



# 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.

## Pray for one another...



During 19 years in the PNMC, Duncan Smith and Charlene Epp served as Conference Minister and in Interim Pastor roles (Duncan) and as hospital chaplain and District Pastor (Charlene). During a six-year sojourn to and in Colorado, Charlene was able to spend invaluable time with her father in the last 3.5 years of his life. *Duncan and Charlene are again living in the Pacific Northwest and we welcome their return!*

When asked about the move, Charlene explained, "How does one make a 1300+ mile move as safely as possible during the COVID pandemic without a landing pad? One way is to trade in a car for a truck to tow a purchased camper trailer, which is what we did. With the gift of Duncan's brother and sister-in-law, on Whidbey Island, offering space for transitional parking of the trailer and storing our belongings, we secured a condo in Anacortes, WA where we now reside."

Duncan continues serving as the Director of The Corinthian Plan for MC USA and keeps busy with organizational consulting. Charlene continues to provide Spiritual Direction and holistic community spiritual care giving, open to a further employed position. Duncan and Charlene are grateful for a host of people within PNMC and the PNW who are treasured friends. Charlene reflected, "In many ways, returning to the PNW is a way of 'coming home'." The couple looks forward to reconnecting with those they know already and learning to know new folks as safer measures allow. *Join us in praying for Duncan and Charlene as they transition to new surroundings.*

## PNMC CONGREGATIONS, ORGANIZATIONS & MINISTRIES

Listed chronologically, then alphabetically by organization

### Albany Mennonite Church

The folks at Albany Mennonite celebrated the birth of their newest member, Sophia Lucille Hochstetler Epp, along with her parents, Peter and Shanda Hochstetler Epp, on **February 23**. The Hochstetler Epps are proud to present their brand new trailblazer—Shanda's first C-section and the first to arrive sooner than 42 weeks. She's a little noisy, just like we need female wisdom to be right now. You can call her "Sophie Lu"—baby sister to Ollie and Ru. She and Shanda are both doing great!



### Idaho Mennonite World Relief Sale

Folks in Idaho are excited to announce that the [2021 IMWRF Sale](#) will be online. The auction site will be available beginning **April 11** and bidding will continue through **April 17**. Check out the [Auction Tab](#) to see what is currently listed. More items will be added frequently, so check back often. Continue to watch this website and church bulletins for details. This is an easy way to support MCC and the Idaho Mennonite World Relief Festival, even from a distance! For questions, contact [rlbmenno@gmail.com](mailto:rlbmenno@gmail.com).

### Oregon Mennonite Festival for World Relief

The Oregon Mennonite Festival for World Relief, held in early **October**, is announcing a **quilt challenge** as part of its auction for 2021. We are asking interested quilters to create an 'art quilt' wall hanging (not more than 48" square). This could range from a landscape to a traditional block set in a non-traditional way to a modern style. Please contact either [Gail Manickam](#) or [Kathy Mark](#) with questions.

### West Coast MCC

**Collect your comforters and kits!** Zion Mennonite Church, Hubbard, OR will be the collection site for gathering school or relief kits, comforters, any additional kits and material resources for MCC. Please bring donations to the MCC Center (Barn) at Zion **no later than April 15, 2021**. The pandemic has likely impacted your ability to gather to create kits or comforters, but perhaps you have some stashed and ready to send. There will be a truck heading to Akron, PA in April and MCC would love to have your items on it! To arrange a drop off time, please contact Bob Buxman, at [bobbuxman@mcc.org](mailto:bobbuxman@mcc.org) or 503-502-5402. Please **fill out the form** on the clipboard inside the barn door with your info and what items you are bringing. *Thank you!*

## MENNONITE CHURCH USA & OTHER CHURCHWIDE AGENCIES

*listed alphabetically by organization*

### Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary

[Journey: A Missional Leadership Development Program](#): Now's the time to nudge someone to grow into a new ministry! This non-degree program supports learners as they explore spiritual leadership in local settings while deepening their understanding of Anabaptist theology and ministry through online study and meetings with a dedicated mentor. Apply for Fall 2021 by **July 13** and save \$100!

### Center For Sustainable Climate Solutions

The [Climate Ride](#) will consist of 16 passionate young adults riding 3,737 miles over the course of 59 days. The group is riding as a way to **raise visibility** on climate issues, to **learn** about the impacts of climate change on diverse communities, and to **connect** concerned people across the country with the climate efforts of the Center for Sustainable Climate Solutions (CSCS) and other organizations. The CSCS is a collaborative initiative of Eastern Mennonite University, Goshen College and Mennonite Central Committee to lead Anabaptist efforts to respond to the challenges of climate change and address climate justice. **The journey starts in Seattle on May 31** and will end at Washington D.C. Along the way, riders will focus on passing through Anabaptist communities, and on communities impacted by climate change in different ways. To track the progress of the riders as they travel follow [this link](#).



### Mennonite Central Committee & Goshen College

For two hours each Saturday, a group of young adults from around the world gather on a Zoom call to discuss issues related to global public health. This year-long **Global Health Virtual Practicum** is a partnership between MCC and Goshen College. Due to the pandemic and travel restrictions, MCC made significant, temporary reductions to its international young adult programs: Serving and Learning Together ([SALT](#)), International Volunteer Exchange Program ([IVEP](#)) and Young Anabaptist Mennonite Exchange Network ([YAMEN](#)). MCC was looking to provide opportunities for young people to engage, despite travel limitations. At the same time, Goshen College was looking for alternatives to their Study-Service Term (SST) that wouldn't necessitate travel but would give students a cross-cultural experience and global perspective. "The idea came to pilot a course that could speak to these needs at a time when all of us are thinking about COVID-19 and public health," said Paul Shetler Fast, MCC global health coordinator. Fast is teaching the course, along with Wade Snowdon, SALT coordinator. According to Fast, this isn't a typical global public health class focused on formal structures of health systems, infectious diseases and basic epidemiology. He explained, "This class is built around the ethics, principles and values of MCC and our partners. This includes looking at how things like racism, histories of colonialism, oppression, violence and war all play into global public health." Students are exploring how MCC's emphasis on local perspective and ownership is important for fighting systems of oppression and social determinants of health. Ariannis Hines, from Philadelphia, is one of the young adults who was supposed to be participating in SALT this year. "This class has united me with a community of people who want to participate in public health, and learn more about the current state of affairs, the field of study, and where we all may be able to fit in," she said. "This class is like a nutritious meal every Saturday that keeps me hungry for service and social justice. It keeps me going in this year when everything else is pretty messed up." With the success of this pilot program, MCC is hoping to expand the class to allow more young adults to participate.

### Mennonite Church USA

Follow [this link](#) for the latest issue of [PeaceMail](#).

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#### Upcoming e-Bulletins:

Apr 5 (submissions due by 3/29)  
 Apr 19 (submissions due by 4/12)  
 May 3 (submissions due by 4/26)  
 May 17 (submissions due by 5/10)

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>