

POINT GREY INTER-MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP

web site: www.pgimf.org

July 1th, 2010

Welcome to Point Grey Inter-Mennonite Fellowship. Our service this Sunday will be led by Travis Martin, we will be led in song by Evan Kreider, accompanied at the piano by Ruth Enns, and Ike Sawatsky is your usher. Later we will hear from Joseph Dutko who returns to us bearing a message on *Pentecostalism: From the Ghetto to the World*, keeping in mind Jer. 6:16. 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 Evan Kreider, speaking on the lectionary passage 2 Ki 5:1-19, began with the history of the state of war that existed between Aram and Judah. These long-standing and devastating wars, made the arrival of Naaman at Ahab's (?) court for healing a suspected ruse for another war. However, Elisha, reassures the king that God is still in charge, and Naaman is sent to him. Seemingly snubbing him, Elisha's servant is sent with directions for healing. As a skeptical and angry Naaman is healed by God (and not Elisha), Naaman is converted to Jahweh's rule; and asks two interesting gifts of God - soil to worship God on, and permission to continue a pagan practice. Elisha blesses both requests with "Go in peace." Evan notes several things; that Elisha saw Naaman as a human being with leprosy, not a general to be feared; that God continues His work not through the kings, but through small people - the Jewish slave girl who advises Naaman to go to Elisha, the servant who encourages obedience. Third - God's healing was a gift, without conditions, not even to give up warring against the Jewish people. Jews, hearing this story, might well wonder why this gift was bestowed without circumcision or dietary requirements, not to mention acceptance of Naaman's duty in bowing to a foreign idol. Evan commemorated J. Lawrence Burkholder's recent passing a few days ago, a former colleague of Evan's father's in Goshen. Burkholder noted that radical Anabaptist dissent doesn't always work in the secular world as people are forced to make what he called "tragic decisions". As with Naaman's duty, the ambiguous nature of the secular world requires compromise. Are there two standards - one for Jews, the other for converts? St. Paul seemed to think so, in that his new Greek converts were not required to observe Jewish practice gain faith in the risen Christ. Evan's Amish forebears' desire to obey God was compromised by the demands of society and interpretation. Evan suggests, in our struggle to remain relevant in the modern world, we keep in mind the tension between the fresh, new faith of Naaman and wisdom of Elisha, and hope for God's blessing on us all. [AP]

PGIMF News

Upcoming speakers

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)
August 8	TBA	Transfiguration Sunday

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.

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)

A moving erratum

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

✿ 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 (Available from webmaster) for more info.

The Wider Church

MBMSI John Ervin's ministry is telling the story of God at work through the lens of a camera and the sound track of word and music. Pray for John as he plans new projects for the coming year. John's work often takes him away from home, traveling for extended periods of time or sitting behind a computer. Please pray for John and his wife Geri as they generously give of their gifts and energies to bring glory to God.

MCC July 6-August 12, Tuesdays and Thursdays 10am-1 pm: MCC BC Summer Open House. Come join us at the Material Resources Centre where you'll learn more about the programs, help pack kits, bale blankets, sort clothes and more! Everyone welcome (children 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult) For more details call Dennis at 604 850 6639, toll free at 1 888 622 6337.

Regent College Free Public Lectures You are invited to attend this series of public lectures at Regent College which continues with **Jeremy Begbie** on *Re-timed by God: What Musical Rhythm Can Tell Us About Worship*, July 12th at 8:00pm in the chapel at Regent College. You can also hear **Simon Gathercole** speaking on *Who were the Gnostics?* on Wednesday, July 14th at 8:00pm. Come early for a good seat.

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 the Montmartre Café, 4362 Main St., featuring readers Kate Braid, Daniela Elza, Al Rempel & Clyde Reed (on bass) tonight at 7:00pm

Mennonite Disaster Service Summer is well underway and with it has come extreme weather across Canada. Please pray for all involved in responding to the needs in these provinces and for those being affected by rain and wind damaging crops and property, including:

- Saskatchewan MDS board and volunteers began a summer youth project July 3 in Simmie SK building a lodge for Rock Solid Refuge, a ministry for troubled teen boys. Volunteers did cleanup the last days of June in Maple Creek following major flooding there.
- Alberta MDS volunteers continue to bring clean up crews to Medicine Hat area to clean up after flooding there mid June.
- Manitoba volunteers cleaned up 37 flooded basements in Emerson early June.
- Ontario MDS board and volunteers have investigated tornado damage (Midland and Leamington) and cleaned up Leamington area properties in conjunction with Samaritan's Purse. Now they are enduring a heat wave which can be dangerous to the elderly and sick.
- Continue to pray for the people in the USA Gulf Coast who worry about hurricanes while watching the oil spill grow across the waters that feed them. Their shrimp boats are quietly moored as they try not to think about what will happen in the future with their livelihoods and with the ecosystem.

Jeremiah 6:16

¹⁶ Thus says the Lord:
Stand at the crossroads, and look,
and ask for the ancient paths,
where the good way lies; and walk in it,
and find rest for your souls.
But they said, 'We will not walk in it.'

Acts 2:1-21

The Coming of the Holy Spirit

¹When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. ²And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

⁵ Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷Amazed and astonished, they asked, ‘Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?’ ⁸And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? ⁹Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.’ ¹²All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, ‘What does this mean?’ ¹³But others sneered and said, ‘They are filled with new wine.’

Peter Addresses the Crowd

¹⁴ But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: ‘Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. ¹⁵Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. ¹⁶No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

¹⁷ “In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.

¹⁸ Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy.

¹⁹ And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

²⁰ The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood,

before the coming of the Lord’s great and glorious day.

²¹ Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.” [NRSV]

Call to worship

Leader: Spirit of the living God, visit us again on this day.

All: Come, Holy Spirit.

Leader: With rushing wind that sweeps away all barriers,

All: Come, Holy Spirit.

Leader: With tongues of fire that set our hearts aflame,

All: Come, Holy Spirit.

Leader: With speech that unites the Babel of our tongues,

All: Come, Holy Spirit.

Leader: With love that overlaps the boundaries of race and nation,

All: Come, Holy Spirit.

Leader: With power from above to make our weakness strong,

All: Come, Holy Spirit.