

POINT GREY INTER-MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP

web site: www.pgimf.org E-mail; (redacted)

February 28th, 2010

2nd Sunday of Lent

Welcome to Point Grey Inter-Mennonite Fellowship. Our service this Sunday will be led by Andre Pekovich; we will be led in song by J. Evan Kreider, accompanied by Ruth Enns, and Henry Neufeld will be your usher. Later we will hear from Charis Weathers whose message is entitled "Where were you?" based on the passage John 11:17-37. Please join us in the dining room after the service for potluck lunch and fellowship - all are welcome and there is always plenty of food. *Parents with small children, please note that arrangements have been made for child-minding on the second and last Sundays of each month, and you are invited to contact any other parent in the service, or any member of the church board for more information.*

Last Sunday Last Sunday – the first Sunday of Lent - Evan Kreider spoke about the temptations of Jesus. They were temptations to lead a way of life not pleasing to God. Following his baptism and the announcement that he was the son of God, Jesus goes to the wilderness for 40 days, the same length of time Jewish patriarchs – like Moses - needed to complete something significant. The key question Jesus faced was "How are you going to shape this sonship?" He was tempted by magic (turning bread into stone), by success and wealth (all the kingdoms of the world), and by misuse of Scripture (throwing himself from the pinnacle of the temple). What are the temptations we face in our minds? Giving in to temptations can become a way of life and we can become blinded by the veils of rationalization. In our 40 days of Lent, will we dare to enter the wilderness of our minds and face our temptations? Jesus prayed: Lead us not into temptation. (HN)

PGIMF News

Upcoming speakers

March 7	Janice Kreider	Lent III
March 14	Barb Nickel	Lent IV
March 21	Dallas Michayluk	Lent V
March 28	Rosie Perera	Palm Sunday

The Wider Church

MBMSI Christoph & Antonia Haegele request prayer for the yearly gathering of seven churches in Siauliai, Lithuania on March 11th. They desire this meeting to be a day of encouragement and blessing, deepening of relationships and love for the Lord Jesus. Thank you Lord for several people who have been born again in their new church plant Alytus!

MCC The MCC BC Annual Winter Fundraising Banquets raised nearly \$50,000 for relief efforts in Haiti and MCC water projects around the world. Thank you to all the host churches, to the Watchmen Four who provided music, and to all those who gave for MCC's ministry done in the Name of Christ. You can still contribute to this worthwhile project at the upcoming March 20th benefit concert *Hope for Haiti* to be held at the Abbotsford Entertainment Centre - concerts, silent auction, information about MCC's work in Haiti and more. More information coming - visit bc.mcc.org

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)

West Point Grey Lenten Prayer Vigils The West Point Grey churches present an ecumenical Lenten Prayer vigil series on Wednesdays at noon for 1/2 hour, each week at a different church in West Point Grey and a different focus of prayer. Below is the schedule of services.

Mar 3 - noon Our Lady of Perpetual Help (Catholic), 2465 Crown St. *"Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink?" Matt. 20:22*
Mar 10 - noon WPG Baptist Church, 4509 W. 11 Ave. *The Cross Not Taken*
Mar 17 - noon WPG Presbyterian, 4397 W. 12th Ave. *The Work of KAIROS*
Mar 24 - noon Point Grey Inter-Mennonite Fellowship, 4000 W. 11th Ave. *Prayer for Haiti*
All welcome to attend any or all sessions.

Gallery 7 Theatre presents *The Diary of Anne Frank*, the dramatic story of a young Jewish girl hiding from Nazi tyranny in the occupied Netherlands. Runs March 5 & 6, 11 - 13, 18 - 20, 2010 @ 7:30 PM with discount matinees March 6 & 13 at 2:00 PM. MEI Theatre, 4081 Clearbrook Road. Tickets available at House of James: 604-852-3701. www.gallery7theatre.com.

Wed Mar 3 - 7 PM - MCC hosts Richard Twiss, a Lakota First Nation follower of Jesus who is on a journey to discover and practice what it means to be authentic to both of these identities. His book "One Church, Many Tribes" has been widely acclaimed by leaders across the Christian spectrum. Join us here at Peace Church for an evening with Richard that will include listening, dialogue and music. For more info contact Darryl Klassen toll free 1-888-622-6337 or email.

Call to worship

¹*How long, O Lord? Will you forget me for ever?*

How long will you hide your face from me?

²*How long must I bear pain in my soul,
and have sorrow in my heart all day long?*

How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?

³*Consider and answer me, O Lord my God!*

Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep the sleep of death,

⁴*and my enemy will say, 'I have prevailed';
my foes will rejoice because I am shaken.*

⁵*But I trusted in your steadfast love;
my heart shall rejoice in your salvation.*

**⁶I will sing to the Lord,
because he has dealt bountifully with me.**

Psalms 13 [NRSV]

2 Timothy 1:3-7

³ I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. ⁴Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. ⁵I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother

Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. ⁶For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; ⁷for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline. [NRSV]

2 Samuel 12:1; 11-23

But the thing that David had done displeased the Lord,¹ and the Lord sent Nathan to David.

[...]

¹¹Thus says the Lord: I will raise up trouble against you from within your own house; and I will take your wives before your eyes, and give them to your neighbour, and he shall lie with your wives in the sight of this very sun. ¹²For you did it secretly; but I will do this thing before all Israel, and before the sun.'

¹³David said to Nathan, 'I have sinned against the Lord.' Nathan said to David, 'Now the Lord has put away your sin; you shall not die. ¹⁴Nevertheless, because by this deed you have utterly scorned the Lord, the child that is born to you shall die.' ¹⁵Then Nathan went to his house.

The Lord struck the child that Uriah's wife bore to David, and it became very ill. ¹⁶David therefore pleaded with God for the child; David fasted, and went in and lay all night on the ground. ¹⁷The elders of his house stood beside him, urging him to rise from the

ground; but he would not, nor did he eat food with them. ¹⁸On the seventh day the child died. And the servants of David were afraid to tell him that the child was dead; for they said, 'While the child was still alive, we spoke to him, and he did not listen to us; how then can we tell him the child is dead? He may do himself some harm.' ¹⁹But when David saw that his servants were whispering together, he perceived that the child was dead; and David said to his servants, 'Is the child dead?' They said, 'He is dead.'

²⁰ Then David rose from the ground, washed, anointed himself, and changed his clothes. He went into the house of the Lord, and worshipped; he then went to his own house; and when he asked, they set food before him and he ate. ²¹Then his servants said to him, 'What is this thing that you have done? You fasted and wept for the child while it was alive; but when the child died, you rose and ate food.' ²²He said, 'While the child was still alive, I fasted and wept; for I said, "Who knows? The Lord may be gracious to me, and the child may live." ²³But now he is dead; why should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he will not return to me.' [NRSV]

John 11:17-37

¹⁷ When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. ¹⁸Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²²But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.' ²³Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' ²⁴Martha said to him, 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.' ²⁵Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' ²⁷She said to him, 'Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.'

²⁸ When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, 'The Teacher is here and is calling for you.' ²⁹And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³²When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' ³³When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴He said, 'Where have you laid him?' They said to him, 'Lord, come and see.' ³⁵Jesus began to weep. ³⁶So the Jews said, 'See how he loved him!' ³⁷But some of them said, 'Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?' [NRSV]

Spring and Fall

to a young child's sorrow, on the leaves falling in autumn

Margaret, are you grieving
Over Goldengrove unleaving?
Leaves, like the things of man, you
With your fresh thoughts care for, can you?
Ah! as the heart grows older
It will come to such sights colder
By & by, nor spare a sigh
Though worlds of wanwood leafmeal lie;
And yet you will weep & know why.
Now no matter, child, the name:
Sorrow's springs are the same.
Nor mouth had, no nor mind, expressed
What héart héard of, ghóst guéssed:
It is the blight man was born for,
It is Margaret you mourn for.

Gerard Manley Hopkins (1844-1889)