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BMC Summer Travel Highlights & Photos



BMC kicked off Pride season in the Pacific NW June 1-2, hosted by Portland Mennonite Church. We gathered for dinner and conversation with five regional Supportive Communities Network churches and shared a robust Pride worship on Sunday! Annabeth met with a delegation from Albany Mennonite Church and officially welcomed them to SCN. Queer and trans BMCers gathered for a rainy afternoon coffee hour at Peace Church of the Brethren. It is good to gather together! (Photos above)



BMC's presence at Church of the Brethren Annual Conference July 2-6 was colorful, spirit-filled, educational, and impactful. Our workshop and worship rooms were full, standing room only. Our fabulous booth with Womaen's Caucus fostered creativity and connection (especially our DIY buttons, pictured above). Our queer and trans visibility was, and always is, sacred. Thanks to all the hands and hearts who help us show up together in denominational space.

Queering Our Anabaptist Archive: July 24 BMC Virtual Gathering

Come celebrate BMC's new archival home and learn more about the radical work of queer and trans archival practice on July 24 at 2:15p Central at "Queering Our Anabaptist Archive." [Event details and zoom link are here.](#)

In case you missed it, here is the June 28 [announcement](#) (Stonewall Day!) we shared with our BMC community about our recent donation of BMC's archives to the Tretter Collection for GLBT Studies. Please read & share our [official press release here.](#)



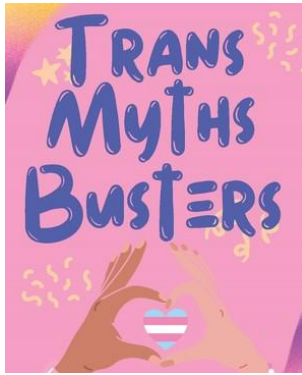
Interfaith Action for Palestine July 28-30 in DC and Online

BMC will join the Interfaith Action for Palestine on July 28-30 in Washington, DC. Along with Christians for a Free Palestine and Mennonite Action, this interfaith coalition will take on Christians United for Israel (CUFI) and their Christian Zionist lobbying efforts (which are intricately connected to anti-LGBTQIA lobbying efforts!). We are planning the largest interreligious protest to end the genocide, release all hostages, and promote a just peace.

Please, join Annabeth in person in DC or participate online! Your gifts of presence, funds for the action, and prayers for safety and clarity of purpose are deeply appreciated. [Learn more and register here.](#)



Trans Myth Busters: New BMC Resource



We are so excited to share this new BMC resource designed by and for our community!

This short guide aims to debunk common myths that too often get spread about trans and nonbinary people and offers clarifying truths. We debuted print brochures at the CoB Annual Conference in July, and a full [PDF version](#) is available on BMC's website.

A huge thank you to Jaylon Tasby and Karen Orr for making this resource come to life.

Supportive Communities Network (SCN) Updates

Pastoral openings: The following LGBTQ-affirming churches are all vibrant congregations seeking pastors! Job descriptions linked below. What gifted leader might you tap?

- [University Baptist and Brethren Church](#) in State College, Pennsylvania
- [La Verne Church of the Brethren](#) in southern California
- [Seattle Mennonite Church](#) in Washington state
- [Mennonite Church of Normal](#) in central Illinois

Statement Issued: Church of the Brethren Leadership Team issued a clarification on their May 2020 statement regarding On Earth Peace's (OEP) membership in SCN. They now clarify that OEP is not in violation of denominational policy as previously stated. [Read more here.](#)



Photo caption: SCN member Lorraine Avenue Mennonite Church (KS) marches in their local Pride Parade

Pride Shout Outs

Thanks to all those who made a Pride donation to BMC in honor of a loved one, named and unnamed! Jay, Megan, Cindy, Richard, and Rose Marie lift up Ruth Martin, Yvonne Zimmerman, Nancy Lapp, Alexis Wehrle, and Nieces. We are so grateful for your support and presence. Pride season isn't over – [donate in honor or in memory of someone today](#).

Intern With BMC 2024-25

BMC still welcomes applications for our 2024-25 [Seminary Field Education Internship](#). This is a wonderful placement for those geared towards activist ministry. Hybrid/remote options and stipend are available. Help us find a great fit and spread the word! Contact bmc@bmclgbt.org with questions.

BMC was graced this past year by seminary intern Jaylon Tasby's creativity, womanist wisdom, discerning spirit, and passion for creating spaces of belonging, especially for queer, trans, and nonbinary youth. Jaylon, we bless the ministry ahead of you!



Photo caption: BMCers at 2024 Church of the Brethren Annual Conference in Grand Rapids, MI

Farewell Reflection from BMC Seminary Intern Jaylon Tasby

The work BMC is more crucial than ever: to provide space for queer and trans/non-binary individuals to understand their sacred and holy worth, as well as continue to challenge the hatred and harm done by fundamentalist religion/theology.

I am incredibly grateful to have been part of such important work. My time with BMC has been nothing but transformative, allowing me to grow and learn new things about myself. To all who are part of this work, I salute you and implore you to continue your efforts in making a just, welcoming, affirming, loving, and sustainable world for ALL of creation.

A special thank you to the best Field Ed Supervisor one could hope for, Annabeth Roeschley. Your steadfastness in the face of anger, sadness, and pain is commendable. I couldn't have asked for a better mentor during this journey. Thank you for everything.

Together, we are reshaping what the church should look like today. Let's continue to forge a path toward a more inclusive and affirming world for everyone. -- Jaylon Tasby

With love + courage,

BMC Staff

Annabeth Roeschley, Executive Director

Hayley Brooks, Communications Associate

Jaylon Tasby, Seminary Field Education Intern 2023-24

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