

POINT GREY INTER-MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP

Web site: www.pgimf.org

June 2, 2019

Hepzibah Chand - The Last Shall Be First: The Revolutionary Teaching of Jesus

Worship Leader: Veronica Dyck
Accompanist: Rosemary Bell

Music Worship: Angela Ruthven
Usher: Diane Ehling

Last Sunday We held our annual church retreat at Camp Luther on the theme "Piecing it Together" where the fellowship demonstrated skill and creativity in a wide variety of arts and crafts from clay modelling, rug weaving, calligraphy and stained glass, to square dancing.

Two Sundays ago Jon Nofziger returned from an MCC learning tour in Colombia and brought back greetings from the Mennonite Brethren Churches there. Three years into the country's peace accord process, there is still much to do in terms of practical peacebuilding, including finding alternatives to the lucrative drug trade for farmers and former rebels. In the Chocó region, children at peace clubs are introducing their parents to a different way of solving conflicts. Nonviolence is a core part of the Anabaptist identity in a context where the risk of violence is very real. [KH]

The message can be heard in your favorite browser at <https://pgimf.org/service/greetings-and-encouragement-from-colombia/>

PGIMF News - Upcoming Services

June 9	Membership Sunday	Pentecost
June 16	Henry Neufeld	Stories of Transformation
June 23	***No Service at PGIMF*** Worship in the Park, Ecumenical Service	
June 30	***No service at PGIMF*** Joint service with Mennonite Church Canada assembly	

Mennonite Church Canada Annual Assembly To allow everyone the chance to attend the MC Canada annual assembly Ignite! in Abbotsford at the Ramada Inn on Highway 1, the service for Sunday June 30th will be cancelled. Pre-registration is a must for this service, though it is free. Time of service, registration and carpool arrangements will follow as they are available.

Save the date! Janice Kreider is leading the charge among Vancouver churches to hold a joint worship service on Sunday November 10th Peace Sunday to be held at Peace on 52nd Church. More details as they come available.

Inside scoop Many of you may not know that the popular Christian rock band Starfield, now doing a reunion tour beginning at Glad Tidings Temple (3456 Fraser St.) This Friday June 7th, was begun twenty years ago by PGIMF-er Kevin Hiebert's brother-in-law Tim Neufeld who with his brother Jon still leads the band. Those who are interested can get tickets at Eventbrite (www.eventbrite.com and search for Starfield)

Wider Church

Regent College You are invited to continue the Regent Free public lecture series on Monday June 3rd with Gordon Smith searching out the dynamic between the Son and the Spirit within the Trinity in a talk entitled Christ-centred or Spirit-centred? Why the Question Matters. Return on Wednesday June 5th to hear Mark Noll investigate competing north American concepts of liberty and how they are lived out in today's church in a talk entitled "Liberty" has been precious for Canadians and Americans... Lectures begin at 7:30 pm in the Chapel.

Address Change

On June 1st, Henry and Louise moved to Shannon Oaks (independent living) in Vancouver. Their address is now: (available from webmaster upon request) and their phone number has changed to (available from webmaster on request)

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)

Our fellowship gives thanks for the gift of meeting on the unceded lands of the
Musqueam, Tsleil-Watuth and Squamish peoples

Near-future Evangelicalism Ever wish you could get two Regent teachers in the same room and watch them bounce perspectives off each other? You can - this week's discussion is hosted by Dr. Bruce Hindmarsh and features Dr. Mark Noll and Dr. Mabilia Kenzo exploring the question, "Near-Future Evangelicalism: Anticipating the Next 10 Years."

Daily Bonnet On May 28, Hon. Candice Bergen, Member of Parliament for Portage-Lisgar, spoke in support of a motion to establish a Mennonite Heritage Week. During her speech, she discussed various aspects of Mennonite culture worth celebrating, including our sense of humour. She ended her speech by reading a selection of Daily Bonnet headlines. Bergen ran out of time to speak and had to get permission from the Speaker of the House to continue...reading Daily Bonnet headlines! Check out the video of Bergen in the House at <https://dailybonnet.com/m-p-reads-daily-bonnet-headlines-in-house-of-commons/>

Churches in Vancouver - can they survive? A blog post on the website Church for Vancouver investigates not only the financial pressures churches within the City are under from real estate speculation, but also the City's vital interest in maintaining churches as places to worship and provide community access through changes in policy and support for other uses. Read it yourself at: <https://churchforvancouver.ca/city-of-vancouver-is-vitally-interested-in-places-of-worship/>

Isaiah 52:7-10

⁷ How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of the messenger who announces
peace,

who brings good news,
who announces salvation,
who says to Zion, 'Your God reigns.'

⁸ Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices,
together they sing for joy;
for in plain sight they see

the return of the Lord to Zion.

⁹ Break forth together into singing,
you ruins of Jerusalem;
for the Lord has comforted his people,
he has redeemed Jerusalem.

¹⁰ The Lord has bared his holy arm
before the eyes of all the nations;
and all the ends of the earth shall see
the salvation of our God. [NRSV]

Psalms 2

¹ Why do the nations conspire,
and the peoples plot in vain?

² The kings of the earth set themselves,
and the rulers take counsel together,
against the Lord and his anointed, saying,

³ 'Let us burst their bonds asunder,
and cast their cords from us.'

⁴ He who sits in the heavens laughs;
the Lord has them in derision.

⁵ Then he will speak to them in his wrath,
and terrify them in his fury, saying,

⁶ 'I have set my king on Zion, my holy hill.'

⁷ I will tell of the decree of the Lord:
He said to me, 'You are my son;

today I have begotten you.

⁸ Ask of me, and I will make the nations your
heritage,
and the ends of the earth your possession.

⁹ You shall break them with a rod of iron,
and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.'

¹⁰ Now therefore, O kings, be wise;
be warned, O rulers of the earth.

¹¹ Serve the Lord with fear,
with trembling ¹²kiss his feet,
or he will be angry, and you will perish in the way;
for his wrath is quickly kindled.

Happy are all who take refuge in him. [NRSV]

Acts 16:16-34

¹⁶ One day, as we were going to the place of prayer,
we met a slave-girl who had a spirit of divination and
brought her owners a great deal of money by
fortune-telling. ¹⁷ While she followed Paul and us, she
would cry out, 'These men are slaves of the Most High

God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation.' ¹⁸ She
kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much
annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, 'I order you in
the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.' And it
came out that very hour.

¹⁹ But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the market-place before the authorities. ²⁰When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, 'These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews ²¹and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe.' ²²The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. ²³After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. ²⁴Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

²⁵ About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. ²⁶Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the

prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. ²⁷When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. ²⁸But Paul shouted in a loud voice, 'Do not harm yourself, for we are all here.' ²⁹The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. ³⁰Then he brought them outside and said, 'Sirs, what must I do to be saved?' ³¹They answered, 'Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.' ³²They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. ³³At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. ³⁴He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God. [NRSV]

Matthew 20: 1-16

¹For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. ³When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; ⁴and he said to them, "You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right." So they went. ⁵When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. ⁶And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, "Why are you standing here idle all day?" ⁷They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." He said to them, "You also go into the vineyard." ⁸When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, "Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning

with the last and then going to the first." ⁹When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. ¹⁰Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. ¹¹And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹²saying, "These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat." ¹³But he replied to one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?" ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first will be last.' [NRSV]

Call to Worship

We come to this place of prayer,
**for here we can bring our hopes and dreams,
our hidden fears and the doubts we dare wear on our sleeves.**

We come to this place of grace,
**for here we learn compassion and joy,
and discover how deeply we are loved.**

We come with these people called the church,
**to be blessed by the variety of gifts,
to live as one for our God.**

<http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/2019/05/liturgy-with-communion-for-june-2-2019.html>