

2025 PNMC Annual Meeting - Minutes

Friday, June 20

Welcome intro and video presented by Flathead Lake Lutheran Camp staff

Moderator, Chris Nord, opened the meeting in prayer

Minutes from the 2024 Annual Meeting were reviewed and approved

Motion to welcome new member congregation

Chris introduced a motion made to welcome the Community of Hope in Bellingham, WA into full membership within PNMC. He presented the procedure references for how this is done, with a vote by the delegates after hearing from various parties of the application for membership.

- First to share was Pastor, Rachael Weasley who gave her own personal testimony about how the Community of Hope (COH) came into being as a church plant and what it's ministry looks like today, the ways it's uniquely meeting needs for those to engage with the church
- A few church members gave their own sharing about what it means to them personally to be part of COH. (Bill and Margaret Loewen, Duncan Smith and Cherlene Epp)
- Vote to welcome COH passed unanimously

Roll Call of member churches - individual representatives from each congregation who had a delegate present spoke on something significant the church is doing or has done over the past year. Special notice was made by Executive Minister, Eric Massanari, to recognize the congregations who did not have anyone present, in particular, those from the CIHAN churches whose members did not attend due to political turmoil around ICE raids to detain and deport non-citizens. CIHAN members did not feel it would be safe enough for them to make the trip.

Reports:

Executive Conference Minister's report: Eric Massanari related some stories of the conference which he titled "an Elevator to Somewhere Else." The context is that the place many congregations found themselves in was not one necessarily by choice, but that they arrived similarly to others in ways that enabled a new degree of supporting each other. Primarily, this referenced 8 of the 24 member churches who are currently being lay-lead, without any employed pastor.

Eric reflected on this year's celebrating 500 years of Anabaptism and how the Mennonite forbears had greater insight than "following the script of Christ."

Ministry today involves moral injury.

Healing is an act of communion.

Valuable connections with other denominational counterparts

Difficult time for pastoral searches - look to nurture from the the communities of faith

New models of community

Treasurer's report: Dave Hockman-Wirt

4 withdrawals have been made from the financial reserves since 2023. Investment fund is basically stable.

Finance Team report: Deren Kellogg

Looking for ways to reduce the conference deficit and increase financial sustainability

Conference grants

Resolution: *A Call to Discipleship Amidst a Culture of Christian Nationalism*

Chris introduced this resolution which was drafted by himself and Eric. The PNMC Board had already discussed it at their last meeting and was putting it forward to the delegates for their review and vote. After time for discussion and reflection, the resolution would be voted on during the afternoon plenary session.

Morning session adjourned with prayer.