



Pacific Northwest  
Mennonite  
Conference

April 21, 2025

# e-Bulletin

Providing bi-weekly communication for PNMC

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



## PACIFIC NORTHWEST MENNONITE CONFERENCE **ANNUAL MEETING** JUNE 19-22, 2025 / KALISPELL, MT

**The Transforming Church:** Centered On Christ,  
Community and the Way of Reconciliation  
Romans 12:2

### FLBC's all-in-one accommodations:

**\$450/person through April 30**

(early bird discount)

**\$500/person from May 1 to May 15**

(regular rate)

**\$550/person from May 16 to June 1**

(late registration)

**\$200/each for children ages 4-11**

Adult 1 day, no lodging, lunch & dinner \$150.

**REGISTER HERE.**

*Bring your towels, sleeping bag or bedding!*

## MEET ANNUAL MEETING SPEAKERS, GLEN GUYTON & SARAH AUGUSTINE



**Glen Guyton** is the executive director of MC USA. He is the first person of color to serve in the role. He has almost 30 years of denominational leadership experience. Guyton joined the MC USA Executive Board staff in 2009 as the Director of Intercultural Relations, and for the next few years, held various staff roles until becoming Executive Director. An

officer in the United States Air Force when he first joined the church, Guyton credits several Mennonite leaders for teaching him what it means to be an Anabaptist Christian, in particular Bishop L.W. Francisco III, oversight pastor at C3 Hampton, and Titus Peachy, formerly of Mennonite Central Committee, which led him to leave the military and commit to nonviolence. Guyton holds a bachelor's degree in management from the United States Air Force Academy and a master's degree in education from Regent University. He is the author of several books including, *"Navigating Microaggressions at Work: A Guide to Understanding and Avoiding Microaggressions in the Workplace,"* and *"Reawakened, Activate Your Congregation to Spark Lasting Change,"* which explores eight keys to developing the abilities of congregations to bring healing and hope to their communities. Guyton is also a professional member of the National Speakers Association.



**Sarah Augustine**, who is a Pueblo (Tewa) descendant, is co-founder and Executive Director of the Coalition to Dismantle the Doctrine of Discovery. She is also the co-founder of [Suriname Indigenous Health Fund](#) (SIHF), where she has worked in relationship with vulnerable Indigenous Peoples since 2005. She has represented the interests of Indigenous community partners to their

own governments, the Inter-American development bank, the United Nations, the Organization of American States Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, the World Health Organization, and a host of other international actors including corporate interests. She is a columnist for Anabaptist World, and co-hosts the [Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery podcast](#) with Sheri Hostetler. She has taught at Heritage University, Central Washington University, and Goshen College. In Washington State, where she lives, she serves in a leadership role on multiple boards and commissions to enable vulnerable peoples to speak for themselves in advocating for structural change. She is author of the book *The Land Is Not Empty: Following Jesus in Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery* (Herald Press 2021), and co-author, with Sheri Hostetler, of *So We and Our Children May Live: Following Jesus in Confronting the Climate Crisis* (Herald Press 2023).

## An Interview with AMBS Student, Jaqui Eicher, Albany Mennonite Church

**What brought you to this area?** I was born in the Lebanon Hospital, but grew up on a farm that sits between Lebanon and Albany. I stay here because it feels like home and I think I am rooted.

**What has been your primary career?** Education was and is my primary work — Love is my vocation.

**When did you begin your seminary journey?** I started the process of entering the Journey Program at AMBS in April of 2024. After my Dad died in February, I knew I needed to make some changes in my life and moving forward in this way was one of those changes. I am mostly done with the first of 6 courses, which will take roughly 2.5 years to complete.

**What do you enjoy about being a seminary student?** My favorite part of the Journey program is interacting with scripture. I also enjoy receiving feedback from **James Rissler**, a conference minister who is currently guiding this course, *The Bible As Story*.

**What are the realities of juggling studies and vocation?** Yikes. And Yahoo! I've had a lot of change since April of 2024, including moving and moving again. If I take away those transitions, I think the pairing of my vocation as a chaplain and my seminary studies is ideal. Each informs and enhances the other. I love this life I now have of living out my spiritual practices in my work and study.



**How has the mentorship program been helpful?** It is crucial. My mentor is **Linda Dibble**, (pictured left with Jaqui on the right) who happens to have known me since I was a wee babe. She is a strong support, guide and spiritual partner. Because of her guidance, I have some very real learning covenants to work with during this Journey program.

The gifts of working as a chaplain at Mennonite Village keep unfolding. When I say my vocation is love, I mean it and I'm grateful to have this opportunity to live it out. Some days are heavy with the reality of being human and watching humans come to the end of their own life journeys. But all of us there--caregivers, residents, staff--we all have decided to walk alongside each other and bear witness to each other. That is the greatest gift of all.

Through AMBS coursework, Jaqui has had the opportunity to dig into aspects of her family history. She put [this presentation](#) together featuring her grandfather, Samuel Eicher. In reflecting upon the project, Jaqui shared, "Family is complicated. I never knew my Grandpa Eicher (he died in 1972, when I was still only 2). I've heard very few stories about him and relatives describe him as being gruff. My Dad never told us much about him, except that Grandpa liked to tell stories. I know from my Dad's work ethic that he admired Grandpa. They seem to have been similar in many ways. Completing this project as part of my Journey covenant has given me a focus to my insights into my Grandpa's life. I'm so grateful that my Grandma Martha and my Uncle Duane saved so many photos and that Grandpa left so many journals and notes."

## CONSIDER AN ANABAPTIST CHURCH TOUR IN GUATEMALA

### SEMILLA

#### [Anabaptist Church Tour](#), October 16-27, 2025

This 10-day tour promises to be a transformative journey, immersing you in the vital work of [SEMILLA](#) and its profound influence on church ministries throughout Guatemala. In a country still healing from the scars of 36 years of armed conflict, SEMILLA shines brightly as a beacon of hope, empowering church leaders with the training, inspiration, and support they need to nurture their congregations and extend essential services to their communities. You will visit churches, meet SEMILLA students and church leaders, engage in insightful lectures, and explore scenic, historic, and cultural sites, including Colonial Antigua; the Tz'utujil Mayan community of [San Juan la Laguna](#) on [Lake Atitlán](#); the K'ekchi' Mayan region of Alta Verapaz; as well as an orchid sanctuary, a coffee plantation and a weaving cooperative. To learn more about this opportunity, click [here](#).

SEMILLA also offers sabbatical opportunities for pastors. Learn more [here](#).

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#### Upcoming e-Bulletins:

May 5 (submissions due by 4/28)

May 19 (submissions by 5/12)

June 2 (submissions due by 5/26)

June 16 (submissions due by 6/9)

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

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