



Menucha Retreat & Conference Center
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Corbett, OR 97019

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Menucha is a sacred sanctuary held in stewardship as an ecumenical, community-based mission of First Presbyterian Church – Portland. Our mission is to enrich lives through hospitality, learning, reflection and renewal.

CONTACT INFORMATION



You may join our mailing list or update the information we have for you by returning this form to us, or by contacting us:

Name _____
 Address _____
 City, State, Zip _____
 Email address _____
 I would like to receive Menucha communications via:
 Email Regular mail

PHONE 503-695-2243
FAX 503-695-2223
EMAIL office@menucha.org
MAIL PO Box 8
 Corbett, OR 97019

PLANNED GIVING: SECURING MENUCHA'S FUTURE

Remembering Menucha in your estate planning can have positive consequences for both Menucha and you. By setting up a Charitable Trust, you provide Menucha with a source of income in the future while guaranteeing yourself and/or your loved ones a steady income stream now. You may even avoid costly capital gain taxes. It's a wonderful way to support the mission of Menucha for years to come. We have excellent representatives who can speak with you and your financial planner to answer any questions you might have about planned giving or estate planning. Please call our office at 503-695-2243 for more details.

DONATE ONLINE

Now, it's easier than ever to support Menucha. You can donate using your credit card with our secure on-line form. Simply go to www.friendsofmenuchafoundation.org and click on the "Donate Today" link. You may also print out a Donor Form and mail it to Menucha.

We are grateful for all gifts, large or small. Your gifts help us expand our programs, improve our facility and reach out to groups and individuals from around the Pacific Northwest and beyond. Please contact our office if you would like to remember someone special with your gift. Thank for your continued support.

GREENING UPDATE Tim Kurkinen, Facilities Manager

Last month we had the chance to see our dining hall remodel completed with new windows, doors, trim and siding. The entire process started last summer with the dining porch, which is the section that runs along the north end of Wright Hall. In February local craftsman Brian Aho and his team finished the final window installation in the main dining room adjacent to the kitchen.



Historically, the porch had been used as a seasonal, open-air feature for the manor. Since First Presbyterian Church purchased the property it has gradually been closed off from the elements to use year-round. Over the decades the need for more dining space has increased, resulting in decades of different windows and styles. Now, with the remodel complete, we can enjoy the beauty of the Menucha grounds while dining in a more uniform, comfortable, and insulated dining room.



The next steps of the project are to paint the outside and stain the inside of the windows. After those are finished, we will be looking at replacing windows in the rest of Wright Hall. In addition, we will continue with LED upgrades for Ballard, Bowman/Greenhouse, and Boyd/Habitat/Hideaway.

Thanks to everyone who helped during the process and to all who put up with our construction zones during the year. What a difference these improvements will make; we hope you'll be able to see for yourself soon!

Menucha is an ecumenical community-based mission of First Presbyterian Church of Portland, Oregon



THE RHYTHM OF LIFE

Rev. Spencer Parks, Executive Director

It looks like spring will be early again this year. Things are beginning to bud out and bloom, the robins have returned, the weather is warming up, and I had to mow my lawn yesterday (the earliest I've been forced to do so since I moved to the Pacific Northwest). Climate change issues aside, I'm glad to see warmer and sunnier weather. There are other signs of spring as well. On our small farm lambs have been born, we've planted peas and salad greens in the garden and I've placed my order for turkey chicks at the local feed and seed store...all sure signs that the seasons are about to change.



As I've gotten older I have begun to appreciate the rhythm of the year. There is a certain amount of comfort in following a well-worn pattern. After almost twelve years at Menucha I have a pretty good sense of when our regular groups will make their appearances and I enjoy anticipating their arrivals. I look forward to seeing some people that I only get to see once a year. Occasionally a group will drop out (a group leader gets sick, there is an unforeseen event in the life of the group, etc.). Even though we might fill their slot with some other group, I feel a bit empty when their regular time arrives and they do not. Most often these groups return the next year and I'm bombarded with comments like, "We sure missed coming here," or "It just wasn't the same not being able to come last year." I'm once again glad they are a part of our lives and that we are a part of theirs.

Please don't misunderstand. I'm not describing events that just mark time, but rather events that add depth and meaning to our lives, events that help ground us and help make us better people. There are a number of events that occur in my life on an annual basis (sometimes even more frequently) without which I would not feel energized, centered, connected, creative, or even organized. I know for a good number of our guests, this is part of the experience they have here at Menucha. They come here at certain times of the year to work on some very specific things...things that add depth and meaning to their lives, help ground them and mold them into better humans.

This is what makes Menucha different. We don't just provide a space to eat, meet and sleep. We provide a space where the rhythms of life can unfold; a space where purposeful work can take place. We provide a retreat from the daily grind in order to take time to look at the big picture. We are a place where people come to feel energized, centered, connected, creative and a host of other things.

We hope that we are a part of the rhythm of your life. We hope to see you soon.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS and SAVE THE DATES!

9th ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CROQUET TOURNAMENT and LAWN PARTY AT MENUCHA Saturday, July 16th • 9:30 am - 4:00 pm Ticket price: \$40 participants, \$15 spectators



We invite you to Menucha for our 9th Annual Croquet Tournament on Saturday, July 16th. Whether you like to play croquet, or simply enjoy watching the game, it will be a day of fun for all. Will this be the year we engrave your name on the winner's trophy?

We'll begin the morning with pastries, coffee and juice on the Wright Hall terrace—a terrific way to start off the day! Your ticket price also includes a delicious lunch served by the pool overlooking the spectacular Columbia River Gorge. The tournament is fun for all ages, with friendly competition, live bluegrass music, and door prizes awarded throughout the day. Again this year we plan to have a small silent auction with a variety of items.



There are two ways you can play, solo or in pairs. You may also come and join in as a spectator cheering on your favorite players. If you'd like, wear your croquet whites and fancy hats and compete for the highly coveted Best Dressed for Croquet award!

Tickets will go on sale later this spring. We hope to see you on July 16th.

14th ANNUAL MENUCHA FUNDRAISING DINNER presented by the Friends of Menucha Foundation SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11th at 5:30 pm in WRIGHT HALL

The Friends of Menucha Foundation invites you to join us as we celebrate and support Menucha.

The Great Hall will once again be decorated and transformed especially for this event. You will be warmly welcomed for an evening that begins with wine and hors d'oeuvres on the Wright Hall terrace overlooking the beautiful Columbia River Gorge, followed by a delicious three-course dinner prepared and served by our amazing kitchen staff.



The highlight of the evening centers around Menucha. It is always so encouraging to hear firsthand how important Menucha is in the lives of those who come here; we want to continue this vital ministry for many years to come!

Tickets for table sponsorships and individual seats will go on sale mid-summer. We would love to have you join us for this special evening of celebration and support and hope you will save the date on your calendar!



Please join us
for our annual
EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE
at MENUCHA
Sunday, March 27th
at 6:30 a.m.

All are welcome!

We invite you to gather with us as we celebrate our Lord's resurrection and new life! The service will be held in Wright Hall, with coffee and pastries served after the service.

38711 E. Historic Columbia River Hwy, Corbett • 503-695-2243
Sponsored by Menucha and East Multnomah County Presbyterian Churches

Robert DeGraff photo, used with permission

RECENT COMMENTS FROM OUR GUESTS

"Friendly and gracious staff. Everyone was so friendly, polite and accommodating."

"Wonderful experience—Beautiful place—Good Food!"

"The property is beautiful and the setting very peaceful."

"We had a wonderful time at Menucha for our family reunion. Please thank your staff for all their help and the wonderful meals. It was the perfect spot!"

"Amazing and peaceful. The view was awesome. I'm coming back for sure!"



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THE COOKTOP—a favorite recipe from the Menucha Kitchen Martin Kukich, Food Service Manager

SHORTBREAD COOKIES
makes 2 1/2 dozen small cookies

1 cup granulated sugar
1 1/2 cups (3 sticks) unsalted butter
4 cups all purpose flour



Mix all three ingredients in mixer until just combined.

Press out onto a lightly floured board into a square about 1/4" thick.

Cut into squares with a pizza wheel or use cookie cutters and place on parchment-lined sheet pan. Bake at 325° for about 18 minutes or until golden brown.

Sprinkle with cinnamon sugar while still warm, if desired, and enjoy with a hot cup of your favorite tea.

IN MEMORY OF DAVID MESIROW

The bench in memory of David has been installed in the rockery and the daffodils we planted to honor him are blooming.

In his retirement David spent many hours working in the rockery, restoring areas that had become overgrown over the years.



He enjoyed visiting with guests who would wander by and loved telling them about the beauty he discovered there.

On your next visit we hope you'll take some time to walk the paths and sit for a moment and reflect on this special place that meant so much to David.

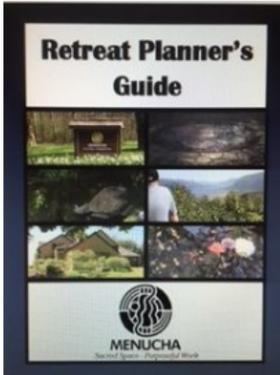


Programs at Menucha have continued to grow and draw national attention over the past few years. In February over 50 pastors from 17 states gathered at Menucha for a cutting edge training model for Transitional Ministry. As we continue to expand our programs this year and next, keep watch. There may just be something you are interested in—we invite you to join us! See below for second quarter offerings.

Scott Crane, Menucha Program Director

	<p>PRACTICAL CHURCH LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP #1 Yikes! Who Stole My Church? (Times, They are a Changin') - Heidi Husted Armstrong March 19, 2016 9:00 am - 4:00 pm, lunch included</p> <p>PRACTICAL CHURCH LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP #2 Session Success (Who is Robert and Why Do We Follow His Rules Anyway?) - Heidi Husted Armstrong May 7, 2016 9:00 am - 4:00 pm, lunch included Register online.</p>
	<p>UKULELE BAND CAMP March 28 - April 1, 2016</p> <p>Welcome to four nights and three days of intense fun, ukulele instruction, and merry music making, led by some of the ukulele world's finest band masters. Our goal is to provide you with exciting challenges by learning to be in a band, play together, and try something new. Register online.</p>
	<p>COLUMBIA RIVER GORGE DULCIMER FESTIVAL April 11 - 14, 2016</p> <p>Our 7th annual festival offers you the chance to play music you love, learn from top-notch instructors, relax and enjoy the view. This year's instructors include Larry Conger, Jeff Furman and Janita Baker, Artistic Director. Register online.</p>



	<p>CRAFT AND SEW RETREAT May 6 - 7 or 8 , 2016</p> <p>A gift to yourself, complete with fellowship, good snacks, great home-cooked meals that we prepare for you, and a crackling fire if desired. Join us! Host for weekend: Joey Razzano. Register online.</p>
	<p>WATERCOLOR WORKSHOP: Better Design Before and After with Linda Rothchild-Ollis May 15 -18, 2016</p> <p>This workshop provides hands-on experience to improve design, with and without the use of computer editing. No computer or computer editing skills are necessary. Instruction will fit both representational and abstract painting styles. Register online.</p>
	<p>NO STRESS RETREAT PLANNERS WORKSHOP June 11, 2016 9:30 - 2:30 with lunch</p> <p>Would you like some tips on making your retreat a success? We have some tools that will help you plan your event and secure commitment from your potential participants. NO COST TO GUEST GROUP LEADERS! Register online.</p>
<p>COMING THIS FALL:</p> <p>MENUCHA RETREAT & CONFERENCE CENTER PRESENTS</p> <p>BLUES IN THE GORGE SEPTEMBER 28- OCTOBER 2, 2016</p>	<p>BLUES IN THE GORGE September 28 - October 2, 2016 Instructors: Ernie Hawkins, Mary Flower, Steve James and Suzy Thompson</p> <p>Join us for five days and four nights to watch, listen, and learn up close from some of the best musicians around. Space is limited to only 48 participants to ensure plenty of instructor attention for everyone. Register online.</p>