

POINT GREY INTER-MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP

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

October 21st, 2007

Today: Welcome to Point Grey Inter-Mennonite Fellowship. Our service will be led by Andre Pekovich, we will be led in song by Paul Thiessen, Evan Kreider will accompany at the piano, and Hilda Unger is your usher. Later we will be hearing from Henry Neufeld, whose message is entitled “Move off the Page” based on a prayer by Walter Bruggeman. Parents are requested to make their own arrangements for child care during the service if they feel their children don’t wish to remain in the chapel during the service. You are all especially welcome to join us in the dining room after the service for coffee and fellowship.

Last Sunday: Evan Krieder spoke on Luke 17:11-19 regarding the story of the ten lepers who were healed, but only one of whom turned back to give thanks to God for the healing. Evan began with a Jewish prayer for healing, then moved through the passage in Luke, identifying how horrified the population was by lepers or anyone with skin conditions, and what steps were taken to separate them from clean society. The very people and places that would give succour to lepers were off limits to them. Jesus heals the lepers in the story, but does so at a distance, asking them to walk away, and to purify themselves at the temple to complete their healing. Yet one, and only one, a Samaritan, (foretelling God’s grace being opened to Gentiles in Acts) turned back to give thanks to God, and to Jesus. Jesus, with the stunning words “Your faith has made you well” completed the leper’s healing on the spot. Evan noted parallels between lepers going to the temple, and our practice of going to the hospital, also done in faith. Although this story is overtly about healing, it does far more to illustrate gratitude to the grace of God. Though God’s grace is freely given to all, few remain grateful to God for long. Jesus could cure leprosy, but not even Jesus could cure ingratitude. We all know (or perhaps have felt ourselves) that we would do anything for healing, and we beg God for those chances, but how quickly we forget our promises - we remain untransformed. Yet some are transformed, and Evan pointed out how people even in our own congregation lived transformed lives of gratitude after life-threatening events. Evan led a response by the congregation by singing *Now Thank We All Our God* by Johann Crüger, written during the 30-years war when Crüger’s pastor was burying 40-50 people per day in a powerful time of grief. [AP]

PGIMF News

Upcoming speakers

October 28	Barbara Nickel	Remember your Journey
November 4	Sandy Hung	All Saints Day
November 11	Veronica Dyck	Peace Sunday
November 18	Helen Rose Pauls	Lamentations

Special request Occasional babysitter / child care support needed for two children (Zoe age 4 months and Clara age 2½). Monday nights and other occasional evenings. We are located on the UBC campus. Please contact Sara Fretz at 604-827-3583.

PGIMF Church board meeting Thursday November 25th at Freisens at 7:00 pm. Regrets to Don please.

☺ Potluck next Sunday! Bring any dish as you feel led to join the mix and feed the throng! Students welcome!

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*—Erna Friesen (604-266-7819);

Pastoral Care— John Friesen (604-266-7819) *Music*—Ruth Enns (604-987-7430)

Congregational Co-ordinator (bulletins)—Andre Pekovich (604-879-0007)

PGIMF home page, sermon and blogspot Kevin has now linked the PGIMF blog to the PGIMF home page, so that now you can read the bulletin, hear the sermon and participate directly in the PGIMF blog and comment on the sermon or the service directly, all from the home page! Please check it out at www.pgimf.org and add your thoughts to the blog as you listen to the sermon on-line.

🎵Attention songleaders! PGIMF now has a subscription to **onelicense.net**, which gives us permission to copy and distribute sheet music from many Christian music publishers such as GIA Publications (Taize) and the Iona Community (John Bell). If you're considering using some music that we don't have in our hymnal or one of the supplements, check to see if it is licensable via **onelicense.net** by going to that website and doing a search on the song title or author. You need to have access to the music to be able to copy and distribute it. **Onelicense** is just for the permission; you can't actually download and buy sheet music from there. But you can get it from other hymn/songbooks, or by downloading (words and melodies only) from **hymnprint.net**. Rosie has also purchased an annual subscription to **hymnprint.net** for PGIMF, so contact her if you need something that's on there.

The Wider Church

MBMSI DOING GOD'S MISSION IN PERU. As you remember Bob and Erika Sukkau this week - MBMS International missionaries to Peru, they ask prayer for the government and other agencies as they deal with rebuilding after the devastating earthquake south of Lima. The Lima MB Church, together with a team from L.A. has ministered and brought relief in many "hands on" ways.

Vancouver Cantata Singers Upcoming concert - the Splendour of Venice with I Tromboni October 19 and October 20, both at 8:00pm at Holy Rosary Cathedral (Richards & Dunsmuir, Vancouver). Come hear an exploration of the choral and brass sounds of polychoral music by the Gabrielis and later composers with a grand 16-voice mass by Andrea Gabrieli. Tickets \$26/22 available from members of the choir or at the door.

Vancouver Cantata Singers NovemberFest The Cantata Singers' annual fundraising event takes place once again this year at Hycroft Manor (1248 W. 12th, Vancouver) November 3 2007 at 7pm. Live musical performances, wine tasting, hors d'oeuvres and a silent auction. Tickets in advance only and selling out fast!

M2W2 Oct. 27th - Garden Park Tower in Abbotsford, 6:00 pm will play host to a dinner and silent auction, featuring Jacquie deKroon, as guest speaker on the advantages of the Restorative Justice model in her life and the Watchmen quartet will entertain you. Tickets are \$25 each or tables of 8 for \$180; call 1-800-298-1777 or 604-859-3215 to reserve your seats or tables.

Lunch & Learning Ken Peters, (Killarney Park MB), Ingrid Schultz, (FUMC) and Jon Nofziger, peace coordinator-MCC-BC invite you to join other Vancouver area Mennonite pastors and Christian education facilitators for **lunch and conversation with Alex Awad**, dean of Bethlehem Bible College and advisor to MCC Palestine programming. Alex will address the "Hope and Struggle of Palestinian Christians" and facilitate discussion around "Biblical Perspective on Theology of Land in the Holy Land". Wednesday, 14 November 2007 11:30 AM – 2:00 PM at Killarney Park MB Church – 6426 Kerr St. Vancouver. Lunch will be provided by KPMB (\$3 contribution requested to assist with costs) Rev. Awad's proactive speaking on the Palestinian-Israeli conflict from a Christian, Palestinian perspective led to his writing a book on the topic entitled, *Through the Eyes of the Victims*. (available on-line in PDF format at www.alexawad.org/book.php) Please pre-register with KPMB office staff at 604-437-9638 or by e-mail (E-mail address).

Regent College You are invited to attend the 2007 Laing Lectures *Love and Justice* featuring Nicholas Wolterstorff (Yale), with host John G. Stackhouse, Jr. on Wednesday, November 14 at 7:30 pm for *Agape in Twentieth-Century Ethics*, and Thursday, November 15 at 11:30am for *Agapism's Difficulties with Justice* and at 7:30pm for *Justice Within Love*. Wolterstorff will ask how ought Christians think and talk about justice? Where does the wariness concerning talk of justice come from? Should Christians really talk about love rather than justice? In his lectures, Dr. Wolterstorff will examine the New Testament textual grounds for a re-thinking of our understanding of love and the integral place of justice in biblical ethics. For more information or to register e-mail (E-mail address) or call 604.221.3377.

VST and Thomas Merton Society of Canada present Jonathan Montaldo, Associate Director of the Merton Institute for Contemplative Living, Louisville, Kentucky speaking on *The World in Our Bloodstreams: Thomas Merton on Contemplative Prayer and Protest* Monday November 5th at 7:00 pm at VST Epiphany Chapel. Montaldo has edited numerous Merton volumes. Join him for coffee and conversation before the public talk from 6:30 - 7:00 pm in the Reading Room in the Lkibaray at VST For more information call 604-669-2546 or email (e-mail address) or see www.merton.ca

Pacific Theatre welcomes you to its opening show *Driving Miss Daisy* starring Tom Pickett and Erla Faye Forsyth. In 1948, Atlanta, a stubborn, Jewish widow reluctantly surrenders the driver's seat to Hoke Coburn, a proud, soft-spoken black man and a Southern Baptist who, over the course of several years, becomes not only her chauffeur, but against all odds, her best friend. Playing October 11-November 10. For tickets (\$9-\$32) call 604.731.5518 or visit www.pacifictheatre.org Group discounts available.

Green Church, Green Home This is a ground-breaking multifaith collaboration intended to raise awareness about walking on our sacred planet with a lighter footprint and how churches/synagogues/people can take action. Canadian Memorial has been learning how we can be "greener" and wants to share that knowledge with the community. Workshops include "Energy Efficiency and Your Building" with Philip Be'er, "Greenstar - Living Like the Future Mattered" with Tim Turner, "Shifting from Knowing to Doing" with Philip Be'er, "Non-Toxic Cleansers", "Calculating your Ecological Footprint" and "Slow Food", with Toni Pieroni & Jennifer Scott. This one day event takes place at Canadian Memorial United Church & Centre for Peace at 1825 West 16th Avenue (just off Burrard Street) in Vancouver on Saturday, November 3, 2007 from 9:00am to 4:30pm. For tickets - 604-731-3101 or email (e-mail address) . More information at www.canadianmemorial.org/green_church_green_home.htm. Tickets - \$35.00 for Full Day (includes lunch) requires pre-registration.

Psalm 119: 97 - 112

Mem

⁹⁷Oh, how I love your law!
It is my meditation all day long.
⁹⁸Your commandment makes me wiser than my
enemies,
for it is always with me.
⁹⁹I have more understanding than all my teachers,
for your decrees are my meditation.
¹⁰⁰I understand more than the aged,
for I keep your precepts.
¹⁰¹I hold back my feet from every evil way,
in order to keep your word.
¹⁰²I do not turn away from your ordinances,
for you have taught me.
¹⁰³How sweet are your words to my taste,
sweeter than honey to my mouth!
¹⁰⁴Through your precepts I get understanding;
therefore I hate every false way.

Nun

¹⁰⁵Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.
¹⁰⁶I have sworn an oath and confirmed it,
to observe your righteous ordinances.
¹⁰⁷I am severely afflicted;
give me life, O Lord, according to your word.
¹⁰⁸Accept my offerings of praise, O Lord,
and teach me your ordinances.
¹⁰⁹I hold my life in my hand continually,
but I do not forget your law.
¹¹⁰The wicked have laid a snare for me,
but I do not stray from your precepts.
¹¹¹Your decrees are my heritage for ever;
they are the joy of my heart.
¹¹²I incline my heart to perform your statutes
for ever, to the end. [NRSV]

Luke 18:9-14

⁹ He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: ¹⁰“Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax-collector. ¹¹The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, “God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax-collector. ¹²I fast

twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.” ¹³But the tax-collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, “God, be merciful to me, a sinner!” ¹⁴I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted.’ [NRSV]

2 Timothy 3:14 - 4:5

¹⁰ Now you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, ¹¹my persecutions, and my suffering the things that happened to me in Antioch, Iconium, and Lystra. What persecutions I endured! Yet the Lord rescued me from all of them. ¹²Indeed, all who want to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted. ¹³But wicked people and impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving others and being deceived. ¹⁴But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, ¹⁵and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

4 ¹In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: ²proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favourable or unfavourable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. ³For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, ⁴and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. ⁵As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully. [NRSV]

Call to Worship

If you are delighted to be here,
or if you are tired or troubled,
you are welcome.

If your faith is strong,
or if your faith is battered or frail,
you are welcome.

If you are eager to praise God,
or if you need to be quiet,
you are welcome.

God welcomes us all to worship today
and promises to meet us here.

Amen

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Sing the Story