

## POINT GREY INTER-MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP

Web site: [www.pgimf.org](http://www.pgimf.org)

January 6, 2019

### John Klassen - Church History

Membership Sunday

**Worship Leader:**  
**Accompanist:**

Curtis Funk  
Rosemary Bell

**Music Worship:**  
**Usher:**

J. Evan Kreider  
Chris Skinner

**Last Sunday** Our last Sunday of 2018 featured a Service of Lessons and Carols based loosely on the Kings College service of the same name, led jointly by Chan and Stephanie. There was no service on December 30th.

### PGIMF News - Upcoming Services

January 13	Henry Klippenstein	The Road to Character
January 20	Annika Krause	Fellowship By One and the Same Spirit
January 27	Annika Krause	Fellowship is Like Oil on the Head
February 3	Andrea Perrett	TBA

**Friday Group** We'll resume our study of "Inspired" on Friday, January 11 at 10:00 am. We'll be discussing Resistance stories: "Jesus takes Resistance beyond prophecy, lamentation, satire, and mockery to declare a new kingdom." We meet in the education building behind Peace Church on 52nd (FUMC); all are welcome.

**Church list updates** Catherine Cooper has moved to a new place in Louisiana - you can find her at (address information available from webmaster upon request). She has retained the same e-mail address. She has a roommate so don't assume your call will be answered by Catherine. But you could call now as her lab is closed by the Trump Shutdown.

**Prayer request** Margarita has returned to Vancouver for a serious relapse in her illness and is currently in VGH. After some time in Peru with family, she had found volunteer work with CUSO in her field of environmental science in Bogota, Columbia. Two weeks ago at the CUSO office Christmas celebration lunch in Bogota something made her sick, and the resulting fever that triggered her rheumatic condition that was previously under control for 4yrs. Since she had planned to spend Christmas at home, her return to Vancouver was very difficult but after arrival and admission to VGH, she has no signs of recovery despite a strong medication for pain, which is very hard to cope with. Your prayers are coveted on an ongoing basis.

### Wider Church

**The Lookout Gallery** You are invited to view Eve Leader's latest exhibit focusing on the human condition and the mystery of life in oils, entitled Through A Glass Daryl. Runs January 16-February 15<sup>th</sup> at the gallery upstairs at Regent College. Opening reception Wednesday January 16<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 - 7:30 pm. Gallery hours M-F 8:30 - 5:00 and Saturday 12-4. More information at [lookoutgallery.ca](http://lookoutgallery.ca)

**Pacific Theatre** Ensemble Theatre Company invites you to their production of A Prayer for Owen Meany - a child of the 1960s with a divine mission, or so he thinks. Runs January 18-February 9 - tickets \$15-\$36.50 at 604-731-5518 or online at [www.pacifictheatre.org](http://www.pacifictheatre.org).

**Third Way Café** Ever the intriguing website with thought-provoking articles, Celeste Kennel-Shank invites us to keep the Diligent Sabbath. For six days a week, we labor to make the world as it should be. On one day, we accept the world as it is, to whatever way we can in a community that has no such practices, and setting aside the legalistic approach. Read more at <http://thirdway.com/diligent-sabbath/>

### 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**— Travis Martin (604-603-7843); Chan Yang (778-681-1475);  
**Finance** — Doug Medley (604-328-2980); **Congregational Co-ordinator** — Janice Kreider (604-228-1217)

**Mennonite Heritage Museum** You are invited to a book launch of a new memoir by Liz Jansenm Crash Landing: The Long Road Home about unexpected detours, and following the signs back to your origins. Free event, book signing, and refreshments. Thursday January 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at the Museum (1818 Clearbrook Rd, Abbotsford). More info at [www.mennonitemuseum.org](http://www.mennonitemuseum.org) or at 604-758-5667

**Mennonite Church BC AGM** Advance notice is posted to the MCBC Annual General Meeting and LEAD conference to be held this year February 22-23 at Peace Mennonite Church (11571 Daniels Rd., Richmond). Delegates are sought for this year's meeting which features changes to the Constitution and Bylaws to comply with legal changes to the Societies Act in British Columbia

**Dark Glass Theatre - billets wanted** The upcoming production of The Amish Project needs homes to billet women actors for a few days from February 17-24. Angela Konrad, Artistic Director of Dark Glass Theatre (the theatre company) is reaching out to friends who live in the city for people who might be interested in hosting an actor or two for a week in February. If you can offer a space close to Granville Island, please let Angela know at 604-220-07409 or contact Alice Klassen who can put you in touch with her.

## Call to Worship

**Leader:** Who are we that have gathered this morning in this place?

**People:** **We are children of God, and part of the body of Christ.**

**Leader:** But we are all so different! How can we all be part of one body?

**People:** **We are bound together in love given to us by God's Spirit!**

**Leader:** What are we called to do?

**People:** **We are called to heal wounds, to unite what has fallen apart, and to bring home those who are lost.**

**Leader:** Let us worship the One who calls us to do this.

**All:** **Holy God, with all your saints across the generations, we gather to approach your mystery and hear your judgement. We come seeking your grace as we sing, pray and listen. In the name of Jesus our Saviour, Amen.**

## **Statements from** Confession of Faith in a Mennonite Perspective **Mennonite Church Canada**

We believe that the church is the assembly of those who have accepted God's offer of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ. It is the new community of disciples sent into the world to proclaim the reign of God and to provide a foretaste of the church's glorious hope. It is the new society established and sustained by the Holy Spirit.

We believe that the baptism of believers with water is a sign of their cleansing from sin. Baptism is also a pledge before the church of their covenant with God to walk in the way of Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit. Believers are baptized into Christ and his body by the Spirit, water, and blood.

We believe that the church of Jesus Christ is one body with many members, ordered in such a way that, through the one Spirit, believers may be built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

## Old Testament Readings

### God's Covenants

(All readings NIV)

#### Genesis 8: 20-21

<sup>20</sup> Then Noah built an altar to the Lord and, taking some of all the clean animals and clean birds, he sacrificed burnt offerings on it. <sup>21</sup> The Lord smelled the pleasing aroma and said in his heart: "Never again will I curse the ground because of humans, even though every inclination of the human heart is evil from childhood. And never again will I destroy all living creatures, as I have done."

#### Genesis 12: 1-3

<sup>1</sup> The Lord had said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you. <sup>2</sup> "I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup> I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

#### Genesis 17: 15-16

<sup>15</sup> God also said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you are no longer to call her Sarai; her name will be Sarah.

<sup>16</sup> I will bless her and will surely give you a son by her. I will bless her so that she will be the mother of nations; kings of peoples will come from her."

### Israel's failure

Isaiah 30: 1-5

<sup>1</sup> "Woe to the obstinate children," declares the Lord, "to those who carry out plans that are not mine, forming an alliance, but not by my Spirit, heaping sin upon sin; <sup>2</sup> who go down to Egypt without consulting me; who look for help to Pharaoh's protection, to Egypt's shade for refuge. <sup>3</sup> But Pharaoh's protection

will be to your shame, Egypt's shade will bring you disgrace. <sup>4</sup> Though they have officials in Zoan and their envoys have arrived in Hanes, <sup>5</sup> everyone will be put to shame because of a people useless to them, who bring neither help nor advantage, but only shame and disgrace."

### God's comfort

Isaiah 40: 1-5

<sup>1</sup> Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. <sup>2</sup> Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. <sup>3</sup> A voice of one calling: "In the wilderness prepare the way for the Lord; make

straight in the desert a highway for our God. <sup>4</sup> Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. <sup>5</sup> And the glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all people will see it together. For the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

## New Testament Readings

Luke 5: 17-26

<sup>17</sup> One day Jesus was teaching, and Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting there. They had come from every village of Galilee and from Judea and Jerusalem. And the power of the Lord was with Jesus to heal the sick. <sup>18</sup> Some men came carrying a paralyzed man on a mat and tried to take him into the house to lay him before Jesus.

<sup>19</sup> When they could not find a way to do this because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and lowered him on his mat through the tiles into the middle of the crowd, right in front of Jesus. <sup>20</sup> When Jesus saw their faith, he said, "Friend, your sins are forgiven."

<sup>21</sup> The Pharisees and the teachers of the law began thinking to themselves, "Who is this fellow who speaks blasphemy? Who can forgive sins but God alone?"

<sup>22</sup> Jesus knew what they were thinking and asked, "Why are you thinking these things in your hearts? <sup>23</sup> Which is easier: to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up and walk'?" <sup>24</sup> But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins." So he said to the paralyzed man, "I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home." <sup>25</sup> Immediately he stood up in front of them, took what he had been lying on and went home praising God. <sup>26</sup> Everyone was amazed and gave praise to God. They were filled with awe and said, "We have seen remarkable things today."

## Revelation 22: 12-21

<sup>12</sup> "Look, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done. <sup>13</sup> I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.

<sup>14</sup> "Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life and may go through the gates into the city. <sup>15</sup> Outside are the dogs, those who practice magic arts, the sexually immoral, the murderers, the idolaters and everyone who loves and practices falsehood.

<sup>16</sup> "I, Jesus, have sent my angel to give you this testimony for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and the bright Morning Star."

<sup>17</sup> The Spirit and the bride say, "Come!"

And let the one who hears say, "Come!"  
Let the one who is thirsty come;  
and let the one who wishes take the free gift of the water of life.

<sup>18</sup> I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this scroll: If anyone adds anything to them, God will add to that person the plagues described in this scroll. <sup>19</sup> And if anyone takes words away from this scroll of prophecy, God will take away from that person any share in the tree of life and in the Holy City, which are described in this scroll.

<sup>20</sup> He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. <sup>21</sup> The grace of the Lord Jesus be with God's people. Amen.

