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From Our Executive Conference Minister, *Eric Massanari*

Creative Possibility and Vital Reorientation

In my first few months as the ECM it is already clear to me that PNMC is filled with many unique and vibrant communities of people seeking to follow Christ's way in a world that currently feels quite wounded and disoriented. As we feel the pain and fatigue of these troubled times, I observe among us an enduring spirit—the Spirit of the One in whom we live, move and have our being—that guides us toward creative possibilities and a necessary reorienting of our life together as the Body of Christ.

In this spirit of exploring creative possibility and vital reorientation I want to offer a reminder of our upcoming Conference Communications Council (CCC) gathering (via Zoom) on **Saturday, February 4, 8:30am—12:30pm**. You can find more details and register [here](#).

The agenda for our gathering will be:

8:30am Welcome and Opening Worship, Eric Massanari

9:00am Congregational Roll-Call and Sharing

9:50am Break (10 min)

10:00am Presentation on “**Nonviolent Communication and Empathic Connection**,” Malinda Berry, Professor of Theology and Ethics at Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary.

This will include time for breakout group discussions.

11:45am Break (15 min)

12 noon PNMC and Mennonite Church USA Updates, PNMC Staff and Board

12:30pm Closing Prayer and Adjourn

I look forward to being with you at this important gathering point in our life together as Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference.

May the love of God, the peace of Christ and the wisdom of the Holy Spirit be with you.

In gratitude and peace,

Eric Massanari, Executive Conference Minister



CCC Speaker, AMBS Professor Malinda Berry

Follow [this link](#) to register for the Conference Communications Council.

PNMC CONGREGATIONS, ORGANIZATIONS & MINISTRIES

Pacific Northwest Mennonite Historical Society



PNMHS invites you to attend its [Annual Meeting](#) on **Saturday, February 11, 2023**, at Zion Mennonite Church, Hubbard, OR. Lunch will be served at noon followed by the annual business meeting. The meal cost is \$15 per person. RSVP (for lunch only) to Jerry Barkman at jbarkman@canby.com or 503-871-6413 by **February 6**.

The program will begin at 1:30 and is offered at no cost, and no RSVP is required to attend the program. Austin and Cherilyn Smucker from Madras, OR, will be the speakers, sharing their experience of being held as hostages in Haiti from October 16 to December 15, 2021. They were two of the seventeen Christian missionaries who were kidnapped by the 400 Mawozo Gang after visiting a local orphanage in Port-au-Prince on October 16. The group, comprised of Amish, Mennonite, and other conservative Anabaptist communities, included 16 US citizens and one Canadian. Five of those kidnapped were children.

An offering to support the work of the Historical Society will be taken and Kröpf Heritage Center tours will be available.

PNMC CONGREGATIONS, ORGANIZATIONS & MINISTRIES



Camp CAMREC

Young Adult Snow Camp, Feb. 24 - March 5 For those in their 20s and 30s. You know those friends you have connected with through Mennonite/Anabaptist circles who you wish you could connect with more intentionally? Consider hanging out with them at CAMREC! Invite friends. Drop in when it works for you or work remotely if you need to, For more information and to take advantage of this exciting opportunity, click [here](#).

Camrec Youth Camps begin after MennoCon23:

Staff Orientation: July 10-13

Pre-Junior: July 14-16

Junior: July 18-22

Jr. High: July 24-29

High School: August 1-6

Mountain View Mennonite Church —Meet MVMC's Transitional Pastor, Reverend Miriam Mauritzen



Miriam has served as an ordained pastor in Kalispell, Montana since 2011. Raised as the youngest of three in South Carolina, Miriam has a heart toward justice, equity and renewal. Ordained in the Presbyterian Church USA, Miriam graduated with a Master of Divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary, where she also met her husband Clayton. Married in 2010, the couple moved to east Texas while Clayton completed teacher certification and his first year in public education. In 2011, Miriam accepted a call to serve as Associate Pastor for First Presbyterian Church of Kalispell. In 2015, they celebrated the birth of their daughter Eleanor. In 2016, Miriam's role expanded to serve both FPC and a new worshipping community of skateboarders –Serious JuJu– as their Community Pastor. In 2019, Miriam transitioned full-time serving Serious JuJu as Community Pastor and Executive Director as the ministry grew reaching 400+ skaters and over 120 donors nationwide. During this time, Miriam discovered her calling to champion the wounded child—be that child young or old. During the pandemic, Miriam grieved leaving Serious JuJu and began new ministry in the community serving as Chaplain at the local hospital. Miriam continues to serve on the Accelerator Leadership Team training new worshipping community pastors around the country with 1001 NWC. She also continues service with The Ministry Collaborative hosting cohorts of clergy in Glacier National Park as they explore paradigm shifting approaches to better equip ministry and experience Sabbath renewal.

During a season of transition, in 2021 Miriam began worshipping with Mountain View Mennonite Church. Having been recognized as Peacemaker of the Year in the valley by the congregation, Miriam attended worship and then returned to preach. Surprised by the congregation's vulnerability, tenderness, and witness to peacemaking, the community became home. Over the year, Miriam initially dismissed comments enquiring if she could serve as a Mennonite pastor. Yet, the question stuck. Exploring the Mennonite faith and witness and in dialogue with colleagues and family, Miriam applied to serve as Transitional Pastor for Mountain View and began this work December 1st, 2022.

For mental health, emotional health, physical health and spiritual health, Miriam loves any excuse to get outside or create with her hands. In 2021, she restored a backyard cottage after taking it down to the studs and this year built her first compost bin. Miriam finds renewal hiking, biking, camping, throwing pottery, dabbling in stained glass, tinkering on the piano, gardening, skiing, playing, building and repairing, and listening to audiobooks. You can reach Pastor Miriam at pastor@mountainviewmennonite.org or 406.212.0999.

MENNONITE CHURCH USA & OTHER CHURCHWIDE AGENCIES

Mennonite Church USA

Please submit seminar ideas for [MennoCon23](#). Submission details are available [here](#). Deadline is **January 31, 2023**.

Mennonite Arts Weekend

[Mennonite Arts Weekend](#), is around the corner, **February 3-5, 2023**, in Cincinnati, OH. The weekend celebrates the creativity and discipline of Anabaptist Mennonite artists. Presentations by musicians, visual artists, writers, and craftspeople start on Friday evening and conclude with Sunday morning worship. Activities and workshops designed specifically for Pre-K children through high school are planned throughout the weekend. A nursery will be available. Find the list of presenters and registration and location information [here](#). Come enjoy the fun, connect with friends, and hear Girl Named Tom.

Upcoming e-Bulletins:

Feb 6 (submissions due by 12/30)

Feb 20 (submissions due by 2/13)

Mar 6 (submissions due by 2/27)

Mar 20 (submissions due by 3/13)

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

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