

POINT GREY INTER-MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP

web site: www.pgimf.org

August 22nd, 2010

Welcome to Point Grey Inter-Mennonite Fellowship. Our service this Sunday will be led by Janice Kreider, we will be led in song by J. Evan Kreider, accompanied at the piano by Ruth Enns, and Peter Neudorf is your usher. Later we will continue our summer series on the book of Job with a message from Ruth Enns entitled "God does not fit Man's measure." Please join us in the lounge after the service for coffee, and fellowship. *Parents with small children, please note arrangements have been made for child-minding on the second and last Sundays of each month, and you are invited to contact other parents in the service, or any member of the church board for more information.*

Last Sunday Andre Pekovich continued our series on Job by tackling the middle 16 chapters (from 15 - 31) noting that they are largely extensions of the previous arguments made in chapters 4 - 14. Each of the friends, Eliphaz, Bildad and Zophar has three opportunities to make arguments to Job, and Job denies them all, continually noting that his real argument is not with his friends, but with God, who he cannot find to make his case to. Though the friends argue for a "cause and effect" God as most other biblical literature speaks of, Andre noted that this book seems written to counter that view. That's not to say that Job himself does not believe in a "cause-and-effect" God; he expects that his faithfulness and righteousness will be repaid with God's loyalty and justice. Andre introduced Martin Buber's *I - Thou* distinction in our relationship with God, noting we tend to simplify the world in an *I - It* fashion, making other people, including God, simple machines that do work when properly requested. Buber insisted that the relationship between people or between God and man is more balanced, more *I - Thou*, and not based on cause and effect. This inspires humans to a deeper level of worship and faithfulness to God. Thus is God invited to return righteousness with his blessing, without expectation, always leaving room for choice and evil to deepen the bond. [AP]

PGIMF News

Upcoming speakers

August 29	Karl Brown	Job Series V - The Lord Speaks
September 5	Deb Cameron Fawkes	The Social Gospel of Tommy Douglas
September 12	J. Evan Kreider	MSC Student welcome service & BBQ
September 19	Connie Siedler	PGIMF 24 th Anniversary

PGIMF Fall Cleanup! Come out and polish up the centre on Saturday Aug. 29th at 9:00 with a continental breakfast and pizza lunch served at noon. Com polish up the centre for the new students who will arrive on Labour Day!

Summer coffee signup. Thank you to all the people who made this summer's coffee and fellowship following the services such a success. Please look for a new list of food groups and leaders as we approach the fall. There will be some changes.

The Wider Church

MBMSI Lewisa is one of the coordinators of the Sixth Abused Women's conference, August 21-25. Please pray that God will be at work in the women who will attend this event: to receive the gospel, to be open to sharing in community, to be equipped for healthy, loving family relationships. Pray that God will strengthen Lewisa in her leadership role.

RECORDING THE SERVICE


Please note that we now 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 continue to be not recorded.

Moderator—Don Teichroeb (604-221-8720); *Worship*—Henry Neufeld (604-946-3961);
Pastoral Care—Erika Hannan (604-325-5065); *Music*—Ruth Enns (604-987-7430)
Congregational Co-ordinator (bulletins)—Andre Pekovich (604-879-0007)

MCC Through its partnerships with Canadian Foodgrains Bank, MCC is responding to floods in Pakistan that have affected nearly 14 million people in that country. MCC will distribute food kits, relief kits and purchase tents. You can participate in this relief effort with a gift when you make your cheque out to MCC BC marked for "Pakistan Flood Relief". You can also make a donation when you call 604 850 6639 or 1 888 622 6337 or on line at mcc.org/donate

On August 29th from 2:00pm to 5:00pm Mennonite Japanese Christian Fellowship will be having a special 10th Anniversary celebration. There will be a worship service and pot-luck meal with a chance for people to share. We'd be happy for anyone who has the time to join us.

Gerald Neufeld
Mennonite Japanese Christian Fellowship

 Please join us for **an evening of sight singing** some of the newest inspirational music available with clinician Gerry Van Wyck at the Long & McQuade Sacred Choral Reading Session, Thursday August 26th from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm at Vancouver Community of Christ Church, 3333 Kaslo St. in Vancouver. To register for this **free** Sacred Reading Session, please RSVP Crystal Bergman at 604-734-4886

MEDA At this year's convention: "Unleashing Entrepreneurship", you are invited to join MEDA for 4 days of inspiration, information and networking in Calgary, AB during November 4-7, 2010. In a post-economic crisis world there is a great need for unleashing entrepreneurship - hence the theme for this year's MEDA's Business as a Calling convention, Unleashing Entrepreneurship, Nov. 4-7 in Calgary, AB. MEDA's annual convention holds appeal for those wishing to connect their faith with their work and those who support MEDA's mission of creating business solutions to poverty.

Who better to speak about the power of business to alleviate poverty than feature speaker Frank O'Dea, founder of Second Cup coffee chain, who brings the perspective of someone who transformed himself from a homeless panhandler to accomplished businessman. His ideas on leadership, entrepreneurship and his visionary thinking inspire. Also featuring David Miller, director of the Princeton University Faith & Work Initiative, pastor Jane Hooper Peifer on Unleashing the Spirit of God in the life of the entrepreneur, and MEDA president Allan Sauder with his Year in Review report. With a program of 30 seminars, participants can hear reports on the impact of MEDA's work in several countries, as well as presentations on a diverse mix of topics that are thought-provoking, inspiring and practical - whether you are an entrepreneur or professional, lay person or pastor.

Over the four days, convention go-ers also will discover new opportunities and ideas, make connections and realize possibilities, but have fun, too. Tours range from visits to the spectacular scenery of Banff and Lake Louise in Canada's Rocky Mountains to tours of local businesses, including a chocolate factory, or learning how to curl - a game sometimes referred to as "chess on ice." For more information or to register, call 1-800-665-7026 or go to www.businessasacalling.org

MCC Quilt Show and Demonstrations at the Clearbrook Public Library (32320 George Ferguson Way in Abbotsford) The show is open August 28-September 4th during library hours. Get a sneak preview of the quilts that will be up for auction at this year's Festival. Vote on your favourite quilt and watch the quilters at their craft. Admission is free and the show is open during library hours. Visit www.bc.mcc.org/getinvolved/quilt-shows-auction for more information!

TMSC One-day Retreat with Bonnie Thurston: *Living as Listeners with Hearts Attending* featuring prayer and talks on what Thomas Merton teaches us about the spiritual charism of listening. The retreat material will be drawn primarily from Thomas Merton's poetry especially the poem "In Silence" from *Thoughts in Solitude* and other works. The day will include short experiences of directed prayer, talks and opportunities for silent reflection. Cost: \$50 for TMSC members and \$55 for non-members (lunch included). Sat. Sept. 4, 2010, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm at St. Francis-in-the-Wood Anglican Church, 4773 S. Piccadilly Road, W. Van (*possibly the most beautiful setting for a church in the Lower Mainland - ed.*). Register with Susan Cowan at 604-669-2546.

MBMSI needs: A reliable vehicle is needed for a missionary candidate to use for 4 months (Sept 1-Dec 17) during MBMSI's Missionary Training. If you have a vehicle that you would be willing to loan out for this time, we would love to hear from you. Please call Linda Goerz at the MBMSI office - 604-859-6267. Thank you. *John Best, MBMS International Regional Coordinator*

Job 32: 1-22

Elihu Rebukes Job's Friends

¹ So these three men ceased to answer Job, because he was righteous in his own eyes. ² Then Elihu son of Barachel the Buzite, of the family of Ram, became angry. He was angry at Job because he justified himself rather than God; ³ he was angry also at Job's three friends because they had found no answer, though they had declared Job to be in the wrong. ⁴ Now Elihu had waited to speak to Job, because they were older than he. ⁵ But when Elihu saw that there was no answer in the mouths of these three men, he became angry.

⁶ Elihu son of Barachel the Buzite answered:

'I am young in years,
and you are aged;
therefore I was timid and afraid
to declare my opinion to you.

⁷ I said, "Let days speak,
and many years teach wisdom."

⁸ But truly it is the spirit in a mortal,
the breath of the Almighty,* that makes for
understanding.

⁹ It is not the old* that are wise,
nor the aged that understand what is right.

¹⁰ Therefore I say, "Listen to me;
let me also declare my opinion."

¹¹ 'See, I waited for your words,
I listened for your wise sayings,
while you searched out what to say.
¹² I gave you my attention,
but there was in fact no one that confuted Job,
no one among you that answered his words.
¹³ Yet do not say, "We have found wisdom;
God may vanquish him, not a human."
¹⁴ He has not directed his words against me,
and I will not answer him with your speeches.

¹⁵ 'They are dismayed, they answer no more;
they have not a word to say.

¹⁶ And am I to wait, because they do not speak,
because they stand there, and answer no more?

¹⁷ I also will give my answer;
I also will declare my opinion.

¹⁸ For I am full of words;
the spirit within me constrains me.

¹⁹ My heart is indeed like wine that has no vent;
like new wineskins, it is ready to burst.

²⁰ I must speak, so that I may find relief;
I must open my lips and answer.

²¹ I will not show partiality to any person
or use flattery towards anyone.

²² For I do not know how to flatter—
or my Maker would soon put an end to me! [NRSV]

Job 33: 8-30

⁸ 'Surely, you have spoken in my hearing,
and I have heard the sound of your words.

⁹ You say, "I am clean, without transgression;
I am pure, and there is no iniquity in me.

¹⁰ Look, he finds occasions against me,
he counts me as his enemy;

¹¹ he puts my feet in the stocks,
and watches all my paths."

¹² 'But in this you are not right. I will answer you:
God is greater than any mortal.

¹³ Why do you contend against him,
saying, "He will answer none of my* words"?

¹⁴ For God speaks in one way,
and in two, though people do not perceive it.

¹⁵ In a dream, in a vision of the night,
when deep sleep falls on mortals,
while they slumber on their beds,

¹⁶ then he opens their ears,
and terrifies them with warnings,

¹⁷ that he may turn them aside from their deeds,
and keep them from pride,

¹⁸ to spare their souls from the Pit,
their lives from traversing the River.

¹⁹ They are also chastened with pain upon their beds,
and with continual strife in their bones,

²⁰ so that their lives loathe bread,
and their appetites dainty food.

²¹ Their flesh is so wasted away that it cannot be seen;
and their bones, once invisible, now stick out.

²² Their souls draw near the Pit,
and their lives to those who bring death.

²³ Then, if there should be for one of them an angel,
a mediator, one of a thousand,

²⁴ one who declares a person upright,
and he is gracious to that person, and says,
"Deliver him from going down into the Pit;

I have found a ransom;
²⁵ let his flesh become fresh with youth;
let him return to the days of his youthful vigour”;
²⁶ then he prays to God, and is accepted by him,
he comes into his presence with joy,
and God repays him for his righteousness.
²⁷ That person sings to others and says,
“I sinned, and perverted what was right,

and it was not paid back to me.
²⁸ He has redeemed my soul from going down to the Pit,
and my life shall see the light.”
²⁹ ‘God indeed does all these things,
twice, three times, with mortals,
³⁰ to bring back their souls from the Pit,
so that they may see the light of life. [NRSV]

Job 36: 22 – 37: 24

²² *See, God is exalted in his power;
who is a teacher like him?*
²³ **Who has prescribed for him his way,
or who can say, “You have done wrong”?**
²⁴ *‘Remember to extol his work,
of which mortals have sung.*
²⁵ **All people have looked on it;
everyone watches it from far away.**
²⁶ *Surely God is great, and we do not know him;
the number of his years is unsearchable.*
²⁷ **For he draws up the drops of water;
he distils his mist in rain,
²⁸ which the skies pour down
and drop upon mortals abundantly.**
²⁹ **Can anyone understand the spreading of the
clouds,
the thunderings of his pavilion?**
³⁰ *See, he scatters his lightning around him
and covers the roots of the sea.*
³¹ **For by these he governs peoples;
he gives food in abundance.**
³² *He covers his hands with the lightning,
and commands it to strike the mark.*
³³ **Its crashing tells about him;
he is jealous with anger against iniquity.**

³⁷ *‘At this also my heart trembles,
and leaps out of its place.*
² **Listen, listen to the thunder of his voice
and the rumbling that comes from his mouth.**
³ *Under the whole heaven he lets it loose,
and his lightning to the corners of the earth.*
⁴ **After it his voice roars;
he thunders with his majestic voice
and he does not restrain the lightnings when his
voice is heard.**
⁵ *God thunders wondrously with his voice;
he does great things that we cannot comprehend.*
⁶ **For to the snow he says, “Fall on the earth”;
and the shower of rain, his heavy shower of rain,
⁷ serves as a sign on everyone’s hand,**

so that all whom he has made may know it.
⁸ **Then the animals go into their lairs
and remain in their dens.**
⁹ *From its chamber comes the whirlwind,
and cold from the scattering winds.*
¹⁰ **By the breath of God ice is given,
and the broad waters are frozen fast.**
¹¹ *He loads the thick cloud with moisture;
the clouds scatter his lightning.*
¹² **They turn round and round by his guidance,
to accomplish all that he commands them
on the face of the habitable world.**
¹³ *Whether for correction, or for his land,
or for love, he causes it to happen.*

¹⁴ **‘Hear this, O Job;
stop and consider the wondrous works of God.**
¹⁵ *Do you know how God lays his command upon them,
and causes the lightning of his cloud to shine?*
¹⁶ **Do you know the balancings of the clouds,
the wondrous works of the one whose knowledge is
perfect,
¹⁷ you whose garments are hot
when the earth is still because of the south wind?
¹⁸ **Can you, like him, spread out the skies,
unyielding as a cast mirror?**
¹⁹ *Teach us what we shall say to him;
we cannot draw up our case because of darkness.*
²⁰ **Should he be told that I want to speak?
Did anyone ever wish to be swallowed up?**
²¹ *Now, no one can look on the light
when it is bright in the skies,
when the wind has passed and cleared them.*
²² **Out of the north comes golden splendour;
around God is awesome majesty.**
²³ *The Almighty—we cannot find him;
he is great in power and justice,
and abundant righteousness he will not violate.*
²⁴ **Therefore mortals fear him;
he does not regard any who are wise in their own
conceit.’ [NRSV]****