



MENUCHA CONFERENCE CENTER  
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Corbett, OR 97019-0008

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## WE INVITE YOU TO ENTER OUR SECOND ANNUAL MENUCHA CALENDAR CONTEST!

Menucha is such a photogenic place! Folks with cameras find it's not hard to take some spectacular pictures while they're here. If you've got some gorgeous photos, please enter one or more in our second annual Menucha Photo Calendar Contest! Entries will be judged on how well they capture this year's theme: **The Beauty of the Gorge**. Twelve photographs will be selected for the 2020 calendar.

"We were delighted with the success of our first calendar contest," said Menucha's executive director, Spencer Parks. "The quality of the submissions was quite good and we are so proud of the finished product. The calendar gives folks a 'Menucha moment' every day which is good for them and good for us."

Each photograph should be accompanied by a \$25.00 entry fee. There is no limit to the number of entries you may submit. Everyone will receive one free calendar per entry. Those whose photos are selected for the calendar will each receive five free calendars. Among the twelve winning photos, one will be named grand prize winner. This person also will receive a night in our Hideaway with breakfast for two. Winners will be announced on or before May 30, 2019.

The contest is open to any individual with the exception of Menucha employees and governing board (Menucha Commission) members. Families of staff, instructors and volunteers are welcome to submit entries. See our webpage for all the rules: <https://Menucha.org/calendar-contest>

Entries must be submitted through our online form by May 1, 2019.

An important note about how to label your photo: Please avoid using anything other than numbers and letters, as other symbols and punctuation might stop the uploading process. Please include your photo title followed by an underscore, then your FirstLast name. Exclude spaces.

**Example: CloudsofSpring\_AlexJohnson**

Please consider our 2020 Menucha photo calendar as you plan your holiday giving. They'll be available for purchase in our gift shop and online starting in September.



*Photo by Gretchen Stahmer*

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

Spring 2019

## 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 \_\_\_\_\_

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

I would like to receive Menucha communications via:  
 Email  Regular mail

## 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](http://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.



## QUESTIONS, GATHERINGS AND RIPPLES

### Rev. Lori Nance, Menucha Program Director

The patterns that skipping rocks make on water have always fascinated me. A flat rock flung at just the right angle makes it “skip,” sending ripples moving across the surface of the water, intersecting, connecting, always moving out from the place where the rock bounced.

The image of ripples emanating from a rock dropped in water is often how I think of the work we do at Menucha – ripples in a big body of water. Questions people ask become conversations, plans and actions because they gather here. The conversations they carry on, the plans they make, the time they spend together sends ripples of energy outward into their churches, nonprofits, and families.

Such times of collaboration, connecting and learning can provide much needed moments of rest and renewal. It still seems rather fitting to me that the Meier family named this place “Menucha” drawing upon the meanings of the Hebrew word whose translations are rest, resting place, quietness, still.

I get to be the instigator of these moments as I work with colleagues here to plan and invite people to come to the programs we offer in the areas of faith, art and music. It makes my heart glad at the end of an event to see people leaving with smiles, questions about how to keep in touch with new friends, and hugs and hearty handshakes. In our hyper-connected, technology-saturated world, there is no substitute for time spent in one another’s presence. Those are some good ripples in the water. Want to come make some?

*Rev. Spencer Parks, our Executive Director, is currently on sabbatical.*



## SAVE THE DATES!



**Saturday, August 10**  
**2nd Annual Menucha Summer Fair**  
**Fun for the entire family!**



**Sunday, September 8**  
**16th Annual Friends of Menucha**  
**Fundraising Dinner to support Menucha**



## THE COOKTOP - a favorite recipe from the Menucha Kitchen

### Hot Cross Buns—makes 1 dozen

- 3 cups unbleached all-purpose flour
- 1/8 cup sugar
- 1 cup warm (90-100 degrees) milk
- 2 tablespoons melted butter
- 2 teaspoons instant (bread machine) yeast
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cup raisins or currants
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/8 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 1/8 teaspoon ground ginger



Egg wash: 1 egg

Glaze: 1/2 cup powdered sugar and 1 tablespoon lemon juice

In a large mixing bowl, mix together the flour, yeast, sugar, salt, and spices. Add the warm milk and butter and mix until all ingredients are combined. Add a little flour or milk until you achieve the proper consistency, which is moist enough that all of the ingredients stick together but dry enough that you can knead the dough without it sticking to your hands. (You may need to add a couple of tablespoons of flour to get to this consistency. Depending on the humidity in your area and how tightly packed your cups of flour are, you may need to add more or less.)

Pour the dough onto a floured surface and knead for 5 to 10 minutes. Flatten the dough and pour the raisins or currants on top and press them into the dough. Work the dough until the raisins are well mixed in. Return the dough to a greased bowl, cover with plastic wrap, and allow to rise for 1 to 1 1/2 hours until the dough has doubled in size.

When it has risen, pour the dough out onto a cutting board and divide into 12 pieces. Roll the pieces into balls and place on a greased baking surface (a 9 x 13" Pyrex pan works well). Cover the pan and allow to rise until they double in size again, typically 45 minutes to 1 hour.

While the buns are rising, preheat the oven to 425°. When the buns are ready to bake, scramble the egg in a bowl and brush some over the top of the buns. Put the buns in the oven and bake at 425° for 15 minutes. Remove and allow to cool for 5 or 10 minutes. While the buns are cooling, make the glaze by combining the lemon juice with the powdered sugar (you can also use orange juice, milk, or water if you don't have lemon juice). Use a pastry bag, a spoon, or a knife to paint the crosses on top of the buns. Eat them while they are hot and enjoy!



## FACILITIES UPDATE—Tim Kurkinen, Facilities Manager

We have had an interesting winter. For the most part the early weeks were uneventful. We had one ice event over the first weekend in December which forced us to move the Friends of Menucha Foundation Thank You Dessert downtown to FPC and cancel one or two other groups. Christmas and the new year came and went and nothing really happened; it was a bit unusual. Then February showed up. For a solid three weeks we were hit with snow, ice and wind, all at once or separately. It's made up for the last two months of plain old rain.

As I sit here writing this I can see the tops of the trees outside dancing in the wind. I think it's easy, and maybe expected, that you feel finished with a season when it has asked so much of you. The cold, the harshness, the wind and ice. The business, the lack of rest. Physically it's very demanding. Mentally you can feel exhausted. But sometimes there's this strange thing that can happen in the midst of everything else—something in the heart. Occasionally I feel a sense of contentment and hope despite the tiredness. It creates this strange and almost curious sense of peace that calms me, and reminds me that every season is temporary, and every season has purpose.

Why do we want seasons to change when they are hard? Why do we yearn for a respite? I think it's natural to feel these things...and it's hard to ask these questions. I love to ask myself from time to time the hard questions about why I feel the way I do. Why do I want the things I want? This questing for answers amidst the struggle is a worthy endeavor, I think. These grounds are beautiful, even when they challenge us.

Here's to the season that you are in, and to paying attention to what your heart is asking.



It was a privilege to host the annual PCCCA Maintenance Connection in late February. Men from seven states and one Canadian province (Florida, New York, Idaho, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Washington and Ontario) met together for fellowship, worship, and the opportunity to learn from one another. The week included presentations on invasive species, chain saw safety, tree pruning and fire management. There were day trips to Hood River (with a visit

to Bonneville Dam and Multnomah Falls) and downtown Portland. The weather outside was cold, but that didn't seem to bother these men in the least! They enjoyed our amazing Menucha food and marveled at the beautiful views and magnificent grounds. It was an amazing week hosting this annual gathering of Site Managers and Maintenance Staff who are involved in camps, retreat centers and conference ministries!



Please join us  
for our annual  
**EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE**  
at MENUCHA  
Sunday, April 21  
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*

## REPRESENTING MENUCHA—Lauren Deming, Marketing Director

Spreading the word about Menucha is one of the best parts of my job. In an effort to raise awareness of Menucha nationally, I travel several times each year.



*Lauren giving away a Menucha calendar at APCE in Texas*

In early February I joined representatives from eight other camps and conference centers at the Association of Presbyterian Christian Educators (APCE) conference in Galveston, TX. Over 700 participants came through the exhibit area; many left with Menucha literature, little giveaways, and, we hope, the idea of paying us a visit someday. Our Gorge photos never fail to astound folks!

In March, Menucha was in front of 500 more people at the Next Church conference in Seattle. Four of us hosted a table, meeting participants, handing out flyers, and making connections with pastors and lay leaders who plan conferences (or who can influence those who do).



*From left: Alex, Lori, Emily and Lauren in Seattle for the Next Church conference*

Can you help us? Word-of-mouth is always the best advertising. Who do you know who should know about Menucha? Please introduce us! Your friends will thank you and we will too.



Like us on Facebook  
Menucha.Retreat.Center



Follow us on Twitter  
@MenuchaRetreat



**FAITH, ART and MUSIC PROGRAMS**  
 Bringing people together at Menucha



**UKULELE BAND CAMP**

Want to hear the fabulous instructors in concert?

Instructors: Cathy Fink, Marci Marxer, Aaron Keim, Tracy Kim, Nicole Keim, Nova Devonie, Matt Weiner

**NEW FOR 2019** —Public Concert at the Corbett Grange on March 27!



**BLUEGRASS IN THE GORGE**  
 April 17-20, 2019

Instructors: Laurie Lewis, Tom Rozum, Brandon Godman and Justin Hiltner



**SPRING WATERCOLOR WORKSHOP**  
 May 6-9, 2019 **SOLD OUT!**  
 with Judy Morris

**FALL WATERCOLOR WORKSHOP**  
 October 27-31, 2019  
 with Chris Stubbs and Rene Eisenbart



**SCRAP AND SEW**

2 more weekends to craft and create with friends old and new!

May 10-12, 2019

November 1-3, 2019



*We offer quality programs throughout the year for enrichment, continuing education, renewal and reflection in three core areas: Music, Faith, and Art. We hope you'll join us this year!*



For more information about each program visit our website!  
[www.menucha.org/programs](http://www.menucha.org/programs)



**WEEKEND WORKSHOPS FOR PARENTS OF CHILDREN EXPERIENCING DISABILITY**  
 May 24-26, 2019

A weekend for parents of children with special needs to refresh, learn and connect.



**BLUES IN THE GORGE**  
 Acoustic Blues Guitar Camp  
 September 25-29, 2019

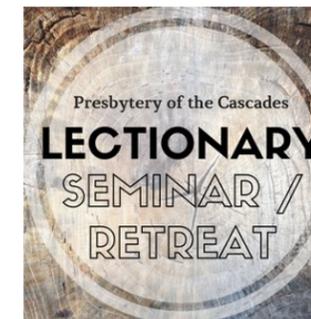
Featuring Mary Flower, Guy Davis, Rich Moore and Albanie Faletta

Public concert at Corbett Grange Hall on September 28, 2019



**TRANSITIONAL MINISTRY WORKSHOPS**  
 October 7-10, 2019  
 March 2-5, 2020

Instructors: Rev. Scott Lumsden, Rev. Heidi Husted Armstrong, and Rev. Eliana Maxim



**LECTIONARY SEMINAR/RETREAT**  
 October 21-22, 2019

Keynote speaker: Francis Taylor Gench, Professor of Biblical Interpretation at Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, VA

