

POINT GREY INTER-MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP

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

July 9th 2006

Today: Welcome to Point Grey Inter-Mennonite Fellowship. This morning, our service will be led by Erna Friesen, Rosie Perera will lead us in song, Jeff Schulz will accompany on the piano and Peter Neudorf is your usher. Later we will hear from Maureen Klassen who will be speaking on The Transfiguration and Transformation. Sunday school is finished for the season, and parents are requested to make their own arrangements for child care during the service. Please join us after the service for coffee and fellowship in the lounge.

Last Sunday On July 2, 2006 Erna Friesen spoke on "The Life and Faith of Dietrich Bonhoeffer". Erna and John recently returned from a European trip which focused on Bonhoeffer. Since the small group which met before our fellowship began 20 years ago studied Bonhoeffer's Life Together, Erna suggested that this is an appropriate time for us to reflect on our spiritual life together. Bonhoeffer felt that spiritual life must be rooted and active in and responsive to real life. Trained in music, theology and intellectual history, Bonhoeffer argued that the church should be "Christ existing in community". Although he came from a wealthy family, he became sensitive to poverty, concluding that the church is only as strong as its weakest members. His thinking on Christ was grounded in scriptures (Hebrews 1, John 1, Colossians 1 were read) which proclaim the absolute centrality of Christ as the creator and sustainer of all things. Unable to reform his spiritual tradition, Bonhoeffer eventually formed a Confessing Church as an alternative to the state church. His desire for this church to speak out against society's treatment of Jews, homosexuals, the mentally ill, gypsies, etc. brought him into conflict with Hitler's policies and eventually cost him his life. One of Bonhoeffer's challenges to us is that we also need to see past our societal pressures against speaking out on ethical issues, all the while keeping our focus on Christ. John concluded the service by reading the last thing written by Bonhoeffer, a benedictory poem. [JEK]

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

July 16	Ruth Enns	-
July 23	Laura Sportack	-
July 30	-	-
August 6	-	-

Coffee hour signup! Thank you to the many volunteers who have signed up to supply coffee during the summer season. Please see the [coffee signup sheet](#) on the bulletin board in the back of the church if you wish to contribute to this vital summer fellowship.

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—Herb Reesor (604-224-5245); John Friesen (604-266-7819) *Music*—Ruth Enns (604-987-7430)
Congregational Co-ordinator (bulletins)—Andre Pekovich (604-879-0007)

The Wider Church

MBMSI HALLELUJAHS IN AUSTRIA! Pray today for Richard and Hazel Funk, MBMS International workers in Austria. Join them in praise and hallelujahs for 8 people baptized on June 11 (ages 15 to 83)! Their testimonies were just a miracle of God's work. Your prayers for Austria are being answered.

St. John's Shaughnessy Evening services 6:30 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.

Regent College lectures. Come hear Gary Haugen speaking on *Going on the Journey, But Missing the Adventure*, the latest in the summer series of free lectures held at Regent College, Monday, July 10, at 8:00 pm. **Please note:** this lecture will be held in **Hebb Theatre**, 2045 East Mall, UBC, rather than in the Chapel at Regent College. You are also welcome to hear J. I. Packer speaking on *The Spiritual Life in the Twenty-first Century* in the second of this week's lectures, on Wednesday, July 12, 8:00 pm. This one will be held in the chapel at Regent College. Come early to get a good seat.

MCC Put your change to work with MCC's Penny Power Coin Drive! This year we're hoping to raise \$17,000 for food relief in Sudan. Collect your coins (or bills!) and bring them to the MCC Festival in Abbotsford September 15-16. This project is matched 4:1 by CIDA - so every penny really counts! For complete details visit www.mcc.org/bc/festivals or call Kendra at (604) 850 6639 or 1 888 622 6337.

MCC Neighbours Camping trip August 8-13 - Come camping with MCC and visit with our aboriginal neighbours on Vancouver Island. Tour old growth forests, the Umista Cultural Centre in Alert Bay, and visit with members of the Kwagwiltz First Nation in Port Hardy. For details visit www.mcc.org/bc/abneighbours or call Darryl at (604) 850 6639 or 1 888 622 6337.

MDS announces a new RV Program (RVP), which is a special program developed by MDS for retired, semi-retired couples and singles who own or have access to a self-contained recreational vehicle (RV). The RVP will be operated as an independent MDS project. The program will be based somewhere in the Gulf Coast region in a location to be announced soon. For more details on the program, please contact Don & Marilyn Buller at: 717-823-0692 or Fax: (866) 819-4167 or visit mds.mennonite.net/Projects/RVProgram

Please remember your MC Canada Assembly delegates who will be participating in **Christian Peacemaker Teams (CPT) walk** on July 6th at 1:00 P.M. in Edmonton to end Secret Trials and Security Certificates legislation. Join them in prayer for the five men who are still being held after three to six years in Canadian prison or house arrest under this federal legislation, without charge and without access to the allegations against them. For more information on the issue of Secret Trials in Canada, check the support campaign at www.homesnotbombs.ca.

Jon Nofziger of **MCC-Youth Services** has forwarded this update on the current crisis in Gaza from the Department of Services to Palestinian Refugees, a long-time KAIROS partner in the West Bank and Gaza. DSPR partners the world over are urged to press their governments to push for a diplomatic solution to resolve this episode of violence. A diplomatic solution would spare the life of the kidnapped Israeli soldier and countless civilian lives. It would also preserve what is left of the Palestinian infrastructure. Please take a moment to phone or send a letter to your local MP calling on Canada to support diplomatic efforts to end the violence.

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Greetings from **MB Biblical Seminary in Fresno, California!** As the Seminary of the Mennonite Brethren Church in North America it is our goal to provide you with courses and programs to increase the effectiveness of you and your staff. Internet course offerings for Aug. 28 - December 15, 2006 available on-line at www.mbseminary.edu/fresno/courses/ Discipleship and Ethics (2-3 units). A study of the theological basis and practical application of Christian ethics that will enable a church community to become an alternative culture that resists forces of alienation and death in our society. Time will also be devoted to learning a method for using scripture in making ethical decisions. This internet course is designed for students who do not live in the Fresno area and are not able to take the on-campus version.

Details

This class helps students think about strategies for creating Christian communities that offer ways to experience freedom from Mammon's enslavement, and freedom from the busyness of the rat race. This course will also teach methods for using Scripture to make ethical decisions.

In this class you will:

\302\267 Learn creative ways of creating Christian Community

\302\267 Develop a plan for ethical decision making

\302\267 Distinguish Christian discipleship from religious morality

\302\267 Break the hold of mammon, consumerism and television in your life

\302\267 Create an alternative culture - a Christian culture

Course Format

Students log onto a specially designed password protected e-classroom environment. Students then download and read lectures, interact with the instructor through email, interact with other students through threaded email discussion, and complete assigned reading and writing.

Cost per unit: \$360/credit unit or \$90/audit unit

(MB and sabbatical discounts may apply. Contact Financial Aid Director Chris Patton for more information 1-800-251-6227 ext.1710 or .) To register for this course contact Lori James at 1-800-251-6227 ext.1723 or [by August 1st.](#)

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Matthew 17:1-10

¹Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. ²And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. ³Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. ⁴Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' ⁵While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!'

⁶When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. ⁷But Jesus came and touched them, saying, 'Get up and do not be afraid.' ⁸And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

⁹As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, 'Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.' ¹⁰And the disciples asked him, 'Why, then, do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?'

1Peter 1:16-19

¹³ Therefore prepare your minds for action; discipline yourselves; set all your hope on the grace that Jesus Christ will bring you when he is revealed. ¹⁴Like obedient children, do not be conformed to the desires that you formerly had in ignorance. ¹⁵Instead, as he who called you is holy, be holy yourselves in all your conduct; ¹⁶for it is written, 'You shall be holy, for I am holy.'

¹⁷ If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in

reverent fear during the time of your exile. ¹⁸You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. ²⁰He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake.

²¹Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.