

POINT GREY INTER-MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP

web site: www.pgimf.org E-mail: info@pgimf.org

January 3rd, 2010

Epiphany

Welcome to Point Grey Inter-Mennonite Fellowship. Our service this Sunday will be led by Rosie Perera; we will be led in song by Erna Friesen, accompanied by Ruth Enns, and Hilda Unger will be your usher. Later we will hear from Henry Neufeld whose talk will be on the need for prophets today in the manner of Jeremiah and John the Baptist, and afterward, communion will be served. *Parents with small children, please note that arrangements have been made for child-minding on the second and last Sundays of each month, and you are invited to contact any other parent in the service, or any member of the church board for more information.*

Last Sunday Last Sunday Kevin Hiebert used the Psalm 148 - a psalm calling us to praise God - to remind us of the marvels of God's creation. Citing the "water above the heavens" (v.4) Kevin noted that at the time the belief was that the earth was covered with a water canopy, making the sky blue. In creating an immense universe, God commanded and it was done. Given the speed of light, it's almost incomprehensible that the galaxy Andromeda is 2 million light years away. The account of Mary and Joseph finding Jesus in the temple makes us wonder what questions Jesus asked of the priests; did he ask why bad things sometimes happen to good people? Kevin concluded his message with the verses from Colossians where we are reminded that whatever we do, do it in the name of the Lord Jesus. (HN)

PGIMF News

Upcoming speakers

January 10	Jeanette Hanson	-
January 17	Rebecca Stanley	Urban Journey and Student Ministry
January 24	Paul Thiessen	Lectionary texts
January 31	Laura Ericsson	Love (1 Cor 13)

The Wider Church

Faithqwest 2010 - Found in Translation. Putting the 'text' into 'context' is the theme of this year's FaithQwest at Peace Church January 15th and 16th. This year's talks by Rad and Pat Houphan (moderated by Henry Neufeld), Jonathan Neufeld (Seattle MC) and Vic Thiessen (Lond Mennonite Centre) with a keynote address from Jeanette Hanson all the way from China. Participate in the discussion about how the Word of God can be found in translation through the Spirit of God working through God's people. Register (\$30 at the door) at Peace Church at 604-940-3368 or online at www.lantersofhope.com/FaithQwest/index.html for your choice of workshop.

MCC MCC is developing a new website and with staff on holidays does not have the resources to provide information to us this week. However, you are encouraged to pick up the booklet on the table in the hall to see what resources (books, DVDs, videos and pamphlets) you can borrow to broaden your scope of what MCC does around the world and in your own back yard.

RECORDING THE SERVICE

Please note that we now record the response time after the sermon. You are encouraged to share your thoughts as fully as you feel led with the proviso that no privacy can be guaranteed. The response time will not be posted to the website. You are encouraged to bring forth private issues during the time of sharing and prayer, which will continue to be not recorded.

Moderator—Don Teichroeb (604-221-8720); *Worship*—Henry Neufeld (604-946-3961);
Pastoral Care—Erika Hannan (604-325-5065); *Music*—Ruth Enns (604-987-7430)
Congregational Co-ordinator (bulletins)—Andre Pekovich (604-879-0007)

Jeremiah 31:7-14

⁷For thus says the Lord:
Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;
proclaim, give praise, and say,
‘Save, O Lord, your people,
the remnant of Israel.’
⁸See, I am going to bring them from the land of the
north,
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,
among them the blind and the lame,
those with child and those in labour, together;
a great company, they shall return here.
⁹With weeping they shall come,
and with consolations I will lead them back,
I will let them walk by brooks of water,
in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;
for I have become a father to Israel,
and Ephraim is my firstborn.
¹⁰Hear the word of the Lord, O nations,
and declare it in the coastlands far away;

say, ‘He who scattered Israel will gather him,
and will keep him as a shepherd a flock.’
¹¹For the Lord has ransomed Jacob,
and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.
¹²They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion,
and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the
Lord,
over the grain, the wine, and the oil,
and over the young of the flock and the herd;
their life shall become like a watered garden,
and they shall never languish again.
¹³Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance,
and the young men and the old shall be merry.
I will turn their mourning into joy,
I will comfort them, and give them gladness for
sorrow.
¹⁴I will give the priests their fill of fatness,
and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty,
says the Lord. [NRSV]

John 1:6-18

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was
John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so
that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not
the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true
light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the
world.
¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being
through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came
to what was his own, and his own people did not accept
him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his
name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who
were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of

the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and
we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only
son, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵(John testified to him and
cried out, ‘This was he of whom I said, “He who comes
after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.”’
) ¹⁶From his fullness we have all received, grace upon
grace. ¹⁷The law indeed was given through Moses; grace
and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever
seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the
Father’s heart, who has made him known. [NRSV]

Psalms 147:12-20

¹²Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem!
Praise your God, O Zion!
¹³For he strengthens the bars of your gates;
he blesses your children within you.
¹⁴He grants peace within your borders;
he fills you with the finest of wheat.
¹⁵He sends out his command to the earth;
his word runs swiftly.
¹⁶He gives snow like wool;
he scatters frost like ashes.

¹⁷He hurls down hail like crumbs—
who can stand before his cold?
¹⁸He sends out his word, and melts them;
he makes his wind blow, and the waters flow.
¹⁹He declares his word to Jacob,
his statutes and ordinances to Israel.
²⁰He has not dealt thus with any other nation;
they do not know his ordinances.
Praise the Lord! [NRSV]