



# e-Bulletin

*Providing bi-weekly communication for PNMC*

Please share widely. If you receive this e-bulletin via more than one address, let us know which address you prefer. To submit announcements or manage your subscription, email [brenda@pnmc.org](mailto:brenda@pnmc.org). See schedule on second page for publication dates and submission deadlines.

## From the former PNMC Moderator, Jeryl Hollinger

As I complete my time as PNMC moderator I am grateful for all the congregations and wonderful people of our conference who make up our life together. Serving as moderator has been a blessed gift to my life as I feel as though I've had a front row seat in the theater of God's people. And as we met on our Zoom Webinar for our annual meeting I sensed the energy of the Spirit flowing through the many friendships and visions we are fortunate to share. PNMC is certainly a gift to each one of us in whatever ways we participate.

In opening the delegate session on Zoom I observed that we were gathering "in a time of pandemic – in a time of racial injustice – in a time of partisan incivility – in a time of economic disparity - in a time of climate catastrophe, just to mention a few of the things we live with these days. But we also gather in a time when **the church's message of Jesus is more relevant than ever** – when our mission as followers of Jesus to be salt and light, to be voices and actors of redemption, and to be visionaries of justice and mercy is ever more needed. May we keep our calling central in all that we do together." We are a voice and powerful presence of Jesus in the Pacific Northwest. This is a moment of opportunity for us as congregations and conference.

On Sunday morning after the annual meeting, we celebrated "PNMC Sunday" at Mountain View. I said to the congregation, "For me, and for my understanding of myself, and for my own spiritual development, I find walking with others in a committed church relationship extremely beneficial. It is not always easy, but growth in Christ is seldom something that comes without becoming vulnerable and engaging in broader conversation. I encourage all of us to find ways to take advantage of the church-wide relationships that are available to us. There is a healing in it – something for which to be thankful. Sometimes as I have walked with others in the church, I feel like the leper on his way to the temple, covered in disease and scabs, when I suddenly realize God has been at work in my life and I am being healed, and I stop, turn back and rush to give thanks."

Thank you to PNMC for allowing me to be part of PNMC leadership for a time. I encourage others to take advantage of the opportunity to serve in PNMC roles as it arrives. Let us keep holding each others' hands.

## From the PNMC Office

Thank you to all who participated in the [2020 Virtual Annual Meeting](#). The 2-hour event took place the last Saturday of June with 82 participants from across the region. While we were far apart geographically, it was a blessing to come together as a body of believers. The meeting concluded with Katherine sharing a video she created about the life of PNMC. ([Click here to view](#).) Katherine is currently taking a brief sabbatical until **August 13, 2020**. If you need assistance, please contact [Barb Buxman](#).

We are working to update the PNMC website with new board member listings according to confirmations from the Annual Meeting. We are happy to welcome new members Deren Kellog, Megan Ramer and Kiara Yoder. **We are grateful for the dedicated work of Jeryl Hollinger over the past four years and welcome Dianna Eshleman and Kevin Chupp as they step into their new roles as Moderator and Moderator – Elect.** We are compiling the 2020 Directory. If details on your contact information need to be updated, please send phone, address or email changes to [office@pnmc.org](mailto:office@pnmc.org). The booklet will be printed in August.

If you are interested in being part of a PNMC task force on Antiracism to both connect congregations with resources and help PNMC dismantle our own organizational racism, please contact [Barb Buxman](#). Megan Ramer, lead pastor at Seattle Mennonite is interested in connecting with folks around police abolition growing out of our peace witness. Contact [Megan](#) to learn more.

A follow up to the recent webinar on [Race, Church and Change](#) (view [here](#)) will take place **July 23 at 3:30 p.m.** A panel will discuss questions including: What role does intersectional work have in moving toward liberation? What role does racial healing and reconciliation play in being anti-racist? How do we begin a conversation about white supremacy? How do we best listen to people of color? What would it look like for MC USA congregations to practice racial reparations? Register [here](#).

## PNMC CONGREGATIONS, ORGANIZATIONS & MINISTRIES

Listed chronologically, then alphabetically by organization

### Mennonite Country Auction

The steering committee of the Mennonite Country Auction (MCA) regrets to announce that its auction will move to an online-only format this year, finishing on **October 3, 2020**. All on-site elements of the sale are canceled in light of COVID-19. We look forward to returning to our full program next year, continuing our 43-year tradition of celebration and service. "MCA is always a highlight of the year at Menno for the Washington Mennonite Churches," Auction chair Michael Claassen said. "It is a time to gather as friends and family from all over and to share gifts together and to share with our community. It is a tough decision especially given that we were to celebrate the **100 year anniversary** of the important work of Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) this year. Sadly, we could not see a good way to move forward with an event with the appropriate levels of safety."

The needs MCC meets are even more critical in these times. MCA has always been a time of celebration with the purpose of helping those in need in the name of Christ. Updates will be posted to [mennonitecountryauction.org](http://mennonitecountryauction.org) and on Facebook. You can receive occasional updates directly by sending an email to [news+subscribe@mennonitecountryauction.org](mailto:news+subscribe@mennonitecountryauction.org).

### Oregon Mennonite Festival for World Relief

The [OMFWR](#) board regrets to announce that the [2020 Fall Festival](#) will move to a mostly online format. This year's event was originally scheduled for **October 10** in Albany, but in light of COVID-19, most on-site elements of the sale will be cancelled. The board welcomes this challenge as an opportunity to try something new. Chairman Gene Stutzman writes, "When I joined the Festival Board 3 years ago, I could not have imagined a situation that would force us into this action. In a way, the decision was easy. There was really no other course of action available in the face of a pandemic. We simply could not endanger the health and welfare of our volunteers, supporters and guests at a large public event. But, as with all things, there is opportunity in adversity. We are excited to explore new fundraising ideas that bring the community together." To receive updates directly via email, subscribe to our e-newsletter on [www.OregonFestivalForWorldRelief.com](http://www.OregonFestivalForWorldRelief.com) and "like" our [Facebook page](#). We look forward to returning in person in 2021. [Donations to MCC](#) can be given at any time.

### Drift Creek Camp

Like other organizations, DCC is taking advantage of the Covid Closure's slower pace to tackle projects that have been nagging on the never-ending To-Do list. A **huge thanks** to the 3-generation "Nord Billy Goat Crew" (Mark, Chris and Andrew Nord) who scaled the steep lodge to replace the roof screws that had gradually worked themselves out over time, allowing water leaks during winter rains. *We are so grateful for your willingness to share your skills and courage!*

DCC welcomes individuals, couples, small groups, families, etc. who are interested in volunteering to come out and enjoy the luxury of a quiet camp during beautiful balmy weather! DCC can safely house you in a private cabin or simply come out and work for the day. There are always things that need to be done! To make arrangements, contact [info@driftcreek.org](mailto:info@driftcreek.org) or call 971-600-1244.



## MENNONITE CHURCH USA & OTHER CHURCHWIDE AGENCIES

listed alphabetically by organization



### Mennonite Church USA

"May the prick of compassion be the hammer that helps us drive our nails straight." I googled this quote as I wondered where it came from and could not find it on the interwebs – it may truly be an original. My husband Jonathan reminded me that Phil told us that it was what his mother used to say. Phil was an astonishing character. He was one of the first people I met in Lake City, a neighborhood in Seattle, WA. It was Phil who oriented Jonathan and me to Lake City – he showed us the best places to camp in order to stay dry, which stores were friendly and which business owners had trespassed him. We got to know him during a time when people who were unhoused were constantly playing cat-and-mouse games with the police. Phil had a vision for Seattle Mennonite's program, which grew out of the church's relationship with people experiencing homelessness in the neighborhood. Read more from Melanie Neufeld, Pastor for Community Ministry at [Seattle Mennonite Church](#) at this [link](#).

### Upcoming e-Bulletins:

August 3 (submissions due by 7/27)  
August 17 (submissions due by 8/10)  
Sept 7 (submissions due by 8/31)  
Sept 21 (submissions due by 9/14)

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

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