



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.



Click [HERE](#) to register for the Annual Meeting. PLEASE NOTE: *There have been some registration hiccups. If you signed up, but have not received confirmation, please contact Barb Buxman right away at office@pnmc.org to sort things out.*

Please register soon for our upcoming gathering. A block of rooms have been reserved (Friday and Saturday nights) at the Peppertree Hotel. The per night reduced rate is \$175 + tax. To make a [ROOM RESERVATION](#), please follow this [Booking Link](#). Reserve before May 21 when the offer will expire. Click [here](#) for schedule details. Meaningful children’s programming provided. We’d love to have a comforter to tie at Annual Meeting. If you can bring one, please contact Barb.

As you know, our conference spans a huge geographical area. The physical distance between us can make it difficult to feel connected with one another as a circle of believers. This separation throughout much of the year is what makes our time together each year a special event. Gathering to worship, to pray, to sing, to laugh, to discern, to serve... *these are the fruits of being church, together.*

The Annual Meeting not only provides space for in-person interaction, it’s also a time to share with the whole PNMC about what is happening in your congregation. Even if members are unable to attend our gathering in Bend, everyone is invited to read the Delegate Handbook. Please share what is happening with your congregation with the conference as a whole. This openness and vulnerability with one another is what gives depth to our church community. *We look forward to hearing from you!* (Please submit your congregational report and a photo ASAP.)

GOOD EATS

- JACKSON'S CORNER
FAMILY FRIENDLY EATERY
- BEND BREWING CO
BREWS & DOGS ON THE WATER
- ON TAP
FOOD CARTS & LIVE MUSIC
- LONE PINE COFFEE
GREAT COFFEE, BETTER WAFFLES
- ★ PNMC CONFERENCE HALL

GOOD LIVN'

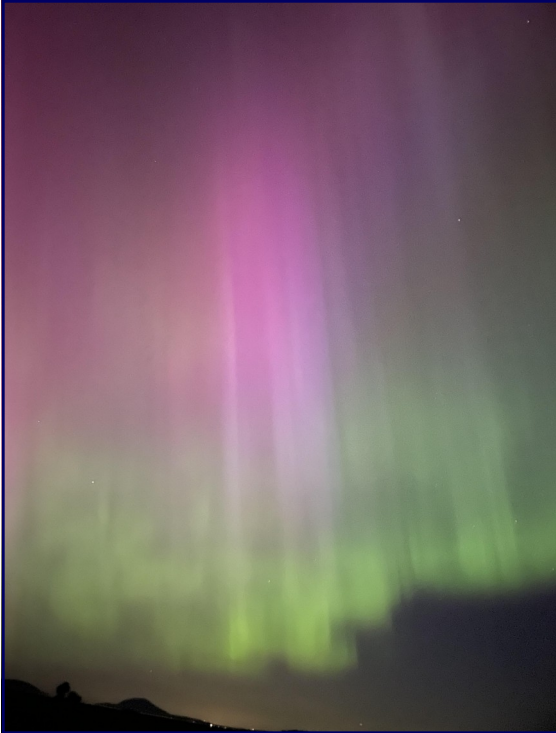
- GREY DUCK ICE CREAM
- NWX FARMER'S MARKET
- DESCHUTES RIVER TRAIL
- TUMALO FALLS
- RIVER SURFING WAVE
- PILOT BUTTE STATE PARK

THE BEST OF BEND

BEND OREGON

“We look forward to welcoming you to the Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference Annual Meeting. We are thrilled to host this gathering and show you all our beautiful city has to offer. Our small community is eager to connect with the larger PNMC as a whole, gathering together as one Mennonite family. We made a little map to show you some of our favorite spots around town — looking forward to breaking bread together in a short couple of months.” - *Daniel Friesen, Bend Mennonite Church*
There are logistics to coordinate and food to order. Please register by May 31st. Thank you!

We look forward to seeing you in Bend and hope that you will join us there! The wonders of God’s creation in the region do not disappoint!



Do you not know that you are God's temple, and God's Holy Spirit dwells in you?

1 CORINTHIANS 3:16

*“In Louisville, at the corner of Fourth and Walnut, in the center of the shopping district, I was suddenly overwhelmed with the realization that I loved all these people, that they were mine and I was theirs, that we could not be alien to one another even though we were total strangers. It was like waking from a dream of separateness, of spurious self-isolation in a special world . . . If only we could see each other that way all the time. There would be no more war, no more hatred, no more cruelty, no more greed . . . But it cannot be explained. There is no way of telling people that they are all **walking around shining like the sun.**”*

-THOMAS MERTON, from Conjectures of a Guilty Bystander

Aurora Borealis, La Conner, WA, 5/11/24. Photo by: Ric Troyer, Seattle Mennonite Church

Shining from the Inside

Eric Massanari, Executive Conference Minister

The other night we stayed up much later than usual and ventured down to a nearby marina with the hope of seeing the aurora borealis shimmering above Lake Whatcom. We soon realized that we were not alone in our desire! It was heartening to discover that hundreds of people from nearby neighborhoods had also ventured out into the darkness, with the sole purpose of staring up at the sky in rapt attention and wonder.

We saw little—only an imagined something, really—in terms of ethereal lights in the northern sky. Yet, in that multi-generational crowd gathered on the lakeshore I saw something else quite wonderful, and **it gave me hope for humanity**. It left me wondering about all of that stormy, streaming energy from the sun and what it might be working, what it might be showing in us.

Some Good Things On My Plate . . .

What sort of stuff does an Executive Conference Minister do anyway? What a great question!

Here are some examples from recent weeks and things coming up in the near future:

- Preaching visit with Albany Mennonite Church (5/21)
- Zoom worship with Pacific Covenant Church, Canby, OR (5/21)
- Attending worship at Evergreen Mennonite Church, Kirkland, WA (5/5)
- Church planting dialog with MCUSA conference ministers (ongoing)
- Supporting six PNMC congregations in active pastoral transitions
- Introductory conversations with potential pastoral candidates for our open positions in PNMC.
- Attended the Christ Camp; Cascadia and Parish Collective's Inhabit conferences (5/26-5/28).
- Met with other PNW regional denominational leaders to discuss common ministry needs.
- Attended and offered input at Spiritual Directors International's 2024 conference (online, 5/8-5/10). *I will soon conclude six years serving on the SDI Board of Directors.*
- Weekly online Spanish classes through the Semilla program in Guatemala
- Planning team meetings for **PNMC Annual Meeting. Come join us in Bend (June 21-23)!**
- In Portland, making visits with pastors and churches in the Willamette Valley, and attending the high school graduations of two nieces (June 1-10).

PNMC CONGREGATIONS, ORGANIZATIONS & MINISTRIES, cont.

Portland Mennonite Church

Join PMC **June 1-2, 2024**, for a variety of gatherings that celebrate LGBTQ+ Pride month. We're excited to host special guest **Annabeth Roeschley**, Executive Director of the Brethren Mennonite Council for LGBTQ Interests (BMC). We will gather with other Supportive Network Churches over the weekend for several activities, including a dinner hosted by PMC, a Pride Sunday service and an afternoon gathering for LGBTQ+ people. For further information see our [link](#), and for questions or to let us know you are coming, email Pastor Kristen.

Mennonite Village of Albany

Heritage Day, Friday June 21, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm, The Pavilion at Mennonite Village – 2525 SE 47th Ave., Albany, OR 97322
Come for a fun morning of celebration! **Heritage Day** will feature a Farmer's Market with around 40 local vendors, live music, food trucks, quilt displays, campus tours, and horse-drawn carriage rides!



Zion Mennonite Church

ZMC invites to our 2024 Vacation Bible School

Sunday, July 21—Thursday, July 25 from 6:00—8:00pm.

All kids who have finished grades K-8 are welcome! This year's theme is "God Rocks". Through worship and drama, Bible study, STEAM activities (science, technology, engineering, art, math) and active games, children are invited to see and experience the transforming love of God. (*Participants can earn DCC campships!*)

MCC West Coast Bike Ride 2024

Join other bikers and MCC supporters on a 4-day fund-raising ride this summer from **August 4-9**. The riders will be based in Albany, OR at the Mennonite Village and take loop rides each day from there through the scenic Willamette Valley.

Visit <https://mcc.org/events/west-coast-bike-ride> for more information or contact Bruce Kuhns at kuhns.bruce@gmail.com.

Drift Creek Camp

With increased weekday usage for outdoor schools, DCC is seeking 1-3 year-round Caretakers. The on-site team maintains the grounds, facilities and equipment; they provide kitchen and guest support. Staff members are flexible with the schedule's ebb and flow. This year-round service position requires attention to details, hospitality, creative problem-solving, the ability to work both independently and as a team. It has been said that being a camp caretaker is "the hardest job you'll ever love!" Living at DCC comes with the opportunity to enjoy the wonder of God's creation right outside! Housing, utilities, some meals, and a monthly stipend provided. 2-year commitments are appreciated. Start/end dates are flexible. Contact info@driftcreek.org for details.



Portland Mennonite Church

Portland Mennonite spent Mother's Day weekend at Twin rocks Retreat Center for their annual Church Retreat. A Covid outbreak put a small damper on the weekend as a sizable number of people needed to drop out, but the group that attended was rewarded with gorgeous weather and a Friday night display of Northern lights. Eight people joined the church during the Sunday service, three of which were baptized in the ocean. This was Rod Stafford's last PMC retreat, which created some melancholy moments and lots of story telling as his ministry at PMC of 25 years was remembered and celebrated.

Mennonite Church USA and Other Organizations

Everence

Budgeting for the unexpected, *Prepare your finances for emergencies*

Thursday, May 23, 2024; **Time:** 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM ET

Webinar; **Event Contact Melissa Short** Administrative Assistant Email: melissa.short@everence.com

Mennonite Church USA

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

Upcoming e-Bulletins:

June 3 (*submissions due by 5/27*)

June 17 (*submissions due by 6/10*)

July 15 (*submissions due by 7/8*)

Aug 5 (*submissions due by 7/29*)

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>