

POINT GREY INTER-MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP

Web site: www.pgimf.org

January 22nd, 2012

Welcome to Point Grey Inter-Mennonite Fellowship. Our service today will be led by Veronica Dyck; Andre Pekovich will lead us in song, Rosemary Bell will accompany at the piano, and Henry Neufeld is your usher. Later we will hear from Janice Kreider whose message is entitled *Paul's Five Guidelines* from the lectionary texts for today. Please join us in the lounge after 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 or any church board member for more information.*

Last Sunday Laura Eriksson focused on God's call to Samuel and on Jesus call to Nathaniel. Using the image of a film, Laura noted that a call comes in the context of a person's life, and sometimes we need to rewind the film to get the whole picture; a film has many frames. Samuel, a child living out his mother's promise, is called by God at a time when "the word of the Lord was rare." The child Samuel is called to bring a harsh message to his mentor, Eli. In Jesus time Nathaniel was skeptical about Philip's claim to have found the one of whom the prophets wrote. Philip told Nathaniel to "come and see." Jesus said he saw Nathaniel "under the fig tree" – a Jewish figure of speech – meaning he was studying the Torah. Samuel and Nathaniel are invited to participate in the work of God. Samuel and Nathaniel teach us to test the call, to make time to listen. We need each other to look through the lens of faith. Sometimes God's call gets drowned out by the white noise around us. (HN)

Potluck Lunch and Congregational Meeting

Please join us next Sunday for potluck lunch and good fellowship in our dining room (bring a dish to share with each other and with the students) and stay afterward for our congregational meeting.

PGIMF News

January 29

Spiritual Seasons - Winter

Connie Siedler

February 5

Lectionary texts

J. Evan Kreider

February 12

Lectionary Texts

Jon Nofziger

February 19

Veronica Dyck

☞ The Friday group will be meeting this Friday (Jan. 27) at FUMC's education building at 10:00 a.m. Please review the chapter on Gandhi in *Soul Survivor*.

Church Board meeting at 7:00 pm on Monday January 23rd at Hannans

The Wider Church

MB Mission Sandra Plett is serving in Guadalajara, Mexico. Pray for her health, that God would continue to fully heal and restore her, following several months of health issues. She has just returned to Mexico after some time in Canada. Pray for unity with her team, and wisdom to balance ministry demands.

Mennonite Church Canada Assembly 2012 Iris Leung (Chinese Grace Mennonite Church) co-chairs Hosting for July's MC-Canada Assembly to be held in Richmond. She seeks people to fill a number of positions and invites you to contact her to help. This event celebrates 75 years of the Conference in Canada and Vancouver churches are asked to welcome the nation in hospitality, food service, organization and prayer, treasury, and transportation and tours. Please let Iris know how you will help.

MCC-BC Follow MCC BC on Twitter. Join <https://twitter.com/#!/mccbctalk> and keep up-to-date with what is happening with Mennonite Central Committee BC.

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)

Regent College Come hear a special lecture by Preston Manning, now Senior Fellow of the Market Place Institute at Regent College, speaking on what a Christian faith perspective brings to such issues as rebooting the economy, conserving the environment, and the legal treatment of physician-assisted suicide. In his lecture entitled *Bringing Faith to Bear on the Public Issues of Our Time*. Everyone welcome to hear the lecture on Wednesday, January 25, in the chapel at Regent College, beginning at 7:00pm. Come early for a good seat! Note: this lecture will also be broadcast live over Regent Audio at www.regentaudio.com

Churchworks You are invited to the Churchworks Conference featuring 36 workshops presented by top-notch speakers from across Canada. The website and brochure features workshops and meetings to promote better ministry and good stewardship in a single day (February 29th 2012 at Columbia Bible College) and courses feature subjects such as promotions (including social media), accounting and labour relations in churches, active listening, liability and disaster planning, intergenerational communication, desktop vs. mobile, dispute resolution, managing challenging adult personalities in ministry, family law and the church, gospel tweet, abuse prevention and more. This one-day seminar is presented by the BC Conference of MB churches to better grow the ministry of the MB mission and has been eagerly adopted this year by the Mennonite Church BC conference. For more infoatmion or to register, see <http://churchworksconference.com/workshops>

Gathering 2012 is a time where the Mennonite Brethren family in Canada will gather together to enjoy fellowship, worship, and be inspired to move forward together to achieve our shared mission. You will hear the vision, ministry, and work of the conference. You are invited to attend the conference this summer in Winnipeg on Wednesday-Saturday July 11-14. Cost is \$139 plus accommodations, and you can register or find more about it at http://www.mbconf.ca/home/events_and_conferences/gatherings/.

MissionsFest Vancouver this year takes place January 27-29 at the Vancouver Convention Centre at Canada Place - free general admission , dozens of exhibitors, parade of nations, children's programs, service sessions, and worship sessions, and lots of concerts (tickets \$7 - \$10). All welcome.

What we do when we educate our kids to be happy and self-fulfilled is to absolutely ruin them. Parents should say to their kids, "What you want out of life is not happiness but to be part of a worthy adventure. You want to have something worth dying for." It's awful when all we have to live for is ourselves, that's what the Gospel reveals to us. The Good News tells of the adventure that humans have been made part of through God's grace.... (Stanley Hauerwas)

Jonah 3:1-10

¹The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time, saying, ²“Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.” ³So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days’ walk across. ⁴Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s walk. And he cried out, ‘Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!’ ⁵And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

⁶ When the news reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. ⁷Then he

had a proclamation made in Nineveh: ‘By the decree of the king and his nobles: No human being or animal, no herd or flock, shall taste anything. They shall not feed, nor shall they drink water. ⁸Human beings and animals shall be covered with sackcloth, and they shall cry mightily to God. All shall turn from their evil ways and from the violence that is in their hands. ⁹Who knows? God may relent and change his mind; he may turn from his fierce anger, so that we do not perish.’

¹⁰ When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it. [NRSV]

Psalm 62:5-12

⁵ For God alone my soul waits in silence,
for my hope is from him.
⁶ He alone is my rock and my salvation,
my fortress; I shall not be shaken.
⁷ On God rests my deliverance and my honour;
my mighty rock, my refuge is in God.

⁸ Trust in him at all times, O people;
pour out your heart before him;
God is a refuge for us.
Selah

⁹ Those of low estate are but a breath,
those of high estate are a delusion;
in the balances they go up;
they are together lighter than a breath.
¹⁰ Put no confidence in extortion,
and set no vain hopes on robbery;
if riches increase, do not set your heart on them.

¹¹ Once God has spoken;
twice have I heard this:
that power belongs to God,
¹² and steadfast love belongs to you, O Lord.
For you repay to all
according to their work. [NRSV]

1 Corinthians 7:29-31

²⁹ I mean, brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, ³⁰ and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no possessions, ³¹ and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away. [NRSV]

Mark 1:14-20

¹⁴ Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵ and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.'

¹⁶ As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake—for they were fishermen. ¹⁷ And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fish for people.' ¹⁸ And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹ As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰ Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him. [NRSV]

Call to worship

(Psalm 62: 5-12, Epiphany 3B 2012)

God of unfailing love, we gather to worship you.
Quietly and reverently, we come to worship you.

God of unshakable trust, we gather to worship you.
Quietly and honestly, we come to praise you.

God of eternal hope, we gather to worship you.
Quietly and confidently, we come to honour you;
God of unfailing love, you are our refuge and our home. Amen.