

POINT GREY INTER-MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP

Web site: www.pgimf.org

May 20, 2018

Alemal Puljek-Shank - MCC in the Middle East & Europe

Pentecost

Worship Leader: Michael Despotovic
Accompanist: Ruth Enns

Music Worship: Angela Ruthven
Usher: Chris Skinner

Last Sunday Charis Weathers, Lutheran pastor in Bellingham and Regent alum, spoke from the long prayer in John 17 against the backdrop of Rublev's famous icon The Holy Trinity. In an exploration of the perichoresis (the trinitarian nature of God), Charis identified the trio in a dance with each other, flowing in and out of relationship with each other (Gregory of Nyssa) to permeate each others' existence. We as worshippers are invited to enter the same dance of worship and love of the Trinity, and widen it outward to others in a process of becoming sanctified by being sent into the world, not out of it. This is the physical manifestation of the self-giving love Jesus modeled for us in his prayer to the disciples in John 17. [AP]

Listen to the message at <https://pgimf.org/audio/2018-05-13-charisweathers.mp3>

Scriptures for Today

Matthew 5
Ezekiel 37:1-14
Acts 2:1-21

PGIMF News - Upcoming Services

May 27	Camp Luther	Exercising Mind Body and Spirit
June 3	John Friesen	Who am I?
June 10	Samuel Andri	TBA
June 17	Susan Hackett	The Meaning of Privilege

Camp Luther Join us at Camp Luther at Hatzic Lake (new mission) for a retreat for the physical, the mental and the spiritual in Exercising Soul, Mind and Body. This weekend will feature stimulation and relaxation in equal measure with a Saturday evening coffeehouse concert programme, Friday evening campfire, Saturday morning Tai Chi and meditation, and plenty of good interaction with each other. Register on-line or call the church office at 604-228-8911 and leave a message if you are unable to register on-line. Retreat begins at 6:00 pm Friday May 25th and ends after lunch on Sunday May 27th. Cost \$75, but do not let money inhibit your participation – see a board member for assistance.

Membership As mentioned at the PGIMF Annual General Meeting, you are invited to check the membership registers and see if you're on it. If not, please consider whether joining is for you. See Andre for the list.

AGM Minutes Please be advised that the minutes of the Congregational Meeting (AGM) are now posted on the PGIMF website in the members area. You'll need the usual password to get access to that area, available from any member of the church board or tech committee.

Wider Church

Regent College Public Lecture Join the Regent community and Susan Phillips in a free public lecture entitled Narrative and Pilgrimage: Forming our stories in the company of others to discover our true story by side-stepping the structures of society and church in a conversation with others and in reflection with God. Wednesday May 23rd at 7:30 pm in the Chapel and Regent College.

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—Veronica Dyck (604-290-1627); **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**—Janice Kreider (604-228-1217); Chan Yang (778-681-1475);
Finance — Doug Medley (604-328-2980); **Congregational Co-ordinator** — Veronica Dyck (604-290-1627)

Seminar on Aging in the Church At Peace on Friday, June 1, from 2-4 pm, The Art of Aging with Laura Loewen who is the minister for seniors at the Emmanuel church in Abbotsford. <https://www.peacemennonite.ca/events/the-art-of-aging-engaging-body-mind-and-spirit/2018-06-01>

MCBC Connect The current issue of MCBC Connect has a lead article ("Lucid Church Plants") that has a photo and reference to a PGIMF Alum Herb Reesor as well as how Chinatown Peace Church (led by Tim Kuipfer) is breaking down walls in Strathcona and inviting in the neighbourhood. Read the whole MCBC Connect at www.mcbc.ca or just the article "Lucid Church Plants".

Mental Health Workshop At FUMC on Saturday, June 2, from 10-12, Mental Health and Faith, a workshop put on by Sanctuary Mental Health Ministries. More info at <http://fumc.ca/announcements/faith-and-mental-health-workshop>

Mennonite World Conference Courier This note is to let you know that the latest issue of Courier has several articles on climate justice and creation protection particularly in DR Congo and Guatemala. Read it online at <https://mwc-cmm.org/courier> or sign up to get your copy e-mailed to you.

Spring worship concert The Anglican archdeaconry of Vancouver invites you to Evensong: Be Joyful in the Lord, a traditional liturgy with compositions by Scott Gould. Sunday June 3rd at 4:00 pm at St. Helen's Anglican Church (4405 W. 8th Ave. Vancouver). Tea and crumpets to follow.

MC Canada seeks new Executive Director After careful consideration and prayer the Joint Council discerned with Willard Metzger, Executive Director, that this was the time to seek new leadership for Mennonite Church Canada, who will continue with MC Canada until Oct 31, 2018.

Employment and leadership opportunities Bethesda is seeking to fill 2 Management positions. A Regional Coordinator for the Richmond area and a Resource Manager for the Ladner Home. See the Bethesda Christian Association's website www.bethesdabc.com/careers.html to learn more and to apply. Bethesda works toward a future where people of all abilities live together in interdependent communities.

Vision Journal The AMBS/CMU publication Vision: A Journal for Church and Theology is published twice a year - PGIMF gets its own copy which spends its time in the hallway slots waiting for borrowers. However, you can read excellent articles such as Why I am not part of the church by Lukas Thiessen, and Thoughts on Forming Leaders for a Church that does not yet Exist by Isaiah Friesen and Andy Brubacher Kaethler. It's free to read on-line and you can sign up for a print subscription at <https://press.palni.org/ojs/>

MCC Many are saddened at the news from Gaza. On Monday, a volunteer for one of MCC partners was one of the injured by live fire. MCC has issued an urgent call for action across Canada and the US that many people will send a message to their government reps, calling for an end to the violence and support of human rights for all. See <https://mcccanada.ca/get-involved/advocacy/campaigns/end-suffering-gaza> to send a message to your MP and the Minister of Foreign Affairs. Your prayers and support for a just peace are coveted.

Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of the Lord was on me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the Lord and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me back and forth among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry. He asked me, "Son of man, can these bones live?"

I said, "Sovereign Lord, you alone know."

Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones and say to them, 'Dry bones, hear the word of the Lord! This is what the Sovereign Lord says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life. I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; I will put breath in you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the Lord.'"

So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them.

Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, son of man, and say to it, 'This is what the Sovereign Lord says: Come, breath, from the four winds and breathe into these slain, that they may live.'" So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet—a vast army.

Then he said to me: "Son of man, these bones are the people of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone; we are cut off.' Therefore prophecy and say to them: 'This is what the Sovereign Lord says: My people, I am going to open your graves and bring you up from them; I will bring you back to the land of Israel. Then you, my people, will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and bring you up from them. I will put my Spirit in you and you will live, and I will settle you in your own land. Then you will know that I the Lord have spoken, and I have done it, declares the Lord.'" [NIV]

Acts 2:1-21

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. Utterly amazed, they asked: "Aren't all these who are speaking Galileans? Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!" Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, "What does this mean?"

Some, however, made fun of them and said, "They have had too much wine."

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: "Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. These people are not drunk, as you suppose. It's only nine in the morning! No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:

"In the last days, God says,

I will pour out my Spirit on all people.

Your sons and daughters will prophesy,

your young men will see visions,

your old men will dream dreams.

Even on my servants, both men and women,

I will pour out my Spirit in those days,

and they will prophesy.

I will show wonders in the heavens above

and signs on the earth below,

blood and fire and billows of smoke.

The sun will be turned to darkness

and the moon to blood

before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord.

And everyone who calls

on the name of the Lord will be saved. [NIV]