

# Pacific Northwest Mennonite

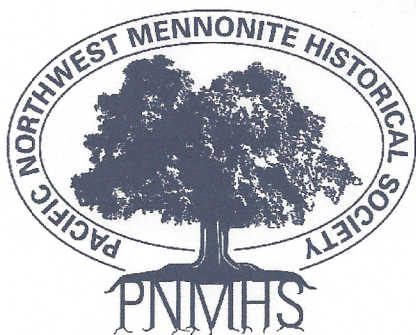
## Historical Society

Invites you to our Fall Program

Sunday September 18, 2011

2:30 PM @ Zion Mennonite Church

Hubbard Oregon.



Welcome-----	Don Bacher
Singing-----	Don Bacher
President's Report-----	Bernard Showalter
Building Report/Slide Show-----	Jerry Barkman
Offering	
Devotional-----	Charlene Epp
Singing-----	Don Bacher
Program w/Q&A-----	Charlene Epp
Closing Prayer	

### INTRODUCTION

#### THROUGH THE DESERT GOES OUR JOURNEY

##### Guest Speaker Charlene Epp

In 1880, the first in a series of six wagon trains left Mennonite settlements in Russia, destined for Central Asia on what later became known as The Great Trek.

Theological disputes, extreme traveling hardships, disease and death, resulted in about a third of those originating in Russia actually settling near what is now Ak Metchet, Uzbekistan. In 2007, the first group tour of a portion of that original immigration route was retraced, focusing on areas of Ukraine and Uzbekistan. More than half of the twenty-five people on that tour were direct descendants of the original immigrants. Charlene Epp, a great-great granddaughter of Klaas Epp, one of the leaders of that 1880 immigration chose to re-trace her ancestors' trip in an effort to come to a better understanding of the impact that immigration has had on subsequent generations.



##### Biography

Charlene Epp was born in South Dakota, raised on a small family farm. Her family attended Bethel Mennonite Church, a congregation of then Northern District Conference of the General Conference Mennonite Church. It was at this church she was baptized. Charlene attended Freeman Jr College, graduating from Bethel College with a BS degree in Elementary Education and specialization in Early Childhood Education. She served in Mennonite Voluntary Service in Kansas City, KS and Chicago, IL. It was in Chicago she met Duncan Smith whom she married two years later. She graduated from Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary, and is an ordained minister serving as a Chaplain at Providence St Vincent Medical Center in Portland, OR.