



e-Bulletin

Providing bi-weekly communication for PNMC

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



Question for congregational sharing:

In Ephesians 3 the Apostle Paul prays for those early Christians that “God may grant strength in your inner being with power through the Holy Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith as you are being **rooted and grounded in love**” (Eph. 3:17).

What is happening in the life of your congregation right now that is giving you strength in your inner being, and allowing you to remain rooted and grounded in Christ’s love?

Please join us for our PNMC Annual Meeting

Friday, June 23:

Pastors, Chaplains and Credentialed Leaders will gather.

Saturday, June 24:

Delegates will meet on Saturday.

A follow-up session with Malinda Berry will take place Saturday afternoon.

Sunday, June 25:

Stay in town for Sunday worship with our event hosts:

Ministerios Restauración & Portland Mennonite Church.

Please register today at

www.pnmc.org

We look forward to gathering in-person!

Will you join us?

MENNONITE CHURCH USA & OTHER CHURCHWIDE AGENCIES

Mennonite Church USA

Mennonite Church USA is seeking Menno Snapshots blogs on the topic, “I choose to be Mennonite because...” Bloggers are encouraged to reflect on how they came to Anabaptism, what attracted them to our Mennonite theology and practices, and how this has impacted their lives. This is an ideal opportunity for the recently baptized and/or those who may have joined from other faith traditions. Youth are also encouraged to participate (no word count requirements). Read the guidelines and submit your blog [here](http://www.pnmc.org) by **May 22**.

Mennonite Women USA

On Tenglo Island near Puerto Montt, Chile, 15 women leaders met for a two-day Sister Care seminar on March 18-19. The women came from different parts of Chile to this workshop taught by **Carolyn Heggen** and **Rhoda Keener**. **Nancy Hostetler** of Eastern Mennonite Missions hosted the event in partnership with Niños Caminando en Victoria, a local organization working for prevention of child sexual abuse. Following the seminar, the women expressed gratitude for emotional healing. One woman said: “What struck me the most was when you said that God loves me as if I were his only daughter.” Chile is the 21st country where Heggen and Keener have taught the Sister Care seminar. The manual has been translated into 20 languages. Sister Care is a ministry of Mennonite Women USA.

MENNONITE CHURCH USA & OTHER CHURCHWIDE AGENCIES

Mennonite Church USA

The Mennonite Church USA (MC USA) Executive Board met in Los Angeles on April 13-14, 2023, and voted to forward three proposed organizational resolutions to the Delegate Assembly, including one that recommends **shifting the Delegate Assembly to a three-year, or triennial, cycle**. The proposed resolutions were positioned as necessary updates to MC USA's governance and organizational structure in response to significant changes in the global landscape and the denomination, such as changing congregational dynamics, post-pandemic challenges, shifting demographics and changes in how services are delivered and used.

"We're not going to go back to how it used to be," said **Iris de León-Hartshorn**, MC USA associate executive director, who led several board development sessions on adapting to change. "COVID changed a lot of things. It shook up the church and America, and that's not necessarily bad. We need to start thinking of the future church generation. How do we prepare the ground for the next generation?"

The introduction to the proposed resolutions reads, "Our structures and how we function at the denominational level need to align with our theology, be flexible and be forward-looking." The first proposed resolution seeks to lengthen the Delegate Assembly cycle from two years to three, as "our two-year meeting cycle does not allow for adequate discernment, processing or execution of MC USA Delegate Assembly actions." An integrated church impact statement forecasts that, if both the Delegate Assembly and MennoCon convention are shifted to a three-year cycle, attendees and the denomination will reduce costs by 30 percent in each six-year period. Higher attendance may also lower per-person expenses. The action on the triennium cycle passed unanimously, with Moderator-elect Jon Carlson abstaining because the proposed change will have a direct impact on his term of service. If delegates pass the resolution at the upcoming Delegate Assembly in Kansas City, Missouri, on July 7-8, the next Delegate Assembly will be held in 2026.



Clarifying the role of program entities

The second proposed resolution aims to revise the bylaws to clarify the role of program entities. According to the proposed resolution, "These entities are often made up of organizations that share a common interest, values or goal, yet they may have their own systems for operating. By updating its bylaws, Mennonite Church USA [Executive Board] seeks to clarify and formalize the roles and responsibilities of these partnering entities within the larger church community yet retain a close partnership." MC USA currently has no program entities. The last program entity was The Mennonite magazine. The Executive Board voted unanimously to send the proposed resolution to the Delegate Assembly.

To read more about upcoming changes, follow [this link](#).



Mennonite World Conference

[This issue of Courier](#), asks tough questions regarding the church's call to care for Creation as a profoundly spiritual issue that goes beyond the current climate crisis.

Climate Summit

Youth and Young adults are invited to attend a one-day [Climate Summit](#) on **July 7**. MC USA will bring together experts in climate change, spiritual activism and social justice to explore ways that youth and young adults ages 14-25 can **put their faith to work** to address this crisis. It will be a day of worship, learning and collaboration.

The one-day event will feature worship, a keynote speaker, a panel discussion and breakout sessions on a variety of topics, including: political advocacy, grassroots environmental initiatives, climate anxiety and the development of the Coalition to Dismantle the Doctrine of Discovery board game.

Upcoming e-Bulletins:

May 15 (submissions due by 5/8)
June 5 (submissions due by 5/29)
June 19 (submissions due by 6/12)
July 17 (submissions due by 7/10)

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>