

POINT GREY INTER-MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP

web site: www.pgimf.org

July 4th, 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 Veronica Dyck, accompanied at the piano by Ruth Enns, and Edward Epp is your usher. Later we will hear from J. Evan Kreider whose theme is Belief and Discipleship, from 2 Kings 5:1-19 out of the lectionary this week. Please join us in the lounge after the service for coffee, and fellowship. *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 we acknowledged three recent graduates from our congregation and Don Teichroeb noted that graduation is seen as a rite of passage for the young. Don said life usually proceeds in small steps in life's journey and these steps lead to what seems like a major transition. The Elijah story raises the question of how one retires from a position of prominence as a major prophet. Elijah's retirement strategy was a chariot ride to heaven. In the Luke passage Jesus tells people to count the cost of following him and he hears excuses of future obligations, like burying one's still not deceased father. Having started on a path it is not always helpful to look to the past. The Galatians passage provides a list vices and virtues and Don noted the importance of focusing on the positive, on "love your neighbour as you love yourself." Life is full of many gradual steps (like graduation), count the cost, don't look back as you move forward, and focus on the positive. (HN)

PGIMF News

Upcoming speakers

July 11	Joseph Dutko	Pentecostalism
July 18	Janice Kreider	Lectionary texts
July 25	Erna Friesen	Lectionary texts
August 1	Kevin Hiebert	Job Series I - Job is tested (Ch 1-3)

Summer coffee signup. Thank you to all the food groups who made this year's coffee and fellowship following the services such a success. Please help us carry it on informally through the summer, and see the coffee signup list at the back of the church.



Andrea is looking for help in her garden. Any gardeners with the desire and muscles to help can please contact her to help between 9:30 and 4:00 on days from July 5-8 and July 12-15 (that's Monday to Thursday of those two weeks). All help gratefully received. Please contact Andrea at (e-mail address) for more info.

A moving erratum

Travis Martin has a new address, and his phone number was incorrectly printed the first time. His new address is: (available from the webmaster)

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)

The Wider Church

MBMSI Jim & Francine invite us to be in prayer for the people of L Town that the Holy Spirit would be poured out on them and they would come to believe. Many seeds have been sown and now they are watching for growth. Pray that Jim & Francine would be attentive to the Spirit's leading as they share their hope in Jesus.

MCC Now that the HST is in effect, you no longer pay taxes on any purchases at an MCC Thrift Shop. All MCC Thrift Shops support MCC's worldwide ministry, and in BC last year, made \$1.4 million, and are on target to make \$1.6 million this year. Given that the average price of an item at an MCC Thrift Shops is about \$2.50, this is excellent business.

Regent College Free Public Lectures You are invited to attend the next series of public lectures at Regent College which continues with **Mark Buchanan** on *Your Church is Too Safe: Becoming Those Who Turn the World Upside Down* Monday, July 5th at 8:00pm in the chapel at Regent College. You can also hear **Marilyn McEntyre & Jeanne Murray Walker** with a special presentation of *An Evening of Poetry* on Wednesday, July 7th at 8:00pm. Come early for a good seat as they fill rapidly.

Immeasurably More *Artists and the Church: Exploring New Models of Patronage* with Mako Fujimura (International Arts Movement, New York, NY) and Angie & Todd Fadel (The Bridge Christian Church, Portland, OR), Dal Schindell (Regent College, Vancouver, B.C.) and others. Friday, July 16 - 7:00 PM at Fairview Presbyterian Church, 2725 Fir Street, Vancouver. More info at: <http://prayerbookproject.blogs.com/prayerbook/2010/06/immeasurably-more.html>

Christmas can [still] change the world! Advent Conspiracy is a resource to encourage churches to engage more fully in Christmas. It calls us to "Worship Fully, Spend Less, Give More, and Love All" throughout Advent season. This is an opportunity for local churches to practice more radical discipleship. Together with this MB initiative, you are invited to join the Conspiracy. For more, see www.mbconf.ca/adventconspiracy.

MDS Update Current needs: June 21 - July 31: Skilled Crew Leaders - New Orleans July - Aug.: Plumber and Electrician needed for new house build in Diamond, LA. If you are interested in a volunteer opportunity please call (800) 241-8111 in the U.S. or (866) 261-1274 in Canada. Project update: American Samoa 2009 Tsunami. *This week was spent building the exterior walls on Maria and Sio's house in Asili. On Monday and Tuesday we had help from the Southern Baptist crew which was valuable for getting us "off the ground" with the walls. They had one or two on their crew who were very good at laying up concrete blocks. The rest of the week it was the MDS crew along with the family members who have been working steadily with us. We were able to complete the exterior blocks including wood window and door frames, and next week can get on with the upper concrete "bond beam" on which the roof structure will sit. We also will do the interior block walls.*

The **Third Annual MCBC Motorcycle Ride** is being planned for August 14 & 15 over the Duffey Lake Road, the popular consensus of the attenders at the 2009 Vancouver Island ride. Please join Garry Janzen and other motorcycle lovers on this fun two-day event. Contact Garry at (available from webmaster)

Past MSC resident and PGIMF attender Al(vin) Rempel has recently had his first book of poetry published, called "understories", through Caitlin Press. Al will be doing four readings in Vancouver July 8th - 11th. He has been published in a variety of journals & anthologies, including "Half in the Sun", an anthology of BC Mennonite writers. Come hear him at:

- Joy Kogawa house, 1450 W. 64th Ave, with readers Daniela Elza, Al Rempel & Onjana Yawnghwe. Thursday July 8th at 7:30 pm, admission by donation, limited seating, RSVP to (available from webmaster)
- Take 5 Café, 429 Granville St. at W. Hastings in concert with other readers attending The Writer's Studio, Al Rempel featured reader. Friday, July 9th at 7:30pm
- The Wired Monk, 2610 West 4th Ave featuring readers Fiona Lam, Daniela Elza & Al Rempel. Saturday, July 10th, 7:00 pm. Free event, live music might follow. ☺
- Montmarte Café, 4362 Main St., featuring readers Kate Braid, Daniela Elza, Al Rempel & Clyde Reed (on bass). Sunday, July 11, 7:00pm

II Kings 5: 1-19a

The Healing of Naaman

¹Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favour with his master, because by him the Lord had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from leprosy. ²Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. ³She said to her mistress, 'If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy.' ⁴So Naaman went in and told his lord just what the girl from the land of Israel had said. ⁵And the king of Aram said, 'Go then, and I will send along a letter to the king of Israel.'

He went, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten sets of garments. ⁶He brought the letter to the king of Israel, which read, 'When this letter reaches you, know that I have sent to you my servant Naaman, that you may cure him of his leprosy.' ⁷When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, 'Am I God, to give death or life, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his leprosy? Just look and see how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me.'

⁸ But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king, 'Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn that there is a prophet in Israel.' ⁹So Naaman came with his horses and chariots, and halted at the entrance of Elisha's house. ¹⁰Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, 'Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored and you shall be clean.' ¹¹But Naaman

became angry and went away, saying, 'I thought that for me he would surely come out, and stand and call on the name of the Lord his God, and would wave his hand over the spot, and cure the leprosy! ¹²Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them, and be clean?' He turned and went away in a rage. ¹³But his servants approached and said to him, 'Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, "Wash, and be clean"?' ¹⁴So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean.

¹⁵ Then he returned to the man of God, he and all his company; he came and stood before him and said, 'Now I know that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel; please accept a present from your servant.' ¹⁶But he said, 'As the Lord lives, whom I serve, I will accept nothing!' He urged him to accept, but he refused. ¹⁷Then Naaman said, 'If not, please let two mule-loads of earth be given to your servant; for your servant will no longer offer burnt-offering or sacrifice to any god except the Lord. ¹⁸But may the Lord pardon your servant on one count: when my master goes into the house of Rimmon to worship there, leaning on my arm, and I bow down in the house of Rimmon, when I do bow down in the house of Rimmon, may the Lord pardon your servant on this one count.' ¹⁹He said to him, 'Go in peace.'

[NRSV]

Galatians 6:7-10

⁶ Those who are taught the word must share in all good things with their teacher.

⁷ Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. ⁸If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh; but if

you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit. ⁹So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. ¹⁰So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith. [NRSV]

Psalm 30

*Thanksgiving for Recovery from Grave Illness
A Psalm. A Song at the dedication of the temple. Of
David.*

¹ I will extol you, O Lord, for you have drawn me up,
and did not let my foes rejoice over me.

² O Lord my God, I cried to you for help,
and you have healed me.

³ O Lord, you brought up my soul from Sheol,
restored me to life from among those gone down to
the Pit.

⁴ Sing praises to the Lord, O you his faithful ones,
and give thanks to his holy name.

⁵ For his anger is but for a moment;
his favour is for a lifetime.

Weeping may linger for the night,
but joy comes with the morning.

⁶ As for me, I said in my prosperity,
'I shall never be moved.'

⁷ By your favour, O Lord,
you had established me as a strong mountain;
you hid your face;
I was dismayed.

⁸ To you, O Lord, I cried,
and to the Lord I made supplication:

⁹ 'What profit is there in my death,
if I go down to the Pit?

Will the dust praise you?

Will it tell of your faithfulness?

¹⁰ Hear, O Lord, and be gracious to me!
O Lord, be my helper!'

¹¹ You have turned my mourning into dancing;
you have taken off my sackcloth
and clothed me with joy,

¹² so that my soul may praise you and not be silent.
O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you for ever.

[NRSV]