

POINT GREY INTER-MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP

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

April 18, 2004

Today: Welcome to Point Grey Inter-Mennonite Fellowship. This morning, our service will be led by Nubia Martens; Rosie Perera will be leading us in song and Angela Ekkert will be accompanying on the piano. Later we will hear from Kevin Hiebert who will be speaking on Jn 20:19-31 "The Resurrection puzzle revealed." Cynthia Friesen and Herb Reesor are in charge of Sunday School, and Janice Kreider and Katy Garden will be with the preschoolers and toddlers. Please stay with us after the service for coffee and fellowship.

Last Sunday: We celebrated the risen Christ with a Paska breakfast, followed by a liturgical service of music and prayer written and led by Veronica Dyck.

PGIMF News:

Please join us for pre-service hymn singing at 9:45 as we work our way through the book from 1 to 658.

Cleanup day at the Menno Simons Centre! Bring your grubbies and work with the students and their parents to scrub out the centre this Saturday April 24th. Morning coffee and lunch provided.

AGM

Next week is the Annual General Meeting for PGIMF. Thank you to all those who sent reports in. The booklets are available today to take one home, but please bring it back with you next week so we don't have to print up too many more. Please remember pizza lunch is provided to encourage you to stay for the AGM.

Also we are still looking for more members to fill positions to serve on the Pastoral Care committee. If you are willing to help out for a two year term, please see the Nominating Committee (Andre Pekovich, Janice Kreider or Mark Northey) after church or give them a call.

Church board meeting Monday night at the Teichroeb's at 7:00 pm

Upcoming speakers

April 25	Gordon Smith	Anxious? Jesus says "Don't be"
May 2	Janet Hildebrand	
May 9	Nadine Neudorf/Vange Thiessen	Mother's Day
May 16	Hildegard Lemke	

Art Gallery The display of artwork on the walls has been added to by Hildegard and Helmut as contributions come in. Please take a moment to have a look at the images provided by some of the talented people in our congregation. The display will change shortly - details to follow.

☪ **Donate blood!** Ever want to donate a pint, but were afraid or just never got the time? Let's plan to give together - Andre is looking for a group that would like to drop into the Canadian Blood Services centre on Oak St. and donate as a group, then go for dinner afterward. Only about 2% of BC residents currently donate - less than the 3.5% national average - and BC imports blood on a regular basis from the rest of the country to supply hospital needs. Help turn this around - talk to **Andre** after the service and we'll choose a date.

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MennoMen Stacy Folk (Residence Coordinator for the Menno Simons Centre) thanks the committee and church for its support of the MSC students Mennomen *Storm the wall* team, who won every race and are the champions. They wore their Mennomen t-shirts and said that everyone was asking who and what the Mennonmen are. Stacy thinks it has created a lot of publicity for the Centre -- the Mennomen have won every league they entered this year.

The Wider Church

MBMSI Rolando and Laura Mireles are MBMS International missionaries to Mexico. They were granted visas March 23 and arrived in Mexico the next day to join the team in Guadalajara. Pray for wisdom and God's favor as they begin work with youth and training young leaders. Pray also for Laura and the new baby coming in spring.

Please follow the link to the new **Global Bridge** website - MB Missions International's newsletter to keep up to date on the activities of MB missionaries around the world including the Ekks, as well as short- and long-term service opportunities. The site and newsletter have been revamped to make them easier to read and access, and are now very readable. See it at http://www.mbmission.org/stories_newsletter.php

CMU Chamber Choir tour and Performances

The choir is known for its varied and interesting repertoire, encompassing music of the classical tradition to the music of our time, including gospel, spirituals, world music and jazz. The program "On Earth as in Heaven" will include a multicultural journey of song as well as sharing by students about their experience of faith and life.

Friday Apr. 30,	1:00 pm, Garden Park Towers, Abbotsford 7:30 pm, Yarrow MB Church, Yarrow
Saturday May 1	7:30 pm, Bakerview MB church, Abbotsford (with Bakerview Vespers Choir)
Sunday May 2	11:00 am King Road MB Church, Abbotsford 7:30 pm First United Mennonite Church, Vancouver
Tuesday May 4	9:35 am MEI Chapel, Abbotsford 10:35 am MEI Chapel, Abbotsford 7:30 pm Squamish Baptist Church, Squamish (with Sea to Sky Singers)

The Saturday evening concert at Bakerview will be supplemented by Bakerview's Vesper choir and an alumni choir. All alumni from CMU, Concord college, MBBC and CMBC are welcome to join the choir. The Choir rehearsal will be from 3-5pm at Bakerview Church on May 1, followed by supper together and the concert at 7:30. This is a free event with opportunity to give to the ministry of CMU.

For more information on the tour, please check the web at www.cmu.ca or Christine Ens Class of '96 Alumni Relations Coordinator, CMU, 500 Shaftesbury Blvd Winnipeg, MB R3P 2N2 [email available]
local: 487.3300 ext. 605 toll free: 877.231.4570 fax: 204 487.3858

Third Way Café Read the new issue of *Fresh Roast: How can you serve your country without going to war?* Find out in this month's Current Peacemaker story by Palmer Becker (formerly of PGIMF) who worked in Taiwan during the Vietnam War. Follow the link to <http://www.thirdway.com/>

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Homeland Security and MDS border crossings

AKRON Pa. -- Despite global controversy about security procedures at US border crossings, MDS projects in the states continue to invite and receive assistance from Canadian volunteers. "Our volunteers are ready to serve," said MDS Administrative Coordinator Lois Nickel, who works with Canadian volunteers from the MDS office in Winnipeg, Man. "The border is a hurdle, but it is a small one." While volunteers have expressed frustration with the increased scrutiny at US entry points, MDS has noticed little change in the actual number of volunteers turned away in the name of Homeland Security. "In our experience, the personality of the border official remains the strongest factor in border rejections," said MDS Human Resources Coordinator Carla Hunt. "A handful of volunteers are turned away each year, but the majority is welcomed to serve." As a binational relief agency, MDS relies on open borders to support the hundreds of volunteers who travel back and forth between the two countries each year. In the first week of 2004, twelve Canadian volunteers successfully crossed over to serve in the states. Nonetheless, the border has been an obstacle for volunteers since the organization started in 1950. Those who have been turned back at the border have experienced disappointment and frustration. Their good intentions of giving their time and skills to help at a disaster site were thwarted.

Ted Houser, MDS communications coordinator

Camp Squeah is accepting resumes for the full time position of Food Services Manager beginning September 1. Requisite experience includes: commercial food service experience, supervisory experience, strong organizational skills and FoodSafe Level 2 certification. If you are a strong team player and have a passion for working with young people, please contact Rudy Kehler at Camp Squeah. 1.800.380.2267 or [email available]

Acts 5:27-32

²⁷So they brought them and set them before the council (Sanhedrin). And the high priest examined them by questioning,

²⁸Saying, "We definitely commanded and strictly charged you not to teach in or about this Name; yet here you have flooded Jerusalem with your doctrine and you intend to bring this Man's blood upon us."

²⁹Then Peter and the apostles replied, "We must obey God rather than men.

³⁰The God of our forefathers raised up Jesus, Whom you killed by hanging Him on a tree (cross).

³¹God exalted Him to His right hand to be Prince and Leader and Savior and Deliverer and Preserver, in order to grant repentance to Israel and to bestow forgiveness and release from sins.

³²And we are witnesses of these things, and the Holy Spirit is also, Whom God has bestowed on those who obey Him."

Psalms 118:14-29

¹⁴The Lord is my Strength and Song; and He has become my Salvation.

¹⁵The voice of rejoicing and salvation is in the tents and private dwellings of the [uncompromisingly] righteous: the right hand of the Lord does valiantly and achieves strength!

¹⁶The right hand of the Lord is exalted; the right hand of the Lord does valiantly and achieves strength!

¹⁷I shall not die but live, and shall declare the works and recount the illustrious acts of the Lord.

¹⁸The Lord has chastened me sorely, but He has not given me over to death.

¹⁹Open to me the [temple] gates of righteousness; I will enter through them, and I will confess and praise the Lord.

²⁰This is the gate of the Lord; the [uncompromisingly] righteous shall enter through it.

²¹I will confess, praise, and give thanks to You, for You have heard and answered me; and You have become my Salvation and Deliverer.

²²The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

²³This is from the Lord and is His doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

²⁴This is the day which the Lord has brought about; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

²⁵Save now, we beseech You, O Lord; send now prosperity, O Lord, we beseech You, and give to us success!

²⁶Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; we bless you from the house of the Lord [you who come into His sanctuary under His guardianship].

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²⁷The Lord is God, Who has shown and given us light [He has illuminated us with grace, freedom, and joy]. Decorate the festival with leafy boughs and bind the sacrifices to be offered with thick cords [all over the priest's court, right up] to the horns of the altar.

²⁸You are my God, and I will confess, praise, and give thanks to You; You are my God, I will extol You.

²⁹O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy and loving-kindness endure forever.

John 20:19-31

¹⁹Then on that same first day of the week, when it was evening, though the disciples were behind closed doors for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace to you!"

²⁰So saying, He showed them His hands and His side. And when the disciples saw the Lord, they were filled with joy (delight, exultation, ecstasy, rapture).

²¹Then Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! [Just] as the Father has sent Me forth, so I am sending you."

²²And having said this, He breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit!

²³[Now having received the Holy Spirit, and being led and directed by Him] if you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of anyone, they are retained."

²⁴But Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came.

²⁵So the other disciples kept telling him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the marks made by the nails and put my finger into the nail prints, and put my hand into His side, I will never believe [it]."

²⁶Eight days later His disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Jesus came, though they were behind closed doors, and stood among them and said, "Peace to you!"

²⁷Then He said to Thomas, "Reach out your finger here, and see My hands; and put out your hand and place [it] in My side. Do not be faithless and incredulous, but [stop your unbelief and] believe!"

²⁸Thomas answered Him, "My Lord and my God!"

²⁹Jesus said to him, "Because you have seen Me, Thomas, do you now believe (trust, have faith)? Blessed and happy and to be envied are those who have never seen Me and yet have believed and adhered to and trusted and relied on Me."

³⁰There are also many other signs and miracles which Jesus performed in the presence of the disciples which are not written in this book.

³¹But these are written (recorded) in order that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ (the Anointed One), the Son of God, and that through believing and cleaving to and trusting and relying upon Him you may have life through (in) His name through Who He is.

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The Bible was originally written in Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek. There are shades of meaning found in these original Bible texts that can't be captured in a straight word-for-word translation into English. Dr. Frances Siewert had the vision for a translation that would use additional English words to convey the full meaning of Scripture to those who don't have the knowledge of the original languages. Using the word-for-word American Standard Version as a reference text, she chose additional words to communicate the nuances of meaning from the original texts. These "amplification" words are offset from the text by brackets or parentheses. The Amplified New Testament, which was first published in 1958, took over 20,000 hours of research. Dr. Siewert's work was reviewed by a committee of translation experts for accuracy. The full Amplified Bible, first published in 1965, has become the favorite second Bible for millions of Christians. By comparing it to their favorite translation, they discover a wealth of additional insights into the Scripture.

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