

POINT GREY INTER-MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP

web site: www.pgimf.org E-mail: info@pgimf.org

April 23, 2006
First Sunday after Easter

Today: Welcome to Point Grey Inter-Mennonite Fellowship. This morning, our service will be led by Janice Kreider, Andre Pekovich will lead us in song, Ruth Enns will be accompanying on the piano and Erika Hannan is your usher. Later we will hear from Vange Thiessen who will be speaking on the theme of 'turning to one another' utilizing the texts from the lectionary. Children are welcome to join the primaries in the nursery or our teachers in the Sunday School classes as they are available. Please join us after the service for coffee and fellowship in the lounge.

Last Sunday Our service was graced one last time by a recitation of the final chapters of the Gospel of Mark by Adria Vizzi Holub. We are reminded through these living performances that these gospels are not dead words, but the living Word, and speak to us best when someone speaks them to us, as Adria did. Though we know Adria has tremendously enjoyed this difficult task, we are nonetheless appreciative for it. You are encouraged to ask her about how she did it and any other questions you might have.

PGIMF News:

Please join us for pre-service hymn singing at 9:45 as we work our way through the book from 1 to 658.

Upcoming speakers

April 30	Elsie Wiebe	-
May 7	Rovin Karuna	-
May 14	Henry Hildebrand	-
May 21	Evan Kreider	-

✓**Clean Up at Menno Simons** Just a reminder that the clean up day at Menno Simons Centre is next Saturday, April 29th from 9:00 am til whenever, with a break for pizza lunch at noon. Please come and help clean out the fridges and scrub the cobwebs from the building. Lots to do outside for those of you who want to as well! See Kris & Kathryn or Andre for more information.

AGM Just a reminder that next Sunday after the service will be the Annual General Meeting for PGIMF. All are welcome to discuss the budget, say thanks to former church officers and welcome new ones. Pizza lunch will be served in the lounge before the meeting and after the service.

☺ Everyone at PGIMF wishes to extend their great thanks to Jeff Schultz and Carmen Dyck for the Taize services they created and led. Despite scheduling conflicts, they were able to provide a worshipful time for all in the chapel at the Menno Simons Centre, to introduce to us another form of worship we do not often utilize. The greatest thanks go out to them from us all.

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);
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New phone numbers Several people have new phone numbers. You can reach

Rovin Karuna	at	apply to webmaster
Wendy and Michael Epp	at	apply to webmaster
and Shannon Lythgoe	at	apply to webmaster

Please update your church lists

PGIMF Church Retreat You are invited to attend the annual PGIMF Church Retreat scheduled for May 26-28 (Friday evening til Sunday afternoon) at Camp Luther. The theme this year is “Whatever the Question, Community is the Answer.” The cost for the retreat is \$114 per person for the weekend, and \$60 per child (age 3-15 years and includes all lodging and meals. As is our custom, PGIMF will cover the cost of the retreat for those who are not able to contribute the full (or any) amount, and you are requested to make sure the cost is not a barrier to your attendance. We really want to see you there! Please e-mail Kris Schmidt at [and let him know if you plan](#) to attend for the whole weekend, what sleeping arrangements you require, and how the church can help. Deadline for signup is May 15th. Last year was a wonderful time with a balance of rest, play, fellowship and instruction, and this year should be more of the

PGIMF Church Board Just a reminder of the meeting of the PGIMF church board on Tuesday April 25th at 7:00 pm at Veronica's place.

Mieka Yong is born entered the world April 19th in the morning just hours before Heather and the girls were to fly to Seattle. The surprise birth was one month early, and the parents give thanks that the airline staff were not required to be midwives at the birth. Heather and Mieka (6/2oz) are home and healthy, and will now fly May 18th to give Mieka's lungs a chance to develop. See the bulletin board at the back for pictures and more text.

The Wider Church

MBMSI “APOSTLES” TO ASIA. Today as you pray for Robert and Marlene, MBMS International missionaries in Asia, ask God to encourage their hearts as they partner with Alpha Communities, serving in Health and Family Education and Community Development. Pray for chances to share Christ, and for a cover of God's protection for this family working in a Restricted Access country.

✓ You are invited to join in a workshop to learn about the new **MPH Sunday School curriculum** called "Gather 'Round". It will be presented by Monika Neufeld and Elsie Rempel, hosted by Sherbrooke Mennonite on May 8th from 7:30 to 9:30pm. This is for all people who are involved in the lives of our children; Sunday School staff, parents, pastors, caregivers, music leaders, and anyone else interested. Please order your Sample Kits before the workshop. For more information contact: Monika Neufeld Tel.# 604-504-7487
e-mail [or](#) . _____

CMU Chamber Choir in concert this Saturday, April 29, 7 p.m., in the sanctuary of Emmanuel Mennonite Church, Abbotsford. Everyone is welcome to attend this concert! It is free, and an offering for CMU will be taken.

MCC SCS invites you to our annual Spring Fundraising event - a Dessert evening this year featuring Brian Doerksen, Thursday, May 4, 7:00 p.m. at Bakerview Church in the Multipurpose Hall. Tickets are \$15.00 per person and are available at the MCC SCS office, #103-2776 Bourquin Crescent, Abbotsford BC, and House of James, 2743 Emerson Street. Ph: 604.850.6608 for more information.

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MCC-supported clinic in Nigeria is destroyed by fire

Faith Alive Clinic, a free HIV/AIDS clinic supported by Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) in Jos, Nigeria, was destroyed by a fire in the early morning hours of April 13. No people were harmed in the fire, but everything in the clinic's main building was destroyed, including its pharmacy, medical equipment and computers. The clinic's antiretroviral drugs survived the fire.

Faith Alive Clinic is among the best of MCC's HIV/AIDS partner organizations. Drs. Chris and Mercy Isichei have dedicated their lives to serving those who cannot afford treatment for this devastating disease," Schafran said. "As an encouragement to the Isichei's, I hope that MCC's partners will stand behind the Faith Alive clinic with their prayers and financial support at this critical time."

MCC is providing \$12,700 to Faith Alive Clinic for immediate needs after the fire. MCC is also providing the clinic with 12,000 HIV test kits to replace kits that were destroyed. Faith Alive Clinic provides free medical care to thousands of HIV/AIDS patients in Jos, a city of about 800,000 in central Nigeria. It is a Christian organization and is staffed largely by volunteers, including physicians, counselors and people with HIV/AIDS.

MCC provides \$59,000 in annual support for Faith Alive Clinic. MCC is appealing to its constituents for additional funds to help Faith Alive Clinic recover from the fire. The exact amount needed is yet to be determined. For updates on this story, including a photo gallery of the fire, and for more information about MCC's work in Nigeria, visit www.mcc.org. Those wishing to contribute to this project can make cheques out to MCC BC, designated for the *Nigeria Faith Alive Clinic*, and mail them to MCC BC Box 2038 Abbotsford, BC V2T 3T8. Credit card donations can also be made by phoning (604) 850 6639 or 1 888 622 6337 or when you visit: www.mcc.org/donate

Contact: Phil Schafran, Director of Resource Development (604) 850-6639, 1-888-622-6337, or _____

More information and photos on the bulletin board at the back

St. John's Shaughnessy Evening services 7:15 pm Contemporary Evening Service Sunday School is provided for children and youth at the 9 and 11 am services. At the Evening Service, Holy Communion is served on the last Sunday of each month.

Pacific Theatre presents *A Bright Particular Star* by playwright Ron Reed, May 4 - June 3. Victorian social mores forbid Lilia MacDonald from following her theatrical passions, but will they stop her? World-renowned author George MacDonald and family—Victorian hippies of a sort—take their homemade stage productions on tour across Europe. His daughter Lilia is swept up by the exhilaration of a life in the theatre—spurred on by family friends Mark Twain, Lewis Carroll and even London stage luminary Kate Terry. But faced with competing family expectations, blossoming romance, and an urge to serve London's poor, can Lilia justify so frivolous a passion? Wednesdays-Saturdays 8pm | Saturday matinees 2pm | Preview May 4, 8pm (tickets only \$10) Opening May 5, 8pm | Talk Back Night – discussion with artists Friday, May 12 All performances at Pacific Theatre 1420 W 12th Ave (at Hemlock St), Vancouver

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Psalm 133

A Song of Ascents.

¹How very good and pleasant it is
when kindred live together in unity!
²It is like the precious oil on the head,
running down upon the beard,
on the beard of Aaron,

running down over the collar of his robes.
³It is like the dew of Hermon,
which falls on the mountains of Zion.
For there the Lord ordained his blessing,
life for evermore.

John 20:19-31

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.'
²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.'
²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails

and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'

²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.'
²⁷Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.'
²⁸Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!'
²⁹Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

I John 1:1-4

¹We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— ²this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was

revealed to us— ³we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete

Acts 4: 32-35

³² Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. ³³With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all.

³⁴There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. ³⁵They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

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