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From the PNMC OFFICE

Plan to attend the **2020 Conference Communications Council, February 1, 9am**, at Portland Mennonite Church. The annual event is a wonderful opportunity for church representatives to connect, share congregational news and worship together. Michelle Armster and Karin Kauffman Wall from MCC Central States, will attend. The two will ask big questions regarding intercultural competency. *We want to be a diverse church, we want to build bridges across cultural divides in our communities, but where do we start? Once we've started, how do we go deeper?*

There will not be a video link to this year's gathering. We hope that all of our congregations can be represented, in person, as we talk about racism and intercultural diversity. Because it is important for everyone to have a seat at the table, financial assistance is available if travel expenses create a financial hardship. Please contact Barb Buxman at office@pnmc.org for more information.

PNMC CONGREGATIONS, ORGANIZATIONS & MINISTRIES

Listed chronologically, then alphabetically by organization

First Mennonite Church of Aberdeen

The ordination of **Kevin Chupp** (*photo, right*) was celebrated at First Mennonite Church of Aberdeen, Aberdeen, ID, on **Sunday, November 24, 2019**. Blessings to Kevin, his family and the congregation.



Pacific Northwest Mennonite Historical Society

The PNMHS Annual Meeting & Fundraiser is **Saturday, February 8, 2020**. The program, entitled "The Lady Is Our Shepherd", is the story of Mennonite women pastors in the Northwest. The program will be moderated by Marlene Kropf. More details are coming soon. Call 503-266-6447 for questions.

Zion Mennonite Church

The 2019 Sing Your Own Messiah will be **Saturday, December 21, 7pm**, at ZMC.

West Coast MCC



Registration is now open for the **2020 MCC Centennial Bike Ride, August 9 - 14, 2020**, based in Albany, OR (*a change from initial announcements*). There will be beautiful green spaces for gathering at Mennonite Village. Various route options. Lots of local areas to explore. Evening festivities. Ride, dine, discover, celebrate!

A typical daily schedule during event:

- Wake up, breakfast together
- Depart for the day's ride at your pace
- Lunch at the designated stop
- Finish the ride, shower, leisure time, explore Albany, read, music
- Dinner together
- Singing/Speaker/Ice cream social/etc
- Talk about the next day's ride (any important info from our route maker)

Who is invited? Everybody! Families, Non-bike riders, former bike riders, wanna-be riders, spouses, grandparents, grandchildren, folks from the USA and Canada. For details visit: <https://www.oregonfestivalforworldrelief.com/bike-2020.html>.

MENNONITE CHURCH USA & OTHER CHURCHWIDE AGENCIES

listed alphabetically by organization

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary

As you prepare for a new year and prioritize your goals for growth and development, consider the many opportunities at AMBS to [strengthen your leadership skills](#). Focus on pastoral ministry, chaplaincy, Christian formation, biblical studies, history, theology, ethics, peace studies, global Anabaptism or environmental sustainability leadership. Learn about our academic programs and vibrant learning community.



Ever consider being part of the AMBS community? Each Thursday evening, folks at AMBS gather for a potluck. But on Nov. 7, the meal was unlike any other they had created. The Student Life Committee planned an international celebration, and the AMBS community — *which represents countries from around the world* — responded with a feast of nations. Following a meal of spring rolls, Irish potatoes, borscht, apple pie and much more, attendees were treated to a program of songs, poems, stories and skits from many cultures. MDiv student Jacob Curtis of Dublin, Ireland, noted, “We had people representing Canada, Chile, Egypt, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Indonesia, Ireland, Tanzania, Trinidad, the U.S. and Zimbabwe. I love AMBS!” (Image credit: Perdian Tumanan, MA: Theology & Peace Studies student from Surabaya, East Java, Indonesia)

Mennonite Church USA

Donate on Giving Tuesday, **December 3**, to help support the work of MC USA, including our National Convention, Leadership Development for Conferences and Congregations, the MC USA Archives and our #BringThePeace call to action.

Sister Care, International



A Sister Care leaders' training seminar was held in South Korea **November 7-9, 2019** at the Pilgrim House retreat center located in a beautiful mountainous region near Chuncheon. The 35 attendees from Mennonite, Anabaptist (non-Mennonite), Presbyterian, Lutheran, Methodist, Catholic, and Quaker denominations traveled from the southern and northern regions of South Korea to attend the seminar. Sun Ju Moon, graduate of AMBS and director of the Korea Anabaptist Center, coordinated the event. She and SaeJin Lee, Goshen College graduate, interpreted for seminar teachers, Carolyn Heggen, psychotherapist specializing in trauma healing, and Rhoda Keener, Sister Care Director for Mennonite Women USA. When asked what the problems or challenges are for women in the Korean churches and communities, women noted the issue of women's role, in part because more women are choosing not to marry and Korea now has the lowest birth rate in the world. Other problems reflected the challenges of living in a patriarchal

society with men filling most of the leadership roles in the church even when women are theologically trained, women doing the majority of childcare and household work, and cultural misogyny and devaluation of women. One participant wrote in her response: “I experienced the presence of the Holy Spirit, and was especially grateful for the opportunity to read the Bible through the perspective of women.” South Korea is the 19th country where the Sister Care seminar has been shared. The manual has been translated into 16 languages.

Photo (l-r): Rhoda Keener, Sun Ju Moon, Carolyn Heggen, SaeJin Lee

Upcoming e-Bulletins:

December 16 (submissions due by 12/9)
January 6 (submissions due by 12/30)
January 20 (submissions due by 1/13)
February 3 (submissions due by 1/27)

If you would like to contribute, please send a brief announcement in Spanish & English with website links to brenda@pnmc.org. Our goal is to provide a valuable resource, not an In-Box jammer. If space is tight, we may omit announcements that are not as pertinent to PNMC. Announcements will run ONE time only, unless specified otherwise. We welcome your feedback!

For more PNMC updates : <http://pnmc.org> e-Bulletin Archives: <http://pnmc.org/Resources/eBulletin>
