

POINT GREY INTER-MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP

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

January 12, 2003

Today: Welcome to Point Grey Inter-Mennonite Fellowship. In our service today we continue with our new series on the book of Acts. Our service is led by Vange Thiessen, with Eric Hannan conducting us in song and Cynthia Friesen accompanying on the piano. Later we will hear from John Friesen who will be speaking on 'Celebrating Marriage and the Family'. Sue Greenstreet and Elivira Teichrob are in charge of children's church. Please stay with us after the service for coffee and goodies.

Last Sunday: Evan Kreider spoke on the events of Pentecost for the early Christian church. The events of Pentecost were more than they appear - this was not just a magical visitation. Even this early in the life of the church, the symbolism of Jesus' sacrificial death has already been confirmed - Peter has already made the leap from "Rome killed Jesus" to "Jesus died for all our sins." This church on the first Pentecost was composed of many peoples from places corresponding to today's Libya, Rome, Crete, Jordan and Empty Quarter, Syria, Turkey, and modern day Israel and Palestine, with dozens of different languages, all holding an attachment or interest to Judaism in common. These people, despite their relative unfriendliness to Christianity today, were in on the ground floor of this uniting event - of 'Christianity going public' and they acted on it to bring more than 3000 to them that day. What happened to that three thousand? Peter spoke that day as recorded in Acts 2 to the Jews who were looking for a Messiah. But what did this have to do with the others? It fell to Paul and Barnabas and others to speak to the others in their missionary travels. Pentecost is thus an expansion of the Great Commission - go out and convert. God's spirit does not settle on one special prophet as in the old days. It settles on all, and it stays. Peter acted on this Great Commission - "...We are not drunk as you might suppose...Do you want to know what really happened?" Pentecost is not about wind and fire. It is about speaking plainly and telling the truth - the basic elements of the Great Commission. [AP]

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. We begin again on #123.

☞ Home Groups: Henry Klippenstein is again organizing a daytime study group for those who find the time more suitable than evenings. The first session will be Friday, Jan. 10 at 9:30 at the home of Henry & Louise Klippenstein [address available upon request]. They will be discussing the book by Brian McLaren entitled: "A New Kind of Christian". Copies of the first chapter will be available at the session. As well, "The Jesus I Never Knew" home group will meet every Monday at the Teichroeb's: [address available upon request]. Newcomers are welcome. If you're looking for a home group in the new year, feel free to ask Don Teichroeb or Mark Greenstreet for more information after the service.

There will be a church board meeting at the Friesen's home at 7 pm on Monday January 13. A congregational meeting will follow the service on Sunday January 19th.

☑ John and Erna Friesen are pleased to announce the engagement of their son John to Sherry Porth.

Moderator—Erna Friesen (604-266-7819); *Congregational Co-ordinator (bulletins)*—Karen Peters (604-264-1753);
Pastoral Concerns—Herb Reesor (604-224-5245), Sue Dudoward (604-876-4114)
Worship—Henry Neufeld (604-946-3961); *Music*—Eric Hannan (604-325-5065)

Upcoming speakers

January 19	Henry Neufeld	Acts 3: Peter's miracles and preaching
January 26	Christina Lui	Acts 4 : 1-31 Preach to the Council, then worship in jail
February 2	Sue Dudoward	Acts 4:32 - 5:11 Some believers share, some don't
February 9	Henry Klippenstein	Acts 5:12 - 6:7 Believers heal; persecution and election

Prayer requests: [Removed for privacy reasons, ask for details].

The Wider Church

From MBMS International: THE GOSPEL FOR GERMANY. Pray today for John and Mary Klassen. They have faithfully worked for many years, teaching at the Bonn Bibelseminar and working with a group of Anabaptist Aussiedler churches. Pray for the German people – everything seems to become secular and people live as though God does not exist.

Several organizations are offering their annual reports now in advance of the annual meetings scheduled in the coming months. Many are offering them on-line in advance of printing. Contact Andre for paper or e-mail copies of the Mennonite Foundation Annual Report, the Mennonite Church Canada Report to Congregations, Sherbrooke Food Bank report.

BC Mennonite Women in Mission Business meeting, Saturday February 8, 2003 at 2:00 pm at Bethel Mennonite Church, Aldergrove, BC. We encourage all the women from our MCBC congregations to participate.

The Mennonite Historical Society presents: "Russian Mennonite Architecture": a lecture and slide presentation by Winnipeg architect Rudy Friesen (Into the Past) on February 22, 2003, at 7:00p.m., at Eben-Ezer Mennonite Church. 2051 Windsor Street, Abbotsford. Admission is free. Contact the Society at 604-853-6177 for information and tickets

Join MCCBC at this year's annual Arts and Peace Festival February 28- March 1, 2003 at the University College of the Fraser Valley - details to come soon.

Mobilizing & Equipping Canadian Churches for Mission: Sponsored by the Evangelical Fellowship of Canada. Announcing an opportunity for Church mission leaders, mission agency mobilizers, missionaries, pastors, and Mission Fest leaders to identify current strategic issues in Canadian church mission mobilization, build trust between church leaders and mission agency personnel, and stimulate appropriate action to increase the effectiveness of Canadian Church-based mission endeavors.

Time and Place: February 11, 9:00-4:00 P.M. Stillwood Camp and Conference Centre near Chilliwack B.C.

Agenda: Nominal group technique led by Don Klaassen will draw the participants into creative thinking and planning for the purpose of helping churches reach their global mission potential.

Cost and Registration: Cost is \$30.00 including the noon meal. Registration is being facilitated by B.C. Conference of M.B. churches.

Moderator—Erna Friesen (604-266-7819); *Congregational Co-ordinator (bulletins)*—Karen Peters (604-264-1753);
Pastoral Concerns—Herb Reesor (604-224-5245), Sue Dudoward (604-876-4114)
Worship—Henry Neufeld (604-946-3961); *Music*—Eric Hannan (604-325-5065)