



## Paddling into Summer...

Squeah's annual Paddle-a-thon is set for April 16&17 and more than 20 paddlers are already signed up to canoe or kayak the mighty Fraser to raise funds for Squeah's Staff Bursary Fund. This important event has raised thousands of dollars each year for the past 11 years, enabling returning college students to serve as volunteers in our summer camp program. You can be involved by praying for those who will paddle, by sponsoring a paddler, or by volunteering! For more info visit [squeah.com/Paddle-A-Thon](http://squeah.com/Paddle-A-Thon) or call our office.

And speaking of summer, we are already accepting camper applications and are ready and raring to go for another great season! One thing we are really excited about is our brand new **Family Camp!** This 4 night/5 day family experience is for the whole family – children, youth and parents. Take advantage of all our onsite activities like our ropes course, pool, archery and hiking or special, optional, off-site activities. Our summer staff will serve you food and do the dishes! Child care is provided while parents enjoy riveting speaker sessions. Check out all the details for this camp or any of our summer camp options at [www.squeah.com/Summer-Camp](http://www.squeah.com/Summer-Camp) or call our office.

**Thank you for supporting Squeah!**



# News & Notes

April 2011

## MCBC's Upcoming 75th Anniversary

### Prepare with your church

MCBC's 75th Anniversary is coming up in 2012 and we are excited! Church Health and MCBC Leadership have invited Stuart Murray to speak both at our LEAD conference as well as at our Annual General Meeting celebration. In preparation for his coming, we encourage individuals, small groups, Sunday School classes to study Murray's book 'The Naked Anabaptist'. Some churches have already done so. If you would like to know more about Stuart Murray, the book he has written, or The Anabaptist Network, check out their website at: [www.anabaptistnetwork.com](http://www.anabaptistnetwork.com).

## Relief Quilts and Kits Blessings



### Black Creek United Mennonite Church, January 28:

The congregation blesses 23 blankets and 80 school kitbags made by a group of ladies from Black Creek UMC for MCC to distribute.



### MCBC 2011 Calendar

- April 8-10** Jr. IMPACT Retreat @ Camp Squeah
- April 16-17** Squeah Paddle-A-Thon
- April 30** Women's Inspirational Day at Sherbrooke Mennonite
- June 10-25** Gallery 7 presents "The Matchmaker"
- July 4-8** MC Canada Assembly in Kitchner-Waterloo
- Oct 3-5** Pastor/Spouse Retreat
- Oct 14-16** MCBC Ladies Retreat

### Muslims and Mennonites: Loving our Neighbours Peace Mennonite Church Gym

**Saturday, April 9, 2011, 6:00pm**

A "get acquainted" potluck with our Muslim neighbours from several communities. Come for an evening of great food, prayers for peace in the Middle East, and a chance to hear about an exciting opportunity to build peace in Vancouver in the name of Jesus. **Held at Peace Mennonite Church Gymnasium, 11571 Daniels Road, Richmond, BC.** Bring a vegetarian dish and a salad or dessert to share. Or if you'd like to cook a meat dish, consider buying halal.

### Join a "Black Gospel Style" Choir Emmanuel Mennonite Church

**Practices on 2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 8pm-9pm**

This group is open to anyone interested in singing or learning to sing. 3471 Clearbrook Road, Abbotsford. Please use the Office Entrance.

**For more information, contact Gerald at:  
604-854-3654 or [music@emmanuelmennonite.com](mailto:music@emmanuelmennonite.com).**

### Tour Israel-Palestine Guided by Garry Janzen & Gerd Bartel

**October 14-23, 2011**

Do you want to deepen your understanding of the Bible and experience where it was lived out? Join Pastor Garry Janzen on this pilgrimage to Israel-Palestine and see the Holy Land!

**For more information, email: [office@tourmagination.com](mailto:office@tourmagination.com)**



### 'With God on Or Side' (Rooftop Productions, 2010) DVD Review by Steve Heinrichs



Israel-Palestine is no stranger to Mennonites. For decades, members of our community have faithfully engaged the peoples of this holy and conflicted place; from nitty-gritty relief work to costly nonviolent activism. Yet despite such extensive involvement, many Mennos in North America are unsure of what to make of Israel-Palestine. While the Hebrew Bible boldly declares a divinely promised land for Israel, our Jewish Jesus doesn't seem to deal with that subject at all, and to top it off, we hear rumors today of a Palestinian people suffering under an Israeli 'apartheid' state. What are we to make of it all?

"With God on Our Side" is a very helpful introductory tool that can help us explore these matters. In just over an hour, this documentary thoughtfully weaves its way through past and present dynamics of the holy land, presenting the two major theological postures that we Christians have taken to this conflict - postures that make a world of difference to the peoples way over there. In sum, the video gently asserts that the church can be most faithful to the Bible and Israel if we set aside the idea that the Jewish people have divine rights to the land (a view called Christian Zionism) and embrace a 'fulfillment' theology with Christ at the center, a theology that promotes just peace for everyone, especially the oppressed.

There are plenty of reasons to like "With God on Our Side." First off, the production quality is fantastic and the documentary is visually and thematically attention-grabbing. People who aren't normally into such biblical, social justice concerns, will be drawn in by the format. Second, the producers are charitable to opposing viewpoints, giving ample room for disagreement and dialogue. And finally, it's not Mennonite, but mainstream Evangelical. Now don't get me wrong. I'm a Heinrichs, and I've worked in Israel-Palestine with the Mennonite-birthered Christian Peacemaker Teams. Yet the fact that it's Evangelical might give space to some folks within our community who are concerned about some kind of Mennonite liberal bias, a supposed "loosey-goosey handling of the Bible in the name of peace" (let's name it, shall we?), simply to relax and receive the good news from fellow Bible-believing conservatives; the good news that there is a much better way than Zionism, a way that'll give life to Palestinians, Jews, and yes, even us.



### Together Towards an Integrated Peace Ethic

#### Three signs of hope through the generations

This year's LEAD conference facilitated a workshop on the "Next Generation of Peacemakers," inviting conversation on how young people learn and live into Jesus' way of peace. Out of that conversation emerged three signs of hope for our future as a peacemaking church:

1. Young People are very interested in an integrated peace ethic. The young adults that shared are convinced that the next generation is attracted to and compelled by Jesus' non-violent and peacemaking teachings and example. More than that, many young Christians see peace as inseparable from the gospel. Our word was "integrated"— following Jesus means living a life of peace, in all aspects of life. Far from losing the Mennonite peace tradition, the next generation of Anabaptists wants to live it faithfully and help others to discover its truth.

2. Older People are also very interested in integrated peace ethic. The veteran church leaders that participated share this conviction that Jesus' way of peace is about more than not going to war. They think about peace holistically—in politics and economics, in personal finances and lifestyle choices, in church outreach and decision-making. They, too, see peace as inseparable from the gospel and are seeking to integrate their faith with their lives.

3. Both Young and Older struggle to integrate peace and life. Participants of all ages agreed: living out Jesus' way of peace is a challenge no matter what generation you're a part of. We face the same obstacles, from theological questions to overwhelming state-sponsored violence to instinctively violent reactions. These challenges are actually a good thing because we can face these challenges together and help each other grow in faith and peace—and that itself is an image of the shalom that Jesus taught.

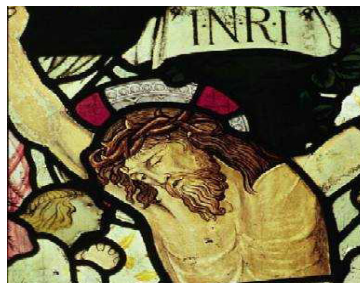
### Resources for churches and individuals

#### Campaign to establishing Canadian "Department of Peace"

A number of church denominations, organizations and individuals are supporting this initiative to establish this department as part of our Federal Structure. For more information and to sign a petition go to [www.mennonitechurch.ca/resourcecentre/ResourceView/5/13246](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/resourcecentre/ResourceView/5/13246) or for more information locally email: [hakrause@telus.net](mailto:hakrause@telus.net)

#### Tax dollars towards the Canadian Military

If you are concerned about your tax dollars supporting the Canadian Military, find out how you can respond at [www.consciencecanada.ca](http://www.consciencecanada.ca), Conscience Canada's website. They offer a number of ways to respond for those who desire to be "Conscientious Objectors" with their tax dollar.



### Good Friday Worship Services

#### Emmanuel Mennonite Church

**April 22nd, 10:30 am**

Join Emmanuel Mennonite Church for Good Friday Worship Service. Garry Janzen, Executive Minister will be speaking; Tony Funk will be singing from St. Matthews Passion; Choir & String group; Children's Feature. Childcare provided. Everyone Welcome!

#### Eben-Ezer Mennonite Church

**April 22nd, 10:00 am**

Everyone is welcome to this all-German service called, Der Weg des Kreuzes: Ein Pilgerweg nach Golgatha.' Our program is based on 1 Peter 2:21-25 and will include reflective readings and choir music.

#### Vancouver Mennonite Churches

**April 22nd, 10:30 am**

Good Friday service to be held at Culloden Church. James Wittenberg will be speaking. 6060 Culloden St., Vancouver BC V5W 3S4.

### Mennonite-Aboriginal Neighbours Project

#### Help MCBC raise the necessary funding

The delegate body at the MCBC Annual Meeting gave approval to a ½ time position or 1 year to develop the relationship of Mennonites and First Nations people in BC. Including benefits, the total amount is \$27,500 (above budget). To show our commitment to this project, we are being challenged to raise 60% of it by April 30th, 2011 (\$16,500). **So, let's pour out our hearts and open our purses, send in your pledges to [admin@mcbc.ca](mailto:admin@mcbc.ca) today! Thank you!!**

### Lenten Vespers

#### with Abendmusik Choir



**April 16th, 8pm, Abbotsford**

Emmanuel Free Reformed Church, 3386 Mt. Lehman Rd.

**April 17th, 8pm, Vancouver**

Knox United Church, 5600 Balaclava St.

Donations accepted to Menno Simons Centre.

Does your church have an event or story that you'd like to share with the MCBC Community? **Submit it to [lauxier@gmail.com](mailto:lauxier@gmail.com)**

**GALLERY**  
**7**  
**THEATRE**

**Gallery 7 celebrates 20 years!**  
Join them at thier “Imagine” Gala

**April 30, 2011, 6:00 PM at MEI Secondary School.**  
Gallery 7 Theatre presents the 2011 “Imagine” Fundraising Gala & Silent Auction on. Celebrate 20 years of entertaining and thought-provoking theatre and help raise funds for the next 20! Featuring Cinnamon Toast Funk, MC Shelley Picard, the play, 20 Years in 20 Minutes, buffet dinner, testimonials, roving actors and more. Tickets are \$75/individual (includes a \$25 tax-deductible donation) and \$600/Table of Eight (includes a \$200 tax deductible donation). Call 604-504-5940 or go online to [www.gallery7theatre.com](http://www.gallery7theatre.com).

LOVING, REFLECTING AND PURSUING JUSTICE TOGETHER



**Loving, Reflecting and Pursuing Justice Together**  
**5th Peace and Safety in the Christian Home (PASCH) Conference**

**May 12-15, 2011, Columbia Bible College.** Our upcoming conference, will explore innovative approaches to particular concerns: care for children who have witnessed or experienced domestic violence, evaluation of faith-based batterer intervention, and considering global programs that prevent domestic violence and abuse. For more information about PASCH check their website: [www.peaceandsafety.com](http://www.peaceandsafety.com).



**Columbia Bible College Updates:**  
Only 3 weeks until graduation!  
**April 23rd, 10:30 AM at Seven Oaks Church.**

**Construction on new residence is underway!** We have the funds to “build the building” – now we have just \$270K to raise for furnishings and appliances. Thanks for your prayers and support! [www.columbiabc.edu](http://www.columbiabc.edu)



**Where is the hope?**  
By Garry Janzen

This edition of News ‘n Notes is being brought to us with the touch of a new hand. The delegates at the MCBC Annual Meeting gave the blessing to hire an Administrative Assistant at 10 hours per week.

Laura Auxier will primarily look after our communications. This will include taking over News ‘n Notes as well as other promotional pieces that will help all of us know more about each other and the ministries of MCBC. She is involved at Level Ground Mennonite Church and is also on staff part-time at Camp Squeah.

It is not easy to be the church in these complicated times. How do we respond to natural disasters, world crises and war? With our own economic hard times – personally and in our local churches, it is hard to make sense of supporting ministry beyond ourselves. Yet we ask that you would give to the work of MCBC. Where is the hope? Being a missional church is more like a bowl of spaghetti than a race track. The activity of the church is not easily laid out in straight parallel lines. It is rather a tangled mess of complicated relationships and issues, covered with a tasty sauce that will leave stains on our clothes. But, this is real people-of-God living.

Where is the hope? The Holy Land is a place that is as complicated as it gets. There are two opportunities for you to experience the land of Palestine and Israel. In October of this year, Gerd Bartel and I will be leading a group that will take us to the places where Jesus walked, but will also meet Palestinian Christians and Jews who are walking there today and learn of their complicated story. In April of 2012, MCC BC will be leading a learning tour that will focus more strongly on the issues of today, but will also take you down the streets of the biblical story.

Our relationship as neighbours with the first nations peoples is also complicated by a not-so-pretty history, but how can this story be one of new hope now and into the future. At the Annual Meeting, the delegates gave their blessing to a half-time position to work at this relationship and give opportunities for us to engage (with funding to be creatively raised). It was a hopeful moment.

I would say that, as we move into another year of MCBC ministry, our hope and confidence remains in the Old Testament commitment of God that “They will be my people and I will be their God.”

## Kelowna First Mennonite Church

### Kevin Barkowsky appointed as Lead Pastor



KFMC installed Kevin Barkowsky as Lead Pastor on Sunday March 13, 2011. Officiating at the installation was Garry Janzen, Executive Minister, MCBC. Kevin's wife, Deborah, and his two daughters Kady and Jana were welcomed to the congregation. Also present to rejoice with Kevin were his parents John and Myrna Barkowsky from 100 Mile House. Out of town guests included Laura Loewen and Linda Ens of MCBC Committee on Church Health. A luncheon reception followed the installation.



**Photos:** Top: Kevin Barkowsky and Garry Janzen; Bottom: Kevin and his family.

## First Mennonite Church, Burns Lake

### 2010 year in review

**2010 was a busy year for our church, here are a few highlights:** students studying away from home received a care package; the ladies bible study is growing and includes women from the community; Pastors Helmut & Eve Isaak and Rob & Tammy Wiebe have been helping out in the pastoral role at Church of the Way in Granisle; have added children's church to morning worship service; family camp at Ootsa Lake Bible Camp was well attended and plans for 2011 are progressing; parenting and child education for young families on Sunday mornings; community ministries include hymn-sing; quilting; bi-annual grief and loss workshops led by Eve Isaak in the community college and South Side Health & Wellness Center; youth program under Rob/Tammy Wiebe's leadership is growing with many attending due to Ootsa Lake Bible Camp experience; outreach includes Pastors Helmut and Eve Isaak's ministry of individual, (pre)marital and family plus addictions and grief counselling as well as book studies in their home for community folks without a church connection; and Oct. 31st we were blessed by approx. 20 youth as they brought the worship service followed by potluck lunch. FMC remains thankful and humbled for the many faithful prayers on behalf of our church as we continue to seek God's wisdom, guidance and grace in furthering His Kingdom; here and now.

## Emmanuel Mennonite Church

**Associate Pastor**, full-time. Major focus on youth ministry and Christian education; minor focus on general congregational ministry. Should have a relevant degree in Christian ministry, an understanding of contemporary Anabaptist theology and an interest and ability to relate to young people.

**Seniors Ministry Coordinator**; 10 h/wk position which focuses on support to seniors including visitation, addressing care needs, encouraging senior volunteerism, and coordinating seniors events, including funerals.

### RESUMES TO:

Emmanuel Mennonite Church; ATTN:The Search Committee  
3471 Clearbrook Rd., Abbotsford V2T 5C1

OR office@emmanuelmennonite.com by April 30th, 2011.

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Invites inquiries and applications for the positions of **Director of Enrolment Services, Residence Director, Senior Residence Assistant, and Director of Outtown School of Discipleship**. CMU has over 1,700 students at its Shaftesbury Campus, at Menno Simons College, and through its Outtown discipleship program.  
**For full postings go to [www.cmu.ca](http://www.cmu.ca).**

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## Communitas Opportunities

**Caregiver** (a couple, ideally) to assist a 57-year-old man with a disability (Downs Syndrome). **Please contact:** Carl Sukkau 604-850-6608 ext. 343 or cell 778-245-5864

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**Receptionist**, (one year maternity leave position), temporary, full time, 40hr/week position. Previous experience required.

**Fundraiser**, full time, 40hr/week position. Past experience in fundraising and the ability to be strategic in planning for the present and the future is required.

### RESUMES TO:

hr@CommunitasCare.com

OR apply online by April 22nd, 2011 at  
[www.CommunitasCare.com](http://www.CommunitasCare.com)





## Women's Inspirational Day Fasting & Feasting: The Jesus Diet

Here are a few things you ALL need to know before the Inspirational Day.  
**Saturday April 30, 2011**  
Cost: \$10.00 | Registration opens at 10:30am  
Sherbrooke Mennonite Church

### 1. TRANSPORTATION:

There will be two buses, leaving from:

- Cedar Valley Menn. Church in Mission at 8:30am
- Then leaving from Emmanuel Menn. Church in Abbotsford at 9:00am

40 seats available, sign up sheets available at your home churches.  
Cost: \$10/seat, pay when boarding (cost is on top of \$10 registration fee).  
Priority seating will be given to Seniors ages 65 and older.

**Carpooling** is encouraged, and if you have extra seats, please be sure to swing by Emmanuel Menn. Church to pick up anyone still needing a ride.

### 2. PENNIES & PRAYER INHERITANCE FUND: The red donation boxes!



If you are one of the ladies that picked up a small red donations box at last year's Inspirational Day and have faithfully been adding your pennies to the tiny little box, please bring you pennies with you on April 30<sup>th</sup>. If possible, could you please count your pennies and put them in a Ziploc bag and include your name, address, and the total of the pennies you have collected. This would be very helpful and most appreciated! Please, keep your little box and continue to pray for the two fund recipients – **Anne Garber Kampaore** in Burkina Faso and **Hinke Rudners-Loewen** in Israel.

### 3. NEW VENTURES: Fundraising with COFFEE – ONEbean at a time!

Feeling the need to be more creative with fundraising and to be able to provide 2 great events for our women each year, we decided to truly jump out of the proverbial box. We are fully aware that there are hardly any active ladies groups left within our MCBC churches and bake sales and quilting are no longer capturing the interest of our younger generations.



**3 GREAT WAYS TO GIVE**

<b>\$10</b> PER BAG 8oz/227g	<b>\$16</b> PER BAG 1lb/454g	<b>\$30</b> PER BAG 2lb/908g
You've just given <b>\$2.00</b> to a great cause	You've just given <b>\$4.00</b> to a great cause	You've just given <b>\$6.00</b> to a great cause

select your coffee

Check out our page at  
[www.onebean.ca/mcbcwomen/](http://www.onebean.ca/mcbcwomen/)

We will have the coffee and some chocolates available for you to buy at the Inspirational Day and will also give you some more suggestions and ideas about how you can support MCBC Women's Ministry at that time. Our future plans include being able to support additional ministries; such as Mennonite Women Canada and more. **See you there!**



## My Journey through Breast Cancer with Feather Janz

**June 11th, 2011, 10:30am**

Grace Baptist Church, 949-3rd Avenue, Hope, BC

For the women who came home from our 2010 Fall Women's Retreat thinking, "Oh! I should have brought my Mom, Sister or Friend!", here is another opportunity to hear Feather Janz tell the inspirational story of her journey through breast cancer, not just once but twice! She will also be sharing the story of her friend, Rachel Barkey. Check out Rachel's story here: <http://deathisnotdying.com>.

Refreshments and lunch is provided. The event is FREE but a donation will be taken to cover the event expenses and anything above and beyond will go towards a cancer related purpose.

**Please RVSP, so we can get numbers for lunch by Monday, June 6th to [rk98tiessen@gmail.com](mailto:rk98tiessen@gmail.com) or to the event on Facebook: "My journey through Breast Cancer" with Feather Janz. Call Kim Tiessen for more information at 604-869-0500.**