

POINT GREY INTER-MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP

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

August 8, 2004
Transfiguration Sunday

Today: Welcome to Point Grey Inter-Mennonite Fellowship. This morning, our service will be led by Marcie Good; Ann Marie Neudorf will be leading us in song and Susie Funk will be accompanying on the piano. Later we will hear from Charles Paris whose talk will be on The role of Saints in the Catholic Church. Parents are encouraged to make their own arrangements for child-minding this summer. Please stay with us after the service for coffee and fellowship.

Last Sunday: Last Sunday Janice Kreider spoke on the theme of riches, using the four lectionary texts. Newsweek recently reported that the world's most happy nation is actually suffering poverty, whereas the truly wealthy nations are filled with discontent and fearful citizens. Psalm 49, Luke 12:13- and much of Ecclesiastes reiterate the truth that all of us will die, asking the question of those now working to accumulate and retain wealth: What will become of your assets and plans when you are gone? Some people try to live on through their writings (which are quickly outdated and usually superseded even before the person retires), family (which forgets all but names, dates, and the odd story after several generations have passed), financial legacies (foundations' ideals and trustees are notorious for changing radically with the passage of time), or creating ways of doing things at work (but successors likewise create new ways). This sobering scenario quietly draws us back to the biblical question: What will endure? While we ponder the imponderable, it then takes yet another opportunity to remind us of the fruits of the spirit--relational possibilities which will further the Kingdom. In modern terms, these passages advise us to forget our dreams of leaving estates and financial legacies to descendants and charities, and instead, the passages advise us to focus on investing in lives and relationships now. [JEK]

PGIME News:

Please join us for pre-service hymn singing at 9:45 as we work our way through the book from 1 to 658. This week we begin on 426.

Upcoming speakers

August 15	Veronica Dyck	
August 22	Paul Wartman (CBC)	
August 29	Paul Thiessen	Communion
September 5	Mark Greenstreet	Labour Day

Canadian Citizens On August 5th, Puji, Oyun and their son Andy became Canadian citizens at a ceremony in Surrey, as part of a group of 99 people from 18 countries. (Julia was born here and is Canadian) Henry and Tena attended the ceremony.

New e-mail address Sue Hackett (Dudoward) has a new e-mail address to go with her new name. You can reach her at suehackett@pgimf.org.

The Wider Church

MBMSI BACK TO THAILAND. Please pray today for Russell and Elizabeth Schmidt, MBMS International workers to Thailand. After a number of years away from the field, serving in a NA church, the Schmidts have just arrived back in Thailand where they served for several terms. Pray God to give awesome grace as they readjust back into the culture, climate and language of this Asian country.

Moderator—Don Teichroeb (604-221-8720); *Worship*—Henry Neufeld (604-946-3961);
Pastoral Care—Herb Reesor (604-224-5245); John Friesen (604-266-7819) *Music*—Ruth Enns (604-987-7430)
Congregational Co-ordinator (bulletins)—Andre Pekovich (604-879-0007)

Still deciding what to do this September? Interested in quality education and a life changing experience? **Columbia Bible College** is still accepting applications for Fall 2004. Full/part time programs and enrichment studies available. For more information, please see www.columbiabc.edu or contact Admissions at (604) 853-3358 or e-mail: _____

PGIMF 18th Anniversary Celebration

John and Erna Friesen are planning the 18th anniversary celebration of our church on Sept. 26, 2004. A potluck is being planned after the service. The theme of this year's celebration is gratitude.

"We are grateful to God for the 18 years that this church has been a community of service and worship. We are a community of faith with human limitations and frailties. But despite this, we have traveled these 18 years with gratitude and cheerfulness. " Our past life has been brim-full of God's goodness and our sins are covered by the forgiving love of Christ crucified."(Bonhoeffer). We wish to celebrate with gratitude God's grace in the life of this church. We wish to make this a participatory worship service. We invite you to consider making a few comments on the theme of gratitude for the 18 year journey of this community of faith. These comments can be framed in many forms such as personal statements, artwork, symbols of appreciation, musical renditions, etc. etc.. Your creativity and imagination is welcome."

Please inform Erna or John of your willingness to participate in the service by responding to this e-mail before September 10. An order of service will then be prepared with suitable readings and songs and a short devotional by Walter Bergen our former member, intern and Menno Simons Center coordinator. We look forward to hearing from you regarding your willingness to make a contribution to the service. John & Erna

Luke 1:39-56

Mary Visits Elizabeth

³⁹At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, ⁴⁰where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. ⁴²In a loud voice she exclaimed: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! ⁴³But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵Blessed is she who has believed that what the Lord has said to her will be accomplished!"

Mary's Song

⁴⁶And Mary said:
"My soul glorifies the Lord
⁴⁷and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

⁴⁸for he has been mindful
of the humble state of his servant.
From now on all generations will call me blessed,
⁴⁹for the Mighty One has done great things for me--
holy is his name.
⁵⁰His mercy extends to those who fear him,
from generation to generation.
⁵¹He has performed mighty deeds with his arm;
he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts.
⁵²He has brought down rulers from their thrones
but has lifted up the humble.
⁵³He has filled the hungry with good things
but has sent the rich away empty.
⁵⁴He has helped his servant Israel,
remembering to be merciful
⁵⁵to Abraham and his descendants forever,
even as he said to our fathers."
⁵⁶Mary stayed with Elizabeth for about three months
and then returned home.