

POINT GREY INTER-MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP

Web site: www.pgimf.org

March 17, 2019

Second Sunday in Lent

Kevin Hiebert - Perfectly Placed Artifacts

Worship Leader: Alice Klassen
Accompanist: Ruth Enns

Music Worship: Travis Martin
Usher: Chris Skinner

Last Sunday On Sunday March 10, 2019, four new members joined the church from other congregations, denominations and backgrounds. We are exceedingly pleased to welcome Michael, Travis, Laura and Gerry. It was the 1st Sunday of Lent and Communion was held.

We hope the audio of the testimonies may be made available soon.

PGIMF News - Upcoming Services

March 24 Heather Murray
March 31 Jeff Borden
April 7 Thomas Bergen
April 14 Anita Fast

A Modern Pilgrim
Recovery from Addiction
Mark Series: The Identity of Jesus
Holy S*#! / Passion Sunday

Wider Church

West Point Grey Lenten Prayer Series You are invited to celebrate the Lenten season with six noon-time periods of reflection and prayer of 30 minutes followed by a simple lunch at the hosting congregations:

- March 20 West Point Grey United (4595 W. 8th Ave., Vancouver)
- March 27 St. Anselm's Anglican (5210 University Blvd, UBC)
- April 3 Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic (2465 Crown St., Vancouver)
- April 10 West Point Grey Baptist (4509 W. 11th Ave. Vancouver)

MCC Venezuela Refugee Response The worsening political and economic crisis in Venezuela has displaced more than 3 million people, some to other locations in Latin America and the Caribbean. Many urgently require food assistance, medical services and shelter. Through ongoing projects in Colombia, which hosts more than 1 million Venezuelan refugees, and Ecuador, MCC is responding to the needs of displaced people from Venezuela.

Contribute now by phone at 604-857-0011 or online at <https://donate.mcccanada.ca/cause/venezuela-refugee-response>

Save the Date!

Don't book your holiday for Saturday August 24th - you are all invited to celebrate the wedding of Stephanie Jung and Chan Yang at St. Philip's Anglican Church (3727 W. 27th Ave., Vancouver) Details as they become available.

Fireside Apologetics Why do people stop believing, wander from the faith, and what can we do about it? TWU invites you to a Fireside Apologetics event with Dr. Paul Chamberlain on Thursday March 28 at 7:00 pm in room 401 at the TWU Richmond campus (5900 Minoru Blvd, Richmond). In this event with a Q&A after, he addresses the recent wave of Christians, including leaders, who are turning away and becoming some of Christianity's most ardent critics. Chamberlain teaches in Ethics and Apologetics at TWU/ACTS Seminaries. You can find a long conversation about this at <https://churchforvancouver.ca/why-people-stop-believing/>

MCBC Womens' Day This day of coming together invites women in MCBC churches and their friends to hear Sarah Bessey inspire with "Awake My Soul". Saturday May 4th at Emmanuel Mennonite Church (3471 Clearbrook Rd, Abbotsford). Cost: \$30 before April 15, \$40 after. More info at www.mcbc.ca/womens-ministry.

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)

A Special Nationwide Call to Prayer

Mennonite Church Canada, on behalf of the Regional Churches, invites all congregations to join in a nationwide call to prayer for comfort and strength for our Muslim faith communities today. In the wake of the violence perpetrated in Christchurch, New Zealand, we mourn the loss of 49 lives, many of whom were gathered to pray in a mosque in a central part of the city. We lament all forms of violence against those who are different from us. Pray that God will enfold those who grieve with comfort and that God might restore shalom in the Christchurch community and other communities where peace has been shattered by violence. May our prayers stand in solidarity with all who call on God in this time of sorrow and grief.

Memorization Regent College professor Hans Boersma has written a timely article for the on-line publication First Things. In Memorization and Repentance, posted March 11th, he said: "Memorization is a Lenten practice, reshaping our memories to be like God's. When our memories are reshaped and reordered according to the immutable faithfulness of God in Christ, we re-appropriate God's character – his steadfast love, his mercy, his compassion. Memorization may be a largely abandoned practice. But is by memorizing that we turn away from sinful distraction and share in God's own, ever-reliable memory in Christ." See the whole article at <https://www.firstthings.com/web-exclusives/2019/03/memorization-and-repentance>

Clearbrook Property Task Force MCBC seeks individuals to serve on a Task Force to clarify the vision for using funds from the sale of the Clearbrook property (32027 Peardonville Rd) before the property is sold. The Task Force will create a plan identifying priorities, projects, durations, financial requirements and operating procedures. If you know of someone in your church who might be interested in being on this team, please let MCBC know at (Email available from webmaster) or contact Janette Thiessen at 604-850-6658 to notify the committee chair.

Choir of Clare College St. James' Music Series is thrilled to present the Choir of Clare College Cambridge, UK directed by Graham Ross, one of England's most respected choral ensembles. Hear the choir give a complete performance of Tomas Luis de Victoria's 1605 Requiem, one of the great masterworks of choral music, in St. James' Anglican Church (303 E. Cordova St., Vancouver), a choice venue for the repertoire. Tickets \$25-30. Friday March 22nd at 7:30 pm)

Job 40:15-18

¹⁵ 'Look at Behemoth,
which I made just as I made you;
it eats grass like an ox.

¹⁶ Its strength is in its loins,
and its power in the muscles of its belly.

¹⁷ It makes its tail stiff like a cedar;
the sinews of its thighs are knit together.

¹⁸ Its bones are tubes of bronze,
its limbs like bars of iron. [NRSV]

Isaiah 27: 1-5

¹On that day the Lord with his cruel and great and strong sword will punish Leviathan the fleeing serpent, Leviathan the twisting serpent, and he will kill the dragon that is in the sea.

² On that day:
A pleasant vineyard, sing about it!

³ I, the Lord, am its keeper;
every moment I water it.

I guard it night and day
so that no one can harm it;

⁴ I have no wrath.

If it gives me thorns and briers,
I will march to battle against it.
I will burn it up.

⁵ Or else let it cling to me for protection,
let it make peace with me,
let it make peace with me. [NRSV]

1 Corinthians 13: 1-13

¹If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ²And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. ³If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

⁴ Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant ⁵or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. ⁷It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

⁸ Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. ⁹For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; ¹⁰but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. ¹¹When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. ¹²For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. ¹³And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love. [NRSV]

Philippians 3:10-17

¹⁰I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own.

¹³Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I

press on towards the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵Let those of us then who are mature be of the same mind; and if you think differently about anything, this too God will reveal to you. ¹⁶Only let us hold fast to what we have attained.

¹⁷ Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. [NRSV]

Call to Worship

Leader: O God, you are our God. We seek you.

**People: Our souls thirst for you
as in a dry and weary land
where there is no water.**

Leader: The Lord is our light and our salvation—
we shall not be afraid.

**People: We will wait for the Lord, and take courage,
for we will see God's goodness.**

All: O God, you satisfy our souls as with a rich feast.
In the shadow of your wings,
we sing for joy, and you uphold us.

- Common Word worship resources, Lent 2019