

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 <u>brenda@pnmc.org.</u> See schedule on second page for publication dates and submission deadlines.

From the PNMC Office

Now is the time to mark next year's calendar for the 2026 Conference Communications Council. The Zoom gathering will take place on Saturday, January 31, beginning at 8:30 that morning. We are excited to welcome Pastor Samuel Moran of Ministerios Restauración in Portland, OR as the guest speaker.



We will keep you informed as details come together, but for now, here is an overview of the day's agenda: (All times are PST.)

8:30am Welcome, Eric Massanari, ECM 8:45 Opening prayer and Lectio meditation - Eric 9:00 Guest Speaker: Samuel Moran, Pastor of Ministerios Restauracion (Portland, OR)

9:45 BREAK

10:00 Roll call and sharing from our PNMC congregations - Karla Morton, Moderator10:50 BREAK

11:00 Board-led reporting and agenda -- Karla Noon Closing prayer and adjourn

Don't delay! Online registration is available <u>HERE</u>.

New PNMC Worship Resource Available!

A 6-Sunday worship series resource has been created to accompany our PNMC 2025 Resolution, *A Call to Discipleship Amidst a Culture of Christian Nationalism*. This resource builds on the resolution and

A Blessing of the Harvest *

Blessed be the seeds, O God: the seeds planted by our forbearers in faith; the seeds we plant as disciples of Christ's love.

Blessed be the nourishing ground, O God: the ground that is your steadfast presence; the ground that is beneath us and within us always.

Blessed be the light, the winds and the rains, O God: the light revealing what is most true and real; the winds of inspiration, creativity and wonder; the rains of mercy, healing and reconciliation.

Blessed be the germinating growth, O God: the growth of deepening faith; the growth of your Word in the world.

Blessed be the fruit, O God: the fruit of love that is for all; the fruit of peace that passes understanding.

Blessed be the dormancy and the rest, O God: the dormancy of minds quieted and ready to receive; the rest of hearts that are fully open to You. AMEN

Eric Massanari, PNMC Executive Conference Minister *This blessing was created for the Menno Mennonite Church (Ritzville, WA) 2025 Harvest Festival

invites congregational reflection on gospel passages from the Sermon on the Mount and Jesus' parables of the Kingdom of God. We encourage PNMC churches to adapt and use this in your congregations. Copies of the worship resource were sent to PNMC pastors and church leaders. If you would like to receive a copy, please contact Eric Massanari, Executive Conference Minister: eric@pnmc.org.

Healthy Congregation Grants



Pastor Rachael Weasley of Community of Hope Mennonite Church, provided a detailed report regarding the positive impact that funds from PNMC have had on the Bellingham, WA-based church plant. Pastor Rachael reflected, "Thank you so much for your support! Your gift of the Healthy Congregations Grant had a huge impact on the life of our congregation. We met weekly for much of the year. After receiving feedback from laypeople, we expanded our vision to experiment with different types of gatherings. We had a Bible study, cooked meals together, attended a lecture, met up for discussion groups, and more." Rachael went on to say that through the more frequent, intentional gatherings, she witnessed relationships bloom and deepen between members. With new people joining, the HCG funds provided ample options for plugging in, connecting, and finding belonging within the congregations. The grant goals were to bring in new local folks and strengthen ties among existing members, while deepening queer spirituality through a Bible study/discussion group in a queer-

friendly setting. Rachael reported that group cohesion increased and that the grant's goals were not only achieved, but exceeded expectations. To read Rachael's full report, click <u>here</u>.

PNMC CONGREGATIONS, ORGANIZATIONS & MINISTRIES

Drift Creek Camp



DCC would like to thank all of those that were able to attend the 2025 Annual Members' Meeting and Family Camp, November 7-9. The gathering was a joyous celebration of a busy year. Caretakers Chris Colvin and Lilly Kauffman were recognized and thanked as their time on staff comes to an end. Meanwhile, Kyle Diller was welcomed as he joins Lucas Hershey Groh as the on-site team. Time was set aside on Sunday morning to remember and honor John Gingerich and all that he contributed to DCC and its growing Nature Center over the years.

Pacific Northwest Mennonite Historical Society

After a 10-year hiatus, the PNMHS has reintroduced its semi-annual newsletter. The publication includes stories informed by the holdings in its archives, as well as current events and meeting summaries. Of particular interest in this issue is the article on page 3 about the effort of the Pacific Coast Mission Board to obtain the first leader of the Portland Mission, (*later Portland Mennonite Church*), Alan Good. The newsletter also includes a membership form. Click here to read this edition: PNMHS-Newsletter.pdf

MENNONITE CHURCH USA & OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Eastern Mennonite Seminary

Called to Seminary, but worried about costs? Because generous donors are committed to accessibility, EMS provides:

- A minimum 25% scholarship for most students
- Tuition scholarships ranging from 50–100% for many students
- One of the more affordable tuition rates among accredited seminaries

Learn more <u>here</u>.

Mennonite Church USA

Mennonite Church USA has launched a new "Reimagining MC USA" web portal as an invitation for constituents across the denomination to engage in prayerful reflection and dialog about the future of the church. The portal features a dynamic, four-part video interview series hosted by Executive Director Glen Guyton with John Register, a Paralympic silver medalist known for his message of resilience and transformation. An accompanying small group discussion guide encourages congregations to explore themes of renewal, discipleship and life in community. The portal also features general information about the Reimagining initiative, including the charter for the Structure Review Task Force and the project's ambitious two-year timeline, as well as additional resources for constituent engagement.

The MC USA Executive Board envisioned the restructuring process in late 2024 "to reimagine a framework that maintains the interconnectedness between the church's various entities and better responds to current and future needs." "This reimagining process is about more than structure — it's about renewing our shared commitment to follow Jesus together in a rapidly changing world," said Guyton. "Through open dialogue, courageous listening and Spirit-led discernment, I believe we can rediscover the beauty of our connection as a missional body. My hope is that this process will inspire us to dream boldly, act faithfully and build a more vibrant and unified witness to God's transformative power." More information available <a href="https://example.com/hereita/h

MC USA's Executive Board writes letter regarding a Mennonite World Conference Decision

The first assembly of Mennonite World Conference (MWC) was held in Basel, Switzerland in 1925. There was one delegate from North America, H. J. Krehbiel, the president of the General Conference Mennonite Church. Mennonite Church USA (MC USA) carries forward the heritage of our predecessor denominations, which means we have been part of MWC from the beginning.

As MC USA strives to live into the work of repentance, healing and transformation with our LGBTQIA+ siblings, we are also committed to MWC's <u>Shared Convictions</u> of Global Anabaptists which includes No. 7, "As a world-wide community of faith and life we transcend boundaries of nationality, race, class, gender, and language."

We believe, along with MWC, that our Shared Convictions are sufficient for member bodies to walk in harmony while also allowing room for diverse approaches to other matters. A recent MWC decision raises concerns about the continued application of this principle. Read the full letter here.

Upcoming e-Bulletins:

Dec 1 (submissions by 11/24) Dec 15 (submissions due by 12/8) Jan 5 (submissions due by 12/29) Jan 19 (submissions due by 1/12) 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 PNM C updates: http://pnmc.org e-Bulletin Archives: http://pnmc.org/Resources/eBulletin