



25th Annual Meeting

DELEGATE HANDBOOK



Pacific Northwest
Mennonite
Conference

An area conference of Mennonite Church USA

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Welcome to Albany, 2019

Sharing the Journey Forward

Greetings to the PNMC family spread across the northwest,

On behalf of the PNMC board, staff, and the Albany Mennonite Church, it is my pleasure to welcome you to Albany, Oregon for our annual PNMC gathering June 21-22, 2019. Coming from five states and three time zones, we will gather for several days to remember that our journey together is more than that of our individual congregational life. We are on a journey together as part of a larger Anabaptist Mennonite fellowship which provides us context and relationships.

Some years ago when our congregation was considering affiliation with PNMC I attended my first PNMC annual meeting. It was an encouraging experience and our congregation quickly decided that we could find a place in this fellowship. We were warmed by the joyful openness and relaxed relationships as we visited and worshiped with others. Now, as a conference leader, I continue to be aware of how these annual gatherings serve to bring us together in a spirit that strengthens and encourages each one of us. We share our faith-walk within the variety of kinds of congregations that we are. *This is the strength of being on the journey with others.*

Once again this year our staff has put together a few days of blessing and encouragement for us; this year around the theme of “**Sharing the Journey Forward.**” Some special resource persons will be with us. We hope all pastors (other congregational leaders invited as well) will be present for the Healthy Boundaries workshop. Seminars will provide other learning opportunities. Delegates will meet to hear and discuss matters of conference governance. We'll worship together, eat together, visit together and be blessed together. I hope you make it a priority to gather with us and be encouraged.

This booklet serves as background material for our gathering. Delegates should pay special attention to the earlier section of PNMC reports. But the entire booklet gives a window into the variety of the ways the Spirit is active in our conference through the energy of many different groups and institutions.

Peace be with you!

Jeryl Hollinger
PNMC Moderator

Report from Executive Conference Minister

Submitted by Katherine Jameson Pitts ~ April 2019

*By day the LORD went ahead of them in a pillar of cloud to guide them on their way
and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so that they could travel by day or night.
(Exodus 13:21)*

The theme for our Annual Gathering this year is “**Sharing the Journey Forward.**” This echoes the focus of Mennonite Church USA on the *Journey Forward* process that many congregations have participated in. We are looking forward together, and trusting God to guide us, as a denomination, a conference, and as congregations, and changes are happening!

A major theme of the last year has been leadership change, in congregations and denominationally. The Executive Board Staff for Mennonite Church USA is all new, with the exception of our own Iris de Leon Hartshorn. Iris’s role has shifted, and she is now Associate Executive Director for Operations. We rejoiced to welcome Glen Guyton last summer at one of his first conference visits as Executive Director of MC USA. Michael Danner, Associate Director for Church Vitality and Engagement, joined us at the Conference Communications Council this winter. Sue Park Hur, Denominational Minister for Leadership Development Ministries, will be with us in Albany. These new leaders bring a freshness to their work as they encourage us to live into our commitment to be people who follow Jesus, witness to God’s peace, and experience transformation through the Spirit!

It is always a joy to walk with the congregations of PNMC as they seek the guidance of God’s Spirit in their life together. I am awed by congregations’ commitments to follow God’s signs even when led in new, and often unexpected, ways. Nowhere is this more evident than in the work of search committees, and this year we have seen the fruit of faithful searches. Last fall we welcomed Steve Kimes to Eugene Mennonite Church and Peter Epp to Albany Mennonite Church. Filer has called Ron Hershey as part-time pastor, with hope that this position may grow. In early June, Jerrell Williams will be coming to Salem Mennonite Church, and in August, Bryce Miller and Emily Toews will begin their ministry at Menno Mennonite Church. Zion Mennonite Church is nearing the end of their search for an Associate Pastor for Faith Formation. Western Mennonite Church continues to welcome your prayers as they seek God’s guidance following the untimely death of their pastor, Rick Troyer, last fall.

Congregations have a life-cycle, and just as there are leadership changes, there are congregational changes. The closing of congregations is a bittersweet time, both celebration of what God has done, and a sense of loss. And yet, we serve a God who has overcome death and know that new life is ahead for us all, even if not in the same form of church. Spring Valley Mennonite Church finalized its closing this year with a celebration and the sale of their property to another Anabaptist congregation. Anawim Christian Community ended as a worshipping community and transferred its assets to Villages of Hope, another organization seeking to serve those living on the street. Warden Mennonite Church began the process of ending their life as a congregation. At the same time, I continue to work with new church possibilities – tiny seeds of Anabaptist witness in the Pacific Northwest.

God, who was faithful through the Exodus, is faithful to us today and will guide our paths as we share the journey forward! Thanks be to God!

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

2019 Board of Directors Report

Submitted by Jeryl Hollinger, PNMC Board Moderator

When assuming leadership of the PNMC board in June of 2018 it was a time of stability with no large issues needing our attention. Katherine Jameson Pitts, our Executive Conference Minister, was well established in her role, now being one of the longest serving conference ministers in MC USA. The Sanctuary property which had consumed much of the board's energy in previous years, had been sold. An investment account had been established with some of those Sanctuary property funds which relieved some of the financial pressure the board deals with in balancing our annual budget.

The first new challenge for the board came in the summer when we were asked by Spring Valley Mennonite Church in Newport, Washington to assume the deed to their property. The congregation had closed and disbanded and sold the facilities to another congregation. With the congregation disbanding, they asked that we hold the note on the deed and the conference would receive the monthly payments to be paid over the next ten years. The board agreed to this arrangement which we hope will work out well and be an uncomplicated sale. This provided unexpected income which made it unnecessary to pull any interest from our newly established investment fund to balance the budget for the year. This income is a blessing but we are well aware of the dangers of becoming dependent on this income which will cease in ten years. We prefer that PNMC would be fully funded by the member congregations so that these unexpected gifts could be used for more visionary purposes.

The new board met in person for the first time the last weekend of August. At meetings we try to get to know each other better, have spiritual reflection and prayer for the church, and hear reports that bring us up to date concerning conference happenings and the board's work. At this meeting we gave a lot of attention to areas identified by board members and we tried to determine which ones to make our priority: passion-based ministries, financial investments policies, our Healthy Congregations Fund, human sexuality & MC USA policies, guidelines for accepting new congregations, promoting study on Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery, guidelines for congregational giving to PNMC, creating healthy congregations, and a policy on child protection for conference events. We also set future board meeting dates. Minutes of the board meetings are posted on the pnmc.org website.

In October the MC USA Constituency Leaders Council (CLC) met in Chicago. This year our conference representatives were Katherine Jameson Pitts (ECM), Jack Swaim (past PNMC moderator) and Jeryl Hollinger (present PNMC moderator.) These three also attended the CLC meeting held in Hesston, Kansas February 28-March 2, 2019. Jack has now completed his term on the CLC planning group.

The PNMC board met again in November, this time in Seattle to coincide with the 50th anniversary of Seattle Mennonite Church and we tried to attend most of the events for that celebration. We enjoyed this time tremendously and we were reminded of the unique nature and giftedness of each congregation in our conference. Because of these events our board meeting time was minimized, but one other delightful part of that meeting was getting to know Tasha Norton who visited with the board for over an hour. She is the leader of the Church of the Wandering in Olympia, Washington, a group pursuing a relationship with PNMC. We are excited about this young adult congregation and their Christ-centered vision and we pray that our relationship will continue and grow.

The board met for an afternoon and evening meeting on Friday, February 1, 2019 at Zion Mennonite Church in conjunction with the Saturday Conference Communication Council (CCC) meeting. In addition to other discussions at that meeting I presented a paper I wrote suggesting several areas of vision: growing PNMC's ministry in the northwest, facilitating a broad peace witness, and re-thinking passion-based ministries.

As moderator I also serve as chairperson of the Gift Discernment Committee which begins its work in the spring as we anticipate the approaching June annual meeting. This is a rewarding experience as the committee considers the many gifted people in our conference and makes contacts to fill a variety of roles. I am thankful for those who agree to give of their time and energy to the work of the church.

When the board meets via telephone conferencing as we did several times this year, we span three time zones: Alaska, Pacific, and Mountain. One time we did this to look at our fiscal year-end finances and to talk through a proposed 2019-2020 budget. Another time the main subject revolved around the first reading of a potential policy on managing our investment fund. As I write this report, the board will also be meeting in late May in Portland. In looking over PNMC policies the board decided that we need to give time to the policy section of our board book: updating some policies, creating some new ones, and deleting some others (as can be seen by looking at the February board meeting minutes.) So that subject will most likely be a focus of the May meeting – in addition to annual meeting plans and investment fund management for which we hope to adopt a policy.

One of the ways the board works together is by having small groups of board members work on an assignment together and bring a proposal to the board. Another helpful way we keep in touch is through email conversation when there is information to share or questions to consider. I am very thankful for our energetic board and the contribution each member brings to our work together. As this board year comes to a close, I especially want to thank Kathleen Aeschliman who is completing her 4-year term of service on the board.

The PNMC board is the conference's governing group. Much of this work is done behind the scenes to keep our life together as a conference moving along in healthy ways. The deeper work of the conference happens in each congregation as each brings lives of worship and service together to share with other congregations. My prayer is that the work we do on the board, and the staff we hire, will be a source of blessing to congregations so that none of us stand alone, but share in the blessings, challenges and rewards of a spiritual relationship.

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.

2018 PNMC Delegate Session Minutes

PNMC Annual Delegate Session – June 22-23, 2018, Boise, ID

Delegate Session, Friday, 10:30 A.M.

1. Jack Swaim, Moderator, welcomed everyone to the delegate session.
2. Roll Call—Katherine called on member churches to complete the sentence “At (*congregation*) we are walking as followers of Jesus by ...”.

Albany Mennonite Church: Working with a dynamic youth group and having an adult SS series on "marginalized" groups with people sharing stories to help us become a more hospitable church.

Comunidad Cristiana Vida Nueva: Preaching, evangelizing, and praying for those who are sick. That is our priority in our congregation.

Corvallis Mennonite Fellowship: having a Sunday morning series on technology and faith. We have a declining membership but a core of about 40 members.

Emmaus Christian Fellowship: Ministering to refugees in churches and are seeking to find ways to serve in the Meridian community and how to love our neighbors.

Eugene Mennonite Church: We are in a period of transition and pastoral search. It's an exciting time of reflection and visioning for the next few years.

Evergreen Heights Mennonite Church: Being in fellowship together and connecting with a school nearby that provides childcare. We're also developing a sister church congregation in NW Mexico.

Evergreen Mennonite Church: Supporting and affirming of our youth. We've recently had 5 baptisms of 8th graders.

Filer Mennonite Church: Working on a pastoral search and completing a VBS with more than 50 students. We also made a float for the Fire Fun Days and are working at being a witness in the community.

First Mennonite Church of Aberdeen: Caring for and ministering to children through VBS (35 kids, most of whom were not from our church).

Hyde Park Mennonite Fellowship: Using “Godly Play” curriculum, and by walking with our sister church in Colombia.

International Bethel City Church: Working with immigrant people and feeling blessed to worship God.

Jerusalén Iglesia Menonita: Working as a church in transition. We are trying to discern if we should continue as a congregation and God said to continue. We're working with a suicidal person to show God's love. We want to share the love of Jesus.

Lebanon Mennonite Church: Looking to the future and growing community. We are in collaboration with Boys and Girls Club and Jackson St. Youth Shelter to use the space next to church.

Ministerios Restauración: Walking with Christ through 15 min to 1 hr prayer times and walking with others in community through prayer.

Mountain View Mennonite Church: Operating an after school child care program for children of parents who work.

Portland Mennonite Church: Partnering with a community agency for a series of hikes to develop relationship with homeless or those in transition.

Prince of Peace Mennonite Church: Mentoring our service adventure youth and are also rediscovering the vision of God and who he wants us to be.

Salem Mennonite Church: We are in transition, and we are working with the program on Friday nights. We also experience transition when persons move away. We are also working with sexuality.

Seattle Mennonite Church: Working to extend our winter shelter to a yearlong program. This is also our year of Jubilee at Seattle Mennonite.

Shalom Church: Praying with and for and supporting the "other" in our local community and the world.

Spring Valley Mennonite Church: Our church is closing June 30, 2018. We have sold our building to conservative Mennonites. We are still supporting local ministries and will continue to look for new ministries in new places.

Warden Mennonite Church: Serving the community through a food bank. We have a teacher teaching in the local school.

Western Mennonite Church: Reaching out to Hispanic churches in our community and in Mexico. We're sending 27 kids from Mexico to camp this year.

Zion Mennonite Church: Taking some time of reorganization to release more time for local community work in immigration and legal help, The Canby Center, and other opportunities.

3. Approval of 2017 Minutes: There was a motion and second to approve the minutes, and it was passed.

4. ECM Report (Katherine Jameson Pitts): Katherine will email me this report!

-PNMC is about 31 congregations, scattered like seeds in God's kingdom in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, and Alaska. A number of our congregations are in transition.

-A number of congregations are in the midst of pastoral searches, including Evergreen, Eugene, Salem, Albany, Menno, Filer, and Warden. Katherine has talked to around 70 pastoral candidates in the past year, including a visit this past winter to AMBS to meet students. It is difficult to pull pastors from the east to the west, and there are more congregations seeking pastors than candidates. We have 8 persons from PNMC now attending 6 different seminaries and numerous people enrolled in Hispanic Pastoral and Leadership Education through the IBA classes taught by Pastor Samuel Morán.

-Katherine welcomed Kevin and Jess Chupp, new pastors at Aberdeen, and Kenneth and Stephanie Hawes, new pastors in Anchorage.

-New District Pastors beginning this summer are Mathew Swora, Linda Dibble, and Marlene Bogard. Samuel Morán, Bob Buxman, Tim Gascho, Gary Jewell, Renee Johns, Brent Kauffman, and Cecil Miller continue to serve as District Pastors. Katherine asked for prayers for the District Pastors.

-Katherine also serves on the Journey Forward Reference Council, offering feedback to the Renewed Commitments statement and the Pathways study guide.

-She has worked on Sexual Misconduct Investigations Training and Healthy Boundary training for Mountain States MC with former PNMCer Charlene Epp to present 3 trainings on pastoral ethics.

-Katherine has met with several folks who are interested in planting new Anabaptist faith communities in the Pacific Northwest.

-Katherine closed with a prayer composed by Bishop Ken Untener in Nov. 1979 to honor Archbishop Oscar Romero.

5. Introduction of Ballot:

-Jack introduced the ballot for the delegates to look at (also in delegate handbook). He explained how the gift discernment team presents a ballot and that it is approved by the PNMC Board.

6. Introduction of Endowment Fund:

-It was announced that there are 2 Everence workshops this afternoon that may help us to understand the endowments better which will be discussed on Saturday.

Delegate Session, Saturday, 1 P.M.

1. Moderator Report (Jack Swaim)

-We met 4 times in the past year.

-We have minutes posted on the PNMC website.

-Every 3 years we do a performance evaluation for Katherine, and this was done this year. The board has unanimously appointed Katherine to another term.

-The Peace Mennonite property was sold for \$700,000 this past year. We have consulted with Everence Financial advisors and others to determine the best use of this money. We have established a Sustainability Fund of \$650,000 and will use the investment gains only, for the near future. The other new fund is the Healthy Congregations Grant Fund. Its initial funding is \$50,000 and we expect to spend down the fund to aid congregations in being healthy. It can be added to, but our expectation is that it will be used up. We also have around \$80,000 of the Seed Northwest Fund. We are partnering with Everence to manage these funds.

2. Treasurer's Report for Fiscal Year 2018 (Brett Tieszen)

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. This outcome 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's 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 that 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 that was intended to have been received in the fiscal year but arrived later. The fixed asset account that 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 that 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.

3. Overview of Funds Proposal (Brett and Jack)

The income from the Peace property belongs to the PNMC. We plan to invest the money, but the investment is not locked away forever. We plan to deplete \$50,000 of the sale money within 10-15 years in the Healthy Congregations Fund. The other \$650,000 will be invested. One goal is to raise our Net Income up to Zero (we have been in the red and wish to move to zero) so that PNMC is sustainable. In an endowment, we can have increased interest added to our budget without depleting the budget itself. Our new budget will have around \$9,000 deficit, but with increased interest in the endowment, Brett feels that our deficit can continue to get smaller.

Questions and Responses:

- What is the expected rate of return? 4% from a historical perspective
- What is the plan for the return? To use the income for aiding the budget. We'll try to use about the same % each year.
- How was the decision made in how to divide the money? After much dialogue, we finally decided to have some that could be given away fairly quickly, but we also wanted to have enough to sustain the PNMC, which includes keeping Katherine as a full-time ECM. To do this, we felt that \$650,000 was appropriate.
- Does using a one-time proceed in this way allow congregations to decide not to give toward day-to-day operations as they have in the past? Even with the anticipated earnings, this will just get us to break even.
- What are the criteria for applications for grants? Seed Northwest has a more restricted definition for requests while the Healthy Congregations Fund has fewer restrictions. Also, we are asking input from table groups for the answer to this question later this afternoon. Recently, the board has received requests that fit the Seed Northwest definition that involves church growth and development, and we have approved these requests based on these criteria. There is also

work in progress in a committee as to how to apply for grants. The thought is that smaller grants will have a simpler process while more comprehensive grants will involve more process before grant approval.

-Where can the new budget for 2019 be accessed? It will be posted.

-It was requested that the treasurer of PNMC send congregational treasurers requests for the budget so treasurers have an idea what to put in their budgets for PNMC.

-Why isn't more money designated toward sustaining growth? Seed Northwest is geared for this but will eventually be used up. This model mainly sustains PNMC.

-Could Mexico mission work be considered in the budget in the future?

Delegates were asked to discuss in table groups the Endowment Funds and Healthy Congregation Grants funds and report back to the group. Each group was asked to fill out a paper and hand it in after verbal responses were completed. Some **responses** from table groups:

-We have concerns as to what the \$50,000 is for and also that it won't amount much per year.

-We thought about contributing to education for pastors and for volunteers.

-Leadership training for pastors, curriculum materials for new programs and buying materials.

-Children's ministries, establishing a church in Utah, millennial engagement, helping congregations collaborate in ministry.

-Provide consultants for congregations, help PNMC students pursuing pastoral ministry.

-What does "healthy" mean, is there a way to use funds to attract potential pastors to the Pacific Northwest?

-Workshops, continuing education, arts (like Ted and Company), engaging with Lombard Peace Center, developing sister church relationships, hosting pastoral candidates from the East, passion-based ministry for Mexico.

-Capital improvements with matching funds, financial support for specific ministries, continue supporting small congregations and more funding for church camps.

-Support training of lay leaders as well as pastors, healthy boundaries training, help churches start up a VS project, safety for smaller struggling congregations, fund youth conference for PNMC meetings.

-Support training for many different areas.

-See Jesus in "bright, bold new colors", help in trainings and travel expenses, sister care, immigration and legal rights work, facilitate youth connections better.

-Community outreach seed money to get volunteers involved, resources to help congregations (*accountability reports, etc.*)

4. Ballot Results

The following nominees were affirmed by delegates:

-Dianna Eshelman as Moderator-Elect for 2 years, then as Moderator for 2 years

-Jan Yoder as an At-Large Member for a 4-year term

-Twila Lehman as Secretary for a 3-year term

-Renee Johns and Joseph Penner for the Gift Discernment Team for a 1-year term

In addition, the PNMC Board of Directors has appointed the following people:

-Dave Hockman-Wert as Treasurer to complete Brett Tieszen's term ending June 2020

-Gary Martin to the Board of Directors for a 2-year term

-Nelly Moran Ascencio to the Board of Directors for a 2-year term

-Sam Adams to the Pastoral Leadership Team for a 4-year term

5. Installation of new board members

-New / current board members were asked to come forward. They were blessed in prayer led by Duncan Smith.

-Jeryl Hollinger, our new moderator, spoke to our group. He thanked members who are leaving the board (Brett Tieszen, Tom Brenneman, and Jack Swaim).

-It was moved and seconded and unanimously approved to thank the hosting churches and also the First Presbyterian Church for making this conference possible.

-PNMC Annual Meeting will be held in Albany, OR, next year.

-The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

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 **Albany 2019**, 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 Ending 2019

With the \$700,000 from the sale of the former Peace Mennonite Church property, as well as some other existing funds, the PNMC Board opened an investment management account totaling \$950,000 with Everence Trust Company in June 2018.

The new Everence investment account is being managed with the investment objective of Moderate Conservative SRI, or Socially Responsible Investment. According to Everence, this means our money is invested in “companies that support positive values, such as respect for human dignity, responsible management, and environmental stewardship, while avoiding industries and activities like gambling, alcohol and tobacco production, and military contracting.” The “moderate conservative” objective seeks modest growth while guarding against the risk of a large reduction of the principal.

If you review the financial reports, you may notice that the new account is referred to as “Endowment Funds” on the balance sheet. But to be clear, we are not treating these funds as a true “endowment,” where the principal is left untouched and only the interest is accessible for expenditures.

For those of you at the annual meeting in Boise, you may remember our previous treasurer Brett Tieszen's discussion of endowments, helpfully embellished with images of trees, leaves, and jumping into huge leaf piles (maybe not that last bit). During that discussion, he and Moderator Jack Swaim also explained that the board had decided to see the amount invested with Everence as being in three separate funds: the Healthy Congregation Grant Fund (\$50,000 of the sale proceeds), the Sustainability Fund (the remaining \$650,000 from the sale), and the church growth and development fund (\$80,000, formerly Seed NW, from Eugene Mennonite Church's donation of proceeds from selling their building).

This past year we have been developing policies to guide the management and disbursement of these funds. Hopefully you have seen the information soliciting applications for the Healthy Congregation grants. A few of those grants have already been given! As of April, the Sustainability Fund guidelines are being finalized, but will most likely allow 4% interest to be withdrawn annually, both to have more “liquid” funds available for ongoing PNMC operations as well as to maintain the principal as much as possible. The revamp of the Seed NW fund is still in process.

As of April 23, 2019, the investment account totaled \$986,072, after a big dip in December and a big rise in the first part of 2019.

Overall, our actual operating income in 2018-19 exceeded our budgeted income by about \$32,000, thanks largely to a generous estate gift we received from Vera Garber. Expenses were about \$4,200 less than budgeted, leading to a net operating income of about \$27,000. So for yet another year, PNMC's budgeted bottom line of a small operating loss has been turned into an actual small gain! Overall, we are in good financial shape as a conference.

Submitted by PNMC Treasurer, Dave Hockman-Wert
April 2019

Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference

BUDGET VS. ACTUALS: FY 2019 - FY19 P&L

February 2018 - January 2019

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
Income				
4101 Member Church Contributions				
410101 Albany	9,500.00	9,500.00	0.00	100.00 %
410104 Centro Cristiano Pentecostes	1,000.00	100.00	900.00	1,000.00 %
410106 Corvallis	4,000.00	3,200.00	800.00	125.00 %
410108 Emmaus		360.00	-360.00	
410109 Eugene		1,000.00	-1,000.00	
410110 Evergreen	2,200.00	2,000.00	200.00	110.00 %
410112 Evergreen Heights	1,600.00	1,070.00	530.00	149.53 %
410114 Filer	4,000.00	1,500.00	2,500.00	266.67 %
410118 First - Aberdeen	7,000.00	3,500.00	3,500.00	200.00 %
410122 Hyde Park	6,695.00	6,500.00	195.00	103.00 %
410126 Iglesia Men. Roca De Salvacion		600.00	-600.00	
410127 International Bethel City Church	200.00	100.00	100.00	200.00 %
410130 Lebanon	7,800.00	6,000.00	1,800.00	130.00 %
410133 Menno	7,594.44	5,000.00	2,594.44	151.89 %
410135 Mountain View	4,500.00	4,500.00	0.00	100.00 %
410137 Pacific Covenant	150.00	100.00	50.00	150.00 %
410142 Portland	21,500.00	21,000.00	500.00	102.38 %
410143 Prince of Peace (AK)	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00	100.00 %
410150 Salem	10,442.00	12,000.00	-1,558.00	87.02 %
410152 Seattle	14,000.00	13,500.00	500.00	103.70 %
410154 Shalom	770.00	750.00	20.00	102.67 %
410160 Warden	970.70	1,000.00	-29.30	97.07 %
410162 Western	1,250.00	1,250.00	0.00	100.00 %
410164 Zion	17,520.00	17,500.00	20.00	100.11 %
Total 4101 Member Church Contributions	124,692.14	114,030.00	10,662.14	109.35 %
4200 Other Contributions				
4206 Contributions-Individuals	23,318.20	1,500.00	21,818.20	1,554.55 %
4208 Affiliated Mennonite Groups	4,500.00	4,200.00	300.00	107.14 %
4210 Contributions-Others	6,301.24	800.00	5,501.24	787.66 %
Total 4200 Other Contributions	34,119.44	6,500.00	27,619.44	524.91 %
4300 Other Income				
4305 Miscellaneous Income	300.00		300.00	
Total 4300 Other Income	300.00		300.00	
4400 Annual Meeting Income				
4401 Registration, Housing, Meals	8,831.00	9,500.00	-669.00	92.96 %
4403 Offerings-Annual Meeting	2,018.00	2,000.00	18.00	100.90 %
4404 Pastor Dinner Contributions	600.00	1,000.00	-400.00	60.00 %
4408 Other Income-Annual Meeting				
440802 Reimbursements	292.74		292.74	
Total 4408 Other Income-Annual Meeting	292.74		292.74	

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
Total 4400 Annual Meeting Income	11,741.74	12,500.00	-758.26	93.93 %
4700 Interest/Dividend Income				
4701 Checking/Bank MM Interest	330.95		330.95	
4703 Investment Interest Earnings				
470302 MMA Praxis Money Market	720.17	50.00	670.17	1,440.34 %
Total 4703 Investment Interest Earnings	720.17	50.00	670.17	1,440.34 %
Total 4700 Interest/Dividend Income	1,051.12	50.00	1,001.12	2,102.24 %
4800 Investment Gains/Losses				
4802 MF Stock/Bond Fund Income	639.97	20,000.00	-19,360.03	3.20 %
4804 Investment Fund Income	12,773.37		12,773.37	
Total 4800 Investment Gains/Losses	13,413.34	20,000.00	-6,586.66	67.07 %
Total Income	\$185,317.78	\$153,080.00	\$32,237.78	121.06 %
GROSS PROFIT	\$185,317.78	\$153,080.00	\$32,237.78	121.06 %
Expenses				
5100 Exec. Conf. Minister Support				
5101 Salary/Housing	66,166.00	63,166.00	3,000.00	104.80 %
5104 FICA Support	25.62	4,832.00	-4,806.38	0.53 %
5105 Corinthian Plan Premiums	9,420.91	9,396.00	24.91	100.27 %
5106 Retirement	7,255.77	5,440.00	1,815.77	133.38 %
5107 Medical HRA	1,500.00	1,500.00	0.00	100.00 %
Total 5100 Exec. Conf. Minister Support	84,400.30	84,334.00	66.30	100.08 %
5170 District Pastor Expense				
5171 District Pastor Stipends	14,475.00	15,000.00	-525.00	96.50 %
5172 District Pastor Annual Gathering		1,500.00	-1,500.00	
5173 District Pastor Non Travel Expense	140.90		140.90	
Total 5170 District Pastor Expense	14,615.90	16,500.00	-1,884.10	88.58 %
5240 Administrative Asst				
5241 Salary Admin Asst	9,290.40	12,500.00	-3,209.60	74.32 %
5242 FICA Admin Asst	716.61	956.00	-239.39	74.96 %
Total 5240 Administrative Asst	10,007.01	13,456.00	-3,448.99	74.37 %
5250 Communications Coordinator				
5251 Salary Communications Coordinator	2,441.14	3,500.00	-1,058.86	69.75 %
5252 FICA Support	188.79	268.00	-79.21	70.44 %
Total 5250 Communications Coordinator	2,629.93	3,768.00	-1,138.07	69.80 %
5500 Pastoral Leadership Team				
5501 Pastors' Retreat		1,500.00	-1,500.00	
5506 Non-Travel Expenses	337.63	500.00	-162.37	67.53 %
Total 5500 Pastoral Leadership Team	337.63	2,000.00	-1,662.37	16.88 %
5530 Theological Education Team				
5532 Theological Education		500.00	-500.00	
5535 Ministry Inquiry Program		500.00	-500.00	
Total 5530 Theological Education Team		1,000.00	-1,000.00	
5900 Board of Directors				
5901 Non-Travel Expenses	300.00		300.00	
Total 5900 Board of Directors	300.00		300.00	
5950 Contracted Services				

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
5958 Translation Services	5,834.00	5,500.00	334.00	106.07 %
Total 5950 Contracted Services	5,834.00	5,500.00	334.00	106.07 %
6000 Conference Office				
6004 Handbook	302.60	400.00	-97.40	75.65 %
6010 Office Supply	364.29	750.00	-385.71	48.57 %
6011 Conference Office	1,247.87	700.00	547.87	178.27 %
6015 Office Communication	2,414.25	2,500.00	-85.75	96.57 %
6019 Rental/Lease Expenses	250.00		250.00	
Total 6000 Conference Office	4,579.01	4,350.00	229.01	105.26 %
6112 Travel Pool & Meeting Expense				
611201 Travel - Board	6,481.33	4,500.00	1,981.33	144.03 %
611202 Travel - Exec Conf Minister	6,329.06	8,000.00	-1,670.94	79.11 %
611203 Travel - District Pastors	8,072.62	6,000.00	2,072.62	134.54 %
611204 Travel - Teams/Committees		750.00	-750.00	
611205 Travel - Churchwide Events	1,872.69	500.00	1,372.69	374.54 %
611206 Travel - PHMC Office	38.75	500.00	-461.25	7.75 %
611207 Travel - Communications Coordinator		500.00	-500.00	
611210 Travel - Other	792.62		792.62	
Total 6112 Travel Pool & Meeting Expense	23,587.07	20,750.00	2,837.07	113.67 %
6220 Professional Development Expenses	100.00	1,000.00	-900.00	10.00 %
6290 Annual Meeting				
6292 Food-Annual Meeting	1,280.93	3,000.00	-1,719.07	42.70 %
629205 Food-Pastor Dinner	818.40	1,000.00	-181.60	81.84 %
Total 6292 Food-Annual Meeting	2,099.33	4,000.00	-1,900.67	52.48 %
6294 Conference Speakers				
629401 Conference Speaker	80.50	2,500.00	-2,419.50	3.22 %
629405 Other Honorariums	3,505.99		3,505.99	
Total 6294 Conference Speakers	3,586.49	2,500.00	1,086.49	143.46 %
6295 Translating/Interpreting	742.51		742.51	
6297 Other Annual Meeting Exp	855.08	1,000.00	-144.92	85.51 %
Total 6290 Annual Meeting	7,283.41	7,500.00	-216.59	97.11 %
6300 Conference Communications Council	75.00	250.00	-175.00	30.00 %
6400 Other Expenses				
6402 Investment/Checking Fees	3,188.99	400.00	2,788.99	797.25 %
6406 Workers Compensation Insurance	361.00	400.00	-39.00	90.25 %
6408 Property, Liability Insurance	688.00	750.00	-62.00	91.73 %
6409 Accounting, Legal, Professional Fees		300.00	-300.00	
Total 6400 Other Expenses	4,237.99	1,850.00	2,387.99	229.08 %
Total Expenses	\$157,987.25	\$162,258.00	\$ -4,270.75	97.37 %
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$27,330.53	\$ -9,178.00	\$36,508.53	-297.78 %
Other Income				
7000 Designated Contributions				
700001 NW Mexico Project Fund	2,055.00		2,055.00	
700003 Mennonite Women	5,832.17		5,832.17	
Total 7000 Designated Contributions	7,887.17		7,887.17	
7100 Gain on Sale of Assets	7,494.56		7,494.56	

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
7800 Realized Investment Gain/Loss	117.69		117.69	
7900 Unrealized Investment Gains/Losses	-27,105.82		-27,105.82	
Total Other Income	\$ -11,806.40	\$0.00	\$ -11,806.40	0.00%
Other Expenses				
8000 Designated Expenses	5,187.17		5,187.17	
Total Other Expenses	\$5,187.17	\$0.00	\$5,187.17	0.00%
NET OTHER INCOME	\$ -16,793.57	\$0.00	\$ -16,793.57	0.00%
NET INCOME	\$10,536.96	\$ -9,178.00	\$19,714.96	-114.81 %

Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference

BALANCE SHEET

As of January 31, 2019

	TOTAL			
	AS OF JAN 31, 2019	AS OF JAN 31, 2018 (PY)	CHANGE	% CHANGE
ASSETS				
Current Assets				
Bank Accounts				
110201 Checking Account (US Bank)	0.00	0.00	0.00	
110202 General Fund Checking (US Bank)	45,348.13	63,981.06	-18,632.93	-29.12 %
Total 110201 Checking Account (US Bank)	45,348.13	63,981.06	-18,632.93	-29.12 %
110205 US Bank MM	115,344.98	760,020.69	-644,675.71	-84.82 %
110302 Money Market Fund (MMA Praxis)	0.00	272,436.21	-272,436.21	-100.00 %
Total Bank Accounts	\$160,693.11	\$1,096,437.96	\$ -935,744.85	-85.34 %
Other Current Assets				
Payroll Corrections	-0.45	0.00	-0.45	
Total Other Current Assets	\$ -0.45	\$0.00	\$ -0.45	0.00%
Total Current Assets	\$160,692.66	\$1,096,437.96	\$ -935,745.30	-85.34 %
Fixed Assets				
120100 Office Equipment				
120101 Purchased Costs	224.98	0.00	224.98	
Total 120100 Office Equipment	224.98	0.00	224.98	
Total Fixed Assets	\$224.98	\$0.00	\$224.98	0.00%
Other Assets				
110600 Endowment Funds	934,129.95		934,129.95	
110603 Stock & Bond Fund (Menn Found)	13,788.18	14,603.91	-815.73	-5.59 %
Total 110600 Endowment Funds	947,918.13	14,603.91	933,314.22	6,390.85 %
Total Other Assets	\$947,918.13	\$14,603.91	\$933,314.22	6,390.85 %
TOTAL ASSETS	\$1,108,835.77	\$1,111,041.87	\$ -2,206.10	-0.20 %
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY				
Liabilities				
Current Liabilities				
Other Current Liabilities				
200100 Miscellaneous Pass-Through	3,458.25	3,458.25	0.00	0.00 %
200105 Mexico Project Fund	7,032.82	13,532.82	-6,500.00	-48.03 %
210000 Payroll Liabilities	0.00	0.00	0.00	
2102 Federal Withholding	1,115.57	1,081.87	33.70	3.11 %
2104 State Withholding (OR)	418.06	401.98	16.08	4.00 %
210401 Oregon Unempl	5.36	6.12	-0.76	-12.42 %
Total 210000 Payroll Liabilities	1,538.99	1,489.97	49.02	3.29 %
211112 Payroll Tax Payable	17.59	0.00	17.59	

TOTAL				
	AS OF JAN 31, 2019	AS OF JAN 31, 2018 (PY)	CHANGE	% CHANGE
Total Other Current Liabilities	\$12,047.65	\$18,481.04	\$ -6,433.39	-34.81 %
Total Current Liabilities	\$12,047.65	\$18,481.04	\$ -6,433.39	-34.81 %
Total Liabilities	\$12,047.65	\$18,481.04	\$ -6,433.39	-34.81 %
Equity				
320700 Loan Funds				
320702 Memorial Loan Fund (Equipment)	2,290.38	2,290.38	0.00	0.00 %
Total 320700 Loan Funds	2,290.38	2,290.38	0.00	0.00 %
320800 Ministry Funds				
320801 Seed Northwest	80,500.83	82,878.00	-2,377.17	-2.87 %
320805 PNMC Mennonite Women	383.00	783.00	-400.00	-51.09 %
Total 320800 Ministry Funds	80,883.83	83,661.00	-2,777.17	-3.32 %
34000 Sharing/Reserve Funds				
34001 Sharing Fund - Ins Premium	2,870.31	3,870.31	-1,200.00	-31.01 %
34002 Sharing Fund - Catastrophe	2,512.24	4,844.74	-2,332.50	-48.15 %
Total 34000 Sharing/Reserve Funds	5,182.55	8,715.05	-3,532.50	-40.53 %
3500 Net Assets Available	759,578.43	759,578.43	0.00	0.00 %
3900 Retained Earnings	238,315.99	0.00	238,315.99	
Net Income	10,536.96	238,315.99	-227,779.03	-95.58 %
Total Equity	\$1,098,788.12	\$1,092,560.83	\$4,227.29	0.39 %
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$1,108,835.77	\$1,111,041.87	\$ -2,206.10	-0.20 %

Simplified Budget FY2020

PNMC Budget	Actual as of January 31, 2019	Fiscal 2019 Budget	Final 2020 Budget	Difference (2020 budget - 2019 budget)
Income				
Total 4101 Member Church Contributions	\$ 124,692.14	\$114,030.00	\$ 114,630.00	600
Total 4200 Other Contributions	\$ 34,119.44	\$ 6,500.00	6,500.00	0
Total 4300 Other Income	\$ 300.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	0
Total 4400 Annual Meeting Income	\$ 11,741.74	\$ 12,500.00	8,250.00	(4250)
Total 4700 Interest/Dividend Income	\$ 1,051.12	\$ 50.00	120.00	70
Total 4800 Investment Gains/Losses	\$ 13,413.34	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 29,000.00	9000
Total Income	\$ 185,317.78	\$153,080.00	\$ 158,500.00	5420
Gross Profit	\$ 185,317.78	\$153,080.00	158,500.00	5420
Expenses				
Total 5100 Exec. Conf. Minister Support	\$ 84,400.30	\$ 84,334.00	87,970.00	3636
Total 5170 District Pastor Expense	\$ 14,615.90	\$ 16,500.00	16,650.00	150
Total 5240 Administrative Asst	\$ 10,007.01	\$ 13,456.00	13,187.00	(269)
Total 5250 Communications Coordinator	\$ 2,629.93	\$ 3,768.00	3,552.00	(216)
Total 5500 Pastoral Leadership Team	\$ 337.63	\$ 2,000.00	2,500.00	500
Total 5530 Theological Education Team	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,000.00	1,250.00	250
Total 5900 Board of Directors	\$ 300.00	\$ 0.00	100.00	100
Total 5950 Contracted Services	\$ 5,834.00	\$ 5,500.00	5,800.00	300
Total 6000 Conference Office	\$ 4,579.01	\$ 4,350.00	3,650.00	(700)
Total 6112 Travel Pool & Meeting Expense	\$ 23,587.07	\$ 20,750.00	23,300.00	2550
6220 Professional Development Expenses	100.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	0
Total 6290 Annual Meeting	\$ 7,283.41	\$ 7,500.00	5,200.00	(2300)
6300 Conference Communications Council	75.00	250.00	750.00	500
Total 6400 Other Expenses	\$ 4,237.99	\$ 1,850.00	4,100.00	2250
Total Expenses	\$ 157,987.25	\$162,258.00	169,009.00	6751
Net Operating Income	\$ 27,330.53	\$ -9,178.00	(10,509.00)	(1331)
Other Income				
7100 Gain on Disposal of Assets	7,494.56	0.00	15000	15000
Total Other Income	\$ -11,606.40	\$ 0.00	\$ 15,000.00	15000
Total Other Expenses	\$ 5,187.17	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	0
Net Other Income	\$ -16,793.57	\$ 0.00	\$ 15,000.00	15000
Net Income	\$ 10,536.96	\$ -9,178.00	4,491.00	13669

BALLOT 2019

Brief Biographies

Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference

Albany, Oregon

PNMC Board of Directors Positions

More information coming soon....

Gift Discernment Team (1-year term)

PNMC Appointments

Board of Directors

PNMC Appointments, *continued*...
Board of Directors
Pastoral Leadership Team

More information coming soon....

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:

- **Stephen Obold Eshleman**, of Portland Mennonite Church, was approved to be licensed for ministry on January 14, 2019. Stephen is working as a chaplain at the VA hospital in Portland.
- **Peter Epp**, of Albany Mennonite Church, was approved for licensing for pastoral ministry on January 14, 2019.
- **Brianne Reimer Kruger**, of Portland Mennonite Church, was approved for Ordination to Christian Ministry on April 29, 2019. Brie is a hospice chaplain.
- **Britt Carlson**, of Portland Mennonite Church, was approved for Ordination to Christian Ministry on April 29, 2019. This is an affirmation of her prior ordination in the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.
- The ordination credential of Todd Lehman was terminated on October 1, 2018.

In the coming year we look forward to working with pastors who are new to our conference and/or to our denomination. We will continue to support pastors who are serving in the PNMC. This includes offering resources on setting appropriate boundaries in relationships.

In the past year, Matthew Swora's term on the PLT ended. We are very grateful for the wisdom and experience he brought to the Team. Sam Adams, of Bend Mennonite Church, was appointed to PLT and we are glad to welcome his insight and thoughtfulness. Linda Dibble, Angel Campo, Amy Epp, 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.

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- Submitted by Rod Stafford (April 24, 2019)

Pacific Northwest Mennonite Historical Society

Submitted April 2019

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 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 with 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. Interesting stories in those books! All of the books are listed on <https://pnmhs.org/> to help you find your interest. Even though our genealogy section seems extensive there may be more of which we are unaware. If you know of a recent compilation please check out or contact the Ivan and Pearl Kropf Heritage Center. You are also welcome to browse the huge selection of photos posted online.

Friday evening, June 21, we are sponsoring *Is There a Lesson? European Anabaptist Heritage Documentary with John Ruth* showing in Albany Mennonite Church at 7pm. We were contacted by Tourmagination for our interest in presenting this in our area and we are happy to do this. Many of us have traveled with John Ruth and with Tourmagination.

PNMHS annual meeting, January 19 guest speaker, Jessie Gingerich Hostetler, Portland Mennonite Church, told her story of MCC service in Viet Nam during the war and the TET offensive. It is a compelling story of God's protection and direction and can be found on our website. <https://pnmhs.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Vietnam-Historical-Society.pdf>

We do have a gap in our congregational histories and files...that of our congregations who compose CIHAN. There is a wonderful history of these churches we all would benefit from and the vision begins in the recent past mid-century.

We continue to look for persons interested in general Mennonite history and particularly related to the Northwest area. Please seek us out for conversation or contact. PNMHS has a website and is on Facebook. You can read the annual report given in January <https://pnmhs.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/2019-Annual-Meeting-Presidents-Report.pdf>

We are thankful for several PNMC congregations who have included PNMHS in their annual budget giving. We serve the faith story of our PNMC congregations and individuals and we call on other congregations to share financially in this ministry.

PNMHS Board: Pat Hershberger, Lin Rush, Gloria Nussbaum, Jerry Barkman, John Goertzen, Rod Fretz

Volunteers: John Gingerich, Shirley Martin, Carolyn Gingerich, Lynn Miller

PNMC AREA ORGANIZATION REPORTS

CAMP PALISADES

Submitted by Kevin Chupp

The ministry of Camp Palisades continued this past summer. We were excited to have 26 campers at our two camps combined. Senior Camp was held July 11-15, and Junior Camp followed July 15-19. We made camp slightly longer this past summer, which was great and also a challenge.

With longer camps, we had more activities than the previous year. One highlight was hiking and swimming in Grand Teton National Park. We received an educational fee waiver and took advantage of the ranger-led hike up to Taggart Lake with both of our camps. The more adventurous campers plunged into Taggart Lake, and the less adventurous swam in Jackson Lake. For a number of campers and staff, this was their first experience of the Tetons.

Another difference this past summer was that both of our camps did raft trips on the Snake River. The Senior Camp enjoyed their usual whitewater trip, while the Junior Camp took a more leisurely “scenic” raft trip, that took in views of the Tetons and 16 bald eagles! While our camp resides right alongside the Idaho/Wyoming border, we had a decent bit of driving to do to reach trailheads and our rafting guides. Our new (to us) bus served us well this year.

We covered some good ground as well in service of the goal we had to “cultivate awe.” Of course, the mere sight of the Tetons was awe inspiring enough, but we were blessed with hearing the natural history and the human history of this area while we reflected on God’s story of self-giving love as revealed to us in God’s good creation.

Overall, we had another tiring, but overall successful camp in 2018. As the trend has been in past years, we serve primarily local youth and we have only a few campers coming from our congregation and other Mennonite churches. We look forward to another great summer at Camp Palisades this year.

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

Drift Creek Camp

Submitted by Brenda Hostetler Kauffman, May 2019

There have been many unknowns this year that have resulted in much hoping and waiting. The Forest Service and other local agencies have been working for years to secure the approximately \$1.2 million needed to dismantle the fish ladder and failing culvert at North Creek, less than 1 mile from Drift Creek's entrance. The project is no small undertaking! The hope is to replace the undersized 11-foot culvert with a 50-foot "land bridge" which would restore fish passage along North Creek. In an effort to restore the creek's natural habitat, everything from small gravel to massive boulders will be hauled in. Sixty years of forcing the water through a narrow culvert created a deep canyon on the upstream side and small rock on the downstream side was scoured out as exiting water "fire hosed" the stream bed. The project has been in the works for several years but was postponed multiple times due to insufficient funds. Once approval was received on a \$370,000 grant from OWEB, solid plans could be put in place. However, the start date, which is closely connected to water levels in the creek, could not be determined until mid-May. The official start date will be Monday, June 17. We do not know when the project will conclude, but hope to once again have access to camp by early October.

Snow days meant, once again, shuffling the camp schedule in 2018, but thanks to the flexibility of campers and families, it all worked out! We are so grateful for camp pastors, including Stephen Obold-Eshleman, John Regier, Carlos Sequira and Christine van Belle, who gave generously of their time to create a meaningful experience for each child. The theme, Discovering God's Way of Peace, was both powerful and timely! The focus started out broadly in thinking about global peace but really narrowed in on what we can do as individuals to create peace in our homes, in our hearts and in the world. Each week of programming ended with the counselors blessing the campers with the hymn "Put Peace in to Each Other's Hands". We were also deeply grateful for the medical professionals who gave generously of their time: Janette Wisseman, Logan Mordhorst, Kristina Krabill, Sarah Acosta, and Gwen Peachey. The cooks were worked tirelessly to create hearty and delicious meals to sustain masses of hungry campers! DCC could not operate without the hard work of these many volunteers! In looking ahead to the summer of 2020, it will be somewhat difficult to plan as school end-dates vary by two weeks among our feeder schools! With rental groups backed up at the conclusion of DCC's programs, we may need to, again, be creative with scheduling.

It was a delight to welcome Carolyn Heggen and Rhoda Keener to DCC in September for a Sister Care workshop. Knowing that there would not be an opportunity for high school seniors to attend summer camp in 2019, high school campers were invited to attend a first-time "High School Retreat" over the MLK weekend with John Regier as the speaker. The focus piggy-backed on the idea of last summer's theme of cultivating peace and how that can be so challenging in today's climate of conflict. Mennonite Men's Retreat, focused on conflict resolution. Then in April, former camper/volunteer Melanie Springer Mock returned as the speaker at the Women's Retreat. The weekend celebrated Melanie's book, *Worthy*, and focused on the finding ourselves worthy when it sometimes feels like the world, the church, our families, are all expecting someone else.

Building the Caretaker Cabin has been a huge project! The exterior is mostly finished. The inside walls are now sheet rocked and should be taped/mudded before the closure. The remaining finish work will resume once the road opens.

Personally, it has been a mixed blessing to have DCC closed this summer. While it's hard to lose the momentum of staff, campers & volunteers, it has been a huge relief to be given the gift of time. I was diagnosed with breast cancer in February. I began chemotherapy in March and will continue through June. I will then need surgery, followed by two months of radiation. The treatments have left me feeling fatigued, nauseous, aching all over, and at times, mentally foggy. To not be simultaneously juggling the countless details of summer camp has been a relief. This experience has also been a powerful reminder of the importance of community. I am so deeply grateful for the support I have received from so many associated with Drift Creek and our PNMC churches. There have been notes in the mail, casseroles, phone calls and text messages, gifts, and a blanket of prayers, that, I'm quite certain, have been what has kept me relatively calm throughout the terrible fear and unknowns of this diagnosis! Tony and I are beyond grateful for the support shown by DCC's board. They have been so helpful in keeping up on the loose ends, especially since I am one of them!

Looking ahead, there will be many opportunities to volunteer at DCC. Hopefully we will resume operations in October. Before things get rolling we're planning a Work Weekend to tidy up after the closure. If you are interested in helping, please email info@driftcreek.org and we'll be in touch about dates.

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

Mennonite Village
ANNUAL REPORT TO THE
PACIFIC NORTHWEST MENNONITE CONFERENCE
JUNE 2019

Submitted by Ron Litwiller,
President/CEO of Mennonite Services NW

Mennonite Village

The construction of our all private room nursing home addition has been completed. Residents moved into the new space in January. They are thrilled to have spacious rooms as well as multiple gathering areas for visitors. Our attempt to create a home environment seems to be successful. Renovation of the original nursing home will begin soon. We continue to build independent homes – mostly duplexes – to meet the demand of retiring baby boomers. We are so fortunate to have land available for future development.

Chaplains Byron Gingrich and Teresa Moser conduct chapel services, lead Bible studies, and attend to family needs. We have about 80 deaths on campus each year. Our chaplains are also available to meet with staff. We are so grateful that Linda Dibble also assists with our chapel services.

Our Wellness Program is growing. The addition of a warm water pool allows us to offer water aerobics in addition to various land-based classes and self-directed use of exercise equipment. I am planning to retire this year. Leadership planning is in progress. Much of my time is currently being spent with our off-campus management contracts in Portland, Corvallis, McMinnville and Canby.

We value our relationships with our congregations and the PNMC. We appreciate our many volunteers who serve in various ways.

Thank you for the support and encouragement as we seek to fulfill our covenant to be a Christ-centered community providing life enriching services.

Ron



OREGON MENNONITE RESIDENTIAL SERVICES, INC.

OFFICES

325 SW Elmwood
McMinnville, OR 97128

Phone: 503- 474-1213/Fax: 503-474- 1145
Email: Loralei@omrs-dd.org

April 2019

Our mission: Guided by Jesus' example of love and compassion, OMRS supports individuals who experience intellectual and developmental disabilities so that all - employees and people served - are treated with dignity and respect, feel a sense of belonging, see their abilities valued, and experience personal growth.

Oregon Mennonite Residential Services opened its first two group homes in 1986. OMRS now operates 14 homes supporting 53 adults who experience intellectual / developmental disabilities. Eleven of these homes are in McMinnville, and three are located in Albany.

OMRS has 130 employees. Staff who work in our homes tell us over and over again how making a positive difference in the lives of others is so rewarding. It is something they often did not experience in previous jobs, and it is what keeps them at OMRS. If you know of anyone you believe shares our values and may see our mission as a calling, please encourage a conversation with someone at OMRS.

OMRS is experiencing a time of transition, and it is all good! Two long term staff members are retiring and another has relocated. Very capable and knowledgeable people, also with many years of experience at OMRS, are moving into these positions. This leadership team will continue to work in collaboration with other staff members to enrich the story of OMRS and to enhance the ways in which OMRS carries out its mission. As positions are filled and tasks reassigned, our decision this past year to focus on growing our own staff is affirmed. It is a very exciting time for OMRS.

One of our residents is exploring a dream that encourages OMRS to think about another means by which we might do mission. This resident would like to move out of the group home she shares with two other young women into a home of her own. Knowing that she will continue to need assistance, she has asked OMRS to remain available to provide the supports that will allow her to be successful as she becomes more independent. We look forward to encouraging her on her journey.

OMRS is grateful to the caring congregations and individuals of PNMC. We appreciate the various ways in which you show your support. We hope you feel free to contact us should you be aware of a situation in which we might be helpful. Blessings.

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

Therefore, encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing. 1 Thessalonians 5:11

Providing Development for families by improving hygiene, promoting community health and preventing disease:

NYANGUNGU, Burundi – “Sometimes life is not easy for us, but it was very hard in the past,” says Gaudence Nzotungandushe, pulling her thin kitenge wrap tightly around herself against the morning chill. She is a widow, living alone with her two daughters who attend the nearby MCC-supported Hope School in Nyangungu, Burundi. Nzotungandushe explains the challenges her family faced before the school started its health project.



“My girls would go a day or two without eating, and I would go even longer. Many times, I would send them to school knowing they had not eaten anything for days. You cannot learn when you are hungry. They were always sick, always had belly pains and infections. *But now, thanks to God, they are no longer sick, and they have no more pains. They are no longer hungry when I send them to school, and they are learning.*” Nzotungandushe smiles proudly. “I thank God every day that they will not suffer in the ways that I have.”

Holistic health: Nzotungandushe’s daughters are two of more than 500 students, from preschool to high school, who benefit from an MCC-supported health program that began in 2016. Christian Union for Education and Development of the Underprivileged, the MCC partner that started and has operated Hope School since 2001, gives local Twa children, a commonly disparaged ethnic group, an opportunity for quality education. The program provides a daily nutritious meal at the school, which is the only meal for the day for many students. In addition, the students benefit from clean water, soap and latrines as well as menstruation management supplies for girls. Messages of nutrition, sanitation and hygiene also are taken into the community.

Burundi has one of the world’s highest rates of chronic malnutrition, with an estimated 56 per cent of children seriously stunted in their physical development due to nutritional deficiencies. Malnutrition in children can have life-long consequences, including poor brain development, heart damage, metabolic disorders, autoimmune disorders and susceptibility to a wide range of infectious diseases.

The situation is even more difficult in Burundi’s rural areas and among ethnic minorities. By integrating simple, effective health work into Hope School, this project has been able to reduce many of these risks at low cost. *“We are strong now”- Daily meal and hygiene training in Burundi supports academic progress of Hope School students-* by: Paul Shetler Fast (Gaudence Nzotungandushe is pictured in the photo)

Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference Partnership:

PNMC churches contributed \$51,600.89 directly to MCC in 2018, in addition to hundreds of material resource donations like comforters and relief, health, and school kits. Other fundraising efforts include, Mennonite Country Auction in Washington: \$109,797.12; the Oregon Mennonite Festival: \$100,000; the Idaho Mennonite Relief Sale: \$46,500 and Idaho MCC Bike Ride: \$16,920. Windows to the World in Kalispell, MT, contributed \$3,700, and the Et Cetera Thrift Store in Lebanon, OR, contributed \$8,000. 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:

- Naomi Nussbaum from Happy Valley, OR – currently serving with SALT in Bangladesh
- Daniel & Amanda Talstra from Bellingham, WA– currently serving as Representatives for Zambia
- Derek Hostetler & So Soleakhena from Portland, OR – currently serving as Representatives for Cambodia
- Katherine Smith from Sopanke, WA – currently serving as Border & Migration Outreach Coordinator in Tucson, AZ

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.



PNWMC Annual Report

April 17, 2019

Dear Conference Members,

I am happy to report that the Lord is doing some good work at Western. As I sit down to write this report I have just come from our chapel. It's spiritual emphasis week at Western, and we are focusing on how we tame the tongue. The damaging effects of gossip and bullying through technology is at a crisis level for this generation. Each message has awakened our students to the responsibilities before them as a follower of Christ. It is good to see the Holy Spirit working on hearts and changing lives as a result.

As I mentioned last year in my report, we had decided to add a K-5 elementary school to our 6th - 12-grade program. That dream became a reality this year, and we currently have 53 K-5 students in three blended classrooms (k-1, 2-3, & 4-5). This change has brought new energy to Western. Our older students have taken them underwing, and some even serve as "teacher aids." The elementary has also added to our enrollment which now stands at 185 students. We anticipate the elementary school will continue to grow and are poised to hire two more teachers for next year.

As most are aware, Western did change its name last year. As Western Christian School our focus, however, remains the same as before, providing a Christ-centered education. Our commitment to Christian teaching through and Anabaptist lens has been reinforced in our recently finished strategic plan. Western also remains a school that requires our teachers to have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and an agreement with our statement of faith and school mission statements, and these standards will not change, they define who we are as a community. Western also promotes an environment that provides grace for students who are learning about the Christian Faith, and support to students who have made a faith commitment. Western is "counter-culture" in that it teaches historic Christianity and values.

As this year comes to a close, we have significant upgrades to our facility taking place this summer. The old girls' dorm will be converted to a Middle School and a new preschool. Our vision is to have three distinct schools: elementary; middle, and high school; that is unified in purpose and mission. We continue to covet your prayers and support as we impact the next generation for the Kingdom.

Blessings,

Al Stefan
Superintendent/Principal

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION REPORTS

Everence

Mennonite Church USA

Mennonite Education Agency (MEA)

Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS)

Mennonite Health Services (MHS)

MennoMedia

Mennonite Men

Mennonite Women USA

Mennonite Mission Network (MMN)

Embracing new horizons

Everence 2019 report

Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference
Annual Meeting
June 21-22, 2019

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

– 2 Corinthians 5:17

Strong church partnerships remain vital to Everence

Everence® works closely with churches and their members, as we have since our organization started as Mennonite Mutual Aid in 1945.

Our goal is to help our brothers and sisters in Christ "build up the common life" through decisions about their money and other resources.

We value these connections and look forward to many more years of focusing on the best interests of your church members – helping them create and implement plans tailored to their needs and goals to share with others.

As we have for nearly 75 years, we will continue to serve the faith community as partners in stewardship throughout 2019 and beyond.

Everence church loans make a difference



2540 WEST 25TH STREET, CHICAGO, IL

© 2019 EVERENCE

Sonido de Alabanza, a suburban Chicago church, financed a major construction project with help from an Everence church loan.

The church needed a new building for worship and related activities after using a former American Legion hall for many years.

Everence has years of experience in helping churches find solutions to fit their needs, with customized loan options.

Our annuity program funds our church loans. The annuity program aligns the priorities of like-minded believers from the Everence community who want to help churches and their ministries grow through their investments.

Learn more at
everence.com/church-loans.

Pastoral Financial Assistance Program expanding with new Lilly grant

Lilly Endowment approved Everence in November 2018 for another \$1 million grant to help improve the financial lives of pastors.

Everence was one of the first grant recipients in 2015 as part of Lilly's National Initiative to Address Economic Challenges Facing Pastoral Leaders.

The new grant allows Everence to expand our Pastoral Financial Assistance Program. Assistance now is available for credentialed and active pastors from



other denominations and church networks that share our Anabaptist faith tradition and/or values – in addition to Mennonite Church USA and Conservative Mennonite Conference.

The program includes:

- Direct grants to help pastors with debt burdens.
- Financial education events for pastors and spouses.
- Subsidies toward the cost of a first-year Everence comprehensive financial plan.

See everence.com/pastor-financial-planning for more details.

MyNeighbor card users are supporting nonprofits

The MyNeighbor credit card from Everence generated more than \$300,000 for nearly 400 nonprofits in 2018.

The MyNeighbor MasterCard is available for personal or business use. Everence donates 1.5 percent of each transaction total to the charity the cardholder chooses from thousands of possibilities, including churches.

"The MyNeighbor card gives people a simple and effective way to support the charities dear to their hearts," said Kent Hartzler, President and CEO of Everence Federal Credit Union.

Scholarship amounts increasing for 2019-2020 academic year

Everence college scholarships will be worth more for the 2019-2020 school year.

Regional scholarships will be for \$1,000, compared with the previous level of \$750. The top three national recipients will receive scholarships totaling \$2,000 or \$3,000. More information is available at everence.com/scholarships.

"Everence believes it's important to support students as they work toward their college degrees," said Kenda Mishler, Member Benefits Manager. "We want to reward young women and men committed to improving their communities and the world beyond their communities."

Everence joins Philadelphia financial community

A new office in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania – opening in spring 2019 – is the first in an Everence initiative to serve individuals, nonprofits, churches and small businesses in larger cities.

The office is in an Esperanza Health Center building on Allegheny Avenue – a former bank building that's been part of the Philadelphia landscape since 1925. Everence

services there include banking, financial coaching, insurance and other resources for individuals and families.



Safe Church Grant is available from Everence

Everence supports churches in protecting children and others with the Safe Church Grant.

One-time grants of up to \$350 can reimburse churches for program expenses within the last 12 months to protect children, teens or others from sexual, physical, emotional/psychological or other forms of abuse.

Grants can be used to develop policies, train people or implement programs. Churches with an Everence stewardship advocate may apply for a Safe Church Grant. Visit everence.com/safe-church-grant for more information.





Report to Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference of Mennonite Church USA

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace."

—1 Peter 4:10

Here are some highlights from MC USA as we have sought to seek Jesus, witness to God's peace and help our communities experience transformation over the past year.



The **Journey Forward** "Renewed Commitments" and Pathways Study Guide invited churchwide engagement in scripture, storytelling and sharing how God is at work in the lives of people and congregations across MC USA. The two-year Journey Forward process will culminate in storytelling and reflection at MennoCon19 in Kansas City, Missouri, July 2-6, 2019.



Glen Guyton was installed as the new **MC USA executive director** in a celebration at College Mennonite Church on August 18, 2018. He is the first African American to serve in this role, marking a significant moment in the denomination's history.

MC USA introduced **Learn, Pray, Join** campaigns to spread awareness and support for peace and justice initiatives through webinars, articles, blogs and social media posts. These have focused on the Korean Peninsula, immigration and church planting.



Women in Leadership launched the podcast **Holding it(.) Together** with The Mennonite, Inc. to highlight stories and interviews with people living and working out their faith in diverse contexts across the church.

Two delegations of MC USA leaders visited Capitol Hill in 2018 as **transformative peacemaking work**, one advocating for better immigration policy and the other for peace and justice in Israel/Palestine. MC USA leaders also issued public statements in response to national issues on behalf of the church on immigration, family separation, sexual abuse, gun violence and nonviolence.



MC USA re-opened **Peace Academic Center** (formerly Hopi Mission School) as a re-envisioned partnership with the Hopi people and Mennonite Education Agency. Beginning with a preschool and GED completion courses, there are plans to continue developing programs with the Hopi community.



The seventh annual **Hope for the Future** gathering brought together leaders of color from across MC USA in March 2018, and participants wrote an open letter to the church calling for a renewed Anabaptist focus and to "courageously conspire together."



Women in Leadership held the third biennial **Women Doing Theology conference** in Elkhart, Indiana, November 2018, inviting attendees to bring their whole selves and center the margins with the theme "Talkin' Bout a Revolution."

The **MC USA Archives** revived the tradition of Heritage Sunday to mark events and people with historical importance in the church. The Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery Coalition created the October 2018 resources with the theme "Lament for the Doctrine of Discovery."



MC USA's Leadership Development team distributed updated **guidelines on sexual abuse and misconduct** for non-credentialed individuals. They also held an Investigator Training for Ministerial Misconduct in March 2018 to create a pool of trained investigators.

Find us online at www.MennoniteUSA.org.
Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.
Email: info@MennoniteUSA.org
Phone: 866-866-2872



ANNUAL REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

Strangers no more

"Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers." *Romans 12:12-13 NRSV*



Ponce, Puerto Rico



Cortezdale, Florida



Rockport, Texas



William Lake, British Columbia

2018 AT A GLANCE

5,445 volunteers

from churches across Canada and the U.S. gave their time, skills and compassion to build

75 new homes,
complete

278 repairs,
finish

301 clean ups,
and build

14 new bridges

for households who experienced a disaster. This volunteer labor is a value* of over

\$9 million USD.

LOOKING BACK ON 2018, we see a year of disasters, large and small. The C A wildfires, and hurricanes Michael and Florence, affected hundreds of thousands of people. So-called "smaller" disasters — such as the tornadoes that struck Ottawa — also left people with pressing needs and lasting trauma.

There are many statistics associated with disasters: wind speed, acres burned, homes lost, numbers of people evacuated, and we share some of those statistics in this Annual Report. However, we look at 2018 through an MDS lens; one that is both statistical and emotional/spiritual.

The reality is, there will always be another disaster. Let us ask together, honestly: *Can we do more?* Based on the seeds of compassion you planted in 2018, I believe the answer is a resounding "yes".



MENNONITE EDUCATION AGENCY REPORT TO THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST MENNONITE CONFERENCE | MARCH 2019

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 activities and initiatives of the past year include the following:

MEA Board Strategic Planning Direction

Mennonite Education Agency (MEA) has identified its guiding values and strategic goals for a “new MEA” that aims to adapt to the evolving needs of education within the Anabaptist and Mennonite context. At a March meeting, the MEA board described the new MEA as “cultivating energy and synergy for the whole of Anabaptist/Christian education by communicating compelling stories, coordinating services and collaborating with partners.”

Some of the goals for the new MEA include functioning in the role of “community collaborator” and bridge builder between schools, the church and world; developing a network of grassroots initiatives to connect experts in MEA-affiliated schools and educational programs with others seeking best practices; and providing training in diversity and intercultural competence on school campuses, including audits and recommendations for growth.

As part of the strategic plan, MEA and its partners — the Mennonite Higher Education Association (MHEA), the Mennonite Schools Council (MSC) and Hispanic Educational Programs (HEP) — are developing a new mission statement and vision statement to more clearly focus and guide their work together. A five-person committee was appointed to propose new statements by July 2019, based around five guiding values: Christ-centered, innovative collaboration, trustworthy relationship, culturally informed and responsiveness. These values were identified through a discernment process with the MEA board, MHEA Presidents, MSC Executive Committee, leaders of HEP and MC USA Executive Board representatives.

The preliminary draft of MEA’s strategic plan that emerged out of the March meeting identified overall priorities and goals. MEA staff, including the recently appointed interim executive director, will add specific initiatives, polish language and share with all stakeholders for feedback and counsel. The hope is to present a more finalized plan to the MEA board this summer.

This Strategic Direction Plan will guide the MEA as it walks with, empowers, and partners with schools, conferences and educational programs in and beyond Mennonite Church USA. The adoption of the Mennonite Higher Education Church/School Relations Agreement, outlining a new way for Mennonite Church USA to relate, partner and support each other, presents a unique opportunity to look and envision a new future for all. The adoption of the agreement which included a vision for Mennonite Higher Education, the creation of the Mennonite Higher Education Association (MHEA) in conjunction with the Mennonite Schools Council (MSC) going through a process to consider the initiatives that best serve its members schools and the growing Hispanic Educational Programs in Mennonite Church USA and other denominations calls us to re-look at our work. Mennonite Education Agency is looking forward to the development of a strategic plan to best serve and support the needs and missions of our educational partners and Mennonite Church USA.

MEA Leadership transition

The MEA Board announced that Thomas Stuckey of West Unity, Ohio, has been appointed interim executive director of Mennonite Education Agency (MEA). He will replace Carlos Romero who announced at the recent board meeting his intentions to transition out of MEA by the end of the summer. Romero has served as executive director since the formation of MEA in 2002, guiding the new agency’s mission to strengthen the life, witness and identity of Mennonite Church USA through education. The appointment of the interim executive director will be followed by the appointment of a search committee to seek a new executive director.



2019 REPORT TO PACIFIC NORTHWEST MENNONITE CONFERENCE

The mission of MHS is to strengthen and extend Anabaptist-affiliated health and human service organizations. These Pacific Northwest organizations belong to our growing network of 80 ministries:

- Hope Village (an MSNW affiliate) *Canby, OR*
- Mennonite Services Northwest* *Albany, OR*
- Mennonite Village (an MSNW affiliate) *Albany, OR*
- Oregon Mennonite Residential Services (an MSNW affiliate) *Albany, OR*
- Rock of Ages - Valley View *McMinnville, OR*

*sponsored by MHS

Activities

- The Values-based Leadership Program is open for registration for the 2019-2020 class. Participants gain self-awareness and an Anabaptist perspective on leadership.
- The annual Mennonite Health Assembly met February 28- March 2 in Wichita, Ks. Through story-telling, music, learning labs and visual arts, attendees cultivated joy and gained practical governance and leadership skills. Next year's Assembly will be March 17-21 in Greenville, SC.
- New in 2019, we're offering a series of free webinars for board members. Open to anyone who is interested in the topics; visit www.mhsonline.org to learn more and to register.

For Thanksgiving and Prayer

- Low unemployment in many communities means that finding and keeping qualified and compassionate employees is a significant concern for MHS members across the country.
- We are grateful for the wisdom of the dozens of volunteer board members who are trustees of the missions of our member organizations.

Submitted by Karen Lehman, President/CEO

www.mhsonline.org

REPORT TO PACIFIC NORTHWEST MENNONITE CONFERENCE *Summer 2019*

At MennoMedia we publish highly readable, thoughtful curricula and books that call readers follow Jesus in word and deed. We publish resources about Christian discipleship, spirituality, reconciliation, justice, and theology from an Anabaptist perspective, and our products reach a broad spectrum of evangelical, mainline, and Anabaptist readers. Our MennoMedia curricula, periodicals, and hymnals reach congregations that share these same affinities, cultivating passion for faith formation and an active life of discipleship rooted in trusting God and following Jesus. Our Herald Press books support the spiritual life of Christians and inform thoughtful faith and action.

NEW RESOURCES FOR THE ENTIRE CHURCH, FROM HERALD PRESS



Fire by Night Finding God in the Pages of the Old Testament by Melissa Florer-Bixler

What do we do with the Old Testament? How do we read words written in a world so different from ours, stories so ruthless and so filled with grace? In *Fire by Night*, Melissa Florer-Bixler invites readers to marvel at the Old Testament. The Hebrew Scripture introduces us to a God who is unwieldy and uncontrollable, common and extraordinary, and who brings both life and death. **Paperback. \$16.99 USD**

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The God Who Sees Immigrants, the Bible, and the Journey to Belong by Karen González

Karen González weaves the sweeping epic of immigrants and refugees in Scripture into her family's story of fleeing instability in Guatemala. As witnesses to God's power, Abraham, Hagar, Joseph, and Ruth become grafted onto God's family tree. Grounded in her own experience and work with World Relief, González empowers readers to welcome immigrants and speak out about an outdated immigration system. **Paperback. \$16.99 USD**

Joseph, and Ruth become grafted onto God's family tree. Grounded in her own experience and work with World Relief, González empowers readers to welcome immigrants and speak out about an outdated immigration system. **Paperback. \$16.99 USD**



By the Way Getting Serious about Following Jesus by Derek Vreeland

What if asking Jesus into our hearts is not the heart of the gospel? What if salvation looks different than we thought? In *By the Way*, pastor Derek Vreeland reframes what it means to follow Jesus. Reclaiming discipleship as the heart of the Christian faith means seeing anew the gospel, the cross, the resurrection, transformation, and the community of faith. **Paperback. \$16.99 USD**

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Addiction Nation What the Opioid Crisis Reveals about Us by Timothy McMahan King

When a near-fatal illness led to a narcotics prescription, Timothy McMahan King ended up where millions of others have: addicted. King eventually learned to manage pain without opioids but not before asking questions about the spiritual and moral nature of addiction and the paths toward healing and recovery. *Addiction Nation* investigates the ways that addiction robs us of freedom and holds us back from being fully human. **Paperback. \$17.99 USD**

asking questions about the spiritual and moral nature of addiction and the paths toward healing and recovery. *Addiction Nation* investigates the ways that addiction robs us of freedom and holds us back from being fully human. **Paperback. \$17.99 USD**



VOICES TOGETHER

Voices Together is a new worship and song collection for the Mennonite church to deepen our lives of faith. This robust collection will be available for congregations in Fall 2020. Representing a variety of musical styles and patterns of worship, *Voices Together* contains many new songs, alongside old favorites, as well as indexes by topic, tune, title, Scripture, first line, and more. *Voices Together* will be available in these editions:

line, and more. *Voices Together* will be available in these editions:

- Pew edition (\$23.99)
- Large print edition (\$43.99)
- Accompaniment edition (\$89.99)
- Worship leader edition (\$19.99)
- Projection edition (\$499.99)
- App edition

Prices listed in USD.

More information at VoicesTogetherHymnal.org



JOIN THE #COMMONREAD

MennoMedia and Mennonite Church USA are partnering to encourage all Mennonites to read *The Bible Unwrapped: Making Sense of Scripture Today*, by Meghan Larissa Good, between July 2019 and May 2020.

Many people have questions about Scripture they are too afraid to ask. Drawing from the best of contemporary biblical scholarship and the ancient well of Christian tradition, Good provides answers to those questions—demonstrating why the Bible matters and how it can be understood by people today. *The Bible Unwrapped* invites readers to faithful reading, communal discernment, and deep and transformative wonder about Scripture.

Go to www.MennoMedia.org for a free study guide, blog posts by other readers, and more. Order through MennoMedia and mention #CommonRead to receive a special discount.



2019 Annual Report to Conference

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

JoinHands: Grants for New Churches

Through your donations to JoinHands, Mennonite Men has granted over 2 million dollars to assist new congregations to acquire their first church building.



The most recent grants went to two church projects in Africa. One went to this church in Dodoma, Tanzania (pictured above). This building will serve as a meeting house for a congregation and peace center in the Tanzania Mennonite Church. The second grant went to a church with Africa Inter-Mennonite Mission in Cradock, South Africa for a meeting house and community center.

Eden Life Church in Kansas City, Missouri (pictured below), a member of South Central Conference will



receive the next grant. This new church plant is serving immigrant populations from Ethiopia and South Sudan.

These congregations are scheduled to receive grants:

- A Congolese Mennonite church in Oregon.
- A Hispanic Mennonite church in Pennsylvania.
- A Haitian Mennonite church in Florida.

The church is growing rapidly in these racial-ethnic congregations. We join God's work among them and share with these immigrant populations.

JoinMen: Retreats and Resources for Men

Responding to men behaving badly in our culture, we focused this year's retreats on healthy masculinity. This is also the subject of our new book, *Peaceful at Heart: Embracing Healthy Masculinity*. This in-depth exploration of masculinity is written from an Anabaptist perspective and published by Institute of Mennonite Studies and Wipf & Stock.

Another new development was the first annual immersion experience. During a week-long wilderness adventure in Taos, New Mexico men explored ways to live as followers of Jesus in a world where our lifestyles impact people and the planet.



Join Us: Individual and Congregational Support

Mennonite Men needs \$150,000 to fund grants for the church building projects described above and share with these growing immigrant congregations. Please consider how you and your congregations can partner with us.

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

Together in Christ,
Steve Thomas, U.S. Coordinator



Mennonite Women USA

2018 was a year of transition. MW hired a new Executive Director, Cyneatha Millsaps. Cyneatha was serving as a Pastor for Community Mennonite Church in Markham, IL and as MCC Great Lakes Program Director. Cyneatha began working directly with women throughout the US, listening to the needs and passions for women and the church. Because of these gatherings of women, Mennonite Women is launching "The Sistering Campaign." We are calling on all women to intentionally find a "sister" from a different walk of life than themselves. We invite women to seek real relationships with women of color, young women, seniors, and women of different religious and or political backgrounds. Mennonite Women believes that in order for us to build the Kingdom of God on earth as it is in heaven, we must get to know our sisters (and brothers) more fully. We invite all to join "The Sistering Campaign" and share your stories with us so that we can all learn from one another.

Mennonite Women USA will continue our Sister Care seminars. If your church or women's group has not participated in Sister Care, please contact our main office and we would be happy to help you bring Sister Care to your community.

Mennonite Women USA continues to scholarship international women seeking theological education. This year we are providing 22 scholarships to women around the world. Mennonite Women USA is looking to expand this program to reach more women at a grassroots level. If you have ideas or thoughts about how we could better connect with our international sisters, please contact Cyneatha Millsaps directly.

Mennonite Women USA plans to connect with young women at our colleges and universities. We seek to help young women connect with one another but also with the organizations. Please keep your eyes open for programming at your school.

If you would like to get involved directly with Mennonite Women USA please call our local office and tell us about yourself. Or simply go to our website and sign up for our newsletter, like us on Facebook and Twitter.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cyneatha Millsaps".

Be local. Be global. Be the Gospel.



Incredibly, God chooses to make the progress of the mission for which Jesus came, closely tied to human engagement! Thank

you so much for your partnership and the support you've given to advance God's mission in the world. Through your kind sharing, and the generous support of congregations within your conference, we were

able to extend the reach of God's healing and hope in so many places around the globe. Thank you for being such an important part of our common witness to the good news of Jesus in word and deed. Our

hearts are filled with gratitude and hope by your sharing in the gospel. Blessings!

Stanley W. Green
Stanley W. Green
Executive Director

Pacific Northwest Conference + Mennonite Mission Network

Worker support around the world



Mary Beyer—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

Francisco Machado and Juana Lemus Lopez de Machado—Anabaptist church planters in Spain.

- » Mountain View Mennonite Church

Dan and Kathryn Smith Derksen—Provide logistical support, develop peacebuilding programs, and engage partners in program development in South Africa.

- » Evergreen Mennonite Church
- » Seattle Mennonite Church

Paul and Serena Manickam—Serve in Iquitos, Peru, in the children's and youth ministries, education and gardening programs of the Mennonite church there.

- » Portland Mennonite Church

Mission banks



Children from Evergreen Heights Mennonite Church and Calvary Mennonite Church gave a total of \$693.49 to missions.

Prayer partners



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

Congregational giving to Mission Network



During Mission Network's last fiscal year, Aug. 1, 2017, through July 31, 2018, 19 of 32 Pacific Northwest Conference congregations (59 percent) gave \$84,045, or an average of \$4,423. Thank you!

Service participants



Christian Service sites

MVS Unit—Seattle

Service Adventure unit—Anchorage
SOOP site—Drift Creek Camp, Union City, Oregon

Mennonite Voluntary Service

Elleson Lapp, serving in Washington, D.C.

Nathan O'Leary, serving in Washington, D.C.

Service Adventure

Kaytlen Keough, serving in Colorado Springs, Colorado

Andrew Ness, serving in Albuquerque, New Mexico

SOOP

Ken and Nancy Beachy, Glendale, Arizona

Phillip and Elizabeth Hestand, Glendale, Arizona

Lynn and Janice Miller, Akron, Pennsylvania

Richard and Karen Kropf, Glendale, Arizona

Youth Venture

Alexi Ebersole served in Spain.

Selah Judge served in Japan.

Isabelle Scottlind served in Ecuador.



It is a joy and blessing to partner with Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference and its member congregations. We are so thankful for your participation and support. May God continue to bless you in your local ministries and your partnerships around the world.

Matija Smucker
Matija 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

Bluffton University

Eastern Mennonite Seminary

Eastern Mennonite University

Goshen College

Hesston College



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.

- **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
 - Master of Arts in Christian Formation
 - Master of Arts: Theology and Global Anabaptism
 - Master of Arts: Theology and Peace Studies
 - Graduate Certificate in Theological Studies ambs.edu/academics
- **Distance education options** include the MDiv Connect program (with online and hybrid courses), the fully online MA: Theology and Global Anabaptism and the customizable Graduate Certificate in Theological Studies (fully or partially online). ambs.edu/academics
- **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?** Take an online, campus or hybrid class, even if you're not yet admitted to AMBS, and your first class is 50 percent off! Check out our upcoming offerings: ambs.edu/onecourse
- **Experience AMBS:** Visit our campus to learn more about all that AMBS has to offer. ambs.edu/visit

Center for Faith Formation and Culture

- **!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 in this summer program. Encourage someone you know to apply for 2020! ambs.edu/explore

Rooted in the Word, Growing in Christ

AMBS • 3003 Benham Avenue, Elkhart, IN 46517 • 574.295.3726 • ambs.edu • June 2019

Conference connections

AMBS students from PNMC

- **Master of Divinity:** Kevin Chupp (First – Aberdeen); Deborah Coates, David Johnson and Rachel Joy (Portland)

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.

Lifelong learning

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

- **Online short courses (2019–20):** *Exploring Anabaptist History and Theology; Understanding Anabaptist Approaches to Scripture; Exploring Peace and Justice in the Bible; Transforming Congregational Conflict and Communication*
- **Pastors and Leaders 2020** (March 2–5)
- **Leadership Clinics** (March 2, 2020) ambs.edu/lifelong-learning
- **Journey: A Missional Leadership Development Program:** Explore your call to ministry in this 2-1/2-year distance-friendly nondegree program that features a five-unit online curriculum, biweekly mentor-mentee meetings and one visit to the AMBS region per year. ambs.edu/journey
- **Host a speaker!** Bible teacher Bryan Moyer Suderman, MTS, is available to lead "Reading the Bible with Jesus" workshops in English or Spanish. David B. Miller, DMin, speaks on holistic witness, Christian leadership, healthy boundaries, and the missional church. ambs.edu/workshops
- **Spiritual Guidance Seminars:** Prepare for a ministry of spiritual direction through this two-part supervised program led by Dan Schrock, DMin. In 2019–20, Spiritual Guidance Seminar will take place online and on campus. Advanced Spiritual Guidance Seminar will meet Oct. 7–8, 2019; Feb. 17–18 and May 4–5, 2020. ambs.edu/seminars

The 2018-2019 academic year at Bethel College has been a time of reflection, contemplation, and anticipation. With the official inauguration of President Jon Gering in October, we firmly set our sights on the future, while remembering our roots and paying reverence to our past. We thank God for the following (and much more):

- 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, and who keep the campus functional and beautiful.
- Campus ministries opportunities for students, including centering prayer, bible study, chapel services, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and special events such as the 24-hour prayer. Eight wonderful student chaplains help monitor and lead spiritual life activities on campus.
- The Office of Diversity & Inclusion and the Diversity Council continue to work to make the Bethel campus an open and accepting place for all.
- A music department that continues to exemplify the college's pursuit of excellence. This year both the Concert Choir and the Steel Drum Band were selected to perform at the Kansas Music Educators Association conference. The choir also toured through the southwest and California during spring break.
- An athletic department that focuses as much on developing character as it does on scoring points. The women's basketball team had a record-breaking year as did the track and field team.
- A visual arts department that continues to bring world-class exhibits to the Regier Galler and Kauffman Museum, as well as excellent student work.
- A forensics program that has sent students to the national forensics tournament for 42 consecutive years.
- Bethel College is the only Kansas private college listed in *Washington Monthly* National Universities-Liberal Arts section for 2018-19.
- Convocation and lecture series which provide opportunities to learn outside an area of study. Rachel Waltner Goossen presented the Menno Simons Lecture Series on "Sexual Identities and Leaders in the Faith." Safwat Marzouk presented the 2018 Bible Lecture Series on cross-cultural interaction in Genesis and Exodus. The annual STEM Symposium during Fall Fest focused on "Women in Science and Mathematics."
- Sharing in worship and fellowship outside of the classroom by providing speakers and musicians for local congregations and hosting Lifetime Enrichment gatherings which develop intergenerational connectedness.
- A new Mission, Vision, and Values Statement approved by our board in April 2019 which will guide us as we seek to become a work college that will prepare students for meaningful lives of work and service through faith formation, the liberal arts, and practical experience in career pathways.

In gratitude for the prayers and good wishes, 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.



2019 Report to Pacific Northwest Conference

Ten-year accreditation

Bluffton University has been reaccredited with no stipulations for 10 years by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC). Bluffton met the requirements without a need for follow-up evaluations from the committee before the next accreditation visit during the 2028-29 academic year. **"I believe Bluffton University is an institution that lives out its mission more than any other of which I've been a part," said Dr. Jane Wood, president.** "This positive step in our journey only solidifies that belief."

Voices of Conscience

From Feb. 17-March 31, Bluffton University hosted "Voices of Conscience," a traveling exhibit developed by the Kauffman Museum, which remembers the witness of peace-minded people against the First World War. **"Of Bronze and Bravery,"** a complementary exhibit developed by Bluffton alumnae and archivist Carrie Phillips '99, featured selected works and archival documents exploring the Bluffton College experience during the Great War. A self-guided art trail featuring artist John Peter Klassen's work was developed and several exhibit-related events took place on campus. For more information, visit www.bluffton.edu/voices.

Dr. Jane Wood inaugurated

President Jane Wood shined the light on Christian higher education during her Sept. 28, 2018, inauguration as Bluffton's 10th president. "From the very beginning," noted Dr. Wood, "this college set out to transform young people by calling them to lives of meaning and purpose. Bluffton University has, for 120 years, lighted the way for students to find solutions for the personal and social issues facing their lives and their communities. The foundation of a Bluffton education, in seeking truth, asking questions, and posing solutions, will position students well for life."

Simply Innovate

Thank you to the many donors who have helped confirm more than 90 percent of the \$14.5 million total project cost for the Austin E. Knowlton Science Center. The 32,500 square foot building is designed for 21st century teaching and learning for students in biology, chemistry, physics, mathematics, pre-medicine, nursing and dietetics. The facility will also serve as an integral part of Bluffton's liberal arts education for all students.

ENDURING VALUES

DISCOVERY
COMMUNITY
RESPECT
SERVICE

#BeaversAll

Alicia Loch '19, a biology and sociology double major from Quakertown, Pa., is completing a year-long research project on paper waste. Her goal is to work in environmental sociology.

Read more about Alicia and other Bluffton students, faculty and staff at www.bluffton.edu/beaversall

Find us on the web
and social media!
www.bluffton.edu

For more information,
contact **Hans Houshower**
Vice president for
advancement
houshowerh@bluffton.edu

**EASTERN MENNONITE
SEMINARY**

Summer 2019

PACIFIC NORTHWEST CONFERENCE

SEMINARY ANNUAL REPORT

**Seminary and undergraduate Bible, Religion, Theology
Department build new relationship**

The long-standing interest in working in a more integrated fashion with the undergrad Bible, Religion, Theology department has become a reality. Most faculty now teach in both programs and meet together monthly. Dr. Andrea Saner has been teaching Old Testament for both seminary and undergrad students for several years, and now Dr. Peter Dula and Dr. Andrew Suderman will strengthen our theology and missiology offerings.

New Testament Scholar and Augsburg Lecture Series guest

Renowned New Testament scholar NT Wright spoke to standing room only crowds during his visit November 13-14, 2018 as part of a series on the theme “Discerning the Dawn.” Wright, the keynote for the annual Augsburg lecture, spoke in seminary and undergraduate chapels. Wright’s presentations included “The Spirit and the Church’s Task” (based on John 16:4b-15) and “The Day the Revolution Began: Atonement the Right Way Round.” He also met with seminary and Bible major students for conversation and engagement.

2019 School for Leadership Training: January 14-16

January 14-16 marked the 50th annual SLT. The keynote speakers were Sue Park-Hur (MC-USA denominational minister for leadership development), John Pavlovitz (pastor, writer, and activist from Wake Forest, North Carolina), and EMS faculty member Dr. David Evans. The theme was “*Thriving in the Stormy Seas of Change*” and provided participants with a worshipful and renewing encounter through the narrative of Jesus’ crossing the stormy sea with his disciples in Mark 4:35-41. Visit <https://emu.edu/seminary/slt/> for more information.

Intensive Hybrid Course Options

EMS will offer several intensive hybrid courses this fall.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer: Life, Theology & Witness, 3 SH, Mark Thiessen Nation

Introduction to Spiritual Guidance, 2 SH, Kevin Clark

Visit <https://emu.edu/seminary/courses/fall> for more information on fall courses.

21 Graduated from EMS This Spring

EMS awarded Master of Divinity and Master of Christian Leadership degrees May 5 to the graduating class of 2019. Graduates from Eastern Mennonite Seminary joined those of Eastern Mennonite University for the ceremony at 1:00 p.m. on the campus front lawn. Dr. Judy Mullet was the commencement speaker. Seminary Class president, Tyler Goss (MDiv/MACT) was one of the student speakers at the commencement exercises. Seminary Baccalaureate was held in Martin Chapel on Saturday, May 4 with the theme “Where You Go: Casting an Imaginative Journey” and scripture focus of Luke 5:1-11 and Ruth 1:16-17. Dr. Lonnie Yoder spoke at the baccalaureate/ commissioning service.

Statement of Purpose

Eastern Mennonite Seminary prepares men and women to serve and lead in a global context. In response to God’s saving grace, we educate students to bear witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ in the power of God’s Spirit as wise interpreters, mature practitioners, discerning communicators, and transformational leaders.

- ▶ **Susan Schultz Huxman**, *president*
- ▶ **Sue Cockley**, *seminary dean*
- ▶ **Nancy Heisey**, *associate dean*
- ▶ **Veva Mumaw**, *seminary admissions, placement & church relations*

For the most up-to-date information on EMS, give us a call, visit us on the web, “Like” us on Facebook!

emu.edu/seminary

540-432-4257

Mission Matters

President Susan Schultz Huxman

Greetings from EMU! I am honored to steward this remarkable “Christian University like no other” into its second century. I have found EMU uniquely equipped to give our church and the broader society a special “360” kind of vision:

Hindsight.

Every Mennonite church and school has its sustaining story of the past. Much of ours is captured in the bold centennial history book, authored by Don Kraybill, *EMU: A Century of Countercultural Education* (Penn State University Press, 2017). Our students, most of whom are not Mennonite, are attracted to and empowered by our counter-culture attention to peacebuilding and what it means to follow Jesus.

Foresight.

Foresight is the ability to see what is coming and embrace our future full-throttle! At EMU, we push the frontiers of what it means to study peace in our culturally diverse world. We are looking ahead not just to prepare our students for a meaningful career, but to “serve and lead in a global context.”

Insight

Insight is the power of apprehending the inner nature of things. Insight is built upon a distinctive witness of “shalom,” steeped in the Good News of the Resurrected Jesus, and practiced in community. At EMU, this inner way of seeing nudges us to take every opportunity to “do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God.”

Looking backward. Looking forward. Looking inward and beyond. This is one way to see: Why EMU for Century Two?

EMU Highlights and Happenings

- **Judy H. Mullet**, a beloved professor of psychology retired this spring after 32 years at EMU, and provided the 101st commencement address on Sunday, May 5. She has taught in the psychology department and MA in education program, as well as directed and advised within the Honors program.
- **Wu Wei**, a 2006 graduate of Eastern Mennonite Seminary, was named president of the China Christian Council in November 2018, leading an umbrella organization based in Shanghai that oversees more than 60,000 churches and nearly 25 million believers.
- EMU’s celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. Day was styled as a “day on” instead of a “day off.” In place of classes, the community was invited to worship services, a formal convocation program, a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new student barbershop and salon, and other events.

How can EMU serve you?

Contact the church relations office to schedule the president or a faculty guest speaker: 540-432-4597 or ChurchRelations@emu.edu.

Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference Connections to EMU

Undergraduate Students

Eight undergraduate students from Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference were enrolled in the spring 2019 semester.

Giving

Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference churches gave \$14,750 in matching church grants during the year ending June 2018.

- ▶ **Susan Schultz Huxman**, *president*
- ▶ **Kirk Shisler**, *vice president for advancement*
- ▶ **Jasmine Hardesty**, *director of development & planned giving*
- ▶ **Braydon Hoover**, *director of development & annual giving*
- ▶ **Lindsay Martin**, *associate director of development*
- ▶ **Matthew Ruth**, *director of admissions*

Our Vision

EMU envisions a learning community marked by academic excellence, creative expression, professional competence, and passionate Christian faith, offering healing and hope in our diverse world. To this end, we commit ourselves to do justice, love mercy and



2018-19 Report to the Pacific Northwest Conference of the Mennonite Church

President opens year with message on Global Citizenship

New and returning students from 28 countries and 37 states were welcomed back to campus for the start of the 2018-19 Goshen College school year with a memorable opening convocation in the college's Church-Chapel. President Rebecca J. Stoltzfus spoke about this year's core value focus of global citizenship as the college celebrates 50 years of its nationally-recognized study abroad program, Study-Service Term (SST). During the 1968-69 academic year, Goshen College's first official SST units traveled to Costa Rica, Guadalupe, Jamaica, Honduras, Nicaragua and Haiti.

Dr. Stoltzfus laid out three propositions for being a Christ-centered global citizen: That it entails seeing the world from another's point of view; that global citizens train their minds to see the connections between things; and that global citizens encourage each other to act in the interest of transformative justice. Following the convocation, students took part in the annual applause tunnel, an 18-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 tradition of new Goshen College presidents, President Stoltzfus was dunked in the Schrock Plaza fountain by students.

Conference connections

This academic year we have 12 students enrolled from 10 Pacific Northwest Conference congregations. Those churches generously pledged \$24,500 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. Stephanie Dilbone of Albany Mennonite Church and Harrison Gingerich of Zion Mennonite Church studied and served for a semester in Peru. Spencer Aeschliman of Salem Mennonite studied and served for a semester in Senegal. Stuart Aeschliman of Salem Mennonite Church is studying this semester in Indonesia.

2018-19 Campus ministries theme

This year's Goshen College core value is Global Citizenship - out of which flows our Campus Ministries theme:

#InThisTogether. At a very practical level, we are all **#InThisTogether**. We are a part of a community here at Goshen College - together. Students live in dorms and houses and apartments - together. We interact in classes - together. We gather to eat - together. We congregate for Convocations and Chapels - together. This is the reality of our lives. But the reality doesn't stop there. Our "togetherness" extends beyond our GC community to the communities that support us near and far. Ultimately our "togetherness" extends beyond Goshen, beyond this country, even beyond our human species to include the very earth that sustains us all and all the creatures that inhabit this earth with us. **#InThisTogether** calls us to own the reality that we are more connected than we sometimes acknowledge, and invites us to honor and value and support each member of our community as a part of a sacred whole.

Embracing our life together as sacred challenges us to be genuinely thoughtful in the ways we interact with each other, inspiring us to live in such a way as to extend our concern beyond ourselves and those closest to us. Our eyes are opened to reveal the ways our behaviors impact the people around us, the environment around us, the world around us. We are drawn to a universal ethic of compassion when we acknowledge that we all come from the same source, all made in the image of God, and all mysteriously connected spiritually, as well as in very practical ways. Our hope is to live into this reality throughout the year at Goshen College as we embrace the profound truth that we are **#InThisTogether**.

-Joanne Gallardo, Campus Pastor



For more information, contact Dan Koop Liechty, Director of Alumni Engagement & International Student Adviser. Call (574) 535-7002 or e-mail churchrelations@goshen.edu.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST CONFERENCE OF MENNONITE CHURCH USA REPORT

Spring 2019

2018-19 – For the 2018-19 year, Hesston College welcomed 420 students from 28 U.S. states and territories and 21 international countries, including 56 international students (*fall 2018 enrollment*). Global engagement is a growing focus at Hesston College, and several initiatives are in place to increase the college's global reach and transcultural opportunities for all students. "Being globally engaged is unquestionably what it means to be faithful followers of Jesus and that's what we are at Hesston College," said President Dr. Joseph Manickam. "We can't sit unto ourselves, in our own bubble. Hesston College has something to offer the world, and we are being beckoned to engage widely. It's the missional mandate of following Jesus."

- 2018 graduate Mackenzie Miller participated in a global experience pilot program. Miller is spending August 2018 to July 2019 in China through a partnership with Mennonite Partners in China that is allowing her to study Mandarin at Nanjing Normal University, serve with a local organization and experience a new culture.
- Hesston developed an Intensive English Program, which allows the college to offer more services and support for English language learners coming to Hesston. The first cohort for the program begins in July.
- A transcultural program director is working to develop global travel opportunities that will allow students to experience different cultures.

Capital campaign – Hesston College met its fundraising goal of \$5.25 million to secure a \$750,000 challenge grant from the J.E. and L.E. Mabey Foundation for the Be Greater capital campaign, and began work in January on facility renovations and additions for the college's nursing and athletics programs. With about 41 percent of the student population enrolled in the college's nursing and pre-nursing programs, and 36 percent who are athletes, nursing students and student-athletes comprise the two largest student populations on campus. The construction project will improve and add to facilities within these areas, better accommodate program needs and provide a better student experience. Estimated construction completion is fall 2019.

Aviation approved for bachelor's degree program – In January, Hesston College was granted approval by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC), the college's accrediting agency, for a bachelor's degree program in aviation-professional pilot. The college will welcome its first four-year degree seeking students in aviation with the start of the 2019-20 school year in August. The bachelor's degree in aviation is the second baccalaureate program for Hesston College, joining the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program, which began in 2015. Hesston will continue to offer the Associate of Applied Arts and Sciences – Professional Pilot degree, giving students options for their educational and professional goals.

CNA course creates new opportunities for community partners – For the spring 2019 semester, Hesston College started a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) program in a partnership with Hesston High School and consultation with Schowalter Villa retirement community and nursing home. It was easy for the neighboring institutions to recognize the other as a natural partnership opportunity. The high school has student candidates that are often interested in CNA training and job options, while the college offers a highly-respected nursing program in an area rich with care facilities and CNA positions. Everyone was interested in meeting the needs and interests of students in the community.

Physics faculty and students collaborate on published articles – Hesston College physics professor, Joel Krehbiel, and physics professor emeritus, Nelson Kilmer, collaborated on two articles, with student collaboration on one, that were published in the January 2019 issue of *The Physics Teacher* journal.

Congregational student aid – Hesston College offers a match grant for scholarships provided by student churches. During the 2017-18 year, 52 churches contributed \$95,172 in student scholarships to 76 recipients. Hesston College matched a total of \$67,761. The average church aid per student was \$1,252 while the average church-and-college aid per student was \$2,144. 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.

2018-19 campus theme verse – I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. – Isaiah 43:19, NRSV

**Pacific Northwest Conference of Mennonite Church USA
Connections**

2018-19 Congregational Student Aid – 1 congregation provided \$3,000 in tuition assistance for 3 students as of April 1, 2019.

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
Andrew Sharp, Development Officer
Morgan Martin, 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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