

POINT GREY INTER-MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP

web site: www.pgimf.org

January 2nd, 2011

Welcome to Point Grey Inter-Mennonite Fellowship. Our service will be led by Sven Eriksson, we will be led in song by Erna Friesen, accompanied at the piano by Rosemary Bell, and Edward Epp is your usher. Later we will be hearing from Henry Neufeld who will be speaking to us on Hope. Please join us afterward in the lounge 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 Our annual Christmas service of carols and prayers from a text and arrangement composed by J. Evan Kreider was artfully arranged and enjoyably delivered by Diane Ehling

PGIMF News

January 9	Gareth Brandt	The Baptism of Our Lord
January 16	Kevin Hiebert	Lectionary texts
January 23	J. Evan Kreider	Lectionary texts
January 30	TBA	

☞ This Friday, January 7, at 10:30 a.m. Eldo Neufeld will be sharing stories from his life at the Friday group at United First Mennonite Church's education building. FUMC is located at 659 East 52nd Ave. about half a block west of Fraser St. The education building is behind the church and there's a parking lot between the church and the education building. All are welcome.

☺ Heidi Pethybridge (our Kamloops member) sends Christmas and New Year's greetings to everyone.

The Wider Church

MBMSI Otto & Marjorie Ekk are serving with MBMS International in Portugal. At the beginning of this new year, pray for strength and energy as they lead the TREK team of 6 college age students who will be with them for the next 6 months and also continue to work with several church plants. Pray that more families, especially families with young children, would come to church.

Mennonite Church Canada in Vancouver Vancouver Area church leaders are invited to come and meet Willard Metzger, the new General Secretary for Mennonite Church Canada at Peace Mennonite on Tuesday January 18th at 7:00 PM. It will be an informal evening giving you a chance to hear Willard and have him hear from you what gives you joy and hope in your congregation. This announcement has been placed in your bulletins because this meeting is open to all that are interested in meeting Willard. Regards - Gerd Bartel

MCC MCC BC Executive Director Wayne Bremner encourages you to continue to Pray for Sudan each Sunday from now until January 9th to pray for peace in Sudan. Wayne visited Sudan in 2008 and saw first-hand the challenges that Sudanese face as they recover from decades of civil war. On January 9th, the country faces a referendum that could result in violence and bloodshed. There is a worship and prayer resource available to any congregation wishing to support and inform

Book Study Rosie is organizing a book group to read and discuss the book *Routes and Radishes: And Other Things to Talk about at the Evangelical Crossroads* published by five young up-and-coming theologians, A discussion of Evangelicalism may test its doctrines, the existence of political philosophy, pitfalls of the past, the task of loving people into a vital relationship with God through Christ, and its points of influence within denominations, institutions and evangelical organizations. Please contact Rosie to participate in this study.

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)

Pacific Theatre features Music at the Pacific January 8th at 8:00 pm. Back for a fourth consecutive season, Pacific Rim String Quartet, PT's resident chamber music ensemble, presents a series of intimate concerts connected to the themes, characters, and settings of the season's plays. Ticket prices TBA.

Regent College Feed your sprit and nurture your mind with evening courses at Regent College beginning January 10. Try *The Theology of Culture* with John G. Stackhouse, Jr., which considers the ways in which the Christian Church has understood its engagement with the culture in which it lives, and helps equip people to understand and respond to cultures today. Or *Marketplace Theology* with R. Paul Stevensm, which helps students inhabit a biblical theological vision for life in the marketplace within the wider context of God's mission, and the mission and ministry of the church in the world. Or try *Conversion and Transformation* with Gordon Smith, which examines the theology of religious experience, with particular examination of the nature of Christian conversion and spiritual change. The lectures and readings will demonstrate that a comprehensive experience of conversion is essential for spiritual transformation and a vital piety. Most are offered from 6:30 - 9:30 pm for credit or to audit. For more information, got to the Regent website at www.regent-college.edu

John 1: 1-14

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into

the world.

¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. [NRSV]

Jeremiah 31: 7-14

⁷ For thus says the Lord:
Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;
proclaim, give praise, and say,
'Save, O Lord, your people,
the remnant of Israel.'

⁸ See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north,
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,
among them the blind and the lame,
those with child and those in labour, together;
a great company, they shall return here.

⁹ With weeping they shall come,
and with consolations I will lead them back,
I will let them walk by brooks of water,
in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;
for I have become a father to Israel,
and Ephraim is my firstborn.

¹⁰ Hear the word of the Lord, O nations,
and declare it in the coastlands far away;

say, 'He who scattered Israel will gather him,
and will keep him as a shepherd a flock.'

¹¹ For the Lord has ransomed Jacob,
and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.

¹² They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion,
and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord,

over the grain, the wine, and the oil,
and over the young of the flock and the herd;
their life shall become like a watered garden,
and they shall never languish again.

¹³ Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance,
and the young men and the old shall be merry.
I will turn their mourning into joy,
I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.

¹⁴ I will give the priests their fill of fatness,
and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty,

says the Lord. [NRSV]