



MENUCHA CONFERENCE CENTER
PO Box 8
Corbett, OR 97019-0008

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.

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STOP THE PRESSES! DEALING WITH CORONAVIRUS CONCERNS

Just before we were to push the "Print" and "Send" buttons and get this newsletter on its way, things changed. As we face the realities of the pandemic Coronavirus COVID-19, we do so *with each other ... at a distance ...* at least for now.

The social distancing that will help slow the spread of the COVID-19 necessarily affects our work here. Out of an abundance of caution, we cancelled four Menucha Programs which were scheduled for March and April: Ukulele Band Camp, Dulcimer Festival, Transitional Ministry Workshop and Bluegrass in the Gorge. We are still taking reservations and carefully monitoring the situation in regards to our May programs: Watercolor Workshop, Scrap & Sew, and Gospel in the Gorge.

We're working closely with leaders of groups booked to come here in March and April. They are listening attentively to health authorities and weighing the risks of gathering. Some groups are choosing to move their events to other dates; some are cancelling altogether. The groups still coming are being encouraged to practice social distancing, good hygiene and staying home if sick. Our already-vigilant facilities and kitchen staff are redoubling their efforts to keep Menucha safe and clean. The work they are doing is diligent and comforting. All public buildings are cleaned often and frequently touched surfaces are sanitized multiple times throughout the day.

All of this is certainly not business-as-usual for Menucha. We're doing our best to stay informed and make choices that exhibit care for our guests, our staff and this place. We are committed to one another and this place because we believe that people are better emotionally, physically and spiritually when they are gathered into loving and nurturing communities. Those kinds of communities have been happening here at Menucha for 70 years. We want them to happen for at least 70 more, so we are grateful for your prayers, thoughts, and expressions of support. Know we will hold you in our thoughts and prayers, too. With gratitude, The Menucha Staff

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:

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

Name _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Email address _____
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 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.

Please join us for our annual EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE at MENUCHA Sunday, April 12th at 6:30 a.m

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

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. All are welcome!



REMAINING STRONG IN OUR COMMON HOPE Rev. Spencer Parks, Executive Director



This is the second newsletter article I've written for this newsletter. The first was about being a part of a community....especially the community we have here at Menucha. As newsletter articles go it was okay. You'll probably see it at some point in the near future. But since that first article was written (really only a few days ago), the world has shifted a bit. The Coronavirus has come to the forefront in the national conversation.

Not to put too fine a point on it, we're all scared. Some of us are scared of contracting the disease, some of us are scared of our loved ones getting sick, some of us are scared of what it will do to our businesses....there are a host of reasons to be fearful. I would love to tell you that we here at Menucha are facing it bravely with no fear in our hearts, but that just wouldn't be true. I am personally afraid of contracting the disease, of passing it on to aged loved ones, and I'm especially fearful of what it will do to the business side of Menucha. Ultimately, in one way or another, I feel responsible for the livelihood of almost 40 people at Menucha. I'm worried at how this will affect them and their families.

We've taken steps to deal with things here as best we can. We truly understand the fears of those groups who have chosen either to cancel or postpone their time with us. We've tried to make this decision as easy as possible for them. We know the difficult positions group leaders are in (we've had to cancel several of our own events as well). All of this is a way of telling you that, if you're scheduled to visit Menucha in the near future, we'll work with you in any way possible. If you decide to come, we'll do everything in our power to make your visit as safe as we can. We will, in all of our decisions, try and err on the side of caution. You are part of our family and your safety and well being are always our concern.

That being said, it may be a while before you visit us again. Please know that you and the folks you care about will be in our thoughts and prayers. In the coming days we will be creating a spot on our website for you to share concerns, words of support, and stories of how you and yours are dealing with this. We hope that you'll take a few moments and weigh in on things.

Just as we'll keep you folks in our thoughts and prayers, we hope you'll do the same for us. I have no doubt that, at some point in time we'll all come through this with flying colors. We've faced tough times before, and I suspect that we'll do so again in the future. While that doesn't make our present situation any better, it does give us hope. So in the meantime, let's stick together and remain strong in our common hope. May you and the people you love thrive in the time ahead.



We apologize for any names that were omitted in our Winter 2019 newsletter; this is the updated list. The Foundation Board also decided to move away from the giving levels they had been using for some time, so the formatting might look a little different.

Primack, Steve and Candace
Pullin, Rosemary
Ramirez, Cirila and Scot Lang
Raponi, Belle
Rasmussen, Chris
Razzano, Chris and Joey
Reedy, Rhonda and Dana
Rounsavell, Dan and Myra
Runkel, Ross
Schwendemann, Connie and Richard Peterson
Sercombe, Tim & Jane Van Boskirk
Sexton, Tom and Debra
Shaw, Chuck
Shippy, Keisha
Shively, Willard and Lurna
Showalter, Tom and Mary Ellen
Sievert, Jeff and Lori
Simpson, Matt and Linda McNulty
Snodderly, Steve and Lisa
Solomon, Kristin
Spalding, Daniel
Starker, Gayle
Stem, Miriam
Stetson, Dick

Swanson, Bruce and Deborah
Taylor, Inez Briley
Teufel, Judith
The Way Out Inn - Luke Bates and Leslie Hanson
Tom Dwyer Automotive Service
Trails End Kettle Corn - Pam Pittman
Vanden Bosch, Pete & Marilyn Howe
Walsh, Jim and Ann
Warren, Shirley
Watkins, Marie
Webster, Matt and Hillary
West, Jackie
West, Jeff and MaryKay
Whittington, Joe and Phyllis
Williams, Julie
Williams, Peter and Aira
Williams, Rich
Withycombe, Kathy
Wolfard, Kathy
Wurm, Emmie
Yoder, Ernie and Jeri
Yoder, Rebekah
Young, June
Ziel, Sharon

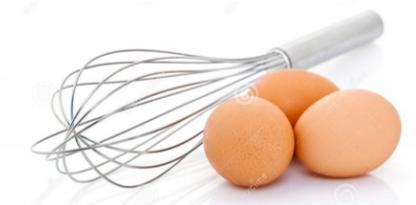
GIFTS MADE IN HONOR OF:
Bob Blum and Carol Black
Lauren Deming
Laura Merrill
Spencer Parks & Sarah Van Haeften
Susan J. Russell
The fantastic Menucha staff
The Withycombe Family

GIFTS MADE IN MEMORY OF:
Bob and Maryhelen Calderwood
Patsy Ehrman
Jim Heck
John Morris
Jean Pletcher
Gail Doty Post
Maggie Rogers
Joyce Van Haeften
Tom Withycombe

These gifts support the stewardship of our 100-acre property, our ability to offer quality programs of our own, and our commitment to serving other non-profits. Menucha's mission to enrich lives is realized through support from friends like you.

THE COOKTOP . . . a favorite recipe from the Menucha Kitchen

EGG ROLL UPS—a favorite of our guests



14 eggs (perfect thickness for half-sheet pan)
½ cup flour (for gluten free add tapioca flour)
1 cup milk (use the milk of your choice)
Pinch of salt

Mix eggs, flour, milk and salt in a blender. Pour mixture into a half-sheet pan that has been sprayed with a non-stick spray.

Bake in a 350° oven until just set but not puffed like a soufflé. While still warm you can add cheese (leaving the edges clean), thinly sliced meat (single layer works best); spinach works well too.

Start from the front and roll away from you, keeping the roll taut but not too tight. Slice in rounds and serve with fresh salsa or the sauce of your choice



WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE THOSE WHO HAVE GENEROUSLY SUPPORTED
THE FRIENDS OF MENUCHA FOUNDATION
November 2018 – December 2019

Adelman, Mara
Ahern, David
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Bergdorf, Suellen
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Blum, Bob and Carol Black
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Danielson, Melissa
Deming, Will and Lauren
DeSpain, Becky
Dot Electric, Pat and Anja
Van Delden
Dubesa, Elaine
DuCharme, Christy
Duffens, Kurt

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Faries, Charles and Charlotte
Fay, Darlene
Felix, Bruce and Audrey Schindler
Finch, Cindy
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Fleming, Steven
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Foote, Gerry
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Garvin, Roger and Robin
Gloekler, EH and Inga
Goddard, Sandy-Jo
Goertz, Mike and Barbara
Graeub, WC and Joy
Grant, Larry & Kristin Finnegan
Grewe, Chris and Susan
Gurnari, Pamela
Halverson, Brad and Katrina
Halvorsen, Frank and Karen
Hammond, Carl and Peggy
Hampton, David and Carolyn
Hange, Adam
Hattan, Robert
Hauser, Regina and Chris Carson
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Kathleen and Shawn Hill
Hoder, Kevin and Patty
Macfarlane-Hoder
Hortensine, John and Sara
Hughes, Tom and Gayle
Hunter, Chase
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Jackson, Lois
Jandacek, James
Jenkins, Pam
Jennings, Ben
Jennings, Ronald
Jensen, John and Emily Jo
Jepsen, Bonnie
Leuthauser, Ann

Leuthauser, John
Lohnes, Dennis and Rebecca
Johnson, Laura
Kates, Kyle and Julie
Kaufman, Murlan and Ginny
Bistodeau
Kaye, Ted and Debbie
Kellermann, Jody
Kirkbride, Dale and Carol
Lambertsen, Paul
Lange, Donna
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Matt Leamy and John Leamy
Leatherwood, David and Janet
Lee, Rick
Lewis, Linda
Lucas, Bob and Linda
Lucas, Fonda
Lumsden Family
Magnuson, Ted and Nancy
Malin, Rich and Sharon
Masterson, Barbara
McAllister, Leslie
McCartney, Ann
McKitrick, Brad and Mary
McNamee, Paula
McSwain, Bob and Cindy
Meihoff, Walt and Jean
Merner, Jack
Merrill, Erich and Laura
Mesirow, Margaret
Milne, Victoria
Mishler, Jerry and Sara Grigsby
Moore, James
Mullen, Dan and Molly Jo
Mullen, Mary
Nadal, Joe and Diana
Nilson, Chris
Novak, Iris
O'Donnell, Jennifer
Olsen, Christine
Oregon Community Foundation,
Friends of Menucha Fund
Pacific Office Automation
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Van Haeften
Petrie, Eric and Casey
Poindexter, Charles and Ruth
Post, Wes
Priedeman, Gordon and Mary



WHAT DO YOU LOVE AT MENUCHA?
Cloie Cohen, Development Director

Guests consistently share with me their love for a particular place on the property, or a specific building, or even a room where they've stayed over the years. For many of you, core memories have been made here at Menucha. For others, who you are has been formed by your time here. Or you have healed and grown at Menucha.

To honor that significance, as well as build a bridge to future guests, we're thinking about how to ensure that these buildings and places endure. If you love the Creevey Complex and want to financially support the work it needs, let me know. If you have a soft spot for Ballard Hall and would like to help us freshen the exterior paint, we'll need both donations and volunteers for this.

I've got a long list and my door is open – let's find a way to match your hopes and dreams for Menucha with a concrete need here in this sacred space. Together we can usher in a bright future for Menucha and the community we build here!

FACILITIES UPDATE
Tim Kurkinen, Facilities Manager

There is a chill in the morning air. The frost glistens as the rising sun washes over the landscape. In those early hours you can feel the change in season. Spring doesn't always just show up suddenly. Sometimes it arrives slowly, and you can see it coming from a long way off.

Renovations here at Menucha are continuing to be productive. Our facilities team has put a lot of work into this project so far this year. In Wright Hall the original floors have been refinished in many of the first floor rooms as well as the second floor balcony and hallway. Paint was touched up in many bedrooms and bathrooms. We have begun refinishing the original stain on the walls within the Great Hall and the highly trafficked areas, with a process that really brings out the original look and luster. Room 3 bathroom floor tile has been replaced along with a new pedestal sink and matching toilet which fit the look. Our next goal is to see the first floor bedrooms begin to take shape with all the new furnishings, rugs, nicer beds, and window coverings.

None of this work would be possible without our dedicated team of highly skilled volunteers, professional staff, and the support of our donors and extended Menucha family. Many thanks to our amazing Menucha Commission Member Sharon Hocking, who has spent many hours working with our Renovations Team to dream and plan this ambitious project. Special thanks to Leon, Jim, Ernie, Bob, Lynn, and so many others!

With each step of the project we have seen the fruit of so much care given to the process. The vision is coming together piece by delicate piece and we can't wait to see what the final product will look like. Thank you so much for helping us care for our buildings.





CHECK OUT OUR MENUCHA PROGRAMS!

Lori Nance, Program Director

Please check our website for the latest updates concerning upcoming events. We have cancelled our March and April events out of care for all involved. We are still taking registrations for our May programs, and are hopeful our collective efforts will make it possible for them to go forward.



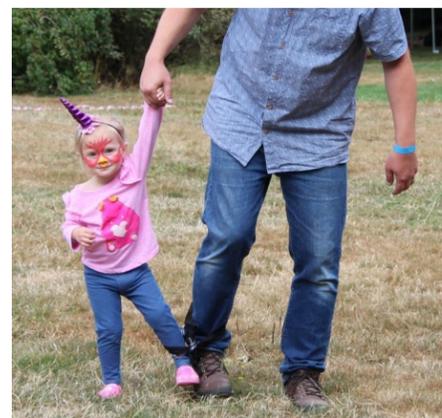
Do you want to keep the gospel music tradition alive and well? We are very excited to add "Gospel in the Gorge" to our musical programs. LaRhonda Steele, Director of the Portland Interfaith Gospel Choir, is bringing together an amazing team of musicians to share an experience of gospel music. Come and become a keeper of the gospel music tradition by participating in Gospel in the Gorge, May 29-31, 2020.

Spring is filled with lots of music. If you love to listen, come to one of our public concerts at the Grange Hall in Corbett (listed below in **bold**.) Tickets are available for purchase on our website or at the door. For more information about each program visit our website www.menucha.org/programs

- May 4-7, 2020 Spring Watercolor Workshop, with Steve Kleier
- May 8-10, 2020 Scrap & Sew Craft Retreat #2
- May 22-24, 2020 Weekend Workshop for Parents of children with special needs
- May 28-30, 2020 Gospel in the Gorge with LaRhonda Steele and friends
- May 29, 2020 Gospel at the Grange Concert (open to the public)**
- October 7-11, 2020 Blues in the Gorge with Mary Flower and friends
- October 10, 2020 Acoustic Bluesmasters Concert (open to the public)**
- October 12-15, 2020 Transitional Ministry Workshop
- October 25-28, 2020 Fall Watercolor Workshop with Margaret Godfrey
- November 6-8, 2020 Scrap & Sew Craft Retreat #3



SAVE THE DATES!



SATURDAY, AUGUST 8
3rd Annual Menucha Summer Fair
Fun for the entire family!



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13
18th Annual Friends of Menucha
Fundraising Dinner to support Menucha

SPOTLIGHT ON...

We're starting a new feature at Menucha, highlighting those groups who have been coming to us for many years or many decades in some cases! The groups we will highlight have two things in common: they all welcome new participants and they offer programming that might be of general interest to our broader community.

We are excited to begin with the Creative Arts Community!

Every summer since 1966, the Creative Arts Community has provided unique residential workshops at Menucha. In two separate, one-week sessions in August, they offer workshops with a primary focus on visual arts. Other classes offer hands-on exploration as well as non-visual arts. We hope you will take a look at their fantastic website: www.creativeartscommunity.org.

You can sign up starting on April 1. We hear that if you want to snag a spot in a specific class, you should be on your computer when registration opens.

Thank you to the Creative Arts Community for a wonderful 54 years; here's to a flourishing future at Menucha!



We're always looking for volunteers.
Interested? Contact us!
Our next Purposeful Work Party is Saturday, April 18th
9:00 am - 1:00 pm with lunch