

# POINT GREY INTER-MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP

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October 10, 2004

*Thanksgiving*

**Today:** Welcome to Point Grey Inter-Mennonite Fellowship. This morning, our liturgical service will be led by Henry Neufeld: Ann Marie Neudorf will be leading us in song and Ruth Enns will be accompanying on the piano. Nadine Neudorf and Katy Garden will be with the toddlers in the nursery, and Elvira Teichroeb will be with the Sunday School classes. Primaries will join intermediates or nursery as they please. Please stay with us after the service for coffee and fellowship.

## 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.

## **Upcoming speakers**

|            |                   |                                |
|------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| October 17 | Gordon Nickel     | Christians and Muslims         |
| October 24 | MC Canada staffer |                                |
| October 31 | John Toews        | Potluck/Congregational meeting |
| November 7 | Peace Sunday      | Veronica Dyck                  |

## ***Making Sense of Kids* with Gordon Neufeld**

Young parents are invited to register for the upcoming 8-week course (Tuesday nights) with psychologist Gordon Neufeld. "It is my desire to teach in such a way that those involved with children can get a sense of their charges from inside out." A traditional lecture approach marries Gordon's easy style with his ability to simplify conflicting paradigms about child-rearing. PGIMF will pay 50% of the registration fee for young couples from the church who want to enroll. For more course information, see [www.gordonneufeld.com](http://www.gordonneufeld.com); and to get help with registration, see Cynthia Friesen or Nadine Neudorf-Thiessen.

## **The Wider Church**

**Cantata Singers** Join the Cantata Singers for a celebration of the rituals of the Mass. *Kyries*, *Glorias* and *Agnus Deis* from many centuries, as

well as a *Gloria* commissioned from Vancouver composer Peter Hannan will fill the Christ Church Cathedral on Saturday Nov 6<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 pm, and West Vancouver United Church (2062 Esquimalt) on Sunday November 7<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm. Tickets \$22.

**MBMSI HUNGER HURTS.** Pray today and this week for Murray and Faith Nickel, MBMS International workers in Congo. Faith writes about dilemmas they deal with every day: "There's no way to gloss over poverty - it's real, it hurts." Pray that our God, who knows pain, will provide for his children, physically and spiritually.

Congratulations to **Lin Jantzen** who graduates this week with her Baccalaureate from SFU

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*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)

## ***Abendmusik Vesper Season for 2004-05*** **Andrea Siemens, Musical Director**

### **Thanksgiving Vespers**

**Abbotsford**

**Saturday, October 16, 2004, 8:00 p.m.**

**Emmanuel Free Reformed Church**

**3386 Mount Lehman Road**

**Vancouver**

**Sunday, October 17, 2004, 8:00 p.m.**

**Knox United Church**

**5600 Balaclava at West 41st Avenue**

## **Regent College - the Laing Lectures** Margaret Visser on The Meaning of Saints October 20-21, 2004

This three-part lecture series that will examine how our understanding of heroism has revolutionized our world throughout the ages. She will examine the concept of heroism in its original sense; how the Christian revolution has redefined the symbiotic (? - *ed.*) relationship between the hero-saint and the society which admires such a person; and look at the modern understanding of the hero-saint against contemporary issues. Responses and final lecture by Maxine Hancock and Loren Wilkinson, with John Stackhouse moderating. **Questions for consideration** by the panel may be e-mailed in advance of the third lecture to \_\_\_\_\_ . Tickets are free but must be obtained in advance at the Regent College reception, 5800 University Boulevard, Vancouver, BC.

For all MCBC Churches, a one-hour **Privacy Act Seminar** followed by question-and-answer will be sponsored by MC Canada and the Canadian Council of Christian Charities, who are bringing John Pellowe from the CCCC to help bolster our resources and knowledge about how to hold our trust with our attenders and our community sacred. Please see Andre or Don if you want to go. 7:00 pm Tuesday, November 9th, 2004 at Bethel Mennonite Church by donation.

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**MCC** Andrei Zolotarev, our MCC voluntary service worker in Ukraine, visited Beslan and Vladikavkaz in September and met with our partners there to discuss an appropriate response. We have a long-standing relationship with the North Ossiellan Mission of Christian Compassion (NOMCC,) the Baptist churches as well as the Baptist Union leadership and other NGOs in the area. These partners have invited MCC to provide a "centre for psychological and spiritual rehabilitation" in the form of Christian counselors, spiritual directors and psychologists with

experience in trauma healing. MCC is also looking to begin a long-term peace building work in the area. MCC is accepting donations towards this effort. Those interested can make a cheque payable to MCC BC and marked for "Russia Emergency Assistance Fund" and send it to our office. Credit card donations can also be done by phone (604) 850 6639 or 1 888 622 6337 or on our website: [www.mcc.org/bc](http://www.mcc.org/bc) Please continue to pray with us for victims and those responding to their needs.

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**Mennonite Church Canada Nominating Committee** will be meeting on November 5 to discern nominations for leadership boards, councils, committees, and representatives on boards of partner agencies. Your suggestions and prayers are welcome. For details, visit [www.mennonitechurch.ca/getinvolved/leadership](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/getinvolved/leadership) or call 1-866-888-6785 ext. 132. Please consider service on the Financial Policy & Audit Committee, Program Committee, Canadian Mennonite Publishing Services Board, Canadian Mennonite University Council, MCC Canada Board, Mennonite Foundation of Canada Board, Christian Peacemaker Teams Board and other organizations.

## **Seminars offered on homosexuality**

**Walking in grace** is the first of two seminars originally called for presenting at the extraordinary delegate meeting in March. The seminar, on October 22-23, will look at homosexuality from a theological and practical ministry perspective. A second seminar, in 2005, will address how Mennonite church structures support our belief and practice.

Speakers are **Willard Swartley**, professor at AMBS and author of *Homosexuality: Biblical Interpretation and Moral Discernment*, and Toni Dolfo-Smith and Neil Rempel, who work with **Living Waters**, an organization that addresses emotional and sexual issues and is dedicated to speaking biblical truth with compassion.

Swartley will look at scripture, culture and the church as they relate to homosexuality. A copy of Swartley's book is available for \$20 from the MC B.C. office. Dolfo-Smith and Rempel will share their experiences of same-sex attraction, and what it means to create a loving ministry in the church.


The seminar is \$40. Register through your church or through the MC B.C. office before October 15<sup>th</sup>. (Late registration has been delayed til this date). For further information call (604) 850-6658 or e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_. This seminar is part of the season of discernment undertaken by all churches in MCBC at the last extraordinary meeting and your participation would be most welcome.

**\*\*\*Please see Don Teichroeb if you can go.\*\*\***

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The latest issue of *Global Bridge*, the MB Conference's issue features mission stories from around the world - this month it features a mission in the poor favelas of Sao Paulo, Brazil, and landing with a bang in Kinshasa, Congo. Read all about it at [http://www.mbmission.org/stories\\_newsletter.php](http://www.mbmission.org/stories_newsletter.php).

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 Please be advised that at our upcoming congregational meeting, we will be moving acceptance the following privacy policy. Please be advised that we are already committed to ensuring the privacy of every attender, and that any concern may be brought for resolution to any member of the church board. We do not expect the policy to change the way we conduct our services or our business, but we do need to comply with the law as it is now written.

Please direct any comments to Andre Pekovich, Congregational Coordinator

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### **PRIVACY POLICY of “the church” or “PGIMF”**

- 1. Accountability:** We have appointed a privacy officer (a) to ensure the church's compliance with Canadian privacy laws: (b) to ensure that the church protects all personal information held by the church or disclosed to third parties: and (c) to develop and implement personal information policies and practices.
- 2. Identifying purposes:** the church collects personal information from you for the following reasons:
  - To contact you about the activities and events of the church
  - to allow affiliated organizations to contact you about their activities
  - to allow other members and adherents of the church to contact youWe will notify you before using your personal information for any new purpose.
- 3. Limiting collection, use, disclosure and retention:** We will not collect your personal information indiscriminately; and we will not deceive or mislead you about the reasons for collecting your personal information. We keep your personal information as long as necessary to satisfy the purposes described above. We will not destroy or make anonymous your personal information unless you request so because that would prevent us from contacting you in the event of a reunion celebration.
- 4. Accuracy and Safeguards:** We will endeavour to minimize the possibility of using incorrect information. We will protect your personal information against loss or theft; safeguard the information from unauthorized access, disclosure, copying, use or modification; and we will protect personal information regardless of the format in which it is held.
- 5. Openness and Individual access:** this document is our notification to you about our privacy policies. You may refer to it at any time on the World Wide Web at <http://www.pgimf.org/privacy> which also includes a list of the affiliated organizations which we have information-sharing arrangements with. Upon request in permitted situations, you may arrange to confirm and correct your personal information in our records.
- 6. Recourse:** In the even of a dispute over the handling of your personal information, the board of the church will investigate all complaints received and take appropriate measures.

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## Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7

### *A Letter to the Exiles*

<sup>1</sup> This is the text of the letter that the prophet Jeremiah sent from Jerusalem to the surviving elders among the exiles and to the priests, the prophets and all the other people Nebuchadnezzar had carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon.

<sup>4</sup> This is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says to all those I carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: <sup>5</sup> "Build houses and settle down; plant

gardens and eat what they produce. <sup>6</sup> Marry and have sons and daughters; find wives for your sons and give your daughters in marriage, so that they too may have sons and daughters. Increase in number there; do not decrease. <sup>7</sup> Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the LORD for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper."

## Psalm 111

<sup>1</sup> Praise the LORD.

I will extol the LORD with all my heart  
in the council of the upright and in the assembly.

<sup>2</sup> Great are the works of the LORD ;  
they are pondered by all who delight in them.

<sup>3</sup> Glorious and majestic are his deeds,  
and his righteousness endures forever.

<sup>4</sup> He has caused his wonders to be remembered;  
the LORD is gracious and compassionate.

<sup>5</sup> He provides food for those who fear him;  
he remembers his covenant forever.

<sup>6</sup> He has shown his people the power of his works,  
giving them the lands of other nations.

<sup>7</sup> The works of his hands are faithful and just;  
all his precepts are trustworthy.

<sup>8</sup> They are steadfast for ever and ever,  
done in faithfulness and uprightness.

<sup>9</sup> He provided redemption for his people;  
he ordained his covenant forever—  
holy and awesome is his name.

<sup>10</sup> The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;  
all who follow his precepts have good understanding.  
To him belongs eternal praise.

## Luke 17: 11-19

### *Ten Healed of Leprosy*

<sup>11</sup> Now on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee.

<sup>12</sup> As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. They stood at a distance <sup>13</sup> and called out in a loud voice, "Jesus, Master, have pity on us!"

<sup>14</sup> When he saw them, he said, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were cleansed.

<sup>15</sup> One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. <sup>16</sup> He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him--and he was a Samaritan.

<sup>17</sup> Jesus asked, "Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? <sup>18</sup> Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?"

<sup>19</sup> Then he said to him, "Rise and go; your faith has made you well."