

POINT GREY INTER-MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP

Web site: www.pgimf.org

July 23, 2017

Jillian Jackson - Working With Our Fleishy Selves

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude:

Call to Worship:

Singing:

Opening Prayer, welcome:

Singing:

Scripture: Gen 28:1-19

Psalm 139:1-2, 23-24

Singing & Offering:

Scripture: Mt 13:24-30, 36-43

Rom 7:14 - 8:2

Sermon: Working with our Fleishy Selves

Response

Sharing of Praise and Prayers

Announcements

Worship Leader: Veronica Dyck
Music Worship: J. Evan Kreider
Accompanist: Rosemary Bell
Usher: Edward Epp

Last Sunday On July 16, 2017, Dr Jeffery Greenman (President of Regent College) showed how Jesus had used the story in Exodus 24 when instituting the "Lord's Supper". The preceding chapters in Genesis (19-13) are set at Mt Sinai, where the Jews were asked to be a kingdom of priests, in communion with God. Chapters 21-23 present the decalogue which told how to worship God and live an ethical life. Chapter 24 then set forth the covenant, God's gift of himself and our response of obedience--all sealed with lots of blood. An altar was built, 12 pillars were symbolically raised nearby, young men offered burnt offerings (removal of sin) and peace offerings of gratitude. Blood symbolized God's acceptance of the offerings. This one time, half of the blood was poured on the altar and half sprinkled on the people ('atoning sacrificial blood) while they again promised to obey. The people then ate together. When Jesus says in the context of his final meal (Matthew 26), "Take, eat, this is my body . . . this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many," everyone would have recalled the story in Exodus 24, as will we. [JEK]

Regrettably the message was not recorded

PGIMF News

July 30

Laurel Borisenko

Arts-based Strategies for Peacebuilding

August 6

J. Evan Kreider

Psalm 17

August 13

Kasey Kimball

TBA

August 20

J. Evan Kreider

Genesis 45

Prayer request Andrew has not been able to work for some months, while a range of muscle-weakening symptoms and heart difficulties have been investigated.

Prayer request for the fires that have affected so many, and for **Westwood Church** (MB) in Prince George who is now able to provide support for and minister to the many displaced families seeking refuge in the area.

Yard Sale

To benefit the MCC Refugee Food Bank at Sherbrooke church on Saturday, Aug. 12, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm at Sherbrooke Mennonite Church. (7155 Sherbrooke St., Vancouver) Items to sell and helpers to sell them wanted - household goods, children's toys, jewelry, linens, books, garden items, anything that has potential to be sold. Some clothing OK. See Janice or Hannelore for more details.

RECORDING THE SERVICE

Please note that we 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 not be recorded.

Moderator—Curtis Funk (604-992-6913); *Worship*—J. Evan Kreider (604-228-1217);

Congregational Care—Lois Funk (604-992-8213); *Recording Secretary*--- Andre Pekovich (604-879-0007);

Music—Ruth Enns (604-987-7430); *At Large*—Travis Martin (604-603-7843); Chan Yang (778-681-1475);

Finance — Doug Medley (604-328-2980); *Congregational Co-ordinator* — Veronica Dyck

Wider Church

MCC-BC MDS and MCC are accepting donations to assist families impacted by the BC wildfires. You are invited to donate directly to MDS or send a donation to MCC which will be used by MDS towards recovery efforts. Please pray for the victims, and consider volunteering with MDS in the recovery efforts. If you would like to donate to MCC, please see <https://donate.mcccanada.ca/cause/bc-wildfires-mennonite-disaster-service-mds> or by phone at 1-888-622-6337.

Regent College Free Public Lecture You are warmly invited to the free series of public lectures this week. **Monday's lecture** features Mark Noll specifying the great gain, but also the considerable trouble that arose from the Protestant reliance on the Bible as chief authority for individuals and the church in his lecture Martin Luther and the Dilemmas of Sola Scriptura. Monday, Jul 24, 2017 at 7:30pm - 9:00 pm. **Wednesdays' lecture** features Scot McKnight and Dennis Venema (professor of biology at TWU) in Adam and the Genome: Rethinking the 'Historical' Adam. Through the lens of the Human Genome Project, the historical Adam (and a neglected Eve) are examined through the Genesis text and Jewish tradition, shedding light on what exactly Paul meant in Romans 5:12-21. All lectures begin 7:30 pm in the Chapel at Regent College. Free parking.

Student Housing wanted The Regent College Student Housing Services is looking for hosts to provide free housing and local telephone use for up to one week (between July 1st and September 15th) for incoming students while they search for permanent housing. Meals are not expected (but welcome nonetheless!). Please contact Lucas Freitas at (e-mail available from webmaster) if you're interested!

MCBC Seeking Administrative Assistant /Communications Coordinator Are you creative, gifted and trained in the area of Communications? Are you interested in administrative work? MCBC is seeking to fill the Administrative Assistant/Communications Coordinator position beginning September 1st, 2017. This is a 10 hour/week contract position to replace Aften Thiessen who will spend more time at home with her family; and remuneration is commensurate with experience. See the job description at <http://www.mcbc.ca/job-postings/>

AMBS Beginning this fall, AMBS's Journey program is open to people from across the U.S. and Canada. Journey: A Missional Leadership Development Program is a partnership between AMBS, Central District and Indiana-Michigan Mennonite conferences. You will develop areas of strength in Spiritual disciplines, theological and biblical studies, character development, mentoring and community, gifts development and leadership skills. This is a distance-friendly non-degree leadership development program. To learn more, contact (e-mail available from webmaster) or visit www.ambs.edu/journey.

Call to Worship

Great God of shalom, as we gather together
to worship you, we are comforted by the
knowledge that we have no surprises for you.

We gather to offer you our joyful praise

Nurturing God, even though you know us so well,
you choose to lead us along the path to everlasting life.

We gather to offer you our heartfelt thanks.

Understanding God, you gather us to yourself
so that we may worship you in love and joy.
You accept us as we are, and you love us.

**Loving God, your nature is eternal love, and we
gather together to share that love with others. Amen.**

Genesis 28:10-19

¹⁰ Jacob left Beer-sheba and went towards Haran.
¹¹ He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. ¹² And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. ¹³ And the Lord stood beside him and said, 'I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; ¹⁴ and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. ¹⁵ Know that I am with you and will

keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.' ¹⁶ Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, 'Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!' ¹⁷ And he was afraid, and said, 'How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.'

¹⁸ So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. ¹⁹ He called that place Bethel; but the name of the city was Luz at the first. [NRSV]

Psalms 139:1-12, 23-24

To the leader. Of David. A Psalm.

¹ O Lord, you have searched me and known me.
² You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from far away.
³ You search out my path and my lying down,
and are acquainted with all my ways.
⁴ Even before a word is on my tongue,
O Lord, you know it completely.
⁵ You hem me in, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.
⁶ Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain it.

⁷ Where can I go from your spirit?
Or where can I flee from your presence?
⁸ If I ascend to heaven, you are there;
if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.

⁹ If I take the wings of the morning
and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,
¹⁰ even there your hand shall lead me,
and your right hand shall hold me fast.
¹¹ If I say, 'Surely the darkness shall cover me,
and the light around me become night',
¹² even the darkness is not dark to you;
the night is as bright as the day,
for darkness is as light to you.

[...]

²³ Search me, O God, and know my heart;
test me and know my thoughts.
²⁴ See if there is any wicked way in me,
and lead me in the way everlasting. [NRSV]

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

²⁴ He put before them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; ²⁵ but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. ²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷ And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, "Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?" ²⁸ He answered, "An enemy has done this." The slaves said to him, "Then do you want us to go and gather them?" ²⁹ But he replied, "No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰ Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn." '

[...]

³⁶ Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, 'Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.' ³⁷ He answered, 'The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸ the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰ Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴² and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

[NRSV]

Romans 7:14 - 8:2

¹⁴ For we know that the law is spiritual; but I am of the flesh, sold into slavery under sin. ¹⁵ I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶ Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷ But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸ For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. ¹⁹ For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. ²⁰ Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

²¹ So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. ²² For I delight in

the law of God in my inmost self, ²³ but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴ Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? ²⁵ Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

So then, with my mind I am a slave to the law of God, but with my flesh I am a slave to the law of sin.

8 ¹ There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. [NRSV]