

28th Annual Meeting

DELEGATE HANDBOOK

June 18, 2022



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Welcome to Zion 2022

June 2022

April 1, 2022

To congregations and delegates of Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference,

We are happy to announce the 2022 PNMC Annual Assembly & Delegate meeting will be held in-person this year at Zion Mennonite Church in Hubbard, OR. Gathering begins for pastors and congregational leaders at 1:30 pm on Friday, June 17, (Pacific Time) with training in Healthy Boundaries. Delegate sessions will begin on Saturday morning at 8:30 am and conclude at 5:15 pm. Before returning home, all assembly attendees are invited to stay for a light supper honoring the service of Katherine Jameson Pitts as our Executive Conference Minister (ECM) for the past 10 years.

More information about the agenda, reports and expectations will be sent in May from the PNMC office.

Currently, we are asking two things:

- 1. Please advise us who will be attending and who the delegates are from your congregation by registering online at https://pnmc.org/delegate-meeting-2022/. We need each attender's email address so meeting guidance and information is sent directly to those who need it. The registration form will be on line by May 1.
- 2. Please submit a written paragraph and a photo of some aspect of your congregational life. This year's annual booklet will include a section on congregational life. Please send these reports to the PNMC office by April 15, 2022. (office@pnmc.org)

Roll Call will occur at the beginning of the Delegate session. PNMC will report on the ministry and finances of the past year. The PNMC Board looks forward to hearing about and from each other. A link to the delegate book will be sent electronically from the PNMC office about 2 weeks before the meeting. We look forward to stories from those who have received Healthy Congregation Grants from PNMC in the past year and how those monies were used to nurture their congregational life.

Sharing how Jesus is working among us is a time to celebrate together. Time spent building relationships as PNMC Mennonite congregations is important.

Dianna Eshleman, PNMC Moderator

Report from Executive Conference Minister

Submitted by Katherine Jameson Pitts ~ April 2022

We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Thess. 1:2-4)

We are gathering in-person for the first time in 2 and a half years. They haven't been easy years. For some of us there has been deep personal grief. For all of us there have been many small losses. And hardest of all has been the distance between us – geographic, social distancing, even political polarization as we all found our way through these "unprecedented" times.

Our theme calls us to remember the connections we have. To remember our common commitment to follow Jesus, to witness to God's peace and to experience transformation, doing all of this together. And it calls us to re-member our conference. To be there with one another as representatives of our various congregations who have promised to walk together.

This was the year when we started feeling our way forward, step by step, despite the continuing prevalence of COVID-19 in our communities. From the first hopes that vaccination could return everything to normal, through the Delta and Omicron waves that brought death to many of our communities, congregations tried to discern what was next. By Lent, all PNMC congregations were back to meeting in their gathering places, and faith formation with children was beginning to be a regular thing. At the same time, most PNMC congregations continued to have some kind of online presence for those who are still at risk of serious illness and for those who had become part of our gatherings from a distance during the past two years.

Organizationally we began picking up the pieces that had been ignored, tending to details, and helping congregations move forward with their own lives. The PNMC Board has worked on updating policies, clarifying financial goals, and preparing for a conference minister transition.

I have continued working with search committees, whose job has been complicated not only by the pandemic, but a shift in how candidates approach the pastoral search. Candidates are most interested in congregations that they know. This is a time for us all to begin to nurture pastoral gifts of individuals in our own congregation again and to reach out across the church using our own connections. We do celebrate the new pastors who have been called in the past year and the interim pastors from many different traditions who have come to serve in PNMC.

Several of our congregations have been exploring what their future might hold during the past year. Together with our District Pastors, I have worked with pastors and leaders to reflect, discern, and move together as the Spirit leads. In addition, I have enjoyed working with District Pastors to encourage new church plants in our area. Seeing groups grow and develop, perhaps in unexpected ways, has been a joy during these often difficult times.

I give thanks for all of you, for your work of faith and your labor of love. And I remember you in prayer as together we continue to place our hope in God who is at work in PNMC congregations.

Katherine Jameson Pitts Executive Conference Minister

Board of Directors Report

Submitted by Dianna Eshleman, PNMC Board Moderator, Spring 2022

Today I am celebrating the privilege of an in-person annual meeting after nearly 2 years of restrictions due to Covid! Psalm 126 speaks to me- "When the Lord brought back the captives to Zion, we were like men who dreamed. Our mouths were filled with laughter, our tongues with songs of joy."

PNMC Board activities were all conducted virtually on ZOOM until last month, when we met for a weekend of meetings at Drift Creek Camp. This was the first in person meeting since the covid pandemic started. A new lesson learned due to Covid is that we can effectively conduct PNMC Board business using ZOOM online. Even when no longer restricted, the board has decided to continue with 3 of the 4 routine quarterly board meetings online. Advantages include: economical use of time (not spent traveling to meetings) which helps with geographic diversity in board members, as well as saving long distance travel costs.

What did the board do since our last annual meeting in 2020?

- We began the anti-racism training process in 2020 on-line by participating in the Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI) facilitated by Duncan Smith, with additional processing at the May 2021 meeting.
- The board continued to encourage the use of Healthy congregation grants by various congregations to provide nurture for their program.
 - -Annual routine duties were performed:
 - (1) Updating/ reviewing policies that govern our activities & duties.
- (2) Overseeing stewardship of PNMC financial budgeting and resource management by utilizing the counsel provided by the treasurer, Dave Hockman-Wert, along with the Finance Team (made up of board member Deren Kellogg, and non-board members Jack Swaim & Brett Tieszen). A narrative budget was developed for the 2021-2022, dividing expenses that support the four parts of the PNMC mission statement: Promote personal spiritual development; Nurture healthy congregations; Make strong connections throughout the Conference; and, Call each other to fulfill God's purpose for the world. Board discussion continues regarding the balance needed in responsible use of investment funds for congregational needs, PNMC programs and maintaining future financial stability of PNMC.
- (3) Utilizing the Gift Discernment Team (ECM, board moderator, moderator elect and two non-board members, Joseph Penner and Rick Bollman) to locate persons willing to serve and volunteer their time for this year's ballot that we have presented. We will miss Joseph Penner, who has served successive one year terms since 2016.
- (4) Supporting Katherine Jameson Pitts in carrying out her duties as executive conference minister (ECM). We will sorely miss her in this role that she has so ably filled for the past 10 years, but wish her joy in her retirement. Her service will be honored with a light evening meal for all conference attenders after the assembly adjourns on Saturday, June 18th at 5:30pm.
- -The board also wants to thank the departing board members for their service: Jan Yoder (6 years), Nelly Moran Ascencio (8 years) and Katherine O'Brien (1 year).
- -A survey of conference wide stakeholders was conducted to assess the current mission needs of PNMC as part of the process to find a replacement ECM. A summary of responses was processed by the board for use by the newly formed ECM Search Team. They began their work in April to fine-tune the job description needed for advertising the vacant ECM position. Search Team members include: Kevin Chupp, PNMC moderator; Megan Ramer, PNMC Board member; non-board members: Jerrell William, pastor Salem Mennonite Church; Sam Adams, pastor Bend Mennonite Church; Nelly Moran Ascencio, CIHAN representative; Rob Hanson, lay leader at Hyde Park Mennonite, Boise, ID; Kevin Hockman-Chupp, lay leader at Zion Mennonite Church.
- -The PNMC Board continues to value transparency. Quarterly board meeting minutes are found on the PNMC website at pnmc.org. Congregations are encouraged to promote use by church attenders of the link for the biweekly "e-bulletin", which contains valuable resource links, upcoming activities and news from individual congregations.

Submitted by Dianna Eshleman, PNMC Moderator

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.

2021 PNMC Delegate Session Minutes

August 21, 2021, via ZOOM

Welcome/Instructions/Call to Worship -Katherine Jameson Pitts

- Virtual Choir May you be rooted and grounded in love
- Scripture Drawing -- Exodus 15:1-2, 11-13 Amy Epp
- Message Peter Epp Peter talked about uncertainty in the future and where we are being led. Love moves us forward and love brings us home
- Virtual Choir God be the love
- Praying together/Lord's Prayer Katherine
 - Delegate meeting
- Call to Order Dianna Minutes are approved by delegates
- Roll Call of Congregations

At (name of congregation) we know God is leading us because. . .

- O Albany Mennonite Church, Albany, OR: God is always leading us, it depends whether we are following or not. We know we are following by the love and caring we have felt for each other
- o Bend Mennonite Church, Bend, OR: In our time together, in our prayers for the world, for one another and our neighbors, we are sustained by God and we keep going.
- O Centro Cristiano Pentecostés, McMinnville, OR/First Mennonite Church McMinnville, OR: The congregations have had a name change to River of Life Fellowship and Iglesia Rio de Vida and are joining and working together.
- o Corvallis Mennonite Fellowship, Corvallis, OR: We feel God leading, guiding and directing us. We give empathy to those in our midst and have great joy when we gather together
- o Emmaus Christian Fellowship, Meridian, ID: We are a small group of 6 family units. We are still having fellowship and hoping we will be able to meet more in the fall.
- Eugene Mennonite Church, Eugene, OR: We are able to love one another. We had a potluck last month, and are giving sacrificially to those in need in our community. We are standing with those persecuted in our community, specifically the homeless.
- Evergreen Heights Mennonite Church, Caldwell, ID: When we gather we hear and tell stories of God's presence as well as the challenging ways God is leading us in our personal lives.
- o Evergreen Mennonite Church, Bellevue, WA: We remain connected and engaged in difficult conversations. We are still meeting remotely. We are entering new challenges and feel God's presence there.
- o Filer Mennonite Church, Filer, ID: God continues to lay new good works in front of us and the congregation picks them up
- o First Mennonite Church of Aberdeen, Aberdeen, ID: We are people of faith and follow God's leading. We are involved in outreach in our community.
- O Hyde Park Mennonite Fellowship, Boise, ID: We see new faces and hear new voices. We are meeting new people, singing new songs, praying new prayers, receiving new health and healing. With God's help we are being renewed.
- o Lebanon Mennonite Church, Lebanon, OR: We are navigating this pandemic and moving forward to achieve goals. We are preparing to hire a new pastor.
- o Menno Mennonite Church, Ritzville, WA: We have seen new life, both metaphoric and literal in our midst. We have known new life with congregational growth alongside the pandemic, and the new birth within the congregation. Even as we see the need for life giving rains, again metaphorically and literally, we have known God's provision and surprises along the way.
- o Ministerios Restauración, Portland, OR: For almost 2 years in isolation, we are still studying scriptures. We know God is guiding us as we are able to be with and support families who have had COVID and healed
- o Mountain View Mennonite Church, Kalispell, MT: We continue to gather in the name of Jesus and invite the spirit to be our guide. We have felt God's presence in our decision making and in our fellowship
- o Pacific Covenant Mennonite Church, Canby, OR: Participation has increased during the year, whether or not we meet in person.
- o Portland Mennonite Church, Portland, OR: We are part of a Consortium of churches that is starting a family shelter on the East side of Portland. We are sustained by faith, hope and love.
- o Prince of Peace Mennonite Church, Anchorage, AK: We are supporting each other with love and compassion
- o Salem Mennonite Church, Salem, OR: We are able to dream of our future together as we discern in a visioning process what God is calling us to be in the Salem/Keizer area
- Seattle Mennonite Church, Seattle, WA: The mandatory apartness hasn't kept God from providing comfort and care for us. We are caring for the vulnerable. The Holy Spirit has helped us make a critical decision to give a property to a black/indigenous and/or non-white group who has been historically discriminated against. We ask for prayer for those who will be carrying out that decision. We ask for prayer as Pastors Melanie and Jonathan Neufeld are leaving us.
- O Shalom Church, Spokane, WA: We have supported each other during the isolation and have become more aware of other communities near and far. We are doing more to support those far away communities
- Western Mennonite Church, Salem, OR: Just before the pandemic we started a discernment process. We are moving slowly yet making progress and coming toward the finish line. We have not had the joy of pot luck but have had some staff picnics together.

- O Zion Mennonite Church, Hubbard, OR: In simple things God is guiding us. Our gardens are growing, babies are being born, we had a little bit of rain this morning and technology has helped us stay connected. We have a new pastor and are encouraged by the new opportunities in our neighborhood
 - Church plants –
- Iglesia Anabautista Ebenezer, Salem, OR
- Community of Hope Mennonite Church, Bellingham, WA: We thought it was impossible to start a church during a pandemic, but God is surprising us in many ways and opening doors to us. Our existence is proof that God is leading us. We are making connections and people are offering financial support and lay leadership Prayer of blessing for each congregation Katherine

Executive Conference Minister report – Katherine

The theme for our annual meeting is "Love will lead us home". It draws on the song of God's people escaping captivity in Egypt, being led through the waters, and finding themselves safe on the other shore. Earlier this spring it seemed to resonate with our feelings; we were vaccinated, we hoped to gather in person, and the end of the pandemic seemed in sight. The Delta variant changed all those plans. We are at a place where we don't know what lies ahead of us, but we know God is with us. We know God gives good gifts to God's people. We know God's love is always leading us to our home in Christ.

If unprecedented and resilient were the words of 2020, the word for 2021 seems to be weary. Yet we keep putting one foot in front of the other and moving on. We keep reaching out one hand to another to lift someone up or to offer a gift that is needed. We keep turning to God for strength and salvation and most of all for the love we need to carry us on. God does more than we can ask or even imagine. Thanks be to God!

Here are a few things that have been happening around the conference in the past year:

- Imagine that your lead pastor has resigned. You have called a transitional pastor and are looking forward to beginning a search for a new pastor. Then, the week your transitional pastor begins, a global pandemic requires you to shut down in person worship and meetings. How do you move forward?
- Or, imagine that your pastor has resigned but your congregation has been meeting only on Zoom. How do you say good bye and find an interim pastor much less do a pastoral search?
- These situations were faced by two of our PNMC congregations. Through the leading of the Holy Spirit and the guidance of creative and committed leaders, they both have had meaningful interim periods and have called new settled pastors.
- I am pleased to let you know of two new pastors in PNMC -- **Stephen Bomar**, who began as lead pastor at Zion MC in June, and **Christie Dahlin** who will begin as pastor at Hyde Park MF on September 1st. I hope that you will have the opportunity to meet them in the months ahead.

Our District pastors provide support and relationship to our pastors and congregations. I am grateful for the gifts of wisdom and love for the church that **Marlene Bogard, Linda Dibble, Renee Johns**, and **Matt Swora** shared with congregations in PNMC over the past few years. They will be missed.

I am grateful for those continuing as District Pastors – Gary Jewell, Brent Kauffman, Samuel Moran, Terry Rediger, Sylvia Shirk, and Merritt Welty, Bob Buxman.

Please join me in praying for these leaders in our conference – District pastor and pastors, new and old.

- Now imagine that your congregation has a need that wasn't there when you planned your budget. That's where Healthy Congregation Grants come in. We have distributed 13 Healthy Congregation Grants since the program started in 2019. Because some of these grants went to groups of congregation who applied together, over half of PNMC congregations have benefited from these funds. They have covered the purchase of simultaneous translation equipment and sewing supplies, sponsoring a dramatic presentation, obtaining the services of consultants to aid congregational discernment, assisting with costs for a youth retreat, for a women's retreat and for a congregational planning retreat, covering pulpit supply during a pastoral sabbatical, supporting different types of educational programs for pastors and leaders and more. I have invited three of the most recent recipients to share with you what this grant allowed their congregation to do:
- Eugene **Steve Kimes**, Laundry Unicorns

About 2 years ago we decided to do laundry work among houseless folks. We started going to camps, and taking clothes to the Laundromat. We participate in 17 houseless camps, some are sanctioned by the city, and some are not. This summer one camp is an RV camp with 40 vehicles. During the heat wave we purchased 100's of water bottles and froze them then delivered solid frozen water bottles on days that reached 90 degrees

• Evergreen Heights – **Kathy Bilderback**, Hospitality Room

Our property is located on a hill that overlooks the Caldwell area. It is a converted event center. The grant we received was for a hospitality suite. We installed a custom made wall bed. We have opened it up to pastors to come be our guests, for restoration, to be among us. Come for a day or a week if you want to get away, rest, find rejuvenation. I invite you to come and be our guest. We are grateful for the grant funds.

• Menno Mennonite – **Bryce Miller**, Immigration legal expenses

The immigration system is very complicated and doesn't always work the way it is supposed to. We are grateful to have had the funds to work at getting Emily a work visa which meant she could start work on Jan 1 and to continue the application process for a green card Due to a generous gift from one PNMC congregation, our fund remains robust and available to help more churches. This program is one way we help each other in PNMC to follow where the Spirit is leading, to try new things, to

support our pastors and leaders, and to reach into our communities with God's love. If your congregation is longing to do something that isn't in your budget, contact me and together we can look at the application process and see if a Healthy Congregation Grant might be available.

• Finally, imagine that God is calling you to do a new thing, to plant a new church or gather a new faith community. One of the great joys of the past year has been seeing two new church plants emerge – Community of Hope in Bellingham, WA led by Rachael Weasley and Iglesia Anabautista Ebenezer, led by Jesús Fuentes. They are building community and connecting with those who are eager to know God's love, both in person and online. You can read about them in the Delegate Book. These groups are not yet ready to become member congregations of PNMC but they are on the journey where God leads toward home as they follow God's call.

I know that people are weary. I know that we don't know what lies ahead. But love will lead us home as God's people. I am grateful for all that you do in your communities and most of all for the way you love one another. I could not imagine a more faithful group of congregations to care for.

Treasurer's Report – Dave

PNMC is on solid footing financially. We have not accessed the reserve funds yet. The Finance team monitors our investment funds, watches the rise and fall of the stock market. A letter was sent to each congregation from the finance team. We want to connect with treasurers – 10 have responded. We invite others to respond or connect us with your treasurer. The amount of our investment is a live conversation at each board meeting. The finance team asks for feedback and suggestions as to the best practice in management of the money.

Break

Moderator Report -- Dianna

All of our meetings this year occured online using ZOOM. Our next quarterly regular board meeting is scheduled for Saturday, September 11.

Board activities this year included:

- 1. Policies needing review or development of new policies were addressed for discussion by board member Leonard Nolt.
- 2. The Finance Team (comprised of board member Deren Kellogg, board treasurer Dave Hockman-Wert and non-board members Jack Swaim & Brett Tieszen) were very helpful in making recommendations for the board to consider in budgeting and finance management. The board is grateful that both Jack & Brett have agreed to continue this coming year as part of the Finance Team.
- 3. The gift discernment team (ECM, the board moderator and this year's two non-board members, Joseph Penner and Renee Johns) were happy to locate people willing to serve and volunteer their time for this year's ballot that we have presented. We will miss Renee as her term ends this year.
- 4. We will miss departing board secretary, Twila Lehman, and the wisdom she brought in her time of service on the PNMC board.
- 5. It has been exciting to see new pastors come to our conference. We also follow with interest any new congregation development possibilities.
- 6. The board is grateful to all of you who participated in the ECM review. Those positive responses about Katherine's role as ECM enabled the board to offer a renewal contract with confidence. We were pleased she agreed to continue for an additional 1.5 years.
- 7. The board is interested in building connections across the conference as well as with the wider church. We watched with interest as some of the congregations have made use of the Healthy Congregation grants offered by PNMC. The application process for up to \$3,000 is available to every PNMC congregation. We feel fortunate to have this fund available for use to help nurture your congregation in special ways that you identify.
- 8. The board chose to further educate board members by participating in Intercultural Diversity Training led by Duncan Smith. We have plans to continue thinking some new thoughts with a follow up when we can meet in person.
- 9. The PNMC board is interested in transparency. The board meeting minutes are posted on the web site after each meeting. https://pnmc.org/resources/documents/board-minutes. Also, I encourage you to read the e-bulletin. The link is also found on the pnmc.org website under the Resources tab in the top menu, then select "Publications".

Presentation and Vote on Ballot.

Wider church connections – persons were introduced

- Michael Danner, Associate Executive Director for Church Vitality for Mennonite Church USA. The Theme for next year is "Being transformed" Michael is also Director of MEA which he described as a joint staffing adventure
- Rhoda Blough, Stewardship Consultant, Everence

This year Steve and Diane Kimes from PNMC were given the Everence Regional Journey Award, which is an award to persons who model stewardship. \$500 is given to a non-profit of their choice

- **Duncan Smith**, Director of The Corinthian Plan
 - PNMC has 18 contributing congregations in the plan. Last year in May we had a premium holiday where we invited congregations to contribute to the plan. We were blessed to receive \$120,000. Everyone is eligible to apply for the wellness incentive which is \$150 per person, even if you are not on health coverage.
- Marlene Bogard, Networking Consultant for PNMC Churches on behalf of MCC Thank you for your support of MCC through sales and giving

Look – page 25 has the West Coast MCC report Support – There are needs everywhere – today the focus is Haiti Resource – There is a new curriculum for adults - peacemaking practices

Breakout sessions -- Suggested conversations

- 1) Share: Where have you felt most at home? Where would be your dream home?
- 2) Discuss: Should Conference Communications Council remain an online gathering? What are the main barriers to participation in conference gatherings in your congregation?

After the breakout session participants were polled on the question of how to hold Conference Communications Council. The preferred method was a hybrid (in-person with on-line access). The board will consider the CCC venue bearing this in mind.

Reporting from breakout groups—What are main barriers? See Google doc

Blessing for board -

- Dianna announced the results of the ballot as receiving unanimous approval.
- ♦ She introduced all board members: Dianna Eshleman, Kevin Chupp, Dave Hockman-Wert, Katherine O'Brien, Nelly Moran-Ascencio, Deren Kellogg, Leonard Nolt, Megan Ramer, Jan Yoder, Kiara Yoder
- ⊖ Gifts Discernment Team: Dianna Eshleman, Kevin Chupp, Joseph Penner, Rick Bollman
- Pastoral Leadership Team: Rod Stafford, Sam Adams, Angel Campoz, Amy Epp, Rob Hanson Michael Danner gave a blessing prayer for the leadership of PNMC and the congregations.

Closing song -- The Love of God

Being together in our relationship as PNMC congregations is an important time. I enjoyed hearing a bit about each congregation's life during the roll call and the sharing from the breakout sessions. We claim the promise in Romans 8:28 "We know that in everything God works for good with those who love him and are called according to His purpose."

The weekend of June 18 has been chosen for the 2022 Annual Meeting date. Watch our e-bulletins and other methods of communication for updated information. Save the date.

Closing Prayer - Dianna

Table Group Covenant The Delegate Body of Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference

Adapted from "Confession of Faith in a Mennonite Perspective" Article 16, Church Order and Unity

We gather as a part of the church of Jesus Christ, one body with many members, who by the work of the Holy Spirit are brought together into a dwelling place for God.

As God's people we gather, we are the church, a holy temple, a spiritual house, with Christ Jesus himself as our foundation.

We recognize the need to consult together in order to maintain unity on important matters of faith and life. Love and unity in the church are a witness to the world of God's love.

In our deliberations and decision-making we covenant with each other to listen and speak in a spirit of prayerful openness and with the Scriptures as the constant guide. In humility we are open to both give and receive counsel. We know that discernment will include points of agreement and of disagreement, words of affirmation and of dissent. In our discernment we are prepared to wait patiently as we seek a word from the Lord leading toward consensus rather than make hasty decisions.*

We rejoice in the multiplicity of people, gifts, ideas, and opinions that are present in this gathering of the delegate assembly of the Pacific Northwest Conference.

We covenant together:

- to assume the best intentions of all persons who participate at this table and this assembly.
- to pray for one another and the Conference leaders.
- to be patient and kind.
- to speak honestly and directly.
- to practice humility and be willing to change or be corrected.
- to listen actively and carefully.
- to respect the views of those who may not agree with the majority.
- to respect the wisdom of the greater assembly and of those at our assigned tables.

(Table leaders may lead their table in prayer.)

^{*} Consensus means that the delegate body has listened carefully to all voices, majority and minority together, and sought the unity of the Spirit. Consensus is reached when the delegate body has come to a common mind on a matter, or when those who dissent have indicated a readiness to accept a group decision. Consensus does not necessarily mean complete unanimity.

Our Budgeting Story | 2022-2023



The mission of Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference (PNMC) is:

Promote personal spiritual development;

Nurture healthy congregations;

Make strong connections throughout the conference;

Call each other to fulfill God's purpose for the world.

Promote personal spiritual development

9%

PNMC promotes personal spiritual development by providing ministers and lay leaders to gain new skills and strengthen their ministries. In 2021, PNMC coordinated meetings with all conference pastors, worked on revising the pastoral ethics covenant through our Pastoral Leadership Team and helped connect new pastors with appropriate learning opportunities.

Nurture healthy congregations

39%

PNMC nurtures healthy congregations by working to help congregations through their entire life cycle, including providing resources for pastoral transitions and helping them plan for the future. During 2021, we assisted in pastoral searches, assisted with a congregational visioning process, and assisted in hiring a visioning consultant for another congregation.

Make strong connections throughout the conference

2%

PNMC serves as a resource to make strong connections throughout the conference, serving as a resource to promote communication between congregations in a 5-state area of over a million square miles. The conference assists with Church plantings, plans and coordinates annual meetings, helps congregations send representatives to national meetings, and supports district pastors. The Executive Conference Minister serves as a valuable resource to many of these areas in addition to preaching to six congregations via Zoom in 2021.

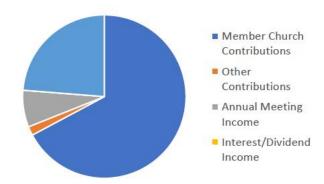
Call each other to fulfill God's purpose for the world 10%

PNMC allows its members to call each other to fulfill God's purpose in the world. During the 2021 year, the conference connected pastors with healthy boundaries training, began providing anti-racism training to its members and provided connections between congregations working on LGBTQ inclusion

FY2023 Budget Sources of Funds

Member Church Contributions	\$113,250	67.19%
Other Contributions	\$3,000	1.78%
Annual Meeting Income	\$12,250	7.27%
Interest/Dividend Income	\$50	0.02%
Investment Gains/Losses	<u>\$40,000</u>	23.74%
	1.0000000000000000000000000000000000000	

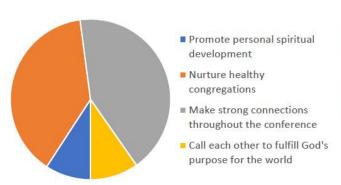
TOTAL \$168,550





FY2023 Budget Uses of Funds

Promote personal spiritual development	\$15,544	9.20%
Nurture healthy congregations	\$65,412	38.72%
Make strong connections throughout the conference	\$71,578	42.36%
Call each other to fulfill God's purpose for the world	\$16,421	9.72%
TOTALS	\$168,955	





Treasurer's Report / Financial Reports

PNMC Treasurer's Report – Fiscal Year Ending 2022

It's been an odd couple of years, as we all know. A year ago, we (well, I) thought the Covid-19 pandemic was waning thanks to the amazing success of the vaccines and their rollout. Turns out, it wasn't. And after suffering through a couple years of job losses, business closures, and financial distress caused by the pandemic, we are now facing inflation that challenges the financial health of many households. We have heard from many PNMC congregations through a treasurer survey we distributed last summer, and while there has been some disruption, many of you sound like things are relatively solid, finance-wise.

Even with the lingering effects of Covid-19, conference finances continue to be in a very good place, thanks to the faithful contributions of member congregations and the investment account we have with Everence. We are grateful that our congregations are healthy enough to continue to contribute. Since 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 (us all!) to be healthy – spiritually, socially, and financially! (If these words sound familiar, that's because I included them the last few years as well. I think the message bears repeating!)

The Healthy Congregations Grant Fund has been well-used this year (six grants totaling almost \$12,000), but it still has plenty of funds. If your congregation has ideas that might fit with this program, please review the guidelines (https://pnmc.org/resources/documents/) and apply.

The stock market has ended its incessant run, hitting a notable dip in the first quarter of 2022. This means that the PNMC investment fund has hit a plateau, dropping slightly from last year. The balance as of March 31, 2022, was \$1,225,089. No funds were withdrawn from the investment fund account last year, as our cash flow is still stable.

Overall, our actual operating income in FY 2021-22 fell short of our budgeted income by almost \$11,000, owing primarily to no annual meeting income for yet another year. Actual congregational giving was only \$8,000 short of budgeted, even with the lingering effects of Covid-19. Expenses were \$27,000 less than budgeted, thanks to lower travel expenses and no annual meeting expenses. This led to a net operating income of about \$8,600 (compared to a budgeted loss of \$7,300). So as I've written for the past three years now, 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 very good financial shape as a conference.

Submitted by PNMC Treasurer, Dave Hockman-Wert April 2022

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGE
Income				
4101 Member Church Contributions				
410101 Albany	8,799.00	9,500.00	-701.00	92.62 %
410104 Centro Cristiano Pentecostes		1,000.00	-1,000.00	
410105 Comunidad Cristiana Vida Nueva		100.00	-100.00	
410106 Corvallis	3,200.00	3,200.00	0.00	100.00 %
410108 Emmaus	350.00	350.00	0.00	100.00 %
410109 Eugene	500.00	1,000.00	-500.00	50.00 %
410110 Evergreen	2,255.00	2,000.00	255.00	112.75 %
410112 Evergreen Heights	1,600.00	1,600.00	0.00	100.00 %
410114 Filer		4,000.00	-4,000.00	
410118 First - Aberdeen	3,500.00	3,500.00	0.00	100.00 %
410120 First - McMinnville		100.00	-100.00	
410122 Hyde Park	5,021.25	6,500.00	-1,478.75	77.25 9
410126 Iglesia Men. Roca De Salvacion		500.00	-500.00	
410128 Jerusalem Iglesia		100.00	-100.00	
410133 Menno	9,457.35	7,000.00	2,457.35	135.11 %
410134 Ministerios Restauracion	3,101100	100.00	-100.00	
410135 Mountain View	4,500.00	4,500.00	0.00	100.00 %
410137 Pacific Covenant	150.00	150.00	0.00	100.00 9
410142 Portland	21,500.00	21,500.00	0.00	100.00 %
410143 Prince of Peace (AK)	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00	100.00 %
410146 Bend Mennonite Church	_,,,,,,,,,	100.00	-100.00	
410150 Salem	7,335.00	10,000.00	-2,665.00	73.35 9
410152 Seattle	15,100.00	14,000.00	1,100.00	107.86 %
410154 Shalom	770.00	750.00	20.00	102.67 %
410162 Western	1,000.00	1,500.00	-500.00	66.67 %
410164 Zion	17,500.00	17,500.00	0.00	100.00 %
Total 4101 Member Church Contributions	104,537.60	112,550.00	-8,012.40	92.88 %
4200 Other Contributions	101,001100	,	0,012110	02.00
4206 Contributions-Individuals	3,180.00	1,500.00	1,680.00	212.00 %
4208 Affiliated Mennonite Groups	4,200.00	4,500.00	-300.00	93.33 %
4210 Contributions-Others	4,200.00	500.00	-500.00	55.55
Total 4200 Other Contributions	7,380.00	6,500.00	880.00	113.54 %
4300 Other Income	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	-,		
4305 Miscellaneous Income	250.00		250.00	
Total 4300 Other Income	250.00		250.00	
4400 Annual Meeting Income	200.00		200.00	
		10,000,00	10,000,00	
4401 Registration, Housing, Meals		10,000.00	-10,000.00	
4403 Offerings-Annual Meeting		1,000.00	-1,000.00	
4404 Pastor Dinner Contributions 4408 Other Income-Annual Meeting		1,000.00	-1,000.00	

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
440802 Reimbursements		250.00	-250.00	
Total 4408 Other Income-Annual Meeting		250.00	-250.00	
Total 4400 Annual Meeting Income		12,250.00	-12,250.00	
4700 Interest/Dividend Income				
4701 Checking/Bank MM Interest	114.88	150.00	-35.12	76.59 9
Total 4700 Interest/Dividend Income	114.88	150.00	-35.12	76.59 9
4800 Investment Gains/Losses				
4802 MF Stock/Bond Fund Income	968.57	200.00	768.57	484.29 9
4804 Investment Fund Income	47,530.98	40,000.00	7,530.98	118.83 9
Total 4800 Investment Gains/Losses	48,499.55	40,200.00	8,299.55	120.65 9
Total Income	\$160,782.03	\$171,650.00	\$ -10,867.97	93.67 %
GROSS PROFIT	\$160,782.03	\$171,650.00	\$ -10,867.97	93.67 %
Expenses				
5100 Exec. Conf. Minister Support				
5101 Salary/Housing	77,945.04	72,406.00	5,539.04	107.65 9
5104 FICA Support	20.36	5,539.00	-5,518.64	0.37 9
5105 Corinthian Plan Premiums	12,233.74	12,150.00	83.74	100.69 %
5106 Retirement	6,235.56	6,236.00	-0.44	99.99 %
5107 Medical HRA	1,500.00	1,500.00	0.00	100.00 %
Total 5100 Exec. Conf. Minister Support	97,934.70	97,831.00	103.70	100.11 %
5170 District Pastor Expense				
5171 District Pastor Stipends	15,000.00	16,000.00	-1,000.00	93.75 %
5173 District Pastor Non Travel Expense		150.00	-150.00	
Total 5170 District Pastor Expense	15,000.00	16,150.00	-1,150.00	92.88 9
5240 Administrative Asst				
5241 Salary Admin Asst	7,667.00	12,000.00	-4,333.00	63.89 %
5242 FICA Admin Asst	590.30	924.00	-333.70	63.89 %
Total 5240 Administrative Asst	8,257.30	12,924.00	-4,666.70	63.89 %
5250 Communications Coordinator				
5251 Salary Communications Coordinator	2,404.05	3,500.00	-1,095.95	68.69 9
5252 FICA Support	185.35	266.00	-80.65	69.68 9
Total 5250 Communications Coordinator	2,589.40	3,766.00	-1,176.60	68.76 9
5500 Pastoral Leadership Team				
5501 Pastors' Retreat		2,000.00	-2,000.00	
5506 Non-Travel Expenses	308.90	500.00	-191.10	61.78 9
Total 5500 Pastoral Leadership Team	308.90	2,500.00	-2,191.10	12.36 9
5530 Theological Education Team				
5535 Ministry Inquiry Program		500.00	-500.00	
Total 5530 Theological Education Team		500.00	-500.00	

		TO	OTAL	
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
5901 Non-Travel Expenses	1,819.00	3,000.00	-1,181.00	60.63 %
Total 5900 Board of Directors	1,819.00	3,000.00	-1,181.00	60.63 %
5950 Contracted Services				
5958 Translation Services	4,833.60	6,200.00	-1,366.40	77.96 %
Total 5950 Contracted Services	4,833.60	6,200.00	-1,366.40	77.96 %
6000 Conference Office				
6004 Handbook	294.30	350.00	-55.70	84.09 9
6010 Office Supply	287.96	1,500.00	-1,212.04	19.20 %
6011 Conference Office	552.67	500.00	52.67	110.53 %
6015 Office Communication	2,627.69	2,500.00	127.69	105.11 9
Total 6000 Conference Office	3,762.62	4,850.00	-1,087.38	77.58 9
6112 Travel Pool & Meeting Expense				
611201 Travel - Board		3,500.00	-3,500.00	
611202 Travel - Exec Conf Minister	1,003.35	4,000.00	-2,996.65	25.08 9
611203 Travel - District Pastors	4,453.46	4,000.00	453.46	111.34 9
611204 Travel - Teams/Committees	348.80	300.00	48.80	116.27 9
611205 Travel - Churchwide Events	198.00	500.00	-302.00	39.60
611206 Travel - PNMC Office		400.00	-400.00	
611207 Travel - Communications Coordinator		200.00	-200.00	
611230 Travel - Assembly Delegate	-500.00		-500.00	
Total 6112 Travel Pool & Meeting Expense	5,503.61	12,900.00	-7,396.39	42.66 9
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	
Total 6292 Food-Annual Meeting		2,500.00	-2,500.00	
6294 Conference Speakers				
629401 Conference Speaker		1,000.00	-1,000.00	
629405 Other Honorariums		1,000.00	-1,000.00	
Total 6294 Conference Speakers		2,000.00	-2,000.00	
Total 6290 Annual Meeting		6,500.00	-6,500.00	
6300 Conference Communications Council	500.00	750.00	-250.00	66.67
6400 Other Expenses	629.69		629.69	
6402 Investment/Checking Fees	9,577.60	8,500.00	1,077.60	112.68 9
6406 Workers Compensation Insurance	722.00	500.00	222.00	144.40 %
6408 Property, Liability Insurance	721.00	750.00	-29.00	96.13 9
6409 Accounting, Legal, Professional Fees		300.00	-300.00	
Total 6400 Other Expenses	11,650.29	10,050.00	1,600.29	115.92 9
otal Expenses	\$152,159.42	\$178,921.00	\$ -26,761.58	85.04 %
IET OPERATING INCOME	\$8,622.61	\$ -7,271.00	\$15,893.61	-118.59 %

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
Other Income				
7000 Designated Contributions				
700001 NW Mexico Project Fund	1,100.00		1,100.00	
Total 7000 Designated Contributions	1,100.00		1,100.00	
7100 Gain on Sale of Assets	14,950.98	15,000.00	-49.02	99.67 %
7800 Realized Investment Gain/Loss	22,545.71		22,545.71	
7900 Unrealized Investment Gains/Losses	69,666.53		69,666.53	
Total Other Income	\$108,263.22	\$15,000.00	\$93,263.22	721.75 %
Other Expenses				
8000 Designated Expenses	1,100.00		1,100.00	
Total Other Expenses	\$1,100.00	\$0.00	\$1,100.00	0.00%
NET OTHER INCOME	\$107,163.22	\$15,000.00	\$92,163.22	714.42 %
NET INCOME	\$115,785.83	\$7,729.00	\$108,056.83	1,498.07 %

Balance Sheet As of January 31, 2022

		TOTAL		
	AS OF JAN 31, 2022	AS OF JAN 31, 2021 (PY)	CHANGE	% CHANGE
ASSETS				
Current Assets				
Bank Accounts				
110201 Checking Account (US Bank)	0.00	0.00	0.00	
110202 General Fund Checking (US Bank)	41,336.06	44,909.59	-3,573.53	-7.96 %
Total 110201 Checking Account (US Bank)	41,336.06	44,909.59	-3,573.53	-7.96 %
110205 US Bank MM	15,457.49	75,454.88	-59,997.39	-79.51 %
110206 Everence MM	75,234.12	25,193.72	50,040.40	198.62 %
Total Bank Accounts	\$132,027.67	\$145,558.19	\$ -13,530.52	-9.30 %
Total Current Assets	\$132,027.67	\$145,558.19	\$ -13,530.52	-9.30 %
Fixed Assets				
120100 Office Equipment				
120101 Purchased Costs	224.98	224.98	0.00	0.00 %
Total 120100 Office Equipment	224.98	224.98	0.00	0.00 %
Total Fixed Assets	\$224.98	\$224.98	\$0.00	0.00 %
Other Assets				
110600 Endowment Funds	1,259,225.07	1,129,531.56	129,693.51	11.48 %
110603 Stock & Bond Fund (Menn Found)	0.00	17,163.60	-17,163.60	-100.00 %
Total 110600 Endowment Funds	1,259,225.07	1,146,695.16	112,529.91	9.81 %
Total Other Assets	\$1,259,225.07	\$1,146,695.16	\$112,529.91	9.81 %
TOTAL ASSETS	\$1,391,477.72	\$1,292,478.33	\$98,999.39	7.66 %

Balance Sheet As of January 31, 2022

	TOTAL				
	AS OF JAN 31, 2022	AS OF JAN 31, 2021 (PY)	CHANGE	% CHANGE	
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY					
Liabilities					
Current Liabilities					
Other Current Liabilities					
200105 Mexico Project Fund	13,789.12	13,487.82	301.30	2.23 %	
210000 Payroll Liabilities	0.00	0.00	0.00		
2102 Federal Withholding	1,989.98	1,489.38	500.60	33.61 %	
2104 State Withholding (OR)	494.03	439.05	54.98	12.52 %	
210401 Oregon Unempl	4.92	4.64	0.28	6.03 %	
Total 210000 Payroll Liabilities	2,488.93	1,933.07	555.86	28.76 %	
211112 Payroll Tax Payable	-8.47	-9.19	0.72	7.83 %	
Total Other Current Liabilities	\$16,269.58	\$15,411.70	\$857.88	5.57 %	
Total Current Liabilities	\$16,269.58	\$15,411.70	\$857.88	5.57 %	
Total Liabilities	\$16,269.58	\$15,411.70	\$857.88	5.57 %	
Equity					
320700 Loan Funds					
320702 Memorial Loan Fund (Equipment)	2,290.36	2,290.36	0.00	0.00 %	
Total 320700 Loan Funds	2,290.36	2,290.36	0.00	0.00 %	
320800 Ministry Funds					
320801 Seed Northwest	74,381.83	79,781.83	-5,400.00	-6.77 %	
320805 PNMC Mennonite Women	253.00	253.00	0.00	0.00 %	
320808 Healthy Congregations Grant Fund	27,728.61	39,692.61	-11,964.00	-30.14 %	
Total 320800 Ministry Funds	102,363.44	119,727.44	-17,364.00	-14.50 %	
34000 Sharing/Reserve Funds					
34001 Sharing Fund - Ins Premium	0.00	270.31	-270.31	-100.00 %	
34002 Sharing Fund - Catastrophe	4,990.49	4,990.49	0.00	0.00 %	
Total 34000 Sharing/Reserve Funds	4,990.49	5,260.80	-270.31	-5.14 %	
3500 Net Assets Available	709,578.43	709,578.43	0.00	0.00 %	
3900 Retained Earnings	440,209.60	335,997.07	104,212.53	31.02 %	
Net Income	115,775.82	104,212.53	11,563.29	11.10 %	
Total Equity	\$1,375,208.14	\$1,277,066.63	\$98,141.51	7.68 %	
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$1,391,477.72	\$1,292,478.33	\$98,999.39	7.66 %	

PNMC BALLOT 2022 Brief Biographies

Moderator-Elect — Elected position

Chris Nord — Albany Mennonite Church — Albany, OR — 4 year term (2 as Moderator-Elect, 2 as Moderator) Chris and Angie Nord moved to Oregon in 1997 for Chris to attend Graduate School at OSU. They have lived in Albany since then. Their two sons, Andrew and Logan, are currently attending EMU and CMU respectively. Chris teaches Math at Chemeketa Community College and enjoys gardening, tending his fruit trees, hiking and snow-shoeing with Angie and rock climbing. Chris has served on the Drift Creek Camp executive board since 2012. They are members at Albany Mennonite Church.

PNMC Board – Elected position

Emily Toews – Menno Mennonite Church – Ritzville, WA - 4 year term

Emily Toews loves the church. As a youth she sat on her church's youth committee and on the Mennonite Youth Council of Eastern Canada. Later she was a student representative on both the Canadian Mennonite Bible College (now Canadian Mennonite University) and AMBS boards. Most recently, while she was pastoring in Saskatchewan, Canada, Emily was a member of the Mennonite Church Canada Engagement Council. Emily is many things, including a pastor, teacher, gardener, quilter, bookworm, animal and nature-lover, and coffee drinker. She and her husband, Bryce Miller, co-pastor Menno Mennonite Church and delight in their imaginative and lively children, Luke (6) and Anna (5).

PNMC Board Member – Appointed position

Kiara Yoder – Zion Mennonite Church, Hubbard, OR - 2 year term

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 board. 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 provides a rich depth of perspective.

Board Secretary - Appointed position

Julia Todd – Albany Mennonite Church – Albany, OR – filling an unexpired term

Julia grew up in the mid-Willamette valley attending high school at Western (Mennonite) Christian school. She attended both Hesston and Goshen Colleges returning home after graduating from Goshen in nursing. Her career was spent working in the Samaritan Health system for almost 40 years in various positions in Lebanon, Newport and Albany hospitals. She worked as an Operating room nurse for 28 years and the last 12 years were in the Employee Health position.

Julia resides in Lebanon Oregon with her husband Greig. She retired from a career in nursing in 2018 and is kept busy with gardening, raising poultry, quilting and some volunteer work. In 2021 she volunteered giving Covid vaccinations in Linn County with the Health Department. Julia enjoys working with church commitments and teaching adult Sunday School. Julia worked with the MCC Fall Festival for a number of years as well as being on the board for the Mennonite Village in Albany. Greig and Julia enjoy having the flexibility to meet friends for coffee again as a special treat in retirement.

Pastoral Leadership Team - Appointed position

Sam Adams (4-year term) — Bend Mennonite Church, Bend, OR - 2nd term

Sam Adams, with his wife Andrea, planted Bend Mennonite Church in 2006 where he continues to serve as the pastor. Sam earned his PhD in theology from the University of St Andrews and currently is the Head of School at Seven Peaks School, an independent, PS-8th grade IB school in Bend. Sam and Andrea have three kids, Owen (20), Everett (18), and Eleni (16) and will be celebrating 24 years of marriage this June. As someone who believes deeply in the mission of the Mennonite church and the importance of our mutual support and accountability, Sam is looking forward to serving the PNMC and our churches by serving another term on the Pastoral Leadership Team.

PNMC Gift Discernment Team - Elected positions

Rick Bollman – Emmaus Mennonite Church – Meridian, $ID - 2^{nd}$ one year term

Rick is a retired elementary school principal. He and his wife Marj have 3 children and 3 grandchildren. Rick is a lay pastor at Emmaus Mennonite Church in Meridian, ID and is the current chairperson for the Idaho Mennonite World Relief Festival. He has served on the PNMC Board, Pastoral Leadership and Peace and Justice Committees in the past. Rick is also involved in ministries to the homeless and supports a former death row inmate. He enjoys outdoor sports and traveling. Rick says "I believe that participating in the PNMC brings joy, hope and peace to our lives. It also helps to fulfill a greater calling as Anabaptists and followers of Jesus to connect and stand together with a larger faith community. I believe that working together brings God's love to others."

Jennifer Lyn Boers Gingerich - Salem Mennonite Church, Salem OR - 1 year term

Jennifer Lyn Gingerich (she/her/hers) lives in Salem, Oregon with her spouse Paul Boers and has been part of Salem Mennonite Church since January 2005. She grew up at Zion (Hubbard) Mennonite and has been involved in attending PNMC events since she was a young child, providing her with connections throughout the conference. Jennifer also attended Drift Creek Camp while growing up and was eventually on staff there many summers. Jennifer is a 2002 graduate of Goshen College and a 2012 graduate of Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary. She works as a Board Certified Chaplain at Providence Benedictine Nursing Center in Mount Angel, Oregon. Jennifer enjoys spending time with her spouse and cats, knitting, listening to audio books, playing games, and being with her nieces and nephews.

Finance Team – Appointed positions

Harold Nussbaum, Portland Mennonite, Portland, OR, Finance Team - 1 year term

Harold has been active at Portland Mennonite Church since moving to Oregon in 1998 from Pennsylvania. He previously served terms as Secretary and Treasurer on the PNMC Board, and much longer ago as Chair of the PNMC Peace and Justice Committee. He retired as a Business Analyst for the Housing Authority of Portland (now Home Forward) in 2014.

Jack Swaim, Hyde Park Mennonite Fellowship, Boise, Idaho — Finance Team — 2 year term

Jack Swaim and his spouse, Beth Landis, are members of Hyde Park Mennonite Fellowship in Boise, Idaho. He is serving a second term on the Leadership Team at Hyde Park. Jack was a PNMC board member from 2011 through 2018, where he was Moderator the final two years. He has been on the PNMC Finance Team the past two years. In addition, he has participated in several denomination-wide MC USA teams. Prior to retiring from Hewlett Packard in 2007, his career was in various leadership roles (including finance) at high tech companies. He has been doing a range of volunteer work for decades and is continuing to volunteer.

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 credentialing of pastors and other church workers in the Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference (PNMC). In the past year this has included the following:

- **Christie Dahlin**, of Hyde Park Mennonite Church in Boise, Idaho, was approved to be licensed for pastoral ministry on September 20, 2021.
- **Rachael Weasley**, of Community of Hope in Bellingham, Washington, was approved to be licensed for specific ministry as a church planter in the Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference on September 20, 2021. (Community of Hope is an affiliated church plant of PNMC.)
- **Peter Epp**, of Albany Mennonite Church in Oregon, was affirmed for ordination on November 15, 2021.
- **Steve Bomar** of Zion Mennonite Church in Hubbard, Oregon, was approved to be licensed for pastoral ministry on November 15, 2021.
- **Jerrell Williams** of Salem Mennonite Church in Oregon, was affirmed for ordination on January 24, 2022.
- **Stephen Obold Eshleman** of Portland Mennonite Church in Oregon, was affirmed for ordination on January 24, 2022.

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 are who serving in the PNMC. This includes offering resources on setting appropriate boundaries in relationships.

In the past year, Rob Hanson of Hyde Park Mennonite Church in Boise, joined the Pastoral Leadership Team. Sam Adams of Bend Mennonite Church, Angel Campoz of Jerusalen Iglesia Menonita in Salem, Amy Epp of Seattle Mennonite Church, and Rod Stafford (chair) of Portland Mennonite Church continue their terms. Katherine Jameson Pitts sits on the Team as PNMC Executive Conference Minister. And we are very grateful for Barb Buxman's outstanding work as recorder.

Submitted by Rod Stafford (April 7, 2022)

CIHAN

Concilio De Iglesias Anabautistas Del Noroeste

After two years of this virus: Covid-19, has shown us that God is good and faithful with His Children. Our Lord has been walking by our side, throughit all and that has He never lets us go. We are blessed to a certain point, in going back to living our "normal" lives, PRAISE THE LORD!

Pastors: The pastors have resumed their monthly pastors' meetings; resumed on August 2, 2021.

<u>Children's Committee:</u> Iglesia Menonite Roca De Salvación did the Kids Convention in July, 2021. The Convention was held at Calvary Mennonite Church. Fifteen kids participated. Former Rio De Agua Vida member, Dulce Arguelles, was guest speaker. The kids' songs were led by Montaños family who are members from Iglesia Menonita Roca De Salvación.

Women's Committee: Ministerios Restauración was in charge of the Women's Convention, held August 20-22 at the Menucha Retreat and Conference Center. Orfilia Morán led and planned the event together with Ministerios Restauración and Rios de Vida. Orfilia was the guest speaker for the gathering, which was attended by 25 people. She spoke on "The Character of the Woman of God", based on Proverbs 31:10. The women had a wonderful time. They appreciated what Orfilia had shared and would like to have another gathering in 2022.

I would also like to express that it has been a blessing to be a member of the PNMC Board. It was wonderful to work with special people, who have a heart in doing God's work I will continually pray for the PNMC board members.

Blessings, Nelly Moran A. CIHAN's Representative

"Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might."

Ephesians 6:10

PNMC AREA ORGANIZATION REPORTS

CAMP PALISADES

Submitted by Kevin Chupp, April 2022

We were excited to restart Camp Palisades this past summer, with our Senior Camp July 11-14, and Junior Camp July 14-17. We had 14 senior campers (with 2 counselors) and 25 junior campers (with 6 counselors). J.D. Hiebert was our bus driver for the first time this year, and he is planning to continue helping in that role next year.

I was able to step back and take more of an administrative role. I took care of the scheduling and booking of activities, and we had an on-site director that led the campfire messages and running of the day-to-day schedule. Jared Ball, who is a teacher and worship leader at a Lutheran School & Church in Pocatello, filled that role. I was up at camp multiple times during the week, and things seem to have gone well.

One interesting dynamic is that we have a smaller percentage of campers coming from Mennonite congregations this year, and a much larger percentage coming from the Star Valley, WY community near the camp. We are grateful for that group's growing interest, and we believe they will be a helpful partner in the future of the camp.

One challenge was that we had a significant number of registrations come after the deadline. While we didn't want to turn campers away (and we didn't), we are hoping to avoid a similar situation in years to come for the sake of safety and for the ability of the campers to be able to participate in all of the activities that have to be planned in advance—primarily the raft trips. We had to come up with an alternate activity this year for kids who registered after the deadline.

Another very serious challenge is that we became aware of an instance of sexual abuse that happened at the camp as well as a separate instance of a known sexual abuser that had been allowed to be a counselor, both in the 1990's. A special committee has been working to update our child safety policies and practices and are planning on those things being in place for this Summer's Camp (and VBS). Chris Freeburne (son of Marty and Jerry Freeburne) has generously volunteered his time and expertise to help us make those changes. Chris works as the regional director of the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare and is the Child Welfare Liaison for the state of Idaho.

There are always challenges as we continue to operate the camp, but we are continually grateful for this beautiful place and the possibility of using it to inspire the next generation that will steward our faith and creation.

- Kevin Chupp, Director

Drift Creek Camp

Submitted by Brenda Hostetler Kauffman, May 2022

Drift Creek Camp was closed in 2019 for nearly five months while the Forest Service replaced a failing culvert about a half mile from the camp. We finally reopened in late October of that year only to close down again a few months later due to Covid. We were unable to host any kind of rental groups in 2020 and the question as to whether we'd be able to host summer camps in 2021 went unanswered until just weeks before we were given the green light. It was a mad scramble to pull everything together and figure out how to navigate operating in cohorts, but campers and staff alike exhibited much-appreciated flexibility in order to make things happen!

As was expected, attendance numbers were low for 2021, which was a gift as we needed to learn to operate in new ways. However, with not having camp for a few years, it seems that numbers will be low again for 2022. We hope that momentum can return and camps will be full again in the future. Summer programs have adapted and there is room for growth!

Covid and forest fires kept volunteers away for two years. However, we were beyond grateful when former caretaker, Tim Martin, brought his construction crew to DCC in March to resume work on the new staff house. In the past few months the cabin has come together and the finish line is in sight! The beams and flooring were salvaged from the original cabin. That wood has been repurposed in the new space as steps and window/door trim. The aged wood tells a beautiful story and restoring it has been a labor of love!

The cancellation of most of our winter 2022 groups provided a window of opportunity to start resurfacing the second floor restrooms of the lodge. So far, work has only been focused on the women's side. New lights and additional fans have been installed. The shower heads will be raised and all of the tile replaced on the walls. The floor tile was removed and the plan is to sand the floor and seal the concrete. The project has proven to be significantly more time consuming than hoped. The more we dug into the room, the more we realized needed to be replaced! The plan is to finish the women's restroom during DCC camps. However, it is going to be a while before the men's side will be addressed. If your church or Sunday School class is interested in helping, please let us know.

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!



Pacific Northwest Mennonite Historical Society

6030 South Whiskey Hill Road, Hubbard OR 97032-9406 Web: pnmhs.org Ph: (503) 266-6447 Email: pnmhs.volunteer@gmail.com

Preserving the past to illuminate the future Submitted by Lin Rush, PNMHS Board Chair

The PNMHS board took action to honor **Margaret Shetler** for her over 25 years of volunteer work as our archivist. As a result we have named the archive file room The Margaret Shetler Archives. A plaque recounting her contributions has been placed outside the room. We were happy to have her present on Zoom at our annual meeting when we made the public announcement and unveiled the plaque.

The center re-opened in May 2021 with appropriate precautions after a lengthy Covid-19 closure. There was catching up to do in processing donated records. Some of the items accessioned and archived include: Abraham Yoder records from 1830-1904, Zion Mennonite Church records, Rock of Ages Rescue Mission records, Bible Mennonite Fellowship records, Hyde Park Mennonite Church records, early Pacific Coast Conference records, and Hopewell Church records.

Our annual meeting was once again held via Zoom. The speaker this year was Edwin Bontrager from the Porter Mennonite Church in Estacada, OR. Edwin shared the story of God's protective hand over members of the congregation and the community during the disastrous forest fires in 2020 when the fires threatened the Estacada area. A link to the program can be found at 2022 Annual Meeting.

We continued participation in the Anabaptist History Today effort, which is a joint project with other Mennonite historical societies. The purpose is to record stories and document how Mennonites across the country have been impacted by Covid-19. The group sponsored several webinars in the fall.

We are exploring bringing a traveling exhibit to Portland in 2023. It was created by the Kauffman Museum in North Newton, Kansas. The traveling exhibit remembers the witness of peace-minded people against the First World War of 1914-1918. This exhibit lifts up the prophetic insights and the personal courage of World War I peace protesters, and suggests parallels to the culture of war and violence in our world today.

The archives seeks to preserve the stories of Anabaptist Mennonites in the Pacific Northwest. We provide safe, secure and climate-controlled storage for congregational and personal records related to everyday Mennonite life. Attics, garages and closets are poor places for such records, so if you hold some, consider bringing them to the center for safekeeping.

Our work would not be possible without our dedicated volunteers. Long-time volunteers, John Gingerich, Carolyn Gingerich, Shirley Martin, and Lynn Miller have been joined by two new volunteers, Carol Shank and Steve Turner. Steve and Carol bring skills and abilities that complement the work of experienced volunteers.

We invite you to visit us on Wednesdays between 9:00 am and 3:00 pm.

Board: Lin Rush, Rod Fretz, Jerry Barkman, Gloria Nussbaum, Pat Hershberger, John Goertzen, Carol Shank, Jay Beaman.

Volunteers: John Gingerich, Lynn Miller, Carolyn Gingerich, Shirley Martin, Carol Shank, and Steve Turner.

PNMC CONGREGATIONAL UPDATES:

ALBANY MENNONITE, Albany, OR: Before Christmas, our song leader invited the kids to help lead a round of "If You're Happy and You Know It." A small group showed up. Then some more. And just when we thought that was it, even more little faces popped up. Before we knew it, many of us in the pews were craning our necks, trying to figure out how many kids were even up there! We were literally counting our blessings. But that moment captured something much bigger than a number. It captured the nearly limitless joy we felt about simply being back together—of being able, in person, to see the youngest members of our church family, all together.



Then the Omicron variant sent us back to online worship. This could've just been discouraging—a deflating follow-up to all that inperson joy. And in some ways, it was. But there was also this: After we had returned to in-person worship, one of us had astutely observed that we were all taking more joy in our kids because we'd gotten to know them so well on Zoom—which, believe it or not, was true. During Zoom church, our kids became a more active part of our services, and predictably, they stole the show. As a result, adults who may not have known our kids very well now know them. They delight in them, even. On that day the kids all gathered at the front, the joy that filled the sanctuary had been made possible, in large part, by the fact that the Spirit had knit us together—across the generations—on Zoom.

The Omicron variant is in the rearview mirror, but we've learned better than to predict that the roads ahead will be clear. And yet, we drive on, knowing that if God could use Zoom church to knit us together across the generations, even our pit stops can contain unexpected blessings.



CORVALLIS MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP, Corvallis, OR:

In July, we began to gather in person again, beginning outdoors. During this time together, we discussed Widerstand Consulting's Antiracism Training. In the fall, we returned to our traditional meeting location at WestM. In February, we had a retreat at Drift Creek Camp, where we enjoyed spending time together, including a talent show! This spring, our congregation had a wonderful lent season, which culminated at Easter, when we had our first potluck meal together- the first time since the beginning of the pandemic! We've also been working on a book study, in which small groups have been meeting to discuss "How to Fight Racism" by Jemar Tisby.

FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH OF ABERDEEN, Aberdeen, ID: This year marks 115 years in Aberdeen, ID for First

Mennonite Church. It's our "quindececentennial," if you will. That term doesn't yet exist, as far as I can tell, but it certainly should! And that's kind of how it feels here right now. It feels like we have been through some things and we deserve a landmark or a sacred-pile-of-rocks kind of moment à la Joshua in Gilgal. There have been tensions and fears related to processing old, unmended wounds. Several people moved out of their homes and into assisted living. And we are continuing to navigate the pandemic. Yet, there have been moments of deep, shared joy in celebrating things like Patty Toevs 100th birthday, and new voices being empowered to preach in our congregation. We continue to find opportunities to serve and grow in this place, allowing our people and our facilities to bless our community. Surviving seems like it is plenty at this point, and yet we are managing to find bits of growth amidst struggle. Our camp celebrates its quinsexagennial (65th) this year—which is an actual term. That place continues to be a grounding point for our congregation, even



as the rest of the world keeps changing around us.

EVERGREEN HEIGHTS MENNONITE CHURCH, Caldwell, ID: It seems like community and renewing our fellowship has

been a high point for our church this past year. Areas where we find the chance to connect for fellowship, worship, storytelling, mission making and learning are traditions that have been part of our church. Last summer we were able to meet in person for our annual church camp in the mountains. It was a great weekend of fun with our guest speakers Bob and Barb Buxman.

We coordinated with the local elementary school to provide 15 food boxes for families during Thanksgiving break. We continue to have collaborative meetings with LEAP housing to explore the possibility of building houses on our property. In the spring, we keep busy creating, donating and helping out with the Idaho Mennonite World Relief Festival which was held online again this



year. We have had a couple of fire pit fellowship times on our property which usually mean good conversations as well as tasty treats while enjoying the beauty around us. In June we anticipate celebrating our 20th anniversary.



HYDE PARK MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP, Boise, ID: This year has been one of change while seeking to stay grounded, at HPMF. In September, we welcomed our new pastor Christie Dahlin and her family to our church and to Boise. After a summer of in person worship, we returned to zoom worship through the various waves of increased covid cases in the fall and winter. It has been a joy to re-gather in person, since the beginning of March. Like other churches, we are navigating what hybrid worship looks like in the months ahead as we continue in-person and zoom worship. Over this year, we have said farewell to dear friends,

welcomed new ones and even had the joy of welcoming new life. This spring we have spent time learning about Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery, learning about the land we are on and pondering actions together. In the year ahead we are considering a visioning process as we hold some long-term questions as a church community. Through all the transitions and changes, online worship and mask wearing, we have sought to remain rooted in community with one another, creation, and our neighbors locally and globally.

MINISTERIOS RESTAURACION, Portland, OR: After almost two years of precautions and Covid-19 restrictions, our church families had the opportunity to gather for a weekend at Drift Creek Camp. It was very exciting to be together, enjoying nature, having cookouts and participating in a program of Bible activities. Everyone definitely wants to relive the experience in 2022.

RIVER OF LIFE FELLOWSHIP, McMinnville, OR: Activities during the first months of 2021 were interrupted due to the Covid-19 pandemic. During that time we used Facebook Live to continue

bringing the gospel to homes. Once the state government authorized meeting in person, we returned to our normal activities.

Tuesday: Prayer Service (begins at 6:30pm); Thursday: Bible Study (begins at 6:30 pm)

Sunday: Sunday School for children and adults (begins at 4:30pm); Regular Service (begins at 5:30pm)

We have two church business meetings a year. The men's department meets on the second Wednesday of each month, while the women's department meets on the first Wednesday of each month.

Thank God we continue to work firmly in the Lord's Work, we have had some brothers invited to preach, and some activities with the CIHAN council, an example of this was the ladies' retreat organized by Sister Orfilia Moran. The Spanish-speaking churchhas approximately 60 people including everyone. Regarding the Anglo church: We are congregating around 8 people, most of them from seniors, services are on Sundays at 10:00am. We hope in God to continue working and maintain the rhythm of these activities already mentioned.



SALEM MENNONITE CHURCH, Keizer, OR:

Life at Salem Mennonite Church has been full of new energy. We have completed a visioning process and are now trying to live into that vision. We have been focused on reestablishing our community through fellowship and worship.

SEATTLE MENNONITE CHURCH, Seattle, WA: One blessed Sunday in February 2022, Seattle Mennonite Church unanimously discerned our desire as a congregation to sell our Lake City campus property to Community Roots Housing for the purpose of developing a mixed-use building or buildings consisting of affordable housing (up to 280 units!), and non-housing first floor space. The ground floor of the building(s) will consist of office and/or community space and/or Seattle Mennonite Church! Our years-long discernment has truly been a shared and inspired effort as we developed a common vision, and we are eager for this next season of our Campus Redevelopment journey.





<u>WESTERN MENNONITE CHURCH, Salem, OR:</u> A common aspect of congregational life this past year has been congregational meetings to explore our vision, mission, and future as a congregation. We continue to explore God's will in this way as well as through worship and weekly Bible studies and mission projects.

ZION MENNONITE CHURCH, Hubbard, OR: Transition seems to be the catch word for so many of our churches as



we navigate living with Covid, returning to in-person meetings, and interacting online. In addition to the transitions so many of us have in common, Zion has adopted a new church leadership structure, welcomed Steve Bomar as our new lead pastor, and begun some new habits including a Christmas Eve Candle Light worship service. These transitions serve to highlight our deep appreciation for the consistency which both Jodi Hansen (13 years) and Jana Gingerich (18 years) continue to bring to the Zion church family.

As you think of Zion, we appreciate your prayers; strength for those who continue to serve so faithfully, that the Bomar family would settle in to their new home and the Hubbard community, that Zion would enjoy developing new habits as we worship together, and that our new leadership structure would serve us well and further empower us to be the light of Christ in our corner of Oregon.

PNMC AFFILIATED CHURCH PLANTS:

COMMUNITY of HOPE MENNONITE CHURCH, Bellingham, WA: Community of Hope Mennonite Church centers queer theology, nurtures warm family of choice, and integrates justice work with our spiritual lives. We have had a year of milestones as a brand-new church plant based in Bellingham, WA! We formed a leadership team last May (2021), started worshiping monthly in July (2021), did our first in-person gathering in September, did our first repeat-event in December, formed our first small group (for people in ministry roles who identify as queer) and created a website this spring (www.communityofhopechurch.com). It's been quite the whirlwind year for our little church plant! We plan to continue our online ministry, so please feel free to join us in Zoom worship on any first Monday evening of the month at 5:30pm (email pastor@communityofhopechurch.com for the Zoom link). We hope to grow the local branch of our church soon and appreciate your prayers!

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION REPORTS

Anabaptist Disabilities Network

Everence

MennoMedia

Mennonite Church USA

Mennonite Education Agency

Mennonite Health Services

Mennonite Men

Mennonite Mission Network (MMN)

West Coast Mennonite Central Committee

Anabaptist Disabilities Network

Annual Report 2021







In 2021, Anabaptist Disabilities Network:

- Co-sponsored the <u>MC USA Accessibility Resolution</u> along with four congregations. The resolution comes before the delegate body in May of 2022.
- Gave matching funds to congregations to increase accessibility through our <u>Barrier-Free Grant program</u>.
 Projects have included accessible restrooms, renovation of a camp bathhouse, and a summer church camp for Deaf children.
- Published a <u>Disability Language Guide</u> which was included in the new style guide for MennoMedia.
- Offered three webinars:
 - Do We Want to Get Well? Healing What Divides Us with Amy Julia Becker in January
 - Providing Mutual Support when People Experience Mental Illness (part 1) with Janelle Bitikofer in June
 - Churchwide Change: Reducing Stigma and Supporting People who Experience Mental Illness (part 2) with Janelle Bitikofer in October
- · Presented at multiple conferences:
 - Led a presentation on inclusive mission trips for youth/young adults with disabilities at the Faith Inclusion Network Community for All Conference
 - Led an ADN networking group at the 2021 Church of the Brethren Annual Conference
 - o Coordinated accessibility at MennoCon 21
 - o Presented 2 workshops on disability and hosted an online virtual exhibit booth at MennoCon 21
 - Led a workshop on aging and disability at the Church of the Brethren National Older Adult Conference
- Published:
 - Connections Newsletter (Spring Transitioning to Adulthood, Summer Hearing Loss and Deafness, Fall – Including Children with Disabilities in Congregational Life)
 - Opening Doors blog articles

Our Staff: Jeanne Davies, executive director
Kate Szambecki, resource director (hired in August 2021)

Kate Szambecki, resource director (nired in August 2021)
Emily Hunsberger, office administrator

<u>Field Associates</u> are volunteer professionals who bring their wisdom and experience to ADN. *Staff and Field Associates are available for accessibility assessments, consultations, preaching, classes, or workshops.*

Our expense budget for 2021 was \$87,200. We rely on support from both individuals and congregations. In May of 2021, we began our Building the Future Partners campaign, asking ADN friends for a commitment of \$1000/year for 3 years. So far, we have 34 partners and are hoping for 6 more.

We invite congregations interested in increasing their accessibility to consider designating a congregational disability advocate or becoming a partner congregation.

www.anabaptistdisabilitiesnetwork.org • 574-323-1362 • adnet@adnetonline.org

I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.

- John 15:5

Everence partners with churches to encourage good stewardship

Everence Financial® has been a reliable stewardship partner for churches since our start in 1945 as a mutual aid organization.

We continue working closely with churches and their members, and that will always be at the core of what we do.

We not only encourage generosity among our members – we help them find effective ways to be more generous, as part of our focus on stewardship as a spiritual discipline.

Our service to the faith community takes many forms, including stewardship education resources for pastors and church leaders. Learn more at everence.com/financial-services/for-churches.

Your MyNeighbor card can help you support your church



Everence Federal Credit Union created the MyNeighbor card to make it easy for members to support nonprofits, including their home congregations.

Grow your financial future with purpose

Everence 2021 report

Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference Annual Meeting June 17, 2022

The credit card, launched in 2017, has generated more than \$1.5 million for charitable organizations so far.

Members use the MyNeighbor card just as they would any credit card. Everence donates 1.5% of each transaction total to the charity the member chooses from thousands of possibilities, including churches.

"The MyNeighbor card provides a simple and effective way for people to support the charities they care about most," said Matt Gehman, Everence Federal Credit Union President and CEO.

Visit everence.com/myneighbor for details.

Sharing Fund helps churches boost benevolence

The Everence Sharing Fund helps thousands of families every year through matching grants to churches.

Millions of dollars have gone to our partner congregations over the years, with churches contributing millions more to help people with basic, everyday needs.

Sharing Fund grants often help people pay their rent, put food on the table or take care of medical bills. Over the last couple of years, some of that relief has gone to people directly affected by COVID-19, as well.

Churches with an Everence stewardship advocate can access matching Sharing Fund grants.
Check out everence.com/sharing-fund for more information.

Financial wellness program is helping hundreds of pastors

More than 400 pastors have received a total of \$2 million in grants through the Everence Pastoral Financial Wellness Program in the last five years.



The financial assistance grants are part of an initiative funded, in part, by Lilly Endowment Inc. to help pastors tackle medical, credit card and educational debt.

The COVID-19 pandemic has added to the challenges faced by pastors and faith communities, as many churches had to endure a decline in giving.

Everence recognizes that pastors' financial health is important, both in terms of their own holistic wellbeing and as a component of a thriving ministry.

More info is available at everence. com/pastoral-financial-wellness.

















REPORT TO PACIFIC NORTHWEST MENNONITE CONFERENCE

Spring 2022

At MennoMedia we publish curricula and books that call readers to follow Jesus in word and deed. We publish resources about Christian discipleship, spirituality, reconciliation, justice, and theology from an Anabaptist perspective. Our curricula, periodicals, and hymnals reach a broad spectrum of evangelical, mainline, and Anabaptist readers and congregations, cultivating passion for faith formation and an active life of discipleship.

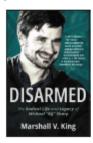
NEW RESOURCES FOR THE ENTIRE CHURCH, FROM HERALD PRESS



Been in the Struggle

Pursuing an Antiracist Spirituality

Been in the Struggle nurtures, challenges, and fosters the work and witness of dismantling racism for the long haul. Filled with wisdom and insight from nearly three decades of partnering across racial lines, authors Regina Shands Stoltzfus and Tobin Miller Shearer offer a powerful mix of practical direction and poignant reflection to empower and sustain those working to dismantle racism, regardless of their stage on the journey.



Disarmed

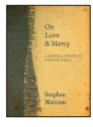
The Radical Life and Legacy of Michael "MJ" Sharp Michael "MJ" Sharp was a modern Mennonite armed with wit and intellect, but not a gun. At 34 years old, MJ was working in the Democratic Republic of the Congo—urging rebels to lay down their weapons-when he was murdered. This gripping account explores what compelled MJ to travel the world working for peace and the impact of his life and death in the ongoing story of Christian peacemaking.



The Space Between Us

Conversations about Transforming Conflict

Conflict is inevitable. But rather than approaching conflicts as threats or problems to be solved, what if we could see our disagreements as opportunities for personal growth? Facilitator and mediator Betty Pries gently guides readers toward seeing discord as an opportunity for positive change and a way to build resilience. Pries offers practical skills for engaging conflict and casts a vision for a more joy-filled future.



On Love and Mercy

A Social Justice Devotional

A 60-day devotional that invites readers to expand their vision of both personal faith in God and the redemptive work of social action. Breaking down the premise that Christians must choose between being either socially conscience or theologically sound, Stephen Mattson offers the hopeful message that Jesus—and Christianity—is both. Each day's entry offers a much-needed source of affirmation, solidarity, and encouragement.

SHINE: LIVING IN GOD'S LIGHT

Welcome children and youth to a place where they are known and loved, where their questions are taken seriously, and where they can gather to hear God's story and together find meaning for their lives. Shine guides children and youth to stretch and grow toward God's light, and then shine that light to others.

For those raising children in the Anabaptist tradition, the importance of teaching impressionable, curious hearts and minds about faith from an Anabaptist perspective is essential. Whether you are looking for Sunday curriculum, faith formation activities for families, or wholechurch experiences around the biblical story, Shine has options to suit your church's needs.

Shine equips children to

- Grow in relationship with Jesus
- Explore God's story together
- Serve one another







Sunday school that lights the way.





2022 Report to Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference of Mennonite Church USA

So, if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! 2 Corinthians 5:17

Ways MC USA equipped conferences, congregations and communities to #BeTransformed in 2021

Our Mission

The mission of Mennonite Church USA Executive Board is to equip and empower leaders to share with others the gift of God's peace and transformative love.

Our Vision

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.

Our Renewed Commitments

- Follow Jesus
- · Witness to God's peace
- Experience transformation



More than 1,000 people participated in MennoCon21, MC USA's first hybrid convention, held online and in-person in Cincinnati, Ohio, July 6-10. Revitalization was a key focus, with Executive Director Glen Guyton introducing Be Transformed as the theme for the next biennium.

Church Vitality staff coached faith formation leaders during a difficult year through cohorts, roundtable discussions and webinars. At-home worship guides for Lent and Advent resourced families, while a Bible-based curriculum about policing helped congregations discuss important social justice issues.



MC USA supported new missional churches, awarding its second round of Thrive Church Planting Grants to three congregations: Community of Hope, Summit Street Church and Wild Church.



<u>Subscribe to PeaceMail</u>, MC USA's weekly digital news magazine and the only source for all of the denomination's news, blogs, upcoming events and resources.



The first "Learn, Pray, Join" initiative of 2021, in collaboration with the Mennonites Against Militarism project, focused on the "Cost of War." highlighting resistance to war as a core peace church value.

"Learn, Pray, Join: Cost of Poverty" explored the topic of poverty from theological and practical perspectives, addressing its intersectional nature and the impact of the pandemic, through prayers, blogs and resources.

In response to rising gun violence, MC USA partnered with <u>RAWtools</u>, an organization that teaches nonviolence and turns guns to gardening tools, which are sold to support the denomination's peace and justice work.

Twenty congregations received <u>Justice</u>
<u>Fund</u> grants for their efforts to combat
poverty, dismantle racism, seek
immigration justice or reimagine policing.
This work was supported by Allegheny
Mennonite Conference, which provided a
\$45K donation and \$15K matching grant,
and by giving from across the church.



Glen Guyton began his second four-year term as executive director in April 2021 and <u>Jon Carlson</u>, pastor, Forest Hills Mennonite Church, was affirmed as moderator elect at the Delegate Assembly in July.

MC USA's Women in Leadership ministry created "Laboring Toward Wholeness," a Bible-based curriculum for dismantling patriarchy in the church, and relaunched its Holding It(,) Together podcast.





MennoCon23, MC USA's biennial convention will be held in Kansas City, Missouri, July 4-8, 2023. Save the date for this transformative experience!

MennoniteUSA.org



Mennonite Education Agency Report to Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference April 2022

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

A season of change at MEA

Greetings from Elkhart, Indiana, as the seasons begin to transform from winter to spring. MEA is also entering a





Season of change. On September 1, 2021, Rev. Dr. Michael

Danner (left) was named Executive Director and CEO of MEA.

Michael serves as part of a shared staffing arrangement between

MEA and Mennonite Church USA Executive Board. In this shared

staffing role, Michael provides leadership to MEA as the Executive

Director and leadership to the church vitality team of MC USA as
the Associate Executive Director. The goal of the shared staffing
arrangement is to reimagine the education ministry of the church

to better serve the needs of MC USA members, congregations, and conferences.

Shana Peachey Boshart (above right) was appointed Faith Formation Minister as of November 1, 2021. In this new role, Shana serves in partnership with the Mennonite Schools Council (preK through grade 12 schools) and is expanding "Mennonite education" to include faith formation at the congregational level as well.

The goal of MEA going forward is to build on what continues to be vital from the past, while considering the educational needs of the whole church, including local congregations and area conferences,



non-degree educational programing, and resources for church-based leadership development.

CFO and Senior Director Lisa Heinz (right) retired at the end of December after 23 years of service. <u>Janice Eigsti Miller</u> (left) a Goshen College graduate, began as the new CFO of MEA on January 1, 2022. Heinz' retirement marks the end of an era at MEA. Over the past three years, two other long-term MEA leaders retired: Carlos Romero and Elaine Moyer. With three new staff in leadership roles, we are excited about MEA's future! It is an opportunity to reimagine

how MEA can best serve the education needs of Mennonite Church USA, congregations, conferences, and the schools.

MEA's Hispanic Ministries Education programs: SeBAH & IBA

MEA's Hispanic Anabaptist Biblical Seminary (SeBAH - Seminario Bíblico Anabautista Hispano) and the Hispanic Anabaptist Bible Institute (IBA - Instituto Bíblico Anabautista) continue to offer strong theological and biblical teaching from a uniquely Hispanic and Latino/a Anabaptist perspective. These programs always strive to be accessible and affordable. MEA's Hispanic Ministries also produces MenoTicias, a digital magazine in Spanish, produced in collaboration with Mennonite Church USA staff.

IBA (Instituto Bíblico Anabautista):

- IBA student Josúe González has been named moderator-elect of Iglesia Menonita Hispana, the
 Hispanic/Latino/a constituency group of MC USA. Josúe will graduate from IBA this Spring. One of the best
 affirmations of our work is when our students emerge as leaders in the church. We are very proud of Josúe!
- More than 30 IBA students are expected to graduate this Spring from 3 study centers in the Bronx and Brooklyn, NY, and from 1 study center in Miami, FL.

SeBAH (Seminario Bíblico Anabautista Hispano):

- 14 SeBAH students are participating this trimester in the Pastoral Accompaniment course.
- 6 new students will be enrolling in SeBAH in the upcoming summer term.
- The SeBAH graduation ceremony will be held at Hesston College on Labor Day weekend, September 2022, in combination with the IBA Tutor Training.

To learn more about IBA or SeBAH, or to enroll, visit https://hispanicmennoedu.org/.

MEA's Investment Fund

The MEA Investment Fund serves over 20 MC USA-affiliated schools, congregations, area conferences, and other education-related programs. MEA has contracted with Everence Financial to provide administrative support to the Investment Fund Committee, a role previously held by the MEA CFO. Everence brings particular expertise and resources, which will contribute to the continued success of the fund. Taylor Caouette, a Goshen College graduate, has been appointed by Everence as the MEA Investment Fund Facilitator. As of February 28, 2022, the Total Fund was valued at \$204.7 million.

Other ways MEA is supporting Anabaptist values in education

- Reporting: The <u>2021-2022 Enrollment Report</u> is an annual compilation of enrollment data from all
 member educational institutions and programs from early childhood through continuing education. Based
 on headcount in the fall 2021:
 - Mennonite educational institutions are touching the lives of 9,101 students: a decrease of 249 (2.7%) students from the 2020 total of 9,350.
 - In higher education, the total headcount decreased by 108 students (with decreases of 13 in adult degree-completion, 108 in graduate, and 13 in seminary and increases of 26 in undergraduate).
 - o Preschool, elementary, and secondary education levels showed a decrease of 127 students (2.5%).
- Electronically: MEA works through social media and other digital promotions to amplify the work of the schools and to emphasize Anabaptist values. We encourage you to "follow" MEA and the affiliated schools!
- Prayer: The <u>MEA prayer newsletter</u> is a monthly prayer resource that continues to be a blessing to the
 schools and local congregations. These prayer requests come directly from the schools across all levels of
 Mennonite education to help congregations and individuals know how best to pray for the schools and the
 work being done towards faith formation. The prayer requests can be shared in bulletins each week and/or
 printed or emailed to congregants each month for home use.
- Human resources: MEA publishes a weekly <u>Job Board</u> and distributes it to congregations, schools, constituents, and donors across the denomination and beyond. Schools affiliated with MEA can list their job openings at no charge. There are a significant number of vacancies at all levels across Mennonite education, including several principal/head of school positions. MEA is providing support to several search committees.

The MEA board and staff thank you for the many ways you support Mennonite education across the church!

Submitted by Michael Danner Executive Director, CEO April 2022

MD/jvg



2022 REPORT TO PACIFIC NORTHWEST MENNONITE CONFERENCE

MHS Vision

MHS is the go-to leader for integrating faith and work in health and human services.

MHS Mission

Anchored in Anabaptist values, MHS inspires and strengthens health and human service ministries to fulfill their missions.

These Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference organizations belong to the MHS network of ministries:

- Mennonite Services Northwest Albany, OR
- Hope Village (an MSNW affiliate) Canby, OR
- Mennonite Village (an MSNW affiliate) Albany, OR
- Oregon Mennonite Residential Services (an MSNW affiliate) Albany, OR

Activities

- The 2022 Mennonite Health Assembly was held Wednesday, March 23 Saturday, March 26, in Greenville, SC. Several Board members from Mennonite Village and Mennonite Services Northwest were in attendance. Over 100 attendees met and listened to keynote speakers and networked together for the first time in two years.
- MHS provides monthly webinars on a variety of topics. The 2022 themes include leadership, governance, and workforce development. These webinars are free and open to anyone that is interested in the topic.
- MHS members continue to appreciate tools and resources to support their ministries. For more information on MHS member services, please view our on-going member benefits video series.
- MHS Consulting continues to serve MHS members and nonmembers in the health and human services arena; primarily providing resources in governance, executive search, executive coaching, interim placement, strategic planning and positioning and operational, financial and market assessments.
- The MHS Board of Directors and MHS Staff continue to advance diversity, equity, justice and inclusion initiatives.

For Thanksgiving and Prayer

- Continued prayer for staffing retention and recruitment in our current environment. Finding and keeping qualified and compassionate employees is a significant concern for MHS member organizations and the vulnerable populations they serve across the country.
- We are grateful for the financial gifts, gifts in kind, prayer and volunteer support to MHS member organizations throughout these challenging times.

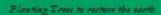
2021 has been full of exciting work and meaningful connections as the work of Mennonite Men continues to benefit our communities and congregations. Our three programs—JoinTrees, JoinMen, and JoinHands—continue to theive as we invite men to grow, give and serve as followers of Jesus.

To learn more about our work, download resources, or contribute to our programs, visit mennonitemen.org

Steve Thomas, Mennonite Men Coordinator for Canada



JoinTrees





Jun Teres is our companys to plant one militors trees by 2000. This companys targets climate charge—as estatement there to the on our planet. By increasing mer and forest cover with this. Joint reso companys, our goals are to help (1) entager global warming, (2) serve climate justice, and (3) suppost biorderesty.

Our vision is a healthy, theiring planer where God's abundant life of shalom is enjoyed by all from generation to greenation.

A recent grant given to Landaville Manuceste Onards in Pennsylvania contributed to the planting of over 800 terms on \$65 were as the land is turned from farmland back to from and meadow as part of the congregation's efforts to improve water quality, expand pollinator and widdle habitat, and address climate change.

In 2021 we funded the planning of 41,000 mees in Guatemala and Howkista to mature land in local water-shells and assist farmers recorporate mees into crops and around farming systems. These purposes improve local communities, assist value-solde populations, support biodiversity and will help mitigate the averagingly negative effects of global watering.

Limm more and contribute to this program at measurablement one/foliament

JoinHands



Sharing resources for new church buildings.

JoinHands is our peogram for giving and grantmaking. Through our JoinHands Mennonite. Church Building Peogram, we provide grants to help new congregations acquire their first church building. Mennonite Men has given over 2.3 million dollars to new congregations for this purpose.

We invite individuals and congregations to give to JoinHands. We especially ask churches pursuing building projects to give as a way of sharing resources and serving "fair balance" with congregations in need. Our current project is raising \$40,000 for the Hmong Mennonite Church in Westmirster, Colorsdo. Since 2015, members of Hmong Mennonite Church have been planning and searching for a place of their own to accommodate their growing ministry. Once funded, the grant will assist this congregation in finding space of their own to carry out their growing ministry.

Help us accomplish this fair balance. We can extend grants only as donors give to this program. For more details about this program, visit mennonitemen.org/joinhands.

JoinMen



Gathering men and promoting their growth

JoinMen provides retreats and resources from an Anabaptist perspective to promote healthy musculinity, Christian formation and community. We desire that all men find a place of belonging among men who are strong, loving and wise as we follow Jesus in building God's shalom.

Retreats provide opportunities for men to gather together and engage issues in community. More than an event, these expenences are also meant to encourage participants to be part of an engaing men's group and growth process. A full list of retreat themes we offer can be found at mennonitemen.org/ioinmen.

In addition to remate, a study gode and audio book are more available for Peorgle or Heart: Analogater Enflections on Hearts Manufacity. A video sense based on this book will soon be released. This video series featuring interviews with each of the 10 contributors can be viewed by groups who are reading and discussing the book together. We are taken articipating the release of Strong Luing, and Wise Jassing Convertations for Mes. This book is a guide for men covering topics such as male formation, personal challenges, senial wholeness, conflict tools, and life roles, just to name a few.

Engaging men to grow, give and serve as followers of Jesus



2022 PACIFIC NORTHWEST CONFERENCE

Note: Underlined words indicate active links.

Be local. Be global. **Be the Gospel.**

Pacific Northwest Conference + Mennonite Mission Network

SERVICE SITES

Service Adventure unit

Anchorage, Alaska

SOOP site

Drift Creek Camp

SERVICE PARTICIPANT SOOP

· Margaret Nisly, Reedley, California

PRAYER PARTNERS - 37

CONGREGATIONAL GIVING AND MISSION SUPPORT

During Mission Network's past fiscal year, August 1, 2020, through July 31, 2021, Pacific Northwest Conference congregations gave \$92,247. Thank you! The collaboration between Pacific Northwest Conference and Mission Network encourages transformation across the street and around the world! Thank you so much for your vital partnership in support and prayer. "I pray that God, the source of all hope, will infuse your lives with an abundance of joy and peace in the midst of your faith so that your hope will overflow through the power of the Holy Spirit" Romans 15:13 (VOICE). Especially in this time of pandemic, we stand together in prayer for God's generous grace and mercy in our families, in our church and in our world.



Mike Sherrill Executive Director and CEO

Thank you for your generous support and partnership! Blessings as you participate in God's mission in the world.



Marisa Smucker Senior Executive for Ventures

Thank you for your continued partnership in God's mission! www.MennoniteMission.net Toll-free: 1-866-866-2872



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

I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. John 15:5

MCC Calls for peace, nonviolence in the midst of war. "What does it mean to be people of peace in these times? It is challenging to watch people directly impacted by war in Ukraine and many other places like Colombia, Syria, Afghanistan and Ethiopia. Amid the devastation of war, how do we respond in a way that

reflects Anabaptist values?



At MCC, our vision is to see communities in right relationship with God, one another and creation. This is a call to peace and active nonviolence based on our faith. Christian peacemaking starts with the belief that God has made peace with us through the gift of Jesus' life, death and resurrection. Peacemaking is a response to Jesus's gift of grace and peace. "Peace is more than a wish, it's our work." We do this by partnering with grassroots and faith-based organizations and churches that actively work for peace and nonviolence, and with your support. We witness the power of people coming together with hope to respond to impossible situations and ensure the human dignity of all. We walk alongside communities in processes of conflict transformation and reconciliation. We experience the spaces of creativity and

imagination that are opened when violence is not seen as an option.

Christ invites us to step into the pain and suffering of others. The skills and tools we take into these encounters and learn along the way include: the ability to listen with care and patience, to mediate and resolve conflicts, to analyze political and historical realities, to seek out voices unheard, to support community-based actions, to be courageous allies, to imagine and create options and alternatives and to embody hope. We invite you to join us as we walk this path, together with all those impacted by wars and conflict. Ann Graber Hershberger, Executive Director, MCC U.S. | Rick Cober Bauman, Executive Director, MCC Canada

MCC Response to Ukraine

- In Kyiv, an MCC partner is providing displaced and host families with essential supplies like food, medicine and hygiene supplies and is supporting people who are evacuating with fuel and food. They are prioritizing women-headed households with children, elderly people and people with disabilities.
- In the city of Uman and in the Cherkasy region, an MCC partner is providing lodging, meals, basic
 medications and food items for displaced people as well as fuel for people who are evacuating.
- In the city of Zaporizhzhia, an MCC partner is delivering food baskets to the homes of individuals with disabilities.
- In the city of Avdiivka, an MCC partner is providing families that are sheltering in place with food and enough funds to cover basic needs for two weeks.

Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference Partnership:

PNMC churches contributed \$49,289.27 directly to MCC in 2021. PNMC congregations were also involved in the Oregon Mennonite Relief Sale, which raised \$100,000 for MCC. The Idaho MCC Relief Sale raised \$37,000 and the Mennonite Country Auction in Ritzville, WA, raised \$84,995.03. And the Et Cetera Thrift Shop in Lebanon, OR, contributed \$17,757.22. Thank You for making a difference in the name of Christ!

Currently serving with MCC from PNMC churches:

Katherine Smith from Spokane, WA – Border Migration Outreach Coordinator in Tucson, AZ | Marlene Bogard from Salem, OR – Pacific Northwest Network Consultant in Salem, OR

Current PNMC representation on the West Coast MCC board of directors:

Beth Landis – Hyde Park Mennonite Church | Eva Flores – Menonita Roca de Salvacion | Kiara Yoder – Zion Mennonite Church | Nancy Chupp – Seattle Mennonite Church

Your financial gifts, prayer support, and volunteer hours enable MCC to share the love of Christ with some of the most needy people in our world. Thank you for helping us extend God's grace, mercy, and peace to all.

1010 G Street - Reedley, CA 93654 phone: 559-638-6911 email: westcoast@mcc.org

REPORTS FROM MENNONITE COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES AND SEMINARIES

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary

Bethel College

Bluffton College

Eastern Mennonite Seminary

Eastern Mennonite University

Goshen College

Hesston College



Report to Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference

Resources for faith formation and leadership development

Academic programs

AMBS serves the church as a learning community with an Anabaptist vision, educating followers of Jesus Christ to be leaders for God's reconciling mission in the world. Our programs integrate academics, spiritual formation and practice. Join us — whether in person or at a distance — and deepen your understanding of Scripture, faith and Anabaptist theology!

- Study at a distance
 - Master of Divinity Connect (online and hybrid courses)
 - Master of Arts: Theology and Global Anabaptism (fully or partially online)
 - Graduate Certificate in Theological Studies (fully or partially online; customizable)
- · Study on campus
 - · Master of Divinity Campus
 - Master of Arts in Christian Formation
 - Master of Arts: Theology and Peace Studies
 - Graduate Certificate in Theological Studies ambs.edu/degrees-and-programs
- Yes, you can afford seminary! We offer generous needbased financial aid, matching grants and scholarships for both full- and part-time students. ambs.edu/tuition
- Want to explore seminary study? Take an online, campus or blended class, even if you're not yet admitted to AMBS, and your first three credit hours are 50% off!
 Check out our offerings: ambs.edu/upcoming-courses
- Experience AMBS: Talk with students, faculty and staff and learn what AMBS has to offer! ambs.edu/visit

Center for Faith Formation and Culture

 !Explore: A Theological Program for High School Youth: Students in grades 10–12 can explore ministry and theology, grow in spiritual practices and listen for God's call through a summer congregational internship and a Group Experience. Participants receive a \$1,000 stipend. Tap a shoulder! ambs.edu/explore

AMBS: Rooted in the Word, Growing in Christ | June 2022 3003 Benham Avenue, Elkhart, IN 46517 | 574.295.3726 facebook.com/followAMBS twitter.com/ambs_seminary ambs.edu/news-and-updates

Conference connections

 In 2021–22, three PNMC members were Master of Divinity students at AMBS: Deb Coates and David Johnson (Portland), Andrew Hudson (various)

AMBS statistics

- In 2021–22, 127 graduate students were enrolled at AMBS; 11 of them were guest students. Sixty-four were from the U.S., nine were from Canada, and 54 were international students.
- In 2021–22, 18 students were enrolled in AMBS's nondegree Journey Missional Leadership Development Program in the U.S., Canada, Southeast Asia and Uganda.

Lifelong learning

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

- Online short courses: Join the forum discussions in these six-week online courses. Some courses include optional weekly video conversations with professors in real time. No grades, no papers!
 - · Exploring Peace and Justice in the Bible
 - · Exploring Anabaptist History and Theology
 - Understanding Anabaptist Approaches to Scripture: What's Different and Why?
 - Transforming Congregational Conflict and Communication
 - The Bible and Christian Nationalism: Faithful Leadership in a World of Political Idolatry ambs.edu/online-short-courses
- Pastors & Leaders 2023: Feb. 13–16 ambs.edu/pastors-and-leaders
- Journey: A Missional Leadership Development Program: This two-and-a-half-year nondegree program offers mentor-mentee partnerships, distance-learning opportunities and community support. ambs.edu/journey
- Spiritual Direction Seminars: Cultivate your ministry of spiritual direction. ambs.edu/seminars
- Invite AMBS! Faculty are available to speak on trauma-informed caregiving, undoing racism, intercultural competence, improvisational leadership, and more. Ask about virtual visits! ambs.edu/invite

2022 Report of Bethel College



To Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference

In our senior capstone course, Basic Issues of Faith and Life, students are studying the book The God Who Sees by Karen González. In the book, González uses the words "immigrants," "strangers," and "others" almost interchangeably as she explores issues of acceptance and inclusion through her own migration story, stories others have shared with her, and biblical migration stories. Caring for the "others" is the highest of callings, she states: "I had never realized how much the scriptures tell the stories of people who began as strangers and then became part of the family of God. Welcome and belonging are overarching narratives of the Bible." Whether the individuals we welcome to campus are literal immigrants or not, all students will feel "other" at some point, and we at Bethel continue to strive to make our campus a place where everyone can feel that they are a part of the family of God.

As Bethel continues to move in the direction of becoming a federally designated work college, areas of focus continue to be student success, retention, and career preparation. We are currently in the pilot year of the Career Pathways Program, a work-learning-service program intended to help full-time, residential students reduce their student loan debt and graduate with high employability skills. Open forums will take place this spring for anyone interested to learn more about the program and ask questions of the Strategic Planning Committee members. The committee is set to conclude its process in October 2022 at which time there will be staff in place to continue the work. Several positions have already been redefined to fit into the new model, such as a director of career and leadership development and a director of student success and retention. The retention rate for all students for fall 2021 to spring 2022 was 93.2%, the highest rate in over ten years, after welcoming our second-largest freshman class in recent history. We were also able to celebrate being removed from "on notice" by our accrediting body.

Faith formation has been another topic of discussion, discernment, and study on campus. A task force was formed in the fall of 2020 to ensure that our faith formation efforts are relevant, effective, and peerless. Results of discussions and a survey were presented in the fall of 2021, but it was clear that more work and dialogue was needed. As faith becomes more personalized and individualistic, it is important for the college to reexamine how it can bring all into the family of God. In the survey, students ranked religion courses and personal conversations as highly formative activities. Bethel continues to provide many opportunities for worship and prayer, both formal and informal, including an interfaith room. The annual Staley Lectures in March will be presented by Karen González. In the fall, the postponed Worship and the Arts Symposium will take place with a focus on the new Mennonite hymnal, Voices Together. The Student Life office was able to reopen the campus food pantry after closing it due to pandemic concerns. Food is donated by local individuals and available to any student who is experiencing need. Bethel was also one of 78 colleges nationwide invited to participate in the 2021 Institute on Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation (TRHT) Campus Centers.

We are not able to accomplish these things and provide students with a space to find their place in the family of God alone. Thank you for your contributions.

Ben Lichti, Coordinator of Church Relations



2022 Report to Pacific Northwest Conference

KNOWLTON SCIENCE CENTER

Bluffton University held a groundbreaking celebration for the Austin E. Knowlton Science Center on Oct. 1 during the 2021 Homecoming and Alumni Weekend celebration. The \$10 million building features several teaching labs and will transform science education at Bluffton as we prepare leaders equipped to address the pressing science, technology, math and health care needs of the region. The building is expected to open in time for the 2023 academic year.

DESIGN YOUR LIFE

opportunities

During the 2020-21 academic year, two sections of Bluffton's first-year Becoming a Scholar class piloted a new program called Design Your Life (DYL). This year, the curriculum is being fully implemented on campus.

Originally developed at Stanford University and modified for Bluffton undergraduates, lessons help students:

Engage-explore, prototype and develop an action mindset

Reflect—learn by taking stock of experiences after they happen

Storytell— articulate a point of view to gain clarity and create

The goal is for students to get more out of (instead of just cramming more into) their college experience. Senior students will come full circle with the DYL process as they transition the framework from getting more out of their college experience to getting more out of life.

PRESIDENT WOOD REAPPOINTED

During their June 2021 meeting, Bluffton University's Board of Trustees completed a presidential review process and reappointed President Jane M. Wood, Ph.D., for a five-year term. The board noted her areas of strength as mission and planning, administrative management, budget and finance, enrollment management, student life and representing the institution. President Wood came to Bluffton in summer 2018.

NEW CAMPUS PASTOR

Chalsi Campbell, a 2012 Bluffton graduate, is now serving as campus pastor. After studying religion and youth ministry in her undergrad, Campbell earned her master's in theological studies from Conrad Grebel University College. Since then, she has worked in a range of church and teaching positions. As a Bluffton student, Campbell was instrumental in the creation of the university's Prayer Labyrinth and served as Spiritual Life Week Coordinator.

TOP TIER

IN "MIDWEST COLLEGES"

– U.S. News & World Report's Best Colleges

NAMED A

COLLEGE OF DISTINCTION

FOR 2021-2022

Save the date

Voices Together art exhibit at Bluffton University

Jan. 11-Feb. 19, 2023, Sauder Visual Arts Center

Exhibit includes 12 works of original visual art by Mennonite artists included in the new hymnal Voices Together

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

For more information, contact Gerald Mast

Church relations coordinator and professor of communication mastg@bluffton.edu



Preparing mature leaders to minister together in a global context

Summer 2022

PACIFIC NORTHWEST MENNONITE CONFERENCE

SEMINARY ANNUAL REPORT

New Associate Dean and New Director of Curriculum and Assessment

Rev. Dr. Sarah Ann Bixler has taken on the role as associate dean of the Seminary. She will oversee the seminary's graduate degree programs, guide the development of new programs for pastors and laypersons involved in a wide range of ministries, and serve as director of the seminary's formation program. Dr. Bixler received her PhD in practical theology with a specialization in Christian education and formation from Princeton Theological Seminary.

Old Testament associate professor, Dr. Andrea Dalton Saner has taken on the role as director of seminary curriculum and assessment. Dr. Saner is an Old Testament scholar who works within the theological disciplines, and a lay theologian whose primary text is Scripture. Through her teaching she helps students to read the biblical text slowly, using historical and literary scholarship, and to recognize how their theological commitments and ecclesial communities inform and motivate continual return to reading Scripture. Dr. Saner has taught in the seminary and undergraduate Bible and religion department since 2013.

Spring Graduation

EMS awarded five Master of Arts in Christian Leadership, four Master of Divinity degrees and one Theological Certificate to the graduating class of 2022. Seminary Baccalaureate was held on Saturday, May 6 with the theme "Finding Your Voice" and the scripture focus of Ephesians 4:11-13. Speakers included Dorothy Jean Weaver, professor emeritus; Lonnie Yoder, professor emeritus; and David Evans, associate professor of history and mission.

Visit https://emu.edu/seminary/courses/ for more

New Graduate Certificate

We are offering a New Graduate Certificate in Faith Based Peacebuilding. This certificate is designed for faith community leaders who want to more effectively respond to social conflicts as they arise in their community and those who seek faith-informed social engagement in the complex justice issues of their communities. Overall requirements are 9-10 SH from the Seminary and 8-9 SH from Center for Justice and Peacebuilding, for a total of 18 credits.

Seminary Options

Consider pursuing seminary studies. We offer the following degrees: Master of Divinity, Master of Arts in Religion, and Master of Arts in Christian Leadership. Scholarships are available for half-time (6SH) and full-time study (12+ SH). Most classes can be joined via Zoom. You are welcome to take a course for academic credit or participation audit.

Visit https://emu.edu/seminary/courses/for more information about Fall classes.

Statement of Purpose

Eastern Mennonite Seminary prepares servants of Christ to minister together locally and globally. In response to God's gracious call, we invite students to embody and bear witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ in the power of God's Spirit as wise interpreters, mature practitioners, discerning communicators, and transformational leaders.

- Susan Schultz Huxman, president
- Sue Cockley, seminary dean
- Sarah Ann Bixler, associate dean
- Veva Mumaw, director of seminary student services & church relations

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

emu.edu/seminary 540-432-4257

Harrisonburg, Virginia

www.emu.edu

churchrelations@emu.edu



EMU prepares students to serve and lead in a global context

SUMMER 2022

PACIFIC NORTHWEST DISTRICT CONFERENCE

EMU ANNUAL REPORT

President Susan Schultz Huxman sends warm greetings to the Pacific Northwest District Conference

Greetings to our many congregational communities across the Church. Summer is here, light has replaced darkness, and we have experienced signs of health, beauty and wonder throughout this past academic year. We are rounding "the COVID corner."

Earlier in spring semester dozens of students, faculty and staff responded to the question: "What is your greatest hope for 2021?"
Their heartfelt words, accompanied by beautiful photos of the EMU campus, can be found here. At the end of our semester, we held 6 commencement exercises, 4 in-person events and 2 all university virtual commencements, in order to imaginatively comply with COVID gathering restrictions from VA and PA. You can find highlights from EMU commencement exercises here.

We have been blessed with some key indicators of good organizational health in 2021, even amidst the pandemic, including:

- Our student retention rate from fall to spring was exceptionally strong (91%). Despite all of the restrictive changes this year brought, our students demonstrated strength and resilience.
- Our sense of community and care for one another this year was rated well
 ahead of many of our peer colleges and universities on a recent national
 student survey that measured campus connectedness.
- Our calling as a faith informed peace and justice university is on display in robust ways. We hired our first executive director of diversity, equity and inclusion, Dr. Jackie Font-Guzmán. What a gift she is to us! Along with her hire, we raised significant funds at our record-setting LovEMU Day to support the Office of DEI and the University Fund for Resilience. We aim to live into our new vision "to open pathways of access and achievement for all students who aspire to be unifying leaders equipped with intercultural competence, oriented toward peace and justice and rooted in an active faith modeled on the life and teachings of Jesus."
- Our fundraising efforts are running ahead of last year-- 13% overall and
 we had a good year last year! This is just amazing in the midst of a
 pandemic. We are so thankful for our many generous supporters who
 choose to invest in us with joy and enthusiasm in a year "like no other." I
 invite you to check out our Forward Together campaign.

Indeed, "hope springs eternal," as poet Alexander Pope first penned.

The holiness of hope can be found in the courageous call of the Magi—our theme for Opening Convocation. It is an enduring story of light over darkness—of God's inbreaking love for us—if we just pay attention.

May the God of hope fill you with joy and peace.

Harrisonburg, Virginia

www.emu.edu

How can EMU serve you?

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

Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference Connections to EMU

Undergraduate Students

Seven undergraduate students and one graduate student from Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference are enrolled in the spring 2022 semester.

Giving

Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference churches gave \$11,500 in matching church grants during the 20-21 academic year.

- Susan Schultz Huxman, president
- Kirk Shisler, vice president for advancement
- Braydon Hoover, director of advancement & annual giving
- ▶ Matthew Ruth, director of admissions

Our Vision

We will open new pathways of access and achievement for all students who aspire to grow as unifying leaders equipped with intercultural competence, oriented toward peace and justice, and rooted in an active faith modeled on the life and teachings of Jesus.

churchrelations@emu.edu



2021-22 Report to the Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference

Compassionate Peacemaking is focus of 2021-22 academic year at Goshen College

Goshen College President Rebecca Stoltzfus opened the 2021-22 academic year with a message about compassionate peacemaking, this year's core value focus.

Using the metaphor of the rifted rock, she encouraged students and faculty to find the rifted rocks we need to provide us sanctuary in the turbulence of these times, and to be rifted rocks for one another, building strong foundations of peace, protecting each other's backs, opening ourselves to one another and holding our boundaries, in the ways of peace.

Following the convocation, students took part in the annual applause tunnel, a 21-year tradition with a cheering tunnel formed by faculty and staff, then seniors, juniors, sophomores and finally the first-year students. The procession led out to Schrock Plaza, where everyone participated in a student-led cheer.

Conference connections

This academic year we have 11 students enrolled from 3 Pacific Northwest Conference congregations. Those churches generously pledged \$56,000 in congregational student aid for the academic year. The Goshen College Church Aid Matching Grant program provides a dollar-for-dollar match of the first \$1,000 per student and a 1:4 match after that, up to full tuition.

Students from the conference are involved on- and offcampus in many edifying ways, but we specifically recognize students who studied and served through GC's Global Education program. Andrew Ness from Portland Mennonite Church spent a semester studying and serving in the Ecuador.

2021-22 Campus ministries message

At the end of the academic year 2020-21 our outgoing campus pastor hired four Student Ministry Team (SMT) Leaders. SMT leaders serve in the campus ministries office and offer spiritual support to fellow students, coordinate chapel services, and publish a prayer booklet for the campus community.

The prayer booklet is filled with campus ministries resources such as centering prayer, GC prayer booklet, Inquiry programs, local churches directory, small groups, vigils, and Taizé worship services.

The academic year 2021-22 has started with an opening in campus pastor position. Despite not having a campus pastor, SMT leaders continue to meet regularly with their assigned student life leader.

One of the SMT leaders participated in a workshop at orientation week for first-year students and shared their personal faith journey while at Goshen College. Also, SMT leaders have already offered their first chapel service and everyone participated in the delivery of the service. SMT leaders are eager for the new campus pastor to be hired and they are looking forward to implementing several new campus ministries programs that create spaces for faith formation and study of the Bible. For example, one of the SMT leaders is particularly interested in leading a Bible study with their fellow students. SMT leaders are planning for ways to engage more students on joining them for SMT through attending the Club Day Fair and being available to talk with students in the residence halls, commuter lounge, and other places on campus.

-Dr. Gilberto Perez, Jr, Vice-President of Student Life



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



HESSTON COLLEGE ANNUAL REPORT:

2021-22 Campus Theme - This year's verse is Ephesians 4:2-3. This passage invites us to live a collective life of bumility, gentleness, patience, and love. All this while striving for a form of unity only the Holy Spirit can frame. The central idea of Ephesians is Christian unity. As we continue moving forward as a college, our Christian unity must not go unchecked. We must be intentional in our relationships. Allow me to share some reflections on this year's theme passage: Verse 2a - "be completely humble and gentle" - It starts with a personal check. Ask: "How's my attitude? In what areas am I not humble and gentle?" Verse 2b - "bear one another in love." After your personal check, reflect on your relationships with others. Ask: "How are my relationships? Where in my relationships is there a lack of love? Where do I need to extend greater patience?" Verse 3 - "Keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace." Finally, as you adjust your personal and relational realities, strive to live in perfect unity - the unity that is a fragile gift from the Holy Spirit. Ask, "Do I experience unity and peace with God and with others?" Remember that God continues walking with us in love and encourages us to do likewise with others.

Vision 2025 - HC's current and future plans of programmatic innovation. This plan includes bolstering our associate degree and student experience, while launching select bachelor's degree programs that answer the call of students and industry. This spring we secured accreditation for our fourth bachelor's program, Engineering, adding to our existing bachelor's in nursing, aviation and business management.

Strategic Plan & Campus Master Plan - A new strategic plan was launched in 2021. The plan is linked to the concept of Ubuntu, which is a Nguni Bantu term that translates to "I am because we are." As a Mennonite college for all, Hesston will "educate and nurture each student within Christ-centered community." Our strategic plan foregrounds that commitment. From strengthening our programs to the realization of an Ubuntu Village, our way of educating and nurturing takes place in the community. This is the embodiment of ubuntu.

CALL Program — Hesston's Center for Anabaptist Leadership and Learning (CALL) trains church leaders out of an identity of being God's beloved to engage the world God loves. CALL focuses on the Missional model, which equips every follower of Christ to live with sacred purpose by enabling them to do ministry and mission in their daily lives as ambassadors of Jesus Christ. The Missional model of leadership looks for sacred opportunities in the secular rather than thinking the secular needs to come to our church building to find Christ. Partnering with global and urban Anabaptists, we nurture disciple-makers who cultivate other disciple-makers.

Donation to Schools of Management and Engineering - Thanks to a generous donation from an alumni family, our business management and engineering students will be able to pursue two of our newest bachelor's programs more affordably. For the first twenty juniors enrolled in our School of Engineering, a nearly \$10,000 room and board grant will be available. For the first twenty juniors enrolled in our School of Management, a nearly \$10,000 travel grant will be available, covering all expenses for domestic and international trips affiliated with the Business Management degree. For more information: admissions@hesston.edu or call 620-327-4221.

Travel - Thailand: President Manickam accompanied the director of the Business Management Program and seven juniors to Thailand in April. This trip pulled together many of the elements and theories the junior cohort has been studying including Entrepreneurship for the Greater Good and Business Ethics courses. They also visited a number of socially minded enterprises students have selected to study, on which the students gave oral presentations.

- Europe: Chorale will present a music program entitled "Shine the Light" at twelve churches in the Netherlands, Germany, Switzerland and France between May 17 and June 7, 2022. Learn more at www.hesston.edu/music.
- Indonesia: President Manickam will be in attendance at Mennonite World Conference in July on behalf of Hesston College. Please feel free to connect with him if you plan to attend this unifying global event.

Ways You Can Pray for Hesston College -

- Fray for our students to have clarity of thought in their studies, wisdom in the decisions they make, and kindness in their relationships;
- That business management students will gain a deeper/clearer vision for the positive impact they can have as entrepreneurs grounded in a Gospel ethic; that the new friends they encountered in Thailand will gain hope that their stories and struggles have the power to impact young entrepreneurs toward a greater good; and that the students will encounter the face, hands, and feet of Jesus on their journey;
- Pray for faculty/staff as they prepare students to live by their Christian values, enabling them to make a greater impact on our world.

Speakers Bureau - Needing to fill the pulpit or identify a dynamic speaker for your community or congregation? From Leadership to Missiology or Creation Care to Faith and Discipleship, Hesston can help! Contact our VP of Advancement, Dr. Rachel Swartzendruber Miller, at rachelsm@hesston.edu to explore potential speaker options that could fit well with your preferred topic, dates and audience.

Pacific Northwest Conference Connections:

We are blessed to have some wonderful students at Hesston College from two of your conference congregations: Jocelyn Baker - Albany Mennonite Church, Albany, OR;

Sadie Oesch - Evergreen Heights Mennonite Church, Caldwell, ID

Unified and Designated Giving – We are grateful for the financial support of PNMC and the affiliating conference congregations. Donations made directly to Hesston College or to the Mennonite Education Agency through Unified and Designated Giving are amazing blessings. Our mission "to educate and nurture each student within Christ-centered community, integrating thought, life and faith for service to others in the church and the world," would not be possible without your personal and congregational financial support. Thank you!



Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference Mission Statement

Promote personal spiritual development

Nurture healthy congregations

Make strong connections throughout the conference

