



26th Annual Meeting

# DELEGATE HANDBOOK



Pacific Northwest  
Mennonite  
Conference

An area conference of Mennonite Church USA

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# Welcome to the 2020 PNMC Virtual Gathering

April 2020

**To congregations and delegates of Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference,**

I'm writing to announce that we will have a 2 hour ZOOM PNMC delegate meeting at 9:00 am Pacific Time (8:00 am Alaska Time; 10:00 am Mountain Time) on **Saturday, June 27, 2020.**

As you are aware, we have cancelled our highly anticipated PNMC annual assembly previously scheduled to take place in Seattle this year. We are not certain what the guidelines will be by that time to keep the COVID-19 virus at bay, but the board has decided, along with the folks in Seattle, that it is wisest to refrain from planning a large gathering at this time.

And yet the board still desires the efforts of PNMC delegates to give ear and voice to several areas of business. We want to hear each other as congregations respond to a roll call. We want to report on the ministry and finances of PNMC over the past year. We need to have delegate approval of the nominee slate prepared by the Gift Discernment Team. We want to give opportunity for questions and views that will strengthen the ministry of PNMC. For these reasons we are scheduling this online delegate meeting. We think we can do it in 2 hours.

More information, reports and expectations will be sent in the next month concerning this ZOOM gathering. But at this point, we are asking two things:

1. Let us know who will be attending and who the delegates are from your congregation by registering online at <https://pnmc.org/delegate-meeting-2020/>. We need their email addresses. This will allow us to send meeting guidance and information directly to those who need it.
2. We'd like a written paragraph and a photo of some aspect of your congregational life. We have been considering such reporting from congregations for our annual report booklet, and we think this year would be a good year to try it. This year's annual booklet will be a reduced version from years past, but we will grow this new section on congregational life. We'd like these reports by May 8.

Our life together will take an unusual format this year as we gather on June 27. But it remains an important part of who we are and how we want to be in relationship with one another. Christ is at work among us in varied and interesting ways. The ministry of PNMC continues to be to strengthen that witness and come together to celebrate our shared faith.

In Christ our Life,

Jeryl Hollinger  
PNMC Moderator

# Report from Executive Conference Minister

*Submitted by Katherine Jameson Pitts ~ April 2020*

Flexible. Resourceful. Patient. Resilient. Agile. Active. Compassionate. Grateful.

The theme for the PNMC Annual Gathering 2020 was to be “Being Church 2020”. We hoped that as we gathered in Seattle we would share how we are being church in 2020 and sharpen our vision of church in the future. However, if I were to propose a theme today, it would be “Thanks be to God.”

It is amazing how quickly things can change! So much is different now. Last fall and winter were among my busiest. I worshipped with 14 congregations and visited 8 states and a Canadian province. What a difference a tiny virus can make! Now, it is as if someone took an eraser to my travel plans and wiped out the coming months!

And yet, reflecting on the past several months, constrained as they have been by “stay at home” orders, I can see clearly what being church 2020 is for the congregations of PNMC. It’s the words at the top of this page – flexible, resourceful, patient, resilient, agile, active, compassionate. **Your ability to respond and adapt to new ways of being and to new needs in your communities has amazed me.** And you continue to ground it all in your faith in Christ and love for God. Thanks be to God!

One of the joys of the past year has been the Healthy Congregation Grant program -- both making new awards and seeing how the grants have been used. Seventy-five youth participated in a weekend retreat. Worshippers heard the service in their own languages. Leaders grew in biblical knowledge and leadership skills. Congregations envisioned their future. Immigration legal expenses were covered. A pastor will gain new skills in interim ministry. Thanks be to God!

This year we were challenged to think deeply about concerns that may require us to change. Pastors and leaders learned about climate change and how congregations could respond. At our Conference Communications Council, we worked at developing intercultural competency. Congregations explored how the doctrine of discovery misshaped our understanding of Native American peoples through drama and education. Thanks be to God!

In congregations large and small, rural and urban, old and new, we prayed and sang, we studied the scriptures, and the gospel was preached. New people joined us, children grew, the regulars showed up, and everyone was invited to a deeper faith in the God who holds us even in times of tremendous change. And then, when we needed to, you quickly learned how to use Zoom, or Facebook live, or YouTube. Thanks be to God!

This year there were only a few changes in leadership. As we announced last year Bryce Miller began as pastor at Menno last August. Ron Hershey will begin “officially” as pastor at Filer on June 1<sup>st</sup>. We welcome interim pastors Terry Rediger at Western and Bill Blank at Zion. In addition, Sylvia Shirk, Terry Rediger, and Merritt Welty have joined our District Pastor team. Thanks be to God!

The coming year is likely to be as disruptive as the past one. We know that we cannot control the future, but we know the One who does. May the congregations of PNMC continue to be flexible, resourceful, patient, resilient, agile, active, and compassionate. Thanks be to God!

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

# Board of Directors Report

*Submitted by Jeryl Hollinger, PNMC Board Moderator*

*April 29, 2020*

Since the 2019 annual PNMC assembly the board met 3 times with another meeting scheduled for May 2020. Our September meeting was a two-day event in Portland and the first meeting of this new board. The next meeting was a conference call in December. In February the board met in conjunction with the Conference Communication Council (CCC) meeting at Portland Mennonite Church. The May meeting will be held via ZOOM. The minutes of our meetings are made public via the pnmc.org web page.

An overarching theme of the board this year was policy review. PNMC has a set of policies many-of-which haven't been reviewed for a length of time. Some of them we deemed unnecessary and retired them. Others were updated and approved. And still others were newly created. We reorganized the layout of the policy booklet and set a procedure for regularly reviewing policies in the future.

In the previous year the board had decided that we should have an active finance committee. PNMC currently has significant financial investments and few of us on the board have expertise in financial management. We approved a policy document and job description for developing a finance committee. The Gift Discernment Team recommended a list of potential team members which the board approved. We are thankful for Jack Swaim, Brett Tieszen, and PNMC treasurer David Hockman-Wert who are now serving on this team led by PNMC board member Janet Szabo. They will add much depth to our financial decision-making and the May board meeting will include the first report from the finance team which began meeting this spring.

ECM Katherine Jameson Pitts, Moderator-elect Dianna Eshleman and I represented PNMC at the MC USA Constituency Leaders Council (CLC) this year which usually meets twice each year. Our PNMC board tries to engage the matters dealt with at CLC as they pertain to our conference. A primary issue for CLC this year has been the MC USA membership guidelines and much CLC energy was put into that discussion. But the spring CLC meeting was cancelled due to the COVID-19 social distancing practices and it seems as though the membership guideline discussion has now been put on hold.

I'm thankful for our board members who have engaged in the conversations and work involved in guiding the conference. Jenna Schlegel Preheim resigned from her term on the board and the board has welcomed Deren Kellogg from Seattle Mennonite Church to complete her term. I'm grateful for the work of our Gift Discernment Team in guiding us to good people to serve in a variety of conference ministries.

The coronavirus threat experienced by the world this year has had an effect on the work of our conference congregations, teams and staff. So much of our conference life and ministry involves getting together. As moderator this has meant keeping in touch with our ECM as her life and work was altered. As a board it has meant that our May meeting to be held in Kalispell is being reduced to several ZOOM gatherings. As a conference it has meant that our annual meeting planned to be held in Seattle has been cancelled. We are now in the process of deciding how our PNMC delegate business can be conducted in a manner conducive to ZOOM.

As I conclude my time as PNMC moderator I am thankful for the privilege to serve in this way. I value each relationship as well as the opportunity to engage in the life of the wider church. I encourage others to take the opportunity to serve the wider church, if possible. It is a gift to be enjoyed.

# **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.

# 2019 PNMC Delegate Session Minutes

June 22, 2019, Albany Mennonite Church, Albany, OR

## Roll Call (During first Worship)

How has your congregation engaged the *Journey Forward* or one short story of how you have Followed Jesus/Witnessed to God's Peace/Experienced Transformation in the past year?

**Albany Mennonite:** (Peter Epp) Using *Mending the Divides*; *Creative Love in a Conflicted World* during Adult Sunday School class.

**Bend Mennonite:** (Sam Adams) Looking outward to community.

**Centro Cristiano McMinnville:** (Gloria Baez) Bible School and raising new leaders.

**Comunidad Cristiana Vida Nueva:** (Misael Araujo) Studying Anabaptist history. Sharing 22 years with Salem Mennonite and seeing growth in youth.

**Corvallis Mennonite Fellowship:** (Dave Hockman-Wert) Studying Pathways curriculum

**Emmaus:** (Craig Morton) Meridian School-Support to homeless students; Welcome packet to peace church.

**Eugene Mennonite:** (Karyn Angell) Focusing on the homeless (tiny houses, laundry, garden, small loans)

**Evergreen Heights:** (Kathy Bilderback) Building relationships in school, VBS, neighbors. Connecting with sister church in México.

**Evergreen Mennonite:** (Jessica Wright) Equipping congregants to reach out. Welcoming refugees.

**First Menno-Aberdeen:** (Kevin Chupp) Pathways Study guide.

**First Menno-McMinnville:** (Simon Rendon) Small (8 members). Continuing to meet.

**Hyde Park:** (Leonard Nolt) Working with "Better Angels" an organization that works at addressing political polarization.

**Iglesia Mennonita Roca de Salvación:** (Alvaro Flores) Kids fundraising to fix church. Growing.

**International Bethal City Church:** (Simon Muange) Recent move to 182nd St. Increase in numbers. Providing translation services.

**Jerusalén Iglesia Mennonita:** (Angel Campo) Shares with elementary school in area.

**Lebanon Mennonite:** (Julia Todd) After school program and the "Micah House" now referred to as "Vault" and "Hops and Hymns" every 4th Sunday at a local brewery.

**Ministerios Restauración:** (Samuel Moran) Some legal and some undocumented people attend worship. Work with immigrants.

**Mountain View:** (Elaine Kauffman) Summer church – space for children

**Pacific Covenant:** (Jerry Barkman) Eight members; continuing to meet and serve

**Portland Mennonite:** (Rod Stafford) Global climate change; climate refugees

**Prince of Peace:** (Ken Hawes) Sense of identity and renewed covenant.

**Salem Mennonite Church:** (Jim McKinnell) Welcoming new pastor this month.

**Seattle Mennonite:** (Daren Kellogg) Anti-racism and immigration.

**Shalom:** (Jan Yoder) Camp Camrec, County Auction, PNMC Board, Vets for Peace

**Western Mennonite:** (Craig Stinson) Immigration, refugee resettlement, legal services.

**Zion Mennonite:** (Pat Hersherberger) VBS Bible Memory get to go to Drift Creek Camp. Bridging Cultures, English classes, food, Stephen Ministries, new young families attending.



## Minutes of Delegate Sessions

### Delegate Session 1 – 10:30-noon

Jeryl Hollinger, Moderator, welcomed us at 10:45 am.

#### **Introduction of Guests**

The following persons were given 30 seconds to introduce themselves: Duncan Smith, The Corinthian Plan; Marisa Smucker, MMN; Karen Horsman, Director of Donor Relations MMN; Sue Park Hur, Denominational Minister for Leadership Development, MC USA; Nate Yoder, MCC; Marlene Bogard MCC; Iris de León Hartshorn, Associate Executive Director for Operations, MC USA; Cyneatha Millsaps, Executive Director for Mennonite Women; Marvin Lorezana, MMN

A motion to approve the minutes of the June 2018 Annual Meeting Delegate sessions was made. (seconded, approved)

#### **Executive Conference Minister Report (Katherine Jameson Pitts)**

##### **Congregational Transitions**

Spring Valley concluded the process of closing and selling their building to another Anabaptist congregation. In January, Anawim Christian Community officially closed as a congregation and ministry, although some of their work continues through the Village of Hope organization. Warden Mennonite Church decided to move forward to cease having regular worship services and to sell their building.

##### **PNMC Healthy Congregation Grants**

The Healthy Congregation Grant Program seeks to promote projects that help your congregation strengthen its mission, witness, outreach to your community and/or life together as the body of Christ.

We have awarded 6 grants to date. We have assisted in the following:

- Providing materials for a sewing ministry
- Sponsoring a Ted & Company presentation
- Supporting a multi-congregation youth retreat
- Purchasing simultaneous translation equipment
- Supporting a leadership development/biblical education program
- Bringing a consultant to work with a congregation on identity formation, visioning, and goal setting.

Applications and instructions have been sent to all congregations.

##### **Pastoral Transitions**

Pastoral Openings have been filled. New pastors were welcomed with anointing oil:

Peter Epp -- Albany  
Jerrell Williams -- Salem  
Jessica Wright -- Evergreen  
Steve Kimes -- Eugene Mennonite

We also look forward to welcoming at a later date:

Ron Hershey – part-time interim at Filer  
Bryce Miller – coming to Menno August 1st

##### **Ordinations and transfers**

- Brie Krueger, Portland Mennonite (chaplaincy).
- Britt Carlson (Community Life Minister at Portland Mennonite) received from Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and issued her a Mennonite Church USA certificate of Ordination
- Bill Blank (transfer from Atlantic Coast Conference of MC USA)
- Merritt Welty (transfer from Mountain States Mennonite Conference)

## **District Pastors Recognized**

Marlene Bogard – Portland, Pacific Covenant  
Bob Buxman – Salem, Zion, Western  
Gary Jewell – Menno, Prince of Peace, Evergreen, Seattle, Hyde Park  
Linda Dibble -- Lebanon, Eugene  
Renee Johns – Emmaus, Evergreen Heights, Filer  
Brent Kauffman – Albany Bend, Corvallis  
Cecil Miller – Mt. View, Shalom (retiring in September)  
Samuel Moran – Centro Cristiano Pentecostés, Comunidad Cristiana Vida Nueva, Iglesia Menonita Roca De Salvación, Jerusalén Iglesia Mennonite  
Mathew Swora – International Bethel City Church, Ministerios Restauración  
Unassigned - Aberdeen, Warden, Calvary

## **Treasurer's Report – Dave Hockman-Wert**

Dave went over the income and expenses in relation to the 2019 Budget and presented the 2020 Budget (summary) with visuals. Overall, our actual operating income in 2018-19 exceeded our budgeted income by about \$32,000, thanks largely to a generous estate gift. Expenses were about \$4,200 less than budgeted, leading to a net operating income of about \$27,000. PNMC's budgeted bottom line of a small operating loss has turned into an actual small gain!

PNMC Board opened an investment management account totaling \$950,000 with Everence Trust Company in June 2018. The new account is referred to as "Endowment Funds" on the balance sheet. This past year, the Board has been developing policies to guide the management and disbursement of these funds. "Healthy Congregation" grants were created and a "Sustainability Fund" to 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 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.

He also presented a graph showing income and expense history and balance sheet history since 2000.

Overall, we are in good financial shape as a conference. Now the challenge is how to be faithful stewards of our financial resources. Questions from delegates included asking about the vision for PNMC. This is something the Board will continue to wrestle with asking for input from congregations.

## **PNMC Ballot**

Ballots were distributed to delegates to mark for affirmation; then ballots were collected.

## **2nd Delegate Session - 3:30-4:30 p.m.**

The afternoon session began with pastor Kevin Chupp of Aberdeen making a presentation to Iris de León Hartshorn on behalf of Cecil Miller who was not present to do it himself. It was a plaque concluding the "Potato War" between Washington and Idaho, noting Carl Hege's death this spring.

## **Moderator's Report**

Jeryl made note of his moderator report (pages 5 & 6) of the Handbook and added comments on several other items:

He handed out a copy of policy change of policy 99-3 5 **Membership of Member Churches** with the delegate body. Take this back to your local congregations. Added a Child-safety policy as a requirement of member churches.

On Conference Historian, the Board decided to discontinue this position. History records will be kept with the Mennonite Historical Society.

Asked how can we expand the Anabaptist vision and network in the Pacific Northwest? If you would like be included in brainstorming about this, please talk to Jeryl.

**Recognition of Members going off the Board:** Kathleen Aeschliman, Jack Swaim, Jenna Schlegel-Preheim

**Questions posed for moderator and board:** What is our vision? Our conference needs to make a statement to our hurting communities.

- Anabaptist witness in our communities.
- Peace witness
- Passion-based ministries

**Commitment questions for table groups.** Table discussion groups addressed the questions listed below. It was also suggested that we post these questions for people to take back to their congregations.

Within PNMC, what is our commitment to one another?

- Some of our commitment to one another is expressed through participation in conference programs and events. Some is expressed through informal relationships and other ways in which we cooperate for worship or service. What are the ways your congregation expresses its commitment to our life together within PNMC?
- PNMC offers several avenues for congregations to express commitment to our life together. We wonder how committed congregations are to these things? In board meetings several questions surrounding the subject of commitment have arisen:
  - Meetings: We presently have two delegate gatherings a year: CCC in January or February, and the annual meeting. At times we have planned a pastor and spouse retreat. Some have suggested we need gatherings for youth. Are congregations committed to these - supporting pastors and delegates and youth to attend?
  - Finances: The board has tried to live financially within the giving amount coming from congregations. But recently we have needed to rely on investment funds to balance the budget – funds we would like to use for more visionary work. Some congregations have asked what dollar amount we expect from them but the board has been reluctant to set standards that some others will have difficulty meeting. What kind of financial commitment to PNMC is your congregation comfortable with?
  - Disagreements: When divisive issues touch our conference life, how committed is your congregation to remaining in fellowship and discussion with other congregations in PNMC? How is such a commitment expressed in your congregation? Should the board be giving guidance and help in this area?

## **Ballot Results**

**The following nominees were affirmed by delegates:**

Leonard Nolt, Board of Directors, At Large Member (4-year term)

Renee Johns, Joseph Penner, Gifts Discernment Team (1-year term)

**Appointments:**

Rod Stafford, Pastoral Leadership Team (4-year term)

**Blessing of Leadership** – by Iris de León Hartshorn

- Blessing of New/current board members
- Blessing for Linda Dibble soon to become Moderator-Elect of MCUSA

**Announcements:**

**Invitation to Annual Meeting in Seattle.** Megan Ramer offered an invitation for all to attend the annual meeting next year in Seattle where it will be sponsored by Seattle Mennonite and Evergreen, to be held at El Centro de la Raza on Jun 25-27, 2020.

**Conference Communications Council** – The date is set for February 1, 2020, at Portland Mennonite Church.

**Pastor's Retreat focusing on Climate Change** -- <https://mennocreationcare.org/pastoral-retreats/>

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.;

Submitted by Twila Lehman, Secretary

## Treasurer's Report / Financial Reports

### PNMC Treasurer's Report – Fiscal Year Ending 2020

As I write this, the Covid-19 emergency is in full swing, causing financial distress in many parts of the economy. Churches are no exception. In the first two weeks that it was open, the COVID-19 Congregational Relief Fund, created by Mennonite Disaster Service, Everence, and Mennonite Central Committee U.S., had received 200 applications from Anabaptist congregations requesting assistance. Clearly, some are hurting.

We know that some of our PNMC congregations may be struggling as well. While the conference finances are in a very good place at the moment, thanks to the investment account we have with Everence, the board has neither received requests for, nor discussed any plans to provide, direct, need-based assistance as of now. This may change as the Covid-19 emergency plays out over the coming months. Certainly the “conference” only exists as the “web” that connects individual congregations, so the health of the parts affects the health of the whole. In other words, **we want you all to be healthy – spiritually, socially, and financially!**

To that end, the Healthy Congregations Grant Fund is available and well-funded, so if your congregation has ideas that might fit with this program, be sure to check out the guidelines on our website (<https://pnmc.org/resources/documents/>) and apply.

We realize the present emergency might affect congregational giving, so we are glad to have the cushion that we do have. Until things get back to “normal,” whatever that may look like, PNMC will be okay, financially. Given the growth in the markets this past year (prior to the disruption in March, of course), and the sufficiency of our bank balances, we chose not to withdraw anything from the investment fund account. After surpassing \$1 million in November 2019, the fund balance dropped as the stock market dropped, resulting in a return to a level similar to when it began, \$956,000, as of May 2020.

Overall, our actual operating income in 2019-20 exceeded our budgeted income by about \$11,000, thanks largely to accrued investment income. Expenses were about \$7500 less than budgeted, thanks to lower travel, meeting, and staffing costs. This led to a net operating income of about \$8,400 (compared to a budgeted loss of \$10,500). So as I wrote last year, 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  
May 2020

# Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference

## BUDGET VS. ACTUALS: FY2021 BUDGET - FY21 P&L

February 2020 - January 2021

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
<b>Income</b>				
4101 Member Church Contributions				
410101 Albany	3,199.00	9,500.00	-6,301.00	33.67 %
410103 Calvary		100.00	-100.00	
410104 Centro Cristiano Pentecostes		1,000.00	-1,000.00	
410105 Comunidad Cristiana Vida Nueva		100.00	-100.00	
410106 Corvallis	800.00	3,200.00	-2,400.00	25.00 %
410108 Emmaus		350.00	-350.00	
410109 Eugene		1,000.00	-1,000.00	
410110 Evergreen	563.75	2,000.00	-1,436.25	28.19 %
410112 Evergreen Heights		1,600.00	-1,600.00	
410114 Filer		4,000.00	-4,000.00	
410118 First - Aberdeen		3,500.00	-3,500.00	
410120 First - McMinnville		100.00	-100.00	
410122 Hyde Park	1,673.75	6,500.00	-4,826.25	25.75 %
410126 Iglesia Men. Roca De Salvacion		500.00	-500.00	
410127 International Bethel City Church		200.00	-200.00	
410128 Jerusalem Iglesia		100.00	-100.00	
410130 Lebanon		3,600.00	-3,600.00	
410133 Menno		7,000.00	-7,000.00	
410134 Ministerios Restauracion		100.00	-100.00	
410135 Mountain View		4,500.00	-4,500.00	
410137 Pacific Covenant		150.00	-150.00	
410142 Portland	5,375.00	21,500.00	-16,125.00	25.00 %
410143 Prince of Peace (AK)		2,000.00	-2,000.00	
410146 Bend Mennonite Church		100.00	-100.00	
410150 Salem	1,821.25	10,000.00	-8,178.75	18.21 %
410152 Seattle	3,662.50	14,000.00	-10,337.50	26.16 %
410154 Shalom		750.00	-750.00	
410162 Western	250.00	1,500.00	-1,250.00	16.67 %
410164 Zion		17,500.00	-17,500.00	
<b>Total 4101 Member Church Contributions</b>	<b>17,345.25</b>	<b>116,450.00</b>	<b>-99,104.75</b>	<b>14.90 %</b>
4200 Other Contributions				
4206 Contributions-Individuals	100.00	1,500.00	-1,400.00	6.67 %
4208 Affiliated Mennonite Groups	1,050.00	4,500.00	-3,450.00	23.33 %
4210 Contributions-Others		500.00	-500.00	
<b>Total 4200 Other Contributions</b>	<b>1,150.00</b>	<b>6,500.00</b>	<b>-5,350.00</b>	<b>17.69 %</b>
4400 Annual Meeting Income				
4401 Registration, Housing, Meals		10,000.00	-10,000.00	
4403 Offerings-Annual Meeting		1,000.00	-1,000.00	
4404 Pastor Dinner Contributions		1,000.00	-1,000.00	
4408 Other Income-Annual Meeting				

# Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference

## BUDGET VS. ACTUALS: FY2021 BUDGET - FY21 P&L

February 2020 - January 2021

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
440802 Reimbursements		250.00	-250.00	
<b>Total 4408 Other Income-Annual Meeting</b>		<b>250.00</b>	<b>-250.00</b>	
<b>Total 4400 Annual Meeting Income</b>		<b>12,250.00</b>	<b>-12,250.00</b>	
4700 Interest/Dividend Income				
4701 Checking/Bank MM Interest	69.15	420.00	-350.85	16.46 %
<b>Total 4700 Interest/Dividend Income</b>	<b>69.15</b>	<b>420.00</b>	<b>-350.85</b>	<b>16.46 %</b>
4800 Investment Gains/Losses				
4802 MF Stock/Bond Fund Income	51.78	200.00	-148.22	25.89 %
4804 Investment Fund Income	18,020.99	40,000.00	-21,979.01	45.05 %
<b>Total 4800 Investment Gains/Losses</b>	<b>18,072.77</b>	<b>40,200.00</b>	<b>-22,127.23</b>	<b>44.96 %</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$36,637.17</b>	<b>\$175,820.00</b>	<b>\$ -139,182.83</b>	<b>20.84 %</b>
<b>GROSS PROFIT</b>	<b>\$36,637.17</b>	<b>\$175,820.00</b>	<b>\$ -139,182.83</b>	<b>20.84 %</b>
Expenses				
5100 Exec. Conf. Minister Support				
5101 Salary/Housing	18,163.26	67,490.00	-49,326.74	26.91 %
5104 FICA Support	4.56	5,163.00	-5,158.44	0.09 %
5105 Corinthian Plan Premiums	2,764.77	11,059.00	-8,294.23	25.00 %
5106 Retirement	1,921.41	5,812.00	-3,890.59	33.06 %
5107 Medical HRA	1,500.00	1,500.00	0.00	100.00 %
<b>Total 5100 Exec. Conf. Minister Support</b>	<b>24,354.00</b>	<b>91,024.00</b>	<b>-66,670.00</b>	<b>26.76 %</b>
5170 District Pastor Expense				
5171 District Pastor Stipends	3,875.00	16,000.00	-12,125.00	24.22 %
5172 District Pastor Annual Gathering		1,500.00	-1,500.00	
5173 District Pastor Non Travel Expense		150.00	-150.00	
<b>Total 5170 District Pastor Expense</b>	<b>3,875.00</b>	<b>17,650.00</b>	<b>-13,775.00</b>	<b>21.95 %</b>
5240 Administrative Asst				
5241 Salary Admin Asst	1,680.75	12,000.00	-10,319.25	14.01 %
5242 FICA Admin Asst	129.50	924.00	-794.50	14.02 %
<b>Total 5240 Administrative Asst</b>	<b>1,810.25</b>	<b>12,924.00</b>	<b>-11,113.75</b>	<b>14.01 %</b>
5250 Communications Coordinator				
5251 Salary Communications Coordinator	637.67	3,300.00	-2,662.33	19.32 %
5252 FICA Support	49.16	252.00	-202.84	19.51 %
<b>Total 5250 Communications Coordinator</b>	<b>686.83</b>	<b>3,552.00</b>	<b>-2,865.17</b>	<b>19.34 %</b>
5500 Pastoral Leadership Team				
5501 Pastors' Retreat		2,000.00	-2,000.00	
5506 Non-Travel Expenses	47.75	500.00	-452.25	9.55 %
<b>Total 5500 Pastoral Leadership Team</b>	<b>47.75</b>	<b>2,500.00</b>	<b>-2,452.25</b>	<b>1.91 %</b>
5530 Theological Education Team				
5535 Ministry Inquiry Program		500.00	-500.00	
<b>Total 5530 Theological Education Team</b>		<b>500.00</b>	<b>-500.00</b>	



# Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference

## BUDGET VS. ACTUALS: FY2021 BUDGET - FY21 P&L

February 2020 - January 2021

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
5900 Board of Directors				
5901 Non-Travel Expenses		100.00	-100.00	
<b>Total 5900 Board of Directors</b>		<b>100.00</b>	<b>-100.00</b>	
5950 Contracted Services				
5958 Translation Services	1,313.60	6,200.00	-4,886.40	21.19 %
<b>Total 5950 Contracted Services</b>	<b>1,313.60</b>	<b>6,200.00</b>	<b>-4,886.40</b>	<b>21.19 %</b>
6000 Conference Office				
6004 Handbook		400.00	-400.00	
6010 Office Supply	128.51	1,600.00	-1,471.49	8.03 %
6011 Conference Office	141.00	600.00	-459.00	23.50 %
6015 Office Communication	534.63	2,500.00	-1,965.37	21.39 %
<b>Total 6000 Conference Office</b>	<b>804.14</b>	<b>5,100.00</b>	<b>-4,295.86</b>	<b>15.77 %</b>
6112 Travel Pool & Meeting Expense				
611201 Travel - Board	2,604.81	5,000.00	-2,395.19	52.10 %
611202 Travel - Exec Conf Minister	564.53	7,500.00	-6,935.47	7.53 %
611203 Travel - District Pastors	617.68	7,000.00	-6,382.32	8.82 %
611204 Travel - Teams/Committees		500.00	-500.00	
611205 Travel - Churchwide Events		1,000.00	-1,000.00	
611206 Travel - PNMC Office		400.00	-400.00	
611207 Travel - Communications Coordinator	85.10	200.00	-114.90	42.55 %
<b>Total 6112 Travel Pool &amp; Meeting Expense</b>	<b>3,872.12</b>	<b>21,600.00</b>	<b>-17,727.88</b>	<b>17.93 %</b>
6220 Professional Development Expenses		1,000.00	-1,000.00	
6290 Annual Meeting				
6291 Facilities-Annual Meeting		2,000.00	-2,000.00	
6292 Food-Annual Meeting		1,500.00	-1,500.00	
629205 Food-Pastor Dinner		1,000.00	-1,000.00	
<b>Total 6292 Food-Annual Meeting</b>		<b>2,500.00</b>	<b>-2,500.00</b>	
6293 Assistance Fund Expenditures		5,000.00	-5,000.00	
6294 Conference Speakers				
629401 Conference Speaker		1,000.00	-1,000.00	
629405 Other Honorariums		1,500.00	-1,500.00	
<b>Total 6294 Conference Speakers</b>		<b>2,500.00</b>	<b>-2,500.00</b>	
<b>Total 6290 Annual Meeting</b>		<b>12,000.00</b>	<b>-12,000.00</b>	
6300 Conference Communications Council	2,258.27	1,500.00	758.27	150.55 %
6400 Other Expenses				
6402 Investment/Checking Fees	2,154.60	8,500.00	-6,345.40	25.35 %
6406 Workers Compensation Insurance	66.00	500.00	-434.00	13.20 %
6408 Property, Liability Insurance		700.00	-700.00	
6409 Accounting, Legal, Professional Fees		300.00	-300.00	
<b>Total 6400 Other Expenses</b>	<b>2,220.60</b>	<b>10,000.00</b>	<b>-7,779.40</b>	<b>22.21 %</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$41,242.56</b>	<b>\$185,650.00</b>	<b>\$ -144,407.44</b>	<b>22.22 %</b>

# Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference

## BUDGET VS. ACTUALS: FY2021 BUDGET - FY21 P&L

February 2020 - January 2021

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$ -4,605.39	\$ -9,830.00	\$5,224.61	46.85 %
Other Income				
7000 Designated Contributions				
700001 NW Mexico Project Fund	425.00		425.00	
Total 7000 Designated Contributions	425.00		425.00	
7100 Gain on Sale of Assets	3,750.00	15,000.00	-11,250.00	25.00 %
7800 Realized Investment Gain/Loss	14.16		14.16	
7900 Unrealized Investment Gains/Losses	-45,425.28		-45,425.28	
Total Other Income	\$ -41,236.12	\$15,000.00	\$ -56,236.12	-274.91 %
Other Expenses				
8000 Designated Expenses	425.00		425.00	
Total Other Expenses	\$425.00	\$0.00	\$425.00	0.00%
NET OTHER INCOME	\$ -41,661.12	\$15,000.00	\$ -56,661.12	-277.74 %
NET INCOME	\$ -46,266.51	\$5,170.00	\$ -51,436.51	-894.90 %



# Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference

## BALANCE SHEET

As of May 8, 2020

	TOTAL			
	AS OF MAY 8, 2020	AS OF MAY 8, 2019 (PY)	CHANGE	% CHANGE
<b>ASSETS</b>				
Current Assets				
Bank Accounts				
110201 Checking Account (US Bank)	0.00	0.00	0.00	
110202 General Fund Checking (US Bank)	24,525.70	27,422.16	-2,896.46	-10.56 %
<b>Total 110201 Checking Account (US Bank)</b>	<b>24,525.70</b>	<b>27,422.16</b>	<b>-2,896.46</b>	<b>-10.56 %</b>
110205 US Bank MM	75,445.38	115,373.09	-39,927.71	-34.61 %
110206 Everence MM	25,157.99		25,157.99	
<b>Total Bank Accounts</b>	<b>\$125,129.07</b>	<b>\$142,795.25</b>	<b>\$ -17,666.18</b>	<b>-12.37 %</b>
Accounts Receivable				
110402 A/R-Spring Valley	-1,250.00	0.00	-1,250.00	
<b>Total Accounts Receivable</b>	<b>\$ -1,250.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$ -1,250.00</b>	<b>0.00%</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$123,879.07</b>	<b>\$142,795.25</b>	<b>\$ -18,916.18</b>	<b>-13.25 %</b>
Fixed Assets				
120100 Office Equipment				
120101 Purchased Costs	224.98	224.98	0.00	0.00 %
<b>Total 120100 Office Equipment</b>	<b>224.98</b>	<b>224.98</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00 %</b>
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<b>\$224.98</b>	<b>\$224.98</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>0.00 %</b>
Other Assets				
110600 Endowment Funds	1,002,764.71	960,673.67	42,091.04	4.38 %
110603 Stock & Bond Fund (Menn Found)	13,812.68	14,721.13	-908.45	-6.17 %
<b>Total 110600 Endowment Funds</b>	<b>1,016,577.39</b>	<b>975,394.80</b>	<b>41,182.59</b>	<b>4.22 %</b>
<b>Total Other Assets</b>	<b>\$1,016,577.39</b>	<b>\$975,394.80</b>	<b>\$41,182.59</b>	<b>4.22 %</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$1,140,681.44</b>	<b>\$1,118,415.03</b>	<b>\$22,266.41</b>	<b>1.99 %</b>

# Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference

## BALANCE SHEET

As of May 8, 2020

	TOTAL			
	AS OF MAY 8, 2020	AS OF MAY 8, 2019 (PY)	CHANGE	% CHANGE
<b>LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>				
Liabilities				
Current Liabilities				
Accounts Payable				
2000 Accounts Payable	25.00	25.00	0.00	0.00 %
<b>Total Accounts Payable</b>	<b>\$25.00</b>	<b>\$25.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>0.00 %</b>
Other Current Liabilities				
200100 Miscellaneous Pass-Through	0.00	1,808.25	-1,808.25	-100.00 %
200105 Mexico Project Fund	13,112.82	9,087.82	4,025.00	44.29 %
210000 Payroll Liabilities	0.00	0.00	0.00	
2102 Federal Withholding	1,457.75	1,463.94	-6.19	-0.42 %
2104 State Withholding (OR)	414.84	432.96	-18.12	-4.19 %
210401 Oregon Unempl	4.38	4.98	-0.60	-12.05 %
<b>Total 210000 Payroll Liabilities</b>	<b>1,876.97</b>	<b>1,901.88</b>	<b>-24.91</b>	<b>-1.31 %</b>
211112 Payroll Tax Payable	4.06	4.06	0.00	0.00 %
<b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$14,993.85</b>	<b>\$12,802.01</b>	<b>\$2,191.84</b>	<b>17.12 %</b>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$15,018.85</b>	<b>\$12,827.01</b>	<b>\$2,191.84</b>	<b>17.09 %</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$15,018.85</b>	<b>\$12,827.01</b>	<b>\$2,191.84</b>	<b>17.09 %</b>
Equity				
320700 Loan Funds				
320702 Memorial Loan Fund (Equipment)	2,290.36	2,290.36	0.00	0.00 %
<b>Total 320700 Loan Funds</b>	<b>2,290.36</b>	<b>2,290.36</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00 %</b>
320800 Ministry Funds				
320801 Seed Northwest	80,381.83	80,500.83	-119.00	-0.15 %
320805 PNMC Mennonite Women	228.00	578.00	-350.00	-60.55 %
320808 Healthy Congregations Grant Fund	36,917.61	46,200.00	-9,282.39	-20.09 %
<b>Total 320800 Ministry Funds</b>	<b>117,527.44</b>	<b>127,278.83</b>	<b>-9,751.39</b>	<b>-7.66 %</b>
34000 Sharing/Reserve Funds				
34001 Sharing Fund - Ins Premium	1,070.31	2,270.31	-1,200.00	-52.86 %
34002 Sharing Fund - Catastrophe	5,490.49	4,587.24	903.25	19.69 %
<b>Total 34000 Sharing/Reserve Funds</b>	<b>6,560.80</b>	<b>6,857.55</b>	<b>-296.75</b>	<b>-4.33 %</b>
3500 Net Assets Available	709,578.43	709,578.43	0.00	0.00 %
3900 Retained Earnings	335,972.07	246,152.95	89,819.12	36.49 %
Net Income	-46,266.51	13,429.90	-59,696.41	-444.50 %
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>\$1,125,662.59</b>	<b>\$1,105,588.02</b>	<b>\$20,074.57</b>	<b>1.82 %</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	<b>\$1,140,681.44</b>	<b>\$1,118,415.03</b>	<b>\$22,266.41</b>	<b>1.99 %</b>

# **PNMC BALLOT 2020**

## ***Brief Biographies***

### ***Elected by the Delegates:***

#### **Moderator-elect (4-year term; 2 as moderator-elect, 2 as moderator)**

**Kevin Chupp – First Mennonite Church, Aberdeen, ID**

Kevin grew up in Northern Indiana and studied ministry at Bethel College (IN). He moved to the Northwest for a year to attend Portland Seminary while working with a group of house churches in Portland, then returned to Indiana to study Anabaptist Theology at AMBS. While at AMBS, he served as an intern at Yellow Creek Mennonite Church in Goshen. He continued on serving with visitation, preaching, and as liaison to Mennonite Creation Care Network. After marrying Jess, they had their eyes set on the Northwest and moved to Idaho in 2016 for Kevin to serve as pastor of First Mennonite Church. Kevin recently finished his studies at AMBS from a distance and graduated with a Masters of Divinity (Theological Studies – History, Theology and Ethics). In the settings in which he has served, Kevin has been challenged to bridge the gaps between political, theological, and generational differences. As a result, he brings with him a deep care for words, a commitment to irenic dialogue, and a stout conviction that we ought to celebrate whenever we land on common ground.

#### **Treasurer (3-year term)**

**David Hockman-Wert – Corvallis Mennonite Fellowship, Corvallis, OR**

Dave is a member of Corvallis Mennonite Fellowship and, like all CMFers, has taken on many roles to help the fellowship function (song leading, worship leading, preaching, worship committee, pastoral team, and delegate). He works as a biological information specialist for the U.S. Forest Service, Aquatic and Riparian Effectiveness Monitoring Program. He has served on the PNMC board on three different occasions (1997-99; 2006-10; 2014-15), including one term as Moderator (2008-10). He was a member of the Board, Owner Relations Committee, and Finance Committee for the First Alternative Natural Foods Cooperative in Corvallis (2005-08), including serving as Board Treasurer for one year. Dave also serves on the Mennonite Creation Care Network leadership council (2006-present), and served as Treasurer with the Peace and Justice Support Network (PJSN) Advisory Council (2012-2018). Last, but definitely most important, Dave has been married to Cathleen for 23 years.

#### **PNMC Board Member (4-year term)**

**Megan Ramer – Seattle Mennonite Church, Seattle, WA**

Megan joined the ministry team of Seattle Mennonite Church as Lead Pastor in September 2015, after a decade of pastoral ministry in Chicago. She is a graduate of Iliff School of Theology in Denver, CO and Goshen College before that. Megan is also an alum of the Intermenno Trainee Program in Germany and Switzerland. Somewhere in there, Megan made her home in Seattle for a few glorious years of exploring all that the city and surrounding gorgeous landscape have to offer. She is excited to be back in the Pacific Northwest, and to have joined the exceptional SMC pastoral team. Reading and hiking are some of her favorite restorative activities. She also enjoys making baby quilts, going to concerts, frequenting the theatre to see her actor husband, Jon Stutzman, perform, and going on traveling adventures both large and small. Megan is excited to bring to the PNMC board her joy for being and doing church together, across the miles between us.

#### **Pastoral Leadership Team (4-year term)**

**Angel Campo – Jerusalén, Salem, OR**

Angel is the pastor of Jerusalén Iglesia Menonita in Salem. He also works in the local school district. Angel is married to Luz and has been on the Pastoral Leadership Team for four years.

## ***Elected by the Delegates, continued:***

### **Gift Discernment Team (1-year term)**

**Renee Johns – Hyde Park Mennonite Fellowship, Boise, ID**

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

**Joseph Penner – Salem Mennonite, Salem, OR**

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

## ***PNMC Board Appointments:***

### **PNMC Board Member (2-year term)**

**Kiara Yoder – Zion Mennonite Church, Hubbard, OR**

Kiara is a native Oregonian. She was a camper at DCC for ten years and attended Pacific Covenant Mennonite Church while growing up. She graduated from Eastern Mennonite University and then traveled with PULSE (Pittsburgh Urban Leadership Experience), then MCC for two years in México (one year as a SALTER, then extended a year). Kiara served on both the Fall Festival and Bridging Cultures boards for four years each. Currently, she serves on various committees at Zion Mennonite where she now attends. Kiara recently joined the West Coast MCC. She enjoys traveling, volunteering and living in different cultures. Kiara works in Salem for the Marion & Polk Early Learning Hub. Her favorite food countries are México, Morocco and Malaysia. Over the years she has been employed in a variety of settings including a bakery, mowing lawns, US Census enumerator, care coordinator in a pediatric clinic, a greenhouse and in a museum. She spent three months at a monastery in France and volunteered at a school for refugee kids in Malaysia for six months. Kiara's wealth of experiences provide a rich depth of perspective.

### **CIHAN Representative (2-year term)**

**Nelly Moran Ascencio - Ministerios Restauración, Portland, OR**

Nelly is a member of Ministerios Restauración. She is also moderator of CIHAN and has done volunteer work with MCC for four years. She is very involved at her church and has a strong leadership. Nelly is married to Edin Ascencio, and they have 2 sons, Abraham and Uzziah. She loves to help others by praying for them. If people are in need of anything, Nelly works to get them help.

### **PNMC Board Member (1-year appointment)**

**Deren Kellogg – (Completing unexpired term of Jenna Preheim Schlegel)**

Deren grew up in Urbana, IL attending First Mennonite Church of Champaign-Urbana. He graduated from Luther College in Decorah, IA, and returned to Champaign-Urbana for graduate studies in US History at the University of Illinois. Since meeting at First Menno of CU in 2000, he and his wife, Melissa Kelly, have lived in Santa Cruz, CA (where their daughter Madeleine, now 17 years old, was born); Jackson, MS; Vancouver, BC, and Camano Island, WA. They began attending Seattle Mennonite in 2014 and moved to Seattle, Melissa's hometown, in 2015. He works as a Grants Program Administrator at International Community Health Services, a community health center providing culturally and linguistically appropriate medical and dental services in King County. Deren serves on Seattle Mennonite's Just Peace Council and also served as a delegate to the 2018 and 2019 PNMC annual meetings. "I am honored to be joining the PNMC board," Deren explained.

# TEAM / MINISTRY REPORTS

## Pastoral Leadership Team

*Submitted by Rod Stafford, PLT Chair*

*'The offices of ministry are a great treasure of the church. Through careful and prayerful discernment, the church joins God in calling people to leadership ministry. Ordination, then, is an act of the church that confirms those whom God and the church have called to particular roles of leadership ministry – both to build up the local body and to further engage the congregation in the mission of God.'* (From *A Shared Understanding of Ministerial Leadership*, 18)

The primary responsibility of the Pastoral Leadership Team (PLT) is the 'careful and prayerful discernment' by which people are credentialed for ministries in the Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference (PNMC).

In the past year this has included the following:

- **Brianne Kruger, of Portland Mennonite Church**, was approved for ordination on **April 29, 2019**. Brie is working as a chaplain in Portland.
- **Britt Carlson, of Portland Mennonite Church**, was ordained in the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. Her ordination was affirmed by the PLT on **April 29, 2019**. She was also issued an ordination certificate in Mennonite Church USA. Britt is on the pastoral team of Portland Mennonite Church.
- **Kevin Chupp, of First Mennonite Church in Aberdeen, Idaho**, was confirmed for ordination on **September 30, 2019**. He serves as pastor of the congregation.
- **Jerrell Williams, of Salem Mennonite Church**, was licensed for pastoral ministry on **September 30, 2019**.
- **Angel Campo, of Jersalen Iglesia Menonita**, was confirmed for ordination on **January 27, 2020**. Angel serves as pastor of the congregation.

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.

In the past year, Sam Adams (Bend Mennonite Church), Linda Dibble (Albany Mennonite Church), Angel Campo (Jersalen Iglesia Menonita), Amy Epp (Seattle Mennonite Church), Rod Stafford (Chair, Portland Mennonite Church), and Katherine Jameson Pitts (PNMC Executive Conference Minister) have comprised the PLT. Barb Buxman's has served as recorder for our meetings and we are very grateful for her outstanding work.

- Submitted by Rod Stafford (April 30, 2020)

# **Concilio de Iglesias Anabautistas del Noroeste USA- CIHAN**

Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference-Mennonite Church USA

We thank God for how good he is to us. In our prayers, we have supported MCUSA, the conference, leaders, pastors, and congregations.

**PASTORS:** It is a blessing to share that Hispanic pastors have been meeting once a month. These meetings have been held for 27 years. The meetings have a devotional time, prayer for each other, opening your heart, sharing your experiences and at the same time praying for any personal need.

**YOUTH COMMISSION AND LADIES COMMISSION:** The youth, in August of last year had their first Convention at Twin Rock Friends Camp. There were 62 attendees. In the same way, women had their first Convention in October 2019 with an attendance of 60 women. Both events were very much a blessing and enriching.

**ANABAUTISTA BIBLICAL SCHOOL OF MINISTERIAL FORMATION (EBAFOM-IBA):** We thank the Lord that through this means the leaders of our congregations are given training. We thank the Lord for Pastor Samuel Moran, who for 20 years has promoted this program that has formed and continues to train our local leaders. EBAFOM –IBA currently operates in two centers. One at McMinnville Centro Cristiano Pentecostés Menonita and the other at Mennonite Church Roca De Salvación. Between both centers an average of 25 students per course is maintained. To date, the General History of the Church Course has been suspended due to COVID-19. We hope in the Lord that classes can start soon. We ask for your prayers for this ministry. We also want to thank our Conference Churches, individuals and PNMC, for their financial support. God bless you greatly.

**ROCA DE SALVACIÓN MENNONITE CHURCH:** The pastor, along with the leaders and congregation, has been in discernment and prayer for 3 years to make the decision whether to become ONE bilingual with Calvary Mennonite Church. Last year they took the first step by agreeing that the two congregations will have services together on Sundays. With this step, Roca De Salvación will not have services or Sunday school on Sundays, with the exception of Fridays that will continue to celebrate their worship in Spanish.

**COMUNIDAD CRISTIANA VIDA NUEVA:** Is discerning about the process that leads them to search for a new pastor.

We ask for your prayers for the Hispanic ministry and community. May the Lord's peace be with each one of you.

“Heal our land” 2 Chronicles 7:14

If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

# Pacific Northwest Mennonite Historical Society

*Submitted April 2020*

**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.”*

‘There is nothing new under the sun’ so said the wisest man, Solomon. Or you’ve heard “what goes around comes around,” plus this one I like so much, “Those who don't know history are doomed to repeat it.” I think I’ve often used all of these quotes more than one time!

So in this way I trekked over to the Ivan and Pearl Kropf Heritage Center to check out what was going on in the Mennonite congregations and conferences of the northwest during the time of the so-called “Spanish Flu,” 1918-1919. I thought I should find some reference but only this handwritten line “Rescheduled for conference 1919.” This was on the printed conference program prepared for 1918 and held in Creston, Montana 1919. I was happy to find that. But I thought surely there must be some note in a ministers’ meeting or a minister’s file somewhere, I did not find anything in my review and there are very few personal collections from that time.

My mother was one who had suffered this flu and was not expected to survive. She told us her story more than once and I was aware of the awful frightening time. I discovered others had not learned this piece of history. One other Mennonite history note is the Mennonite Church General Conference (not GC MC) canceled its large meeting in Virginia and postponed one year because of this illness. So again, there is nothing new under the sun.

As PNMHS is the keeper of northwest Mennonite history we are interested in all the aspects of Mennonite life, church, families and individuals. The context and times we live in shape our lives and our faith. You might keep this in mind as you sort through your own papers and treasures. PNMHS offers its wonderful archival space to preserve and protect these. AND, we encourage, and can advise congregations on how to keep your records safe and protected and how / when to transfer to PNMHS Heritage Center. Several congregations have this process ongoing with PNMHS.

We remind you again of the large library of books regarding Mennonite life, doctrine, history, genealogy, family stories and Mennonite fiction. The library catalog is online:

<http://www.librarything.com/catalog/PNMHSLibrary> our collections are cataloged online as well:  
<https://pnmhs.org/archives/>. *Check us out!*

Thank you to the congregations who support PNMHS in their budget and gifts. We welcome persons to PNMHS membership, as board members and volunteers. *Come visit!*

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

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



# PNMC AREA ORGANIZATION REPORTS

## CAMP PALISADES

*Submitted by Kevin Chupp, April 2020*

Our theme for last summer came from 1 Corinthians 13:13— “And now these three remain: faith, hope, and love, but the greatest of these is love.” Each day was centered on the individual concepts of faith, hope, or love. We began each day in the Psalms before breakfast, and throughout the day we make time for reflection individually, together at the campfire, and in dorms before bed. Overall, we try to focus on creating space for spiritual formation and inspiring curiosity about a loving creator. I have gradually learned over the last few years that former directors and speakers at our camp portrayed God as an angry God, and they were focused on manipulating emotions in order to create conversion experiences. We are always making conscious efforts to leave that way behind.

Both camps went relatively according to plan with some minor interruptions. I shared an account of one particularly eventful day in the PNMC e-Bulletin in December, and will share a brief glimpse into other eventful days here. One day when it was supposed to rain all day, the rain stopped completely during the time that we were hiking and swimming. Later on in the week, on the way to a raft trip, the bus blew a tire and it was fixed before the campers climbed back on the bus after rafting. We also encountered road construction and traffic from a flaming tree that had fallen across the highway after being struck by lightning. We were never bored!

We had nine senior campers and eleven junior campers. As usual, it was a challenge to find volunteers to serve as counselors. We found a solution to that problem by having mature male senior campers “lead” their cabin for senior camp and stay to serve as counselors for junior camp. Many of our campers are regular attenders from our wider Southeast Idaho community. We were also pleased this year to have kids from First Mennonite Church, Filer Mennonite Church, Evergreen Heights Mennonite Church, and Hyde Park Mennonite Fellowship—which was more Mennonite representation than we have had since I started.

We have enjoyed being able to be involved with Grand Teton National Park, and they have been generous in allowing us free or reduced admission on multiple occasions. However, we are committed to making new experiences for campers and we will likely not spend time in the park this year. And speaking of this summer, there is a lot of uncertainty surrounding what we might be able to do in 2020. We are fortunate to have a good core group of people ready to help us if we are able to have camp. However, we anticipate the possibility that we may need to cancel.

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



# Drift Creek Camp

*Submitted by Brenda Hostetter Kauffman, May 2020*

One year ago, I would never have imagined that we would be facing a consecutive closure, but here we are. DCC has been closed since mid-March and two months later, we continue to find ourselves on a bridge. It is a bridge between before and after. We are, collectively, waiting and learning, grieving and hoping. Each making sacrifices out of a deep love for one another. Although these weeks, months, of separation have been painful, our physical distance is the fruit of that love. There has been great loss and much to grieve. We may feel lonely, but this experience might unite us in ways that we could never have before imagined... *let's hold on to that hope.*

However, because we are still in this time of in-between, it is still difficult to know when things will reopen, but we are not yet to the "after". So we wait, longing for the time when it will be safe to gather again. Until then, we look forward to seeing the bright faces of campers once again, to hearing their voices sing around the fire, to witnessing friendships develop and deepen and grow. *Coming together again will be so sweet!*

As we surrender to change, let it leave us with a fresh appreciation for each other for God's abundance. May we treat one another with kindness, soft eyes and a love more powerful than what we thought would could be capable of sharing. As we cross this bridge of uncertainty, taking baby steps into the unknown, we are assured that God is with us now, and in the days to come. As we let go of fear, let us look ahead to the people we can become, *together.*

Looking ahead, there will be many opportunities to volunteer at DCC. Hopefully we will resume operations in September. We are planning to host the Fall Quilt Retreat October 15-18 and the Annual Meeting November 6-8. The 2020 Women's Retreat has been postponed to April 9-11, 2021. Before reopening, if there are small groups or families that are interested in volunteering at camp, there is a long list of projects that can be done. We hope to take advantage of the time and nice weather to tackle some things that have been nagging on the list for some time. It seems strange to have availability in the Yamhill cabin in the upcoming summer months, but we are hoping to utilize the space for volunteers.

As far as projects, we plan to improve options for hand-washing by installing additional outdoor sinks behind the bath house. This will speed up hand-washing before meals for our camps and outdoor schools. The final trim details still need to be installed in the new caretaker cabin as well. With the gift of time, we are hoping to tackle much-needed restroom updates! And with two summers of not being trampled by joyful feet, the camp's grass should be in exceptional condition! Before things get rolling again in the fall, we're planning a Work Weekend to prepare to reopen. If you are interested in helping, please email [info@driftcreek.org](mailto: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!** It's so hard to believe that this will be a second summer with no camp, but we pray that DCC campers will remain healthy and be able to return next summer with renewed energy and faith.

# Mennonite Village

June 2020

Submitted by Donna BreMiller

Executive Director

Mennonite Village continues to play a significant role in the Albany Community. Currently close to 700 residents are served in all of the collective levels of care and over 400 employees are employed by this organization. Several employees have served Mennonite Village for well over 20 years.

Some key highlights over the last year:

1. Nursing Home remodel: The new construction and remodel of the Nursing Home is now complete. The end results are wonderful rooms with bathrooms and showers. The majority of the rooms will be private allowing those receiving short stay rehab or calling the campus home to have their own private space. This has been a dream that has been a long time in the making. As staff we are so grateful for all of the support that has been given to make this dream a reality.
2. Expansion of the focus on Wellness: **Wellness is more than the absence of an illness.** Spiritual, Physical, Emotional, Intellectual, Environmental, Social and Mental Wellness all have a role in defining well-being. Our Wellness Team along with the Chaplains are doing a fabulous job in providing a variety of program options in which residents can choose to participate.
3. Surviving COVID-19: In some ways it is hard to remember operations before COVID. As I type this report, the staff continues to rise up and figure out new ways to serve the residents. Technology has allowed things like Bible studies, exercise classes and connections with families to remain strong. **So many extraordinary acts of kindness from the community have surfaced during this time!**

A heartfelt thank you to the Pacific Northwest Conference and local congregations as this organization continues to be enhanced by your volunteerism, thoughtful prayers and other ways that you share your time and talents with us. All of the support helps, as we strive to live out our mission **“To be a Christ-centered community providing life-enriching services.”**

# PNMC CONGREGATIONAL UPDATES:

## ALBANY MENNONITE:

Our bulletin covers for 2019-2020 have declared this to be our year of “Living as God’s People.” In particular, we designed the year so that we would strengthen our identity through a congregation-wide renewal process that would be led by Betty Pries of Credence & Co. Then in January, just as we were all gearing up for Betty’s arrival from Canada, her visa was unexpectedly denied by U.S. Customs and Border Protection. So we postponed for March 13<sup>th</sup>, and we *waited* as God’s people. At 3:00 a.m. on March 12<sup>th</sup>, however, I called Betty—now with her visa in hand and about to leave for the airport—to let her know that Oregon no longer looked like a safe place to visit. It was the moment that we as a congregation—although



we didn’t know it yet—went from just waiting as God’s people to *physical-distancing* as God’s people. And yet, as we’ve practiced physical distancing, we’ve discovered ourselves to be living as God’s people nonetheless. It’s evident as we faithfully greet and tease each other in our pre-service Zoom e-coffee times. It’s evident as we take and share pictures of despair and hope from our homes and walks each week. And it’s evident as we collectively beef up our sharing fund and make new donations to the Farmworker Emergency Fund and Mid-Valley Gleaners. Though our ushers may not be handing out those bulletins that say it anymore, it’s happening: through disruptions and even some despair, *we’re living as God’s people*.

Despite the fact that no one was going to be there to see it in person, Judy and Mark Nord still decorated the AMC sanctuary as planned for Easter, decking it out with paper cranes, candles, and greenery. Their pictures of it have become a symbol of hope that we’ve used at the beginning of each online service ever since.

## BEND MENNONITE:

Even in the midst of this pandemic, Bend Mennonite is, by the grace of God, doing well. Our little church has been meeting—as many others have—on Zoom. We gather, share our lives, read scripture, pray, and participate in a sermon. We even added a new family to our church during this time—and a newborn to one of our families. And, our members have suffered incredible loss as well. Central to our concern as a church is how we can be faithful to Jesus, for the sake of our neighbors, during a time when meeting people in person is, for many, too dangerous.



## CENTRO CRISTIANO PENTECOSTES DE MCMINNVILLE:

With these few lines I give a brief report on the status of this congregation. We are 35 active members, when we congregate the total is about 70 plus. Just recently for the last 2 months, we have not been able to congregate. As their pastor, I have been preaching a Sunday message through Facebook. The reception has been very good and I have reached people in México, Peru, Argentina, Uruguay and others. At this time we are not sure when we will congregate as a congregation. The governor says the 16th of May but we are not sure yet. Please keep us in your prayers. Let us pray for one another. *Blessings to all.*



Above: Bible students with Samuel Moran at Centro in McMinnville.



### COMUNIDAD CRISTIANA VIDA NUEVA, SALEM, OR:



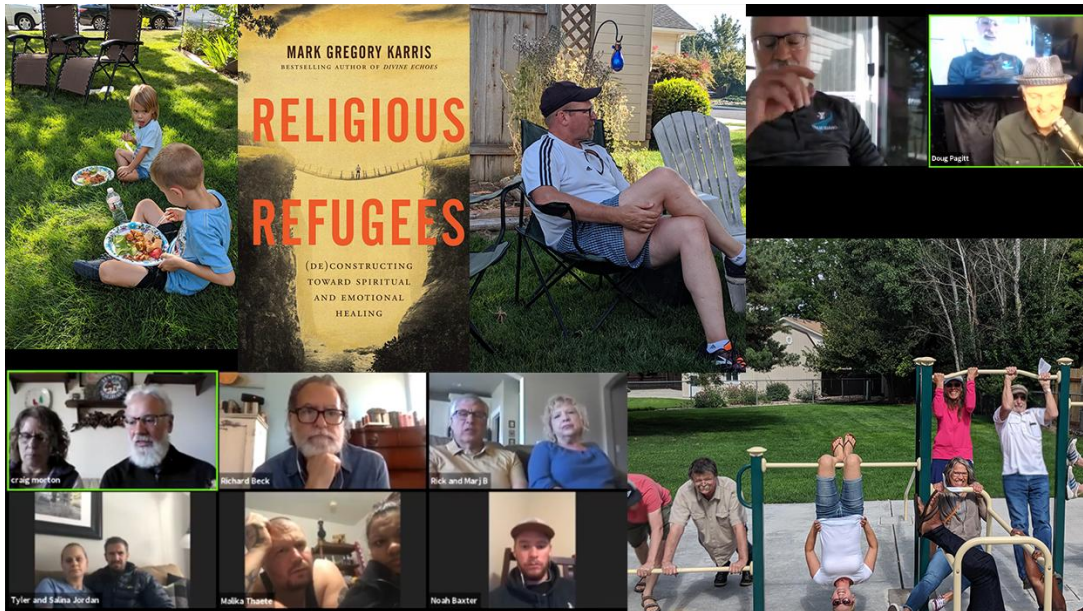
Brothers in Christ, receive a cordial greeting from Iglesia Comunidad Cristiana Vida Nueva in Keizer Oregon. We inform you that we miss meeting as a church very much, but that we prefer to obey the orders of the government to continue saving lives. In the last two months we have been feeding on the word of God through the internet and having worship services in our homes. May the Lord bless each of the leaders who care to hear from Mennonite Churches. *Blessings Brothers & Sisters*

### CORVALLIS MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP:

CMF is a smallish group (40-50 weekly attendance) that was founded 25+ years ago with the notion that we would employ no paid staff and own no building. We have maintained this approach, which sometimes can be a lot of work for an all-volunteer group, but also allows us the flexibility to do new things to care for each other and our larger community when we see the need. Recently, a young 20-something woman who grew up in our fellowship was inspired to organize a birthday hymn sing for an elder in our church who has been living courageously with cancer for the past few years. Given that we are in the midst of a pandemic, this wasn't easy to pull off, but we managed to share our love with an energetic, physically-distanced hymnsing!



### EMMAUS CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP, MERIDIAN, ID:



We have continued on the trajectory begun nearly two years ago to replant our congregation. At that time, we chose not to change the name, yet that might as we continue through the replanting process. We enjoy being outside, especially when we worship in the park with the other Treasure Valley Mennonites. Three things that that we have been doing in the replanting process involve resourcing ourselves; building up

our ability to articulate faith; and supporting our local schools. To resource our replanting efforts, Salina Jordan and Craig Morton participated in the Mennonite Mission Network's SENT Cohort for peace church planting training. To build up our ability to speak about faith in our context we've read and spoken with theologians, activists, and writers: Thomas Jay Oord (in our backyard), Richard Beck (Zoom), Doug Pagitt (Zoom), and Mark Karris (Zoom). Our local mission has continued to be the West Ada School District as we monthly contribute to the educational supply needs of students, especially homeless students, and during the Covid-19 era, supporting the school's breakfast/lunch programs.



### EUGENE MENNONITE CHURCH:

Eugene Mennonite Church has been challenged by the needs of our community and by God's response of love to them. We studied the book *Unbelievable* by John Spong, which caused us to rethink what we hold as core beliefs. We have been active in providing laundry to our local homeless folks through a program we call Laundry Unicorns. We have developed and funded a program providing loans for people to prevent homelessness. And we created a fund to give to individuals and families in need during these precarious times.



### EVERGREEN HEIGHTS MENNONITE CHURCH, Caldwell, Idaho:

We practice hospitality and peace in our community. We are very grateful to be able to be stewards of our property while we invite others in God's peace and love. We miss meeting together but find our online worship attendance has grown as we meet for support, worship and fellowship. In our community, we partner with a local neighborhood school providing food backpacks on school breaks. We dig in the soil at the community garden around the corner from our church to provide fresh vegetables to our community. We are setting up a hospitality room in our church, offering lodging and free space on our 5-acre property for pastors and spouses for rest and renewal. We invite pastors and spouses in our conference to come and spend a few days for renewal enjoying our spacious grounds and welcoming place. *Praying for healing and peace.*



### EVERGREEN MENNONITE CHURCH, Kirkland, WA:

Evergreen Mennonite continues to meet to support one another, though much like the early Christians we expect to be meeting in our individual homes for a while via Zoom and doing what we have to do to continue praying and breaking bread together. We have loved having friends and family from around the country join our worship this Spring, thanks to technology, and are doing our best to find ways to be God's love and light in this new situation. Our photo collage is a sampling of pictures and poems submitted by EMC members that were put into a video on Easter to show the ways we're seeing new life pop up during our time at home.





### FILER MENNONITE CHURCH:

The Filer congregation is a huge blessing for my family and myself. Words cannot explain the support and love we have received from this church. The only thing that I find more impressive is their Love of Jesus and their desire to serve him. It has been a year of learning to get to know each other, working on finding the best way to combine our gifts so we can become better servants.

Like all Churches the virus has changed how we worship as we cannot be together. It was our goal to not use this as an excuse, but to continue to grow in our personal journey with Christ and our Church spiritual journey so we come back together stronger and more focused on how we can best serve God and his people. We are blessed, Ron Hershey



### FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH OF ABERDEEN, Aberdeen, ID:



One of my favorite events at First Mennonite Church is our potlucks. In saying that, I feel a little sheepish—like a grade school kid claiming recess as my favorite class. But there really is a richness to these gatherings. Decades ago, there was an infamous potluck where the food started to run out before everyone had filled their plates. Ever since, we have erred on the side of abundance. Everyone goes home full of good food and with hands full of an assortment of home-cooked leftovers. Because everyone knows this is always the case, more people show up on potluck Sundays—including people we might not see on a regular Sunday morning. And while the food is the apparent star of the show, I always most appreciate the conversation that accompanies doing dishes. After too many people cram in the kitchen we run the gamut from serious to frivolous, and get to know each other in a different way. I don't know what it is about mundane tasks that opens people up, but I always look forward to rolling up my sleeves after eating too much together. We are grateful that we had a couple potlucks in quick succession immediately before Covid-19 began to change things, and we look forward to the next time we are able to share our lives in this way again.

### FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH OF McMinnville, McMinnville, OR:

We have one service a week. On Sundays, Sunday school and worship. Our current attendance is eleven persons and we have been working to see if we can grow. Byron Shenk has been helping with teaching the Hispanic youth on Thursdays. This has been very good and fruitful.

Respectfully yours,  
Pastor Simon Rendon



### HYDE PARK MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP, Boise, ID:



The HPMF has been worshipping on Zoom each Sunday morning during this pandemic. We certainly miss the physically closer worship in our building, but are aware and appreciative of the advantages of on-line worship which has made it possible for people from Maine to Washington to not only participate, but also add music and readings to our service.

Our pastor, Marc, has also been leading a prayer time using the Anabaptist Prayer Book plus a Lectio Divina service each week on Zoom. Men's and women's groups, who used to meet at a bagel shop or around a quilt, are now also meeting on Zoom.

Many of our members continue

to support the work of Corpus Christi House, a homeless day shelter in Boise. Currently the shelter has had to alter modes of operation to continue to serve people who are unsheltered during this coronavirus pandemic.

Although at this writing no one in our congregation has been diagnosed with COVID-19, for which we are very grateful, we have a few members who are coping with pre-existing health challenges and we continue to remember them in prayer and with phone calls and cards.

We will be transitioning through a pastoral change this year. Although the exact date of that change has not been determined, due to the pandemic, we trust that God will be with us and bless our congregation during this time.

### IGLESIA MENONITA ROCA DE SALVACION, Aurora, OR:

In these difficult times that have come about us our church has responded to this challenge head-on. We began live-streaming our Bible studies on Wednesday, our worship service on Friday, and our Sunday School followed by our worship service on Sunday. We have experienced a positive response, both from our home church and from other states in the US and in Mexico. Our pastor has the capacity to share both in Spanish and in dialect; this has allowed many in Michoacán to be able to hear, understand, and receive God's word in their dialect. With this, we are pleased to share and celebrate with you that two people have come to accept Jesus in their hearts during this time; one from the US and another from Mexico. We want to encourage all our brothers and sisters, during this difficult time, to focus on God's mighty hand that is working in supernatural ways during this time of difficulty.

*"He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches."* Revelation 2:29 - *Our Church Verse of the Year*



### INTERNATIONAL BETHEL CITY CHURCH, Gresham, OR:

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the International Bethel City Church has been closed for quite some time. We usually gather at Clear Creek Church that is located at Gresham Oregon every Sunday, but unfortunately we're not able to until further notice. However, the church leaderships have decided to organize a Zoom Conference meeting every Sunday afternoon from 2:30 pm to 4:00 pm and on Saturday morning from 9:00 am to 10:00 am for intercession prayer. Overall, the congregation is doing well; we continue to spread the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ in our community.



### JERUSALEN IGLESIA MENONITA, Salem, OR:

I want to share that we have met together worshipping the Lord and through zoom, we have had people join us all the way from Denver, Colorado and Mexicali, Mexico. Our congregation is going through a difficult patch since we have lost our worship leader on May 6, 2020. But I know that the Lord will walk with us in the journey ahead. I would like to share a poem that expresses how our congregation feels.



*You're Always There for Me*, by Joanna Fuchs

When the world comes crashing in  
And chaos rules my mind,  
I turn my heart to you, Lord,  
And pure, sweet peace I find.

You lift me out of trouble  
You comfort me in pain;  
You nourish, heal and cleanse me,  
Like cool, refreshing rain.

In times of joy and bliss,  
When things are going right,  
You lift me even higher,  
And fill me with delight.

You listen to my prayers;  
You hear my every plea;  
I'm safe because I know  
You're always there for me.

### LEBANON MENNONITE CHURCH:



This past year has proven to be very interesting and challenging! Nobody likes the restrictions and changes that Covid-19 thrust upon us. But, rather than cursing the Coronavirus, we are attempting to continue to be faithful to God and learn from our present situation.

New innovations include a daily "Encouraging Encounters" on our LMC website which are short devotionals and messages from congregational members. We have been conducting meetings via video conferencing with Zoom and Skype, with all reporting done by written reports rather verbal reporting which has produced better use of our meeting time and is a practice we will continue.

We are also in a time of transition as our long term pastor Brent Kauffman will be retiring in September. We are currently in the process of searching for an interim pastor.



### MENNO MENNONITE CHURCH, Ritzville, WA:

**Jeremiah 29:12-13:** *Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart.*

2019 has been a year of change for Menno. We celebrated the wonderful ministry of Jeanie & Lyn Hershey who finished their interim assignment with us in May. Bryce Miller & Emily Toews arrived in late July with their children Luke & Anna to take up full time ministry going forward. We were pleased as always to host a successful Mennonite Country Auction in October. We remain excited for what God is about to do with us and in us in these days of new.



### MINISTERIOS RESTAURACION, Portland, OR:

In the midst of the pandemic, we miss our fellowship and worship together but we keep alive the hope that we will meet again to continue building ourselves in love.



### MOUNTAIN VIEW MENNONITE CHURCH, Kalispell, MT:

At Mountain View Mennonite Church we pray for one another. As our young people head off to service and college life we pray for them. And so we tearfully gathered in prayer around the Frank family last fall when they were moving to Minnesota. We have only a few children to enjoy in our congregation which made it especially difficult to say good-bye



to Eliza (age 5) and Silas (age 2.) They came back for a visit over Christmas and we did not anticipate seeing them again for quite a while. But COVID-19 moved our Sunday morning worship onto ZOOM, and we have been blessed to have the Frank family join us each week. We have been able to follow Eliza's weekly updates about losing teeth and celebrate having them all part of our worship. The

pandemic has held this blessing for us - that our scattered congregation has been able to gather in a more complete way as distant young adults and others from across the country join in. We are now prayerfully wondering how we will adjust to a future when ZOOM is no longer a necessity.



### PACIFIC COVENANT MENNONITE CHURCH, Canby, OR:

Pacific Covenant is a group of genetic Mennonites from both Amish Mennonite and Mennonite Brethren backgrounds committed to digging deeper into Anabaptist theology, and translating the teachings of Christ into our everyday lives. The current pandemic is motivating us to examine our lives, relationships, and American culture and to seek ways to strengthen and share our faith.



### PORTLAND MENNONITE CHURCH, Portland, OR:



#### PMC hosted a Webinar called "How is your garden growing?"

As we moved our worship and faith formation online this spring, we have continued to offer a number of learning opportunities -- from looking at mental health issues to hearing about life in Gaza to reflecting on end of life decisions and funeral planning to gardening. The PMC Justice Committee organized a virtual tour of Joe and LaVonne Blower's garden, including tips on how to grow winter squash from planting to harvest! on Facebook Live.

### PRINCE OF PEACE MENNONITE CHURCH, Anchorage, AK:

Prince of Peace Mennonite has seen a big change in direction. We are a much smaller community in numbers as people have moved on in their own journey sure to work or church needs. We like many others have moved to online services. A positive note had been past participants joining us from different parts of the world.



### SALEM MENNONITE CHURCH:

At Salem Mennonite Church we have been exploring creative ways of being the church. We have come up with new ways to worship and support each other during difficult times. Our congregation's creativity and flexibility has kept us connected to one another as we struggle together to be who God has called us to be.

### SEATTLE MENNONITE CHURCH:

As part of our congregation's Season of Jubilee Discernment, we commissioned a Campus Development Ministry Team to move forward with exploring the redevelopment of our campus. Our goals include developing affordable housing and community space along with figuring out options for a new sanctuary. We are thrilled to have found a development partner who will help us assess the needs and opportunities for our property, and continue to facilitate collaboration with our neighbors. We reached out to our friends in the Duwamish Tribe, first inhabitants of the land that became Seattle, and invited their counsel and/or participation in the development of this piece of their traditional lands that we now own. The elders responded with gratitude that we reached out, and informed us that our location was not associated with a village, seasonal camp, or resource gathering site, and blessed us to move forward with our development discernment. There is much work ahead, but we desire that our property be a blessing in our neighborhood, and we are excited for what's to come.



Mural created by Seattle Mennonite Church Youth (Saige Lind, Naomi Epp Hamilton, Else Gerber, and project manager Thalia Neufeld), in consultation with a local Duwamish elder.

### SHALOM CHURCH, Spokane, WA:

Shalom Church has been singing the songs of Jesus and working for a better world for some time now (forty years). Our membership is currently quite small...and older. Yet, we walk the Emmaus path with mystery and questions in the presence of wonder, struggle, and hope. Our souls are nurtured when we gather.... and with all of you in the PNMC, Jesus appears in the warm "sharing of the bread."

*Who are we?*

*More individual than masses*

*Not so huddled as hopeful*

*Inviting, lifting, lighting*

*Beside this door*

*Never golden, but always open*

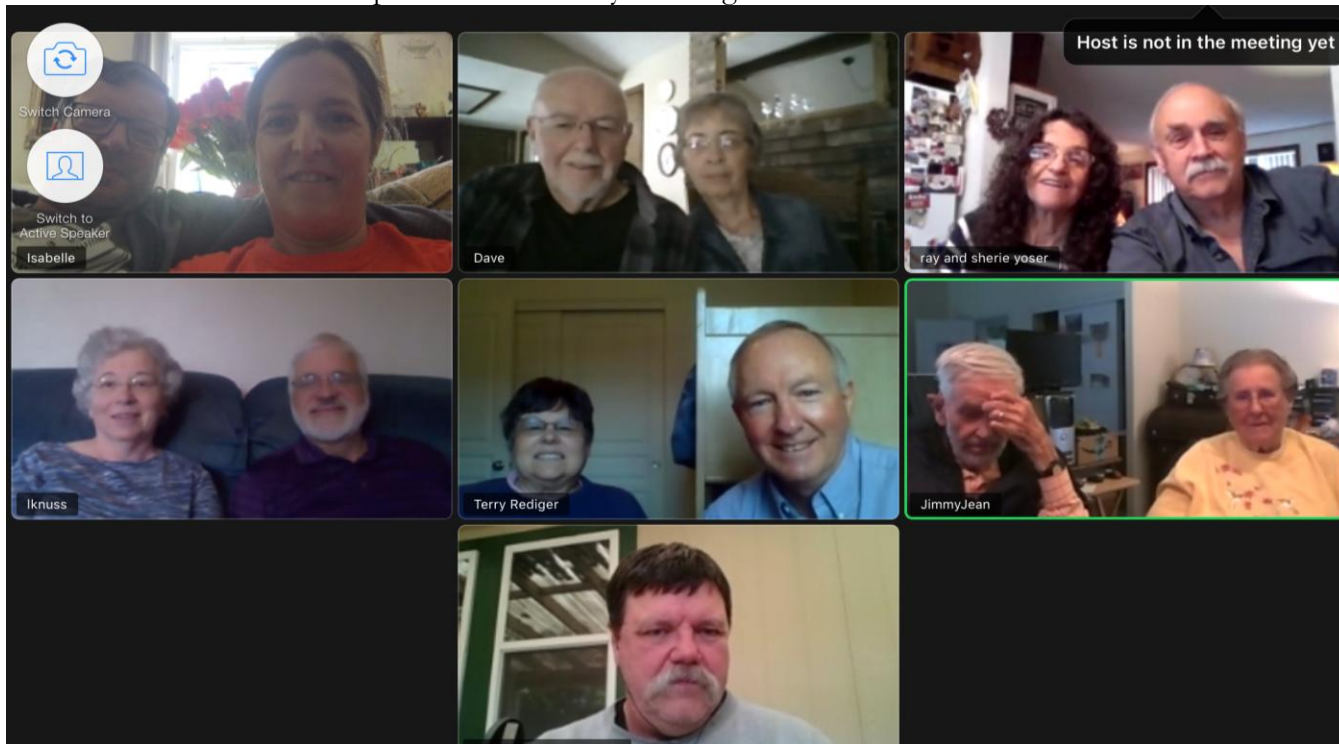
*In Jesus' name*

*Shalom!*



### WESTERN MENNONITE CHURCH, Salem, OR:

At WMC, congregational life has taken on a change since the first of March. Instead of spending face to face time together in worship, Sunday school, potluck meals, monthly breakfasts, visiting, and meetings, we worship through You-Tube; fellowship, pray and have meetings through Zoom; visit and encourage one another through Email and Telephone. It is certainly not our preferred way of worship and fellowship, but it does keep us in touch with each other as a church community during these months of Covid-19. Here's a look at one of our Zoom fellowship times on a Sunday morning:



### ZION MENNONITE CHURCH, Hubbard, OR:

We are learning together what it means to be apart, but connected, praying, caring and supporting one another in Jesus name, during this pandemic! Bill Blank began serving as our Interim Pastor on March 1<sup>st</sup>. His leadership and skills are appreciated, even as he is navigating ministry to Zion from a distance.

We are finding ways to be creative!!! Last Sunday, Mother's Day one member wanted to show hospitality and love by baking cinnamon rolls for the whole congregation. With social distancing guidelines, members drove to the church parking lot, to pick up their rolls. It was a special way to bless each other and see one another. Our Sunday Zoom services are working well, and having break-out groups for visiting afterwards, has been a blessing.



# **NATIONAL ORGANIZATION REPORTS**

**Mennonite Men**

**Mennonite Women USA**

**Mennonite Mission Network (MMN)**

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## 2020 Annual Report to Area Conferences

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

Thanks to generous contributions from individuals and congregations, Mennonite Men has granted over 2 million dollars through its JoinHands program to assist new congregations in acquiring their first church building.

In 2019 we extended grants to three Mennonite churches.

\$30,000 to Eden Life International Church in Kansas City, Missouri. This congregation in South Central Mennonite Conference serves four language communities: Amharic (Ethiopia), Anouk (Sudan, Ethiopia), English (second generation immigrants), and Swahili/French (Congo).



\$40,000 to Unity Church of God in Homestead, Florida (pictured to the left). This Haitian Mennonite congregation in Southeast

Conference is active serving their community.

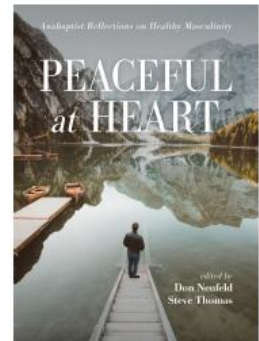
\$40,000 to Centro de Alabanza in Philadelphia, PA (below). This Mennonite congregation in Franconia Conference has a rich diversity of members from Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Puerto Rico, the United States and Venezuela. The church is active with Instituto Bíblico Anabautista (Anabaptist Biblical Institute) and engaged in several ministries in their neighborhood.



These racial-ethnic congregations represent a significant growth edge in our Mennonite church. We are grateful to share our resources with these churches and receive their witness of dynamic engagement in mission.

### JoinMen: Resources and Retreats for Men

What does Anabaptism have to teach us about healthy masculinity? Our new book, *Peaceful at Heart: Anabaptist Reflections on Healthy Masculinity*, seeks to answer this question. Working with the Institute of Mennonite Studies, this project of Mennonite Men is by and for men, promoting an Anabaptist Christian perspective on masculinity.



Mennonite Men had the opportunity to lead retreats with



men in Shirati, Tanzania (pictured to the left) and Cradock, South Africa (below).

These were rich interchanges, addressing traditional expressions of masculinity and their impacts and what it means to be men following Jesus and serving God's peace.



### Join Us: Individual and Congregational Support

Mennonite Men invites contributions to support our projects and grants for church buildings. 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](http://MennoniteMen.org).

Together in Christ,

Steve Thomas, U.S. Coordinator

## **2019 Mennonite Women USA Report**

Cyneatha Millsaps, MW USA Executive Director

December 2, 2019

OUR MISSION: Mennonite Women USA is a sisterhood of Anabaptist women following Jesus.

OUR VISION: Engaging the prophetic voices of all women as we honor our stories, share grace, practice justice and embrace healing.

### **Executive Summary**

Mennonite Women USA (MW USA) is amidst transformation. We are living into our new vision at a time in church history where the denomination is experiencing major changes. MW USA is prime to lead and empower women throughout the church to assist the broader church in carving a new path.

#### **I. Cooperation with Churches and Agencies**

1. MW USA has visited 20 Mennonite churches as a guest and speaker.
2. MW USA met with female church leaders across the United States and internationally to discuss our work.
3. MW USA sponsored several gatherings encouraging women in the church to connect across traditional divides through our Choosing Sisterhood initiative. Women in Conversation has provided a platform for women to address issues facing our families and communities. These gatherings have been well attended.
4. MW USA has prioritized listening to young women in the church. We have visited three Mennonite Colleges with the sole purpose of listening to the needs of our younger sisters.
5. MW USA also met with international students at Hesston College, listening to the needs of women of color on campus. Together we brainstormed ways in which women throughout MW USA might be of service.
6. MW USA continues to provide over 20 scholarships annually to international students through our International Women's Fund. These scholarships assist women studying in the field of theology, Anabaptist and church history, ministry and pastoral care and counseling.
7. MW USA attended the Everence Development Conference obtaining useful material to support our work.
8. MW USA is currently working with Rhoda Blough, Everence stewardship consultant, to provide financial webinars for MW USA beginning January 2020.
9. MW USA attends the Constituency Leaders Council (CLC) gathering where conference and constituency groups reported on their connection with MC USA.

#### **II. Next Steps**

1. Website. Our primary means of communication with constituents is through our website. Watch for our new interactive website that allows engagement in a timely manner and will enliven our communication and connection with the broader church.
2. Social Media. The focus will be on two social media platforms: Facebook and Instagram.
3. Fundraisers. We are working on fundraisers for MW USA in 2020:
  - a. Annual Golf outing, September 2020
  - b. 5k and 10k walk/runs at one or more women's retreats, 2020

#### **III. Conclusion**

I am encouraged by the many connections we are making with women and agencies within the Mennonite church. In addition to our faithful constituents, Mennonite Women USA is supported by pastors and leaders of the church. As we continue to live into our vision, these connections and others will become stronger. This is good for the church, but even more so for women and girls throughout the church.





2020

PACIFIC NORTHWEST CONFERENCE

# Be local. Be global. Be the Gospel.



of greater support and deepened

Changes are the construction blocks of our lives. We exult when changes move in a positive direction

partnership. When changes are in a negative direction, we realize how much we appreciate the generosity of those whose support remains strong during the tough times. Mennonite Mission Network is

eager to strengthen our support of partners all around the world as they engage in advancing God's purposes for healing and hope. We cannot do this without you, so we're grateful for your sharing of prayers

and financial contributions that allow us to continue God's mission in the world. Thank you!

*Stanley W. Green*  
Stanley W. Green  
Executive Director

## Pacific Northwest Conference + Mennonite Mission Network

### Worker support around the world



**Mary Raber**—Teaches at theological schools in Ukraine. She also translates theological books and writes.

» Mountain View Mennonite Church

**Dan and Kathryn Smith Derksen**—Provided logistical support, developed peacebuilding programs, and engaged partners in program development.

» Evergreen Mennonite Church  
» Seattle Mennonite Church

### Mission banks



Children from Evergreen Heights and Calvary Mennonite churches gave a total of **\$563** to missions.

### Prayer partners



**37** people have committed to pray daily for Mission Network ministries.

### Congregational giving to Mission Network



During Mission Network's last fiscal year, Aug. 1, 2018, through July 31, 2019, 17 of 30 Pacific Northwest Conference congregations gave **\$75,917**. Thank you!

### Service participants



#### Service sites

##### Service Adventure unit

» Anchorage

##### SOOP site

» Drift Creek Camp

#### Mennonite Voluntary Service

**Matthew Peters**, serving in Aibonito, Puerto Rico

#### SOOP

**Ken and Nancy Beachy**, Glendale, Arizona

**Gene and Judy Gascho**, Glendale, Arizona

**Elaine Hickman**, Glendale, Arizona, and Kykotsmovi, Arizona

**Thelma Kauffman**, Kykotsmovi, Arizona

**Lynn and Janice Miller**, Aibonito, Puerto Rico

**Margaret Nisly**, Glendale, Arizona, and Kykotsmovi, Arizona

**Gary and Janet Oyer**, Glendale, Arizona

**Stan and Vonnie Oyer**, Akron, Pennsylvania

**Bryan and Judi Stauffer**, Glendale, Arizona

**Clark and Carolyn Yoder**, Glendale, Arizona



*We are so thankful for your commitment to supporting mission and service. Your contributions through finances, service and prayer continue to sustain our work together around the world. May God continue to bless you and enable you to be a blessing to others as you serve neighbors both near and far.*

*Marisa Smucker*  
Marisa Smucker  
Church Relations Representative





## Mennonite Education Agency 2020 Report to Mennonite Church USA Conferences

**Mission Statement:** MEA will strengthen Mennonite education for restorative leadership, work, and service throughout the church and the world.

### COVID-19

The global health crisis has dominated all of our lives this Spring. Although our educational systems, both public and private, have been disrupted, our Anabaptist-Mennonite institutions have risen with grace to provide compassionate leadership. MEA's role during this crisis has been to provide support to the leaders of our schools, who are feeling the heavy burden of making tough decisions to close campuses and pivot to online learning. Although most schools are on summer break now, none are idle. Leaders and administrators are working hard to form plans, and contingency plans on top of contingency plans, seeking to balance safety with a sense of normalcy and community. We realize many leaders can feel isolated and high levels of stress, and the need for physical distancing only compounds this burden. **MEA staff stand ready to offer support** to our schools' leaders as they make difficult decisions and are challenged to discern new ways of being community together. Our prayers are with them. And as the pandemic persists and resurges in some locations, we all look to our Creator for help.

### Mutual aid

One opportunity this crisis offers is the chance to **increase our mutual aid** to care for one another. Please encourage your congregations to support their students financially. There are congregational student aid plans and church-school matching programs, and congregations can give to schools using either a designated or unified giving plan. MEA can help congregations understand all of these options and develop plans of assistance for students, families and schools. If congregations already have student aid plans in place, please encourage them to consider an increased level of giving for each student.

### New student loan options being explored with Everence

MEA is leading an exploratory conversation with Everence and Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary (AMBS) about new student loan options to ease financial strain for students and families. The idea is based on leveraging several unique players: congregations, individuals, AMBS, MEA and Everence. All would work together to develop a low-interest loan program for students. With AMBS as a

test plot, the goals would be to increase enrollment and provide additional leaders/pastors for Mennonite congregations. If successful, the program could be replicated at other schools. MEA is committed to advancing this conversation to help make Anabaptist-Mennonite education more affordable.

### Legal resources

MEA provided three consultations by Zoom for our schools with an attorney to help understand the CARES Act and its provisions for unemployment claims and extended sick leave. Representatives across all levels of Mennonite education had the opportunity to ask questions and receive legal counsel specific to their contexts. This service was provided by MEA at no charge to the schools, utilizing the savings realized from canceled travel.

### Board of Directors

#### Nathan Alleman

*Western District Conference*  
Professor

#### Addie Banks

*Atlantic Coast Conference*  
Pastor and founder/CEO of the Groundswell Group

#### Lynette Bontrager – secretary

*Ohio Conference*  
Registered Nurse, retired

#### Melissa Hofstetter

*Pacific Southwest Conference*  
Minister and Professor

#### Alicia Manning

*Virginia Mennonite Conference*  
Minister, Educational Consultant and Director

#### Linwood Rush – treasurer

*Pacific Northwest Conference*  
Hospitality Services Director, retired

#### Richard Thomas – chair

*Atlantic Coast Conference*  
Superintendent, retired

#### Roy Williams – vice chair

Pastor

### **MEA Investment Fund focuses on climate change**

The [MEA Investment Fund](#) Committee recently unveiled 5 new stewardship commitments that are focused on climate change. These commitments echo the Fund's intent to invest in companies that practice environment stewardship and work toward environment sustainability. Nine Mennonite education institutions from all levels of Mennonite education plus ten other MCUSA institutions with education-related funds participate in MEA's Investment Fund. More information about the five new climate change commitments can be found [here](#).

### **New interim director for K-12 schools**

Dawn Graber has been hard at work since beginning her role on a part-time basis four weeks ago. She enjoys tapping into her executive coaching skills set to connect with the principals and heads of schools, and she hopes to reach out to every school leader in the Mennonite Schools Council network in the coming weeks to offer support, encouragement and opportunities to collaborate. Already she has heard a call to provide a point of connection for affinity groups, such as music teachers and guidance counselors. These groups sometimes do not have others in similar roles at their own schools with whom they can share best practices, questions and ideas. Dawn was able to respond quickly to offer these affinity group meetings, and is also working to get up to speed on accreditation processes.

### **Hispanic Ministries Education**

MEA's Hispanic Ministries Education programs are responding to the increasing demand for online training in theology and Biblical studies. MEA's **SeBAH** program, Seminario Bíblico Anabautista Hispano (Hispanic Anabaptist Biblical Seminary), offers 100% of its courses online and in Spanish, and students from many regions of the United States, Colombia and Mexico are enrolling. In the "Theology of Preaching" class that begins in July, 16 people from four Anabaptist organizations have enrolled. And in partnership with AMBS, SeBAH is offering a continuing education course this summer entitled, "Let's be church, from a radical Anabaptist perspective." To date, 20 people from the United States and other Latin American countries have registered. SeBAH and its sister program **IBA**, Instituto Bíblico Anabautista, (Anabaptist Biblical Institute) continue to lead the way on an international level to provide Spanish-language Biblical and theological education from an Anabaptist perspective. To learn more about Hispanic Ministries Education, follow this [link](#).

### **For Your Prayers**

MEA's monthly *Prayers for Faith and Learning* publication offers an opportunity for congregations to join us in praying for our schools in specific ways. Contact Jolene VonGunten to join the subscription list: [JoleneV@MennoniteEducation.org](mailto:JoleneV@MennoniteEducation.org).

As the pandemic extends into its fourth month here in North America, and as racial injustices affect God's people of color across the nation on a daily basis, our very souls are troubled and worn. We pray for the peace and justice that can only come from our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer. Hear our prayer, oh God.

**On behalf of the MEA board and staff, thank you for the many ways you support Mennonite education.**

*Submitted by Tom Stuckey, Interim Executive Director and CEO  
June 2020*

*TS/jvg*



## **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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