

January 1, 2024

Greetings Pacific Northwest Conference Churches!

New Year blessings to you! As you gather for your semi/annual meetings, I want to start by saying thank you. Our "in-it-together" DNA, shared-mission culture, only has value when we each believe in our collective work and commit to our shared life and ministry together. On behalf of the conference executive board and staff, we are deeply grateful for your partnership this past year as we lived into our vision of being a mosaic of churches working interdependently together to transform lives and communities.

I recently reflected on my last 10 years serving as your superintendent over the last three months in The Catch, our monthly e-newsletter (subscribe to it and all our socials on <a href="www.pacnwc.org">www.pacnwc.org</a>). I encouraged us to 1) decenter Sunday ministries investing more attention and energy outside of Sunday mornings, 2) be humble students of the global church especially with their theology and practice of prayer and the work of the Holy Spirit, and 3) double-down on discipleship because it's our central work; our "family business." My hope is that God is revealing and guiding you into similar convictions. God bless you as you continue to steward all that God gives to you as a community. May you continue to boldly step out and say yes to all that God invite you into.

Please make plans to participate in this year's annual meeting April 18-20 at Milwaukie Covenant in the greater Portland area. You will notice that this is a week earlier than normal. We did so in order for us to host ECC President Tammy Swanson-Draheim, to hear from her and to pray and worship together. It will be a hybrid meeting, but we hope that you join us in person, as we are not streaming workshops though our prayer and worship time will be. See you in Portland!

The conference staff is ready to support you in any way we can, so please reach out. We cover you with our prayers and look forward to all that God will show us together this year! As the prophet Isaiah was overwhelmed and touched by God's presence, may we step into 2024 declaring, "Here I am, send me!" God bless you!

With hope and gratitude,

Rev. Greg Yee, Superintendent