMedia, Everence, MEA, Mennonite Mission Network, and additionally with Dove's Nest and MCC.
- As always, we want each of you to connect with us. Our presence on Facebook is strong, prophetic and newsy. Our monthly email, Grapevine, provides a nice summary of events and updates. Our featured blogs surprise and bless readers! Contact me and I will get you signed up – marleneb@mwusa.org.
- **SAVE THE DATE:** a **Sister Care Enrichment (Level 2)** seminar will be held at Drift Creek Camp on **September 28-30, 2018**. This is open to all women and will be led by Rhoda Keener and Carolyn Heggen.

A search for a new Executive Director has begun, as I have announced my retirement, effective July 31, 2018. We would welcome your prayers for this process, along with your suggestions!

With hope and prayers for a flourishing future together,

Marlene Harder Bogard, Executive Director, Mennonite Women USA

Marlene Bogard, Executive Director // 316-285-2438 // marleneb@mwusa.org // Salem, Oregon
Kathy Bilderback, Board Chair // 208-860-6446 // kabilderback@cableone.net // Boise, Idaho

Be local. Be global. Be the Gospel.



Sharing the good news of Jesus is the essence of the church's calling and the primary reason for its existence.

It is, indeed, a great privilege to be directly engaged in the task of building our capacity for the church's mission in the world. It's been a great honor to do so alongside

you, and with your support. Your investment in the task of sharing the good news of Jesus around the world is an inspiration and a source of deep gratitude. Thank you for

your partnership in God's mission this past year!

Stanley W. Green

Stanley W. Green
Executive Director

Pacific Northwest Conference + Mennonite Mission Network

Worker support around the world



Mary Beyler—Accompanies the Mennonite congregations in Hokkaido, where she teaches, preaches, and leads music in addition to serving on several conference committees.

- » Albany Mennonite Church
- » Salem Mennonite Church

Dan and Kathryn Smith Derksen—

Provide logistical support, develop peacebuilding programs, and engage partners in program development.

- » Evergreen Mennonite Church
- » Seattle Mennonite Church

Francisco Machado and Juana Lemus Lopez de Machado—Anabaptist church planters in Spain.
» Mountain View Mennonite Church

Mission banks



The children from Evergreen Heights, Spring Valley, and Calvary Mennonite churches gave a total of **\$1,347.44** to missions.

Congregational giving to Mission Network



During Mission Network's last fiscal year, Aug. 1, 2016, through July 31, 2017, 18 of 32 Pacific Northwest Conference congregations (56 percent) gave **\$79,213**, or an average of **\$4,401**. **Thank you!**

Service participants



Christian Service sites

MVS unit in Seattle

Service Adventure unit in Anchorage, Alaska

SOOP site at Drift Creek Camp

Mennonite Voluntary Service

Elleson Lapp, serving in Washington, D.C.

Service Adventure

Jacob Ebersole, serving in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

SOOP

Ken and Nancy Beachy, Glendale, Arizona

Sheldon and Janis Burkhalter, Washington, D.C., and Elkhart, Indiana

Louise Claassen, Glendale, Arizona
Jerry and Nancy Friesen, Glendale, Arizona, and Reedley, California

Richard and Twila Lehman, Glendale, Arizona, and Akron, Pennsylvania

Philip and Anita Undberg, Reedley, California

Lynn and Janice Miller, Reedley, California

Donna Miller, Glendale, Arizona

Bryan and Judi Stauffer, Reedley, California

Prayer partners



31 people have committed to pray daily for Mission Network ministries.



We are so thankful for your commitment of prayer, service and support. May God continue to bless you in your care and service to others in your communities and around the world.

Makisa Smucker

Makisa Smucker
Church Relations Representative

Thank you for your continued partnership in God's mission!

www.MennoniteMission.net Toll-free: 1-866-866-2872

COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY REPORTS

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary

Bethel College

Goshen College

Hesston College



Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary: Sara Wenger Shenk, president

Area conference connections

AMBS students from PNMC congregations

- **MDiv Connect:** Kevin Chupp (First — Aberdeen); Deb Coates, David Johnson, Rachel Joy (Portland)
- **MDiv Campus:** Brian O'Leary (Seattle)

Resources for faith formation and leadership development

Academic programs

AMBS serves the church as a learning community with an Anabaptist vision, educating followers of Jesus Christ to be leaders for God's reconciling mission in the world.

- **Are you feeling drawn to deepen your understanding of Scripture, Anabaptist theology and faith?** Our programs integrate academics, spiritual formation and practice, equipping students to read the Bible with an Anabaptist lens, apply critical thinking skills, lead compassionately and live faithfully — wherever God may call them to serve.
 - **Master of Divinity** (80 hrs)
 - **Master of Arts in Christian Formation** (60 hrs)
 - **Master of Arts: Theology and Peace Studies** (60 hrs)
 - **Graduate Certificate** (27 credit hours)

ambs.edu/academics

- **Distance education options** include the **MDiv Connect** program — which includes online and hybrid courses — and the fully online **Graduate Certificate** program.

ambs.edu/mdivconnect

ambs.edu/academics/certificates

- **Financial aid.** AMBS offers generous need-based financial aid, grants and scholarships to help make your education affordable. For example, MDiv Connect students taking at least 12 credit hours per academic year are eligible to receive the full amount of need-based tuition aid from AMBS. ambs.edu/financialaid

- **Want to explore seminary study before applying?**

Take an on-campus or online class, even if you're not admitted to a degree or certificate program, and your first class is 50 percent off! Check out next semester's offerings: ambs.edu/onecourse

Lifelong learning

AMBS's Church Leadership Center offers various nondegree options for you to continue your education and strengthen your leadership skills:

- Short courses: *Exploring Anabaptist History and Theology* (online); *Understanding Anabaptist Approaches to Scripture* (online)
- Seminars and workshops (online and on-campus)
- Pastors and Leaders (Feb. 25–28, 2019)
- Leadership Clinics (Feb. 25, 2019)

Become a member of the Church Leadership Center! Members can receive additional benefits, including substantial discounts on events.

ambs.edu/lifelong-learning

- **Journey: A Missional Leadership Development Program** is a 2-1/2-year nondegree leadership development program for people exploring a call to ministry. The distance-friendly program features a five-unit online curriculum, biweekly mentor-mentee meetings and one visit to the AMBS region per year. Participants receive a certificate upon meeting program requirements.

ambs.edu/journey

- **Host a "Reading the Bible with Jesus" workshop** with itinerant Bible teacher **Bryan Moyer Suderman** for 1–2 days of digging deep into one of the Gospels to gain tools for reading and interpreting Scripture like Jesus did, in light of today's world. (Available in English and Spanish.) ambs.edu/workshops

- **!Explore: A Theological Program for High School Youth:** Students (grades 10–12) can explore ministry, develop their leadership gifts and listen for God's call through a 100-hour Congregational Experience and a 16-day Group Experience. Encourage someone you know to apply for 2019! ambs.edu/explore

- **Experience AMBS:** Visit our campus to learn more about all that AMBS has to offer. ambs.edu/visit

We thank God for your support and ask for your prayers as we prepare leaders for the church through programs that are biblically, spiritually, ethically and theologically grounded.

AMBS • 3003 Benham Avenue, Elkhart, IN 46517 • 574.295.3726 • ambs.edu • June 2018

The 2017-2018 academic year at Bethel College is nearly over, and we have much for which to be grateful. We thank God for the following (and much more):

- New presidential leadership in Dr. Jon Gering, providing strength and vision for the Bethel community to live out our faith through educational experiences.
- Campus ministries opportunities for students, including:
 - Centering prayer
 - Tough Talks and Tasty Treats (discussing faith questions)
 - Navigator Bible Study
 - Weekly Chapel Services
 - Fellowship of Christian Athletes
 - Special events, like 24-hour prayer and Service Day, which was carried out with record student participation.
- Nine wonderful student chaplains who help monitor and lead spiritual life activities on campus.
- A beautiful campus with well-maintained facilities.
- The women and men of our excellent faculty and staff, who give of themselves tirelessly, who teach and instruct carefully, who model Christian character daily.
- Continuation of the recently created Anti-Oppression Task Force, which seeks to address issues of oppression and intercultural competence on our campus.
- New Kansas Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution (KIPCOR) director Cheryl Wilson, who brings expertise and passion for restorative justice.
- A concert choir tour, which traveled throughout Europe during interterm.
- Hosting Mennonites and the Holocaust conference, focusing on Mennonite attitudes and interactions with Nazi ideologies and the Holocaust.
- Hosting Worship in the Arts Symposium, featuring theologian and author Ted Swartz highlighting Christian “life as a comedy.”
- Hosting Dr. Timothy J. Wengert, emeritus professor of church history at Lutheran Theological Seminary in Philadelphia, who presented on “remembering 500 years of reformation together” as part of the Menno Simons Lecture Series.
- Hosting Malinda Elizabeth Berry who presented on “When Lives Don’t Seem to Matter: The Logic of Nonviolence in the Face of all the –Isms” as part of the Staley Lecture Series.
- Hosting of KIPCOR’s Restorative Kansas Conference.
- Hosting Dr. David Karp and Jasmyn Story who presented on “How Restorative Justice is Shaping the #metoo and #timesup Movements on College and University Campuses.”
- Hosting Dr. Jalane Schmidt, professor of religious studies at the University of Virginia and one of the founding members of the Black Lives Matter movement in Charlottesville, VA, who presented on confronting and dismantling racial oppression.
- Lifetime Enrichment gatherings, bringing lifelong learning opportunities, and intergenerational connectedness, to all members of our community.
- Sharing in worship and fellowship beyond our campus by providing speakers and musicians for church congregations over two-thirds of Sundays while classes are in session.

In gratitude for the prayers and good wishes from the Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference, we humbly ask for your continued support, as we seek to build, for generations to come, upon the foundation that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

Report to the Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference, April 2018

President opens year with message on Compassionate Peacemaking

The 2017-18 school year at Goshen College opened with much joy and excitement during a welcome convocation led by Interim President Dr. Kenneth Newbold. Newbold spoke about this year's theme and core value, "compassionate Peacemaking," where he assured students and employees that they have come to the right place to learn about making peace. "Not because we are perfect at it here or don't have our conflicts, but Goshen College is a place where compassionate peacemaking is deeply embedded — in our motto, core values, in our academic programs, in clubs, in our study abroad program, in how we understand our identity and our calling," he said. The convocation concluded with powerful singing from the Parables Worship Team, followed by the annual applause tunnel, a 16-year tradition with a cheering tunnel formed by faculty and staff, then seniors, juniors, sophomores and finally the first-year students. The procession led out to Schrock Plaza, where, in the good-natured tradition of new Goshen College presidents, Newbold was dunked in the Schrock Plaza fountain by students.

Conference connections

This academic year we have 12 students enrolled from 8 Pacific Northwest Conference congregations. Those churches generously pledged \$19,000 in congregational student aid for the academic year. The Goshen College Church Aid Matching Grant program provides a dollar-for-dollar match of the first \$1,000 per student and a 1:4 match after that, up to full tuition.

Students from the conference are involved on- and off-campus in many edifying ways but we specifically recognize students who studied and served abroad for a semester through GC's Study Service Term (SST) program. Oliver Wisseman

from Bend Mennonite Church studied and served for a semester in Peru. Skye McKinnell from Salem Mennonite Church spent a semester in China through GC's Study Service Term program.

2017-18 Campus ministries theme

The Campus Ministries theme this year is "Blessed are the Peacemakers." Eleven Ministry Leaders, five Worship Assistants, and countless other Goshen College students provide leadership as we explore what it means to be peacemakers. In the first chapel of the year, Campus Pastor Bob Yoder shared that the Hebrew word for peace is "shalom," which refers to wholeness, completeness and right relationships with God, others, and creation. Bob shared several personal stories when he was not "whole" or "complete," but had several people reach out to him as shalom-makers. In the same vein, Bob encouraged the students to be shalom-makers on campus, in their home communities and around the world. Students and employees were also invited to engage the theme through the GC Prayer Book, which includes twelve devotions written by students as well as over a dozen different ways to pray. This material is available to people in both print and electronic formats. Visit www.goshen.edu/faith/campus-ministries to learn more about GC Campus Ministries.



For more information, contact Dan Koop Liechty,
Director of Alumni and Career Networks. Call (574) 535-
7002 or e-mail churchrelations@goshen.edu.



PACIFIC NORTHWEST CONFERENCE OF MENNONITE CHURCH USA REPORT

April 2018

Spring '18 enrollment - Total student enrollment for the spring 2018 semester is at 427, which is the highest for spring term since 2013. U.S. students represent 29 states while 55 international students represent 18 countries and 13 percent of the student population. International enrollment is at a 20-year high for a spring semester. Retention of students overall has been strong at Hesston for several years, and moving from the fall semester to the spring semester this year, students retained at a 94 percent rate, the highest retention rate since 2004.

Homecoming and Presidential Inauguration – HC celebrated homecoming and the inauguration of its ninth president, Dr. Joseph A. Manickam, Sept. 22 to 24 with the theme “Grounded in community, globally engaged.” The weekend featured events reflecting and celebrating the college’s values, experiences and global connections. Weekend highlights included a Global Voices music showcase that featured Hesston College ensembles performing works from international students’ home countries. During that program, Dave Osborne was honored for directing the international students program since 1986. Alumni, students and guests made up an Interfaith Relationships panel to share reflections on how interfaith relationships on-campus and off-campus have challenged and enriched their lives. The event brought the college’s five living presidents together to interact with the campus community and alumni.

Community Read - For the sixth year, the community of Hesston, led by Hesston College and Hesston Public Library, invited individuals and groups to take part in a community read during the fall semester. This year’s book selection was *Blue Revolution: Unmaking America’s Water Crisis* by Cynthia Barnett. The book examines a variety of perspectives and makes an argument for a “water ethic” with a call to action that reconnects individuals to their water. Barnett presented at Hesston College on Nov. 2 about her work.

AVDS conference “Before the Unthinkable Happens” - Hesston College’s 2018 Anabaptist Vision and Discipleship Series (AVDS) conference offered a hands-on process where issues of oppression that can lead to trauma-related incidents were addressed and dismantled. With the theme **“Before the Unthinkable Happens: Confronting our role in injustice,”** the conference took place on the Hesston College campus Feb. 23 to 25. More than 450 persons engaged with different parts of the weekend, including the Ted & Co. TheaterWorks show *Discovery: A Comic Lament*. The weekend was also resourced by the Kansas Leadership Center to help develop skills to clarify purpose, begin outcome plans and impact the future. KLC faculty member and pastor of Berea Community Church in Kansas City, KS, Adrion Roberson served as one of two keynote speakers. Dr. Drew G.I. Hart from Messiah

College helped to strengthen the biblical theology of justice to work at being faithful disciples and ethical believers. For more, go to hesston.edu/avds.

Honoring Dr. King's Legacy - The Hesston College community participated in a Martin Luther King, Jr., Day “Tools for the Journey” workshop on Jan. 15, led by President Joe Manickam and John Murray, director of International Admissions. The workshop addressed injustices that are pervasive in society today and what individuals can do to recognize injustices and their own reactions to them. No classes were held on MLK Day in order to give the entire campus community – students, faculty and staff – a chance to participate in the activities. A chapel was also held in the afternoon and featured a student, faculty and staff gospel choir and speakers Ben Woodward-Breckbill, associate pastor of Shalom Mennonite Church (Newton, Kan.), and Jessica Klanderud, history professor at Tabor College (Hillsboro, Kan.).

Congregational student aid – Hesston College offers a match grant for scholarships provided by student churches. During the 2016-17 year, 65 churches contributed \$176,880 in student scholarships to 108 recipients. Hesston College matched a total of \$112,885. The average church aid per student was \$1,637 while the average church-and-college aid per student was \$2,683. **If your congregation is interested in providing a scholarship program to support Mennonite higher education, contact the Church Relations Office at 866-437-7866.**

Read these full stories and more at www.hesston.edu. For questions or more information, contact Dallas Stutzman, director of Alumni and Church Relations toll free at 866-437-7866.

2017-18 campus theme verse - 1 Corinthians 13:1-3 (NIV)

Statistics and Connections

2017-18 Academic Year Students – 5

Congregational Student Aid – 2 congregations provided \$5,500 in tuition assistance for 5 students as of April 1, 2018.

Unified and Designated Giving – We are grateful for the financial support of conference churches to Mennonite colleges and Mennonite Education Agency through Unified and Designated Giving and for personal contributions given from individuals.

Dr. Joseph A. Manickam, President

Dallas Stutzman, Director of Alumni and Church Relations

Mark Diller, Development Officer

Mary Bender, Admissions Representative



Vision: Healing & Hope

God calls us to be followers of Jesus Christ and, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to grow as communities of grace, joy and peace, so that God's healing and hope flow through us to the world.

Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference Mission Statement

P*romote personal spiritual development*

N*urture healthy congregations*

M*ake strong connections throughout the conference*

C*all each other to fulfill God's purpose for the world*



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