

POINT GREY INTER-MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP

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January 24th, 2010
World Fellowship Sunday

Welcome to Point Grey Inter-Mennonite Fellowship. Our service this Sunday will be led by Andre Pekovich; we will be led in song by Eric Hannan, accompanied by Deberah Shears, and Erna Freisen will be your usher. Later we will hear from Paul Thiessen whose talk is entitled "The Word Endures" from Nehemiah 8 and Luke 4. *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.* Please join us after the service for coffee and goodies in the lounge.

Last Sunday On January 17th, Rebecca Stanley told of her vision for Urban Journey, an MB church plant which began in 2008 in their home before moving to the Dunbar Community Centre and (September 2009) then to the Menno Simons Centre Sunday evenings. They meet at 5:00 for a simple meal which is also open to students, and then for worship at about 6:00. Her husband Andrew has work on the worship team at Richmond Bethel Sunday mornings, and they both work as UBC chaplains under the auspices of the MB BC conference. Urban Journey has a number of goals, such as journeying together (recognizing that everyone is at a different place in their development), treating every-day life as an act of worship, loving neighbours as ourselves (Mark 12:33, one of the morning's texts), sacrificial living, and celebrating everyone's unique inner values. She concluded her story by asking how the church can get beyond being satisfied with today's burnt offerings and focus instead on enacting the values of Micah 6:6-8. [JEK]

PGIMF News

Upcoming speakers

January 31	Laura Ericsson	Love (1 Cor. 13) - Potluck/Congregational mtg
February 7	John Konrad	Mood disorders and the church's response
February 14	Karl Brown	-
February 21	J. Evan Kreider	-

The Wider Church

MBMSI Greg, Becky, Caleb, Emma, Luke, and Silas Ouellette have just returned to Phuket, Thailand. Along with their team, please join them in praying for the right location for a community/training center that they want to open in their neighbourhood.

NOTICE PGIMF congregational meeting on Sunday January 31st after potluck lunch.

Haiti Fundraising Dinner and Silent Auction Urban Journey and the MB-UBC Chaplains are taking a team of students and Dunbar neighbours to work in Mirebalais, Haiti from May 2-13, 2010. The team already planned on working with Haiti Children's Home, Mirebalais Primary School and MCC Haiti. Now with the devastating earthquake last week, the team will have even more opportunities to help in relief aid and rebuilding. Please show your support Friday, January 29th at 6pm at Point Grey Community Church 3512 West 7th Avenue. Join us for a soup and pie dinner (by donation) and silent auction with proceeds going to relief aid, trip costs, and orphanage project. Please RSVP to Rebecca Stanley at rebecca@urbanjourney.ca.

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)

The **Mennonite Historical Society of BC** presents *Mennonites and Collectivization under Stalin* with speaker Dr. Colin Neufeldt, Assistant Professor of History at Concordia University College of Alberta. The event will be held Saturday, February 6th, 2010 at Garden Park Tower, 2825 Clearbrook Road, Abbotsford, B.C. at 7 pm.

Camp Squeah The Camp is engaged in a planning process, beginning with a survey to develop a sustainable direction and strategy for the coming 3-5 years with the help of a Royal Roads University student in the Master of Business Administration program. To reach a broad scope of consumers, members, associates and key stakeholders an on-line survey has been created. You are invited to participate in this survey which should take approximately 10-15 minutes. The web link can be found at the Camp Squeah website <http://www.squeah.com/home/>. The survey will be available from January 9- 25, 2010. If you are not directed to the on-line survey you can connect with Gerry Dyble, student, at dyble@telus.net for further information. Your support in this survey is greatly appreciated.

MCC MCC continues to respond in Haiti. We are collecting Relief Kits, heavy blankets and flat sheets to be shipped to Haiti. For a list of kit contents and information about blankets and sheets contact the MCC office 604 850 6629 or 1 888 622 6337 or visit mcc.org/kits

Comforter/Heavy Blanket specifications: Use only new or nearly new material. Single/twin-size preferred (approx. 152cm x 203 cm / 60in x 80in) Double/full-size accepted (approx. 208cm x 228cm / 82in x 90in). Winter weight preferred (please use quilt batting). Light weight to medium weight also accepted. Knotted with crochet cotton (not more than 10-15cm / 4-8in apart). Flat sheets, which also will be used as mosquito netting, can be double-, queen- or king- size. Sheets, with at least a 300-thread count, should be new, cotton and light-colored, which is not as attractive to mosquitoes.

Relief Kits

Contents (NEW items only)

- 4 large bars bath soap (leave in wrapping)
- 1 plastic bottle shampoo (380-710ml / 13-24oz; place bottle in a re-sealable plastic bag)
- 4 large bars of laundry soap (Some stores carry Fels Naptha, Sunlight or Zote brands; contact your local MCC warehouse with questions)
- 1 squeeze-tube toothpaste (minimum 130ml / 6oz; leave in box)
- 4 adult-size toothbrushes (leave in packaging)
- 4 new bath towels (medium weight, dark or bright colors)
- 2 wide-tooth combs(6 to 8in / 15 to 20cm)
- 1 fingernail clipper
- 1 box adhesive bandages (minimum 40, assorted)
- 1 package sanitary pads (18-24 thin maxi)

Contents can be placed in a box or bag and delivered to the MCC warehouse 31414 Marshall Road in Abbotsford or to the MCC Thrift Shop nearest you.

URGENT - MCC is looking for structural engineers who could be part of a team to head to Haiti as soon as possible for a 2-4 week time frame. The primary task will be to assess the remaining buildings to determine if they are structurally sound. Please call Sophie Tiessen-Eigbike at MCC BC, phone: 604-850-6639 or email: stiessen-eigbike@mennonitecc.ca to register your availability.

MCC BC Winter Fundraising Banquet: Water is Life: New Hope in the Name of Christ. Join us on Saturday February 6th at 6:00 pm at Fraserview MB Church 11295 Mellis Drive, for an evening of good food, story telling and music. MCC BC Executive Director Wayne Bremner will be sharing stories from his recent visit to Africa. The Watchmen Four male quartet will sing hymns and gospel favourites. Tickets \$15, available January 10th from the MCC BC office, Fraserview office and the Vancouver MCC Thrift Shop. For info visit bc.mcc.org or call or 1 888 622 6337.

Nehemiah 8:13, 5-6, 8-10

¹All the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. ²Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. ³He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. ⁴The scribe Ezra stood on a wooden platform that had been made for the purpose; and beside him stood Mattithiah, Shema, Anaiiah, Uriah, Hilkiah, and Maaseiah on his right hand; and Pedaiah, Mishael, Malchijah, Hashum, Hash-baddanah, Zechariah, and Meshullam on his left hand. ⁵And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. ⁶Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people

answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. ⁷Also Jeshua, Bani, Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan, Pelaiah, the Levites, helped the people to understand the law, while the people remained in their places. ⁸So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

⁹And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. ¹⁰Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength." [NRSV]

Luke 4:14-21

¹⁴Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. ¹⁵He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. ¹⁶When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: ¹⁸"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because

he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, ¹⁹to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." ²⁰And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." [NRSV]

Confession

We are not alone,
we live in God's world,
we believe in God,
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus
to reconcile and make new.

We trust in God,
who calls us to be the church,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death
God is with us.
We are not alone.
Thanks be to god

- *Ecumenical Confessions, Graz, 1997*

Psalm 19

One ¹The heavens tell the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.
²Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.

All ³There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard;⁴yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world.

One In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun, ⁵which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy, and like a strong man runs its course with joy.

All ⁶Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them; and nothing is hid from its heat.

One ⁷The law of the Lord is perfect,
All reviving the soul;
One the decrees of the Lord are sure,
All making wise the simple;
One ⁸the precepts of the Lord are right,
All rejoicing the heart;
One the commandment of the Lord is clear,

All enlightening the eyes;
One ⁹the fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever;
All the ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

One ¹⁰More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb.

All ¹¹Moreover by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

One ¹²But who can detect their errors? Clear me from hidden faults.

All ¹³Keep back your servant also from the insolent; do not let them have dominion over me.

One Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.

All ¹⁴Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer. [NRSV]