

POINT GREY INTER-MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP

web site: www.pgimf.org

July 25th, 2010

Welcome to Point Grey Inter-Mennonite Fellowship. Our service this Sunday will be led by Henry Neufeld, we will be led in song by Eric Hannan, accompanied at the piano by Andre Pekovich, and Erika Hannan is your usher. Later we will hear a message from Erna Friesen, whose message discusses Unfaithfulness and Compassion. 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 Evan Kreider spoke about Amos, a poor farmer who was called by God to be a prophet. After two years in the northern kingdom of Israel, he returned to his farm in the southern kingdom. The northern kingdom, under king Jeroboam, had become wealthy and was at a political and economic high point. King Jeroboam believed that worshipping God was all that God required. Using the image of a plumb line, Amos pointed out that things were out of kilter, that people trusted the king rather than God. Amos pointed out that true faith involves right living and creating a just society. Amos wanted economic justice. Amos saw morals becoming lax and money reaching only those who already had money. Amos did not like what he saw when church and state were closely aligned – this would cause trouble for the church. Amos’s words were not welcome and he was told to go home, but he said he was driven by God to do this prophetic thing. The response time discussion included comments about problems of prosperity, tithing was partially intended to support the poor, gambling expansion in BC, charitable giving, and the benefits of our government’s “social safety net.” (HN)

Two Sundays Ago Joseph Dutko returned to speak to the church on Pentecostalism - from the Ghetto to the World. Despite various fanciful representations of Pentecostals as “holy rollers” or people who handle snakes, this tradition goes back to the turn of the twentieth century with an emphasis on 1st century living. This is no fringe group - one respected authority notes that Pentecostalism has had a greater impact on Christianity than the Reformation. Globally, about ½ billion people are Pentecostal or Charismatic, and Philip Jenkins notes much of its growth since the Second World War trends away from Euro-American Christianity and toward a Southern hemisphere expression. All branches originate with the theology of Charles Parham who, in a Topeka, Ks, bible school in 1901 taught that glossalalia evidenced presence of the Holy Spirit, and his student, freed slave William Seymour founded the Azusa St revival in 1906 in LA. The movement gained strength as others flocked to the church of “heavenly tongues” Various schisms have divided the church along theological lines, including a Canadian branch, the 1919 Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada with Mennonite George A. Chambers as the first leader of the church. Pentecostal theology stands primarily on baptising in the holy spirit, gifts bestowed include tongues, bodily healing, and eschatology - belief in the return of Christ as the end of time. Joseph insists many ties bind Mennonites and Pentecostals - both saw themselves as standing outside ordinary society, pressures to conform are common to both, and the blood of Christ has washed away not only the colour barrier, but also the gender barrier. Though the pacifist stance has become a matter of personal choice in Pentecostalism, its underpinning and rejection of nationalism still echo for Mennonites. A lively response time indicated a desire for open dialogue between the two traditions. [AP]

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)

PGIMF News

Upcoming speakers

August 1	Kevin Hiebert	Job Series I - Job is tested (Ch 1-3)
August 8	Henry Neufeld	Transfiguration Sunday
August 15	Andre Pekovich	Job Series III - It's not my fault!
August 22	TBA	

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.

The Wider Church

MBMSI Melvin & Gudrun Warkentin are celebrating the 33 students enrolled at the Indian Bible Institute in Yalva Sanga. The students are eager to grow in their knowledge of God and the Word. Pray for the Warkentin's as they help the students discern God's will for their lives. Last December the Warkentins were ordained after 25 years of missionary service in Paraguay. Praise God for their faithful service.

MCC After a successful cycle-athon event last year, another "Pedaling for Hope" fundraising ride will be part of the 2010 MCC Festival, Auction and Relief Sale. The funds raised will support MCC water projects in Africa. To learn more visit bc.mcc.org/ride. To register, call the office at 604 850 6639 or 1 888 622 6337. All levels of riders are welcome. Plan now to Pedal for Hope at 8:30 a.m. on September 11. See you there!

Regent College Free Public Lectures You are invited to join the summer lecture series and hear some excellent speakers as the series continues with **David Skeel** speaking on *The Sermon on the Mount for Lawyers and Other Sinners* on Monday, July 16th at 8:00pm. On Wednesday, you can also hear **Mako Fujimura** musing on *Soliloquies: Rouault & Fujimura* on Wednesday, July 28th at 8:00pm. All lectures are very popular, so come early for a good seat.

MCC August 28-September 4th: MCC Quilt Show and Demonstrations at the Clearbrook Public Library (32320 George Ferguson Way in Abbotsford) The show is open 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.

Regent College is looking for friendly Vancouverites to provide up to one week of free housing for incoming students while they search for permanent housing in August. Meals are not expected (but welcome nonetheless!). This is also a great solution for people going out of town and in need of a house-sitter. For more information, please call Cheryl at 604-221-3355. Thank you!

MCC Penny Power: Working together for global change! Join the annual coin drive and help raise \$50,000 for sand dam projects in Kenya. Every penny is matched 4 to 1 by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) through the Canadian Foodgrains Bank. To find out about sand dams or for more information about Penny Power call Ruth at 604-850-6639 or 1-888-622-6337 or visit www.bc.mcc.org/pennypower.

When you're young, faith is often a matter of rules. What you should do and shouldn't do, that kind of thing. But as you get older, you realize that faith is really a matter of relationship - with God, with the people around you, with members of your community. (Rhoda Janzen in *Mennonite in a Little Black Dress*.)

Psalm 85

*Prayer for the Restoration of God's Favour
To the leader. Of the Korahites. A Psalm.*

¹ Lord, you were favourable to your land;
you restored the fortunes of Jacob.
² You forgave the iniquity of your people;
you pardoned all their sin.
Selah
³ You withdrew all your wrath;
you turned from your hot anger.

⁴ Restore us again, O God of our salvation,
and put away your indignation towards us.
⁵ Will you be angry with us for ever?
Will you prolong your anger to all generations?
⁶ Will you not revive us again,
so that your people may rejoice in you?
⁷ Show us your steadfast love, O Lord,
and grant us your salvation.

⁸ Let me hear what God the Lord will speak,
for he will speak peace to his people,
to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their
hearts.
⁹ Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear
him,
that his glory may dwell in our land.

¹⁰ Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;
righteousness and peace will kiss each other.
¹¹ Faithfulness will spring up from the ground,
and righteousness will look down from the sky.
¹² The Lord will give what is good,
and our land will yield its increase.
¹³ Righteousness will go before him,
and will make a path for his steps. [NRSV]

Hosea 1: 2 – 10 and 2:1

¹The word of the Lord that came to Hosea son of
Beeri, in the days of Kings Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz,
and Hezekiah of Judah, and in the days of King
Jeroboam son of Joash of Israel.

² When the Lord first spoke through Hosea, the Lord
said to Hosea, 'Go, take for yourself a wife of
whoredom and have children of whoredom, for the
land commits great whoredom by forsaking the
Lord.' ³So he went and took Gomer daughter of
Diblain, and she conceived and bore him a son.

⁴ And the Lord said to him, 'Name him Jezreel; for in
a little while I will punish the house of Jehu for the
blood of Jezreel, and I will put an end to the
kingdom of the house of Israel. ⁵On that day I will
break the bow of Israel in the valley of Jezreel.'

⁶ She conceived again and bore a daughter. Then the
Lord said to him, 'Name her Lo-ruhamah, for I will
no longer have pity on the house of Israel or forgive
them. ⁷But I will have pity on the house of Judah,
and I will save them by the Lord their God; I will not

save them by bow, or by sword, or by war, or by
horses, or by horsemen.'

⁸ When she had weaned Lo-ruhamah, she conceived
and bore a son. ⁹Then the Lord said, 'Name him
Lo-ammi, for you are not my people and I am not
your God.'
The Restoration of Israel

¹⁰ Yet the number of the people of Israel shall be like
the sand of the sea, which can be neither measured
nor numbered; and in the place where it was said to
them, 'You are not my people', it shall be said to
them, 'Children of the living God.' ¹¹The people of
Judah and the people of Israel shall be gathered
together, and they shall appoint for themselves one
head; and they shall take possession of the land, for
great shall be the day of Jezreel.

2 ¹Say to your brother, Ammi, and to your sister,
Ruhamah. [NRSV]

Colossians 2: 6 - 15

⁶ As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, ⁷rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

⁸ See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. ⁹For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, ¹⁰and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. ¹¹In him also you were circumcised

with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; ¹²when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. ¹³And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, ¹⁴erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it. [NRSV]