

## POINT GREY INTER-MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP

web site: [www.pgimf.org](http://www.pgimf.org) E-mail; (redacted)

October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2008

Welcome to our Sunday service at Point Grey Inter-Mennonite Fellowship. Today our service will be led in worship by Andre Pekovich, in song by Eric Hannan, Ruth Enns will accompany on the piano, and Erna Freisen is your usher. Later we will hear from Jim Neudorf who will tell us how the Kingdom of God is at hand from Matthew 3:1-3. Please join us in the dining room after the service for potluck lunch and fellowship. Everyone is welcome and please invite guests to stay - there is always plenty of food. After the potluck lunch we will hold our congregational meeting in the chapel, and everyone is welcome to participate in our consensus-driven discussions.

**Last Sunday** "I love to dance" said Laura Eriksson last Sunday, noting that the Bible is an invitation to dance with the Holy Spirit as our partner. Learning to dance requires discipline and a willingness to be led; there are specific steps to be learned. Moses was not dancing when, after 40 days on the mountain he descended and found his people dancing around a golden calf. Laura said Moses life was like a dance; work, intimacy, prayer, awe, and silence. Moses, at age 80, was called by God. Moses had excuses but was reassured by God; God's work is hard but you have to do it. Moses says, unless you go with us, we can't go on. Moses does not end this dialogue with God with a "thank you," but with a request: show me your glory. Moses wanted the "awe" of God. We all have glimpses of the empowering glory of God, we need the wonder of "awe." The dance of faith is a dynamic movement, it takes time and grace to learn to dance. We are called to kingdom work; along the way we might be tempted by the golden calf. Be open, stay awake, and enjoy the dance as we reflect the glory of God. (HN)

### PGIMF News

#### Upcoming speakers

November 2	Service of Prayers	Taufertjahr
November 9	Angelika Dawson	Peace Sunday
November 16	Garry Janzen	-
November 23	Rosie Perera	-

**New church mailboxes** Please note the new church list has now been updated and distributed by e-mail and will also be available in your new mailboxes. Please check the new mailbox list for your correct number. New attenders on the church list, please note you too have been given a mailbox. Please see Andre if you have questions.

😊 **Happy birthday Marion!**

Marion is 86 years old today; her phone number is (see webmaster)

**Book study** You are invited to participate in a day-time book study starting on Wed. Nov 5, at 10:00 a.m. We're planning to study Brian McLaren's book *A Generous Orthodoxy*. For further information, contact Henry Neufeld.

### The Wider Church

**MBMSI** Ricky & Karen Sanchez are part of Team 2000, MBMS International workers in Thailand. Pray that this time of study, refreshment and connecting with churches and individuals in North America would be rejuvenating for them and their children.

### **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)

**Regent College** You are all invited to a book launch Thursday October 30 at 7:30 pm in the Chapel at Regent college for the new book of contemporary Christian writing: *Northern Lights: An Anthology of Contemporary Christian Writing in Canada* featuring readings from Paul Steven, Maxine Hancock, Diane Tucker, Hannah Main-van der Kamp and Douglas Todd. For more information see [www.northernlightsbook.ca](http://www.northernlightsbook.ca)

**Pacific Theatre** presents the first play in its 2008-9 season - *Mourning Dove* by Emil Sher. Inspired by the Robert Latimer story, this play explores the dilemma faced by a Saskatchewan farm couple whose teenage daughter is wracked by severe and unrelenting pain. Can the doctors' best efforts relieve her suffering? Or should her father pursue another, final alternative? Featuring Kerry van der Griend, Anita Wittenberg, Ron Reed, directed by Angela Konrad. On stage Oct.17 - Nov.15, Wednesdays-Saturdays 8pm, Saturday matinees 2pm. Tickets \$30 weekdays \$34 weekends, \$20/\$24 S/S, \$17 Matinees. Preview Oct. 16 at 8pm, Grand Opening Oct. 17 at 8pm. For tickets, call the box office at 604.731.5518 or online at [www.pacifictheatre.org](http://www.pacifictheatre.org)

**MCC** You are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting and Conference at Columbia Bible College with keynote speaker: Emmanuel Lowilla, Sudan speaking on "The Journey For Home: Walking with the Uprooted in the Name of Christ". Churches are encouraged to appoint and send delegates - but you do not have to be a delegate to attend, guests are welcome! Join us for stimulating story telling, inspiring workshops, great concerts and more. November 14&15. For info visit [mcc.org/bc](http://mcc.org/bc) or call 604.850.6639 or toll free 1.888.622.6337

**Fraser Valley Arts and Peace Festival** at Columbia Bible College. November 13-16 Come and explore the theme: "In Search of Home" through creative music, storytelling, thought-provoking visual arts, engaging workshops, film and more. Get the details when you visit: [www.mcc.org/bc/peace](http://www.mcc.org/bc/peace)

**Communitas Supportive Care Society** (formerly MCC Supportive Care Services) invites you to attend our AGM and Celebration of 35 years to be held on November 14 at 6:30 pm at Bakerview MB Church (2285 Clearbrook Road, Abbotsford, BC) focusing on the theme of *Grounded and Growing*, the evening will include stories, music, drumming and artwork. RSVP to 604.850.6608 or (redacted).

## Matthew 3:1-3

<sup>1</sup>In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, <sup>2</sup>'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' <sup>3</sup>This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:  
'Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.'" [NRSV]

## Romans 14:13-22

<sup>13</sup> Let us therefore no longer pass judgement on one another, but resolve instead never to put a stumbling-block or hindrance in the way of another. <sup>14</sup>I know and am persuaded in the Lord Jesus that nothing is unclean in itself; but it is unclean for anyone who thinks it unclean. <sup>15</sup>If your brother or sister is being injured by what you eat, you are no longer walking in love. Do not let what you eat cause the ruin of one for whom Christ died. <sup>16</sup>So do not let your good be spoken of as evil. <sup>17</sup>For the kingdom of God is not food and drink but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy

Spirit. <sup>18</sup>The one who thus serves Christ is acceptable to God and has human approval. <sup>19</sup>Let us then pursue what makes for peace and for mutual edification. <sup>20</sup>Do not, for the sake of food, destroy the work of God. Everything is indeed clean, but it is wrong for you to make others fall by what you eat; <sup>21</sup>it is good not to eat meat or drink wine or do anything that makes your brother or sister stumble. <sup>22</sup>The faith that you have, have as your own conviction before God. Blessed are those who have no reason to condemn themselves because of what they approve. [NRSV]

## Matthew 25:31-45

<sup>31</sup> ‘When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. <sup>32</sup>All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, <sup>33</sup>and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. <sup>34</sup>Then the king will say to those at his right hand, “Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; <sup>35</sup>for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, <sup>36</sup>I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.” <sup>37</sup>Then the righteous will answer him, “Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? <sup>38</sup>And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you

clothing? <sup>39</sup>And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?” <sup>40</sup>And the king will answer them, “Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.” <sup>41</sup>Then he will say to those at his left hand, “You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; <sup>42</sup>for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, <sup>43</sup>I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.” <sup>44</sup>Then they also will answer, “Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?” <sup>45</sup>Then he will answer them, “Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.” [NRSV]

## Prayer of Confession

Awesome God, we have disregarded your Word, failing to inquire after your will for us. We have ignored the needy, defended our advantages, and neglected our prayers. We have not appreciated or witnessed to your sustaining love. Instead, we destroy the resources of the earth with little regard for those

who follow us. We value our prosperity more than the harmony you envision for your people. O God, we do not like ourselves this way. Deliver us, we pray. Amen.

## Call to Worship

As the deer pants for streams of water,

**so my soul pants for you, O God.**

My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.

**When can I go and meet with God?**

My tears have been my food day and night, while men say to me all day long,

**"Where is your God?"**

These things I remember as I pour out my soul: how I used to go with the multitude, leading the procession to the house of God, with shouts of joy and thanksgiving among the festive throng.

**Why are you downcast, O my soul? Why so disturbed within me?**

*Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God.*