



Mennonite Church Canada Program Book

Abbotsford 2007

*"For no one can lay any foundation other than the one
that has been laid; that foundation is Jesus Christ."
1 Corinthians 3:11*

Mennonite Educational Institute
4081 Clearbrook Road
Abbotsford, B.C.

July 3-6, 2007

www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/97



Schedule

<i>Start</i>	<i>Tuesday - July 3</i>	<i>Wednesday - July 4</i>	<i>Thursday - July 5</i>	<i>Friday - July 6</i>
8:45 AM	Putting Your Money Where Your Faith Is 8:30 am - 4:15 pm Eben-Ezer Mennonite Church	Worship Secondary School Gym		
9:30 AM		BREAK Middle School Foyer and Second Floor Mezzanine		
10:00 AM		Discernment (Small selection of seminars for non-delegates) Middle School Gym		
12:00 noon		LUNCH Elementary School Gym		
1:15 PM	Assembly Registration begins at 1:30 PM MEI Middle School Foyer	Seminars	Tours	Seminars
2:30 PM		BREAK Middle School Foyer and Second Floor Mezzanine		BREAK Middle School Foyer and Second Floor Mezzanine
3:00 PM		Discernment Middle School Gym		Discernment Middle School Gym
5:30 PM	SUPPER Elementary School Gym	SUPPER Elementary School Gym	BBQ and Activities at Trinity Western University	SUPPER Elementary School Gym
7:00 PM	Worship Secondary School Gym	Worship Middle School Gym		Worship Middle School Gym
8:30 PM	Ice Cream Social Middle School Foyer			

8:30 am to 4:15 pm

Ministers Conference: Putting Your Money Where Your Faith Is

*Eben-Ezer Mennonite Church
2051 Windsor Street, Abbotsford*

1:30 to 5:30 pm

Assembly Registration

*Middle School Foyer,
Mennonite Educational Institute (MEI)
4081 Clearbrook Road, Abbotsford*

5:30-7:00 pm

Dinner (pre-registration required)

Elementary School Gym, MEI

6:45-7:00 pm

Congregational Singing

Secondary School Gym, MEI

7:00-8:30 pm

Worship Service

Secondary School Gym

8:30-9:30 pm

Ice Cream Social

Middle School Foyer

Watch for JoinHands volunteers (under a white hard hat) handing out gloves as admission “tickets” to their free breakfast on Thursday morning.

Order of Worship – Built on Christ

Note: The service begins together with the youth assembly in the *Secondary School Gym*. During the singing of “King of Kings and Lord of Lords” the adults will leave the joint worship space and move to the *Middle School Gym*.

Taiko Drum/Call to worship

Congregational Song

Welcome and prayer of Invocation

“Built to Last” Liturgy

Vancouver Area Churches Choir - “O Sifuni Mungu”

Congregational Singing ending with “King of Kings and Lord of Lords”

(Adults leave and go to the Middle School Gym during this song)

Scripture reading – Matthew 7:24-27

Video Clip – excerpt from “The Miracle Maker”

Message – Jorge Hoajaca

Congregational song

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Offering

Announcements

Vancouver Churches Choir - “For I Know the Plans I Have for You”

Benediction

Closing song

BE INFORMED

Read about ministry updates in the **WOW! International Report**. To subscribe contact Ingrid Miller at imiller@mennonitechurch.ca or click on www.mennonitechurch.ca to see pictures and learn more of our International Workers' stories.

SERVE

Explore service opportunities on the Mennonite Church Canada website, www.mennonitechurch.ca. Please contact Mennonite Church Canada Human Resources Director, Kirsten Schroeder at kschroeder@mennonitechurch.ca if you are interested in serving.

SUPPORT

Your financial support plays an important role in growing these ministries. Please contact MC Canada Resource Development Director, Al Rempel at arempel@mennonitechurch.ca to learn how you can develop a congregational partnership or share a gift with these ministries.

PRAY

Prayer support is so important and gratefully welcomed. To subscribe to the monthly **PrayerNet** and be informed of the many prayer requests that come across our desks from around the world, contact Hinke Loewen-Rudgers at hloewen-rudgers@mennonitechurch.ca.

Meet...New International Workers

Serving in 2007

WITNESS INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEERS:



Fanosie & Dianne Legesse

Children: **Zachariah & Lydia**

- Serving in Ethiopia, Aug. 2007 – July 2010
- Teaching Biblical Studies at the Meserete Kristos College
- Home Congregation: Bethel MC, Elora, ON



Will & Ana Loewen

- Serving in South Korea, Sept. 2007 – Sept. 2009
- Supporting the Jesus Village Church (JVC)
- Teaching at V-School, a Christian alternative School
- Korea Anabaptist Center (KAC) ministries
- Home Congregation: Will – Tavistock MC, ON and Ana – attends Tavistock, member of Waterloo North MC, ON



Norm Nicolson

- Serving together with his wife, Lillian, in Burkina Faso
- Broadcasting services, teaching local technicians
- Home Congregation: North Peace MB Church, BC

MISSION ASSOCIATES

- Teaching at Connexus, the English language institute connected to the Korea Anabaptist Center in Seoul.

If you are interested in Connexus teaching opportunities, please see their website: www.connexus.co.kr/english



Vanessa & Mark Claassen Wiehler

- Serving in South Korea, Aug. 2007 for a 1-year term.
- Home Congregation: Charleswood MC, MB



Joel Kroeker & Heather Peters

- Serving in South Korea, June 2007 for a 1-year term.
- Home Congregation: Zion MC, SK



Marvin Marcial

- Serving in South Korea, June 2007 for a 1-year term.
- Home Congregation: St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church, MB

INTERNS:

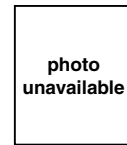
Monica Shank



- Learning and serving in Botswana, May 24 – Aug. 15, 2007

- Home Congregation: Valleyview MC, ON

David Deckert



- Learning and serving in Burkina Faso, May 18 – Sept. 2007

- Working with Agricultural Cooperative
- Home Congregation: Mississauga Mennonite Fellowship, ON

SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- **Gordon Matties**, Peace Studies curriculum development in Israel, Jan. 1 – 7, 2007
- **Ben Wiebe**, Teaching Biblical Studies in India, Feb. 1 – Mar. 31, 2007

8:30-8:45 am

Congregational singing
Secondary School Gym

8:45-9:30 am

Joint Worship Service for adults, youth and children
Secondary School Gym

Order of Worship – Built with Grace

Welcome and Prayer of Invocation

“Built to Last” Liturgy

Congregational Singing

Prayer of Confession and Thanksgiving

Congregational Singing

Time with the Children - “The Love Balloon” with Bubbles the Clown

Congregational Singing

Scripture Reading

Announcements

Benediction and Blessing for the Day

9:30-10:00 am

Break

Middle School Foyer and Second Floor Mezzanine

10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Discernment

(see agenda on p. 104-105 of Report Book)

Middle School Gym

10:00-11:15 am

Seminar Options for Non-delegates

- **The Changing Face of the Christian Church: Connecting East and West**

Tim Buhler and Samson Lo, Mennonite Church Canada

Middle School Room 224

Within 20 years one third of all the Christians in the world will be Chinese. Connections are developing between MC Canada congregations and churches in China. Join us in a seminar that celebrates God’s faithfulness with our Chinese brothers and sisters in Canada, Hong Kong, Macau and China.

- **You Can’t Take it With You: Charitable Giving and Estate Planning**

Sherri Grosz, Mennonite Foundation of Canada and Shirley Redekop, Canadian Women in Mission

Middle School Room 203

Sherri Grosz will help participants think about gifting of money, making wills, and estate planning. This time together with Sherri will be an opportunity to consider these important aspects of managing resources.

12:00-1:15 pm

Lunch (pre-registration required)

Elementary School Gym

1:15-2:30 pm

Canadian Women in Mission Tea and Annual Meeting (pre-registration required)

Emmanuel Mennonite Church

3471 Clearbrook Road, Abbotsford

Shuttle service available

1:15-2:30 pm

Seminars

(see following pages)

WEDNESDAY, JULY 4

2:30-3:00 pm

Break

Middle School Foyer and Second Floor Mezzanine

3:00-5:30 pm

Discernment

(see agenda on p. 104-105 of Report Book)

Middle School Gym

5:30-7:00 pm

Dinner (pre-registration required)

Elementary School Gym

5:30-7:00 pm

AMBS Alumni and Friends Gathering (pre-registration required)

Emmanuel Mennonite Church

3471 Clearbrook Road, Abbotsford

Shuttle service available

6:45-7:00 pm

Congregational Singing

Middle School Gym

7:00-8:30 pm

Worship Service

Middle School Gym

Order of Worship – Built in Love

Welcome and Prayer of Invocation

“Built to Last” Liturgy

Congregational Singing

Prayer of Confession

Congregational Song

Scripture Reading - John 3:16, I John 3:1,16,18
and I John 4:7,18-19

Message – Siaka Traore

Congregational Song

“Jesus Loves Me” special presentation concluding with
song “Jesus Loves Me”

Responsive prayer

Offering

Congregational Song

Evening Blessing

8:30 - 9:30 pm

Mennonite Disaster Service Alumni Gathering

Middle School Room 130

Seminars (for Wednesday, July 4)

The complete list of youth and adult seminars offered during this time is included here. Go to whatever interests you and enjoy meeting some of the youth attending the assembly!

- **Peacemaking in the Public Space**

Rebecca Johnson and Doug Pritchard,

Christian Peacemaker Teams

Middle School Room 133

With various Christian denominations lining up to embrace armed intervention in failed states under initiatives such as the Responsibility to Protect (R2P), where is the real peacemaking? Find out how CPT works with grassroots organizations to reduce violence and claim the public space for the seeds of peace to flourish. With examples from projects at home and around the world.

- **Meeting our Multi-Faith Neighbours**

Brice H. Balmer, House of Friendship

Secondary School Room 241

A young adult couple moved into their new home. When the neighbour across the street had bright lights in December, the wife realized Diwali was being celebrated. The Hindu neighbours were thankful for the wife’s visit and the couple was invited to their celebrations. Then they discovered a Buddhist family further down the street. Many Mennonites are finding their neighbours are of many faiths. For some this raises new questions. Do we have obligations to welcome our new neighbours? How do we approach these situations? Do we have new faith questions as we relate to peoples of other faiths? What does it mean to create a safe and hospitable neighbourhood? Brice reflected on these questions in *Meeting our Multifaith Neighbours* (Herald Press, 2006). Join the discussion as we prepare to create a welcoming and safe neighbourhood for all peoples.

- **How Inclusive is the Inclusive Church?**

Carol Penner, The First Mennonite Church,
Vineland ON
Secondary School Room 242

Is the church a place that welcomes sinners? This seminar will explore how churches can make room for people who have committed sexual offences against children. Using a case study and interactive approach, we will discuss what it means to be a church founded on Jesus Christ.

- **Is there Space for Kids in our Communion?**

Elsie Rempel, Mennonite Church Canada
Middle School Room 203

Can the rituals of worship and communion support our children as faith novices, even though they are not baptized? Explore the tensions and opportunities for planning worship and communion rituals that nurture the faith of all ages while respecting our Anabaptist understandings of believer's baptism and communion.

- **Congregational Health Ministries: Holistic Ministry with a Twist**

Heidi Bartsch and Arnie Fehderau,
First Mennonite Church, Saskatoon SK
Secondary School Room 239

The church is a healing place where the pastor and the congregational nurse work together as a team. Why would we need this ministry in our church? What does the congregational nurse do? How does this relate to the church's work "across the street and around the world"?

- **Church and Culture: Finding Our Way in an Age of Disorientation**

Dave Bergen and Hinke Loewen-Rudgers,
Mennonite Church Canada
Middle School Room 205

Engage the world of Christians who are on a journey toward community and peace in a culture of disorientation. Be challenged by the call to be a peacemaking people in a global context of war and paranoia; learn about the discovery of church as community through MWC Amigos (young adult) and BikeMovement Asia. Hinke Loewen-Rudgers (Congregational Partnerships staff), Dann Pantoja (Philippines Witness worker) and Nicole Cober Bauman (MWC Amigos) will facilitate this call to contextual missional engagement as Anabaptist Christians.

- **I CAN READ! Literacy Work and Bible Translation in Burkina Faso**

Lillian and Norm Nicolson, Mennonite Church Canada.
Middle School Room 202

Lillian and Norm will share the exciting story of how the Siamou language group is learning to read – a tremendous story of gaining access to a skill that is empowering people for a whole new life. The next step is the translation of selected Bible passages and engineering recordings of these Bible passages for mass distribution. It is an important time of new steps and expanding work in Burkina Faso.

- **Living in Mission Across the Street and Around the World**

Otto and Florence Driedger,
Peace Mennonite Church, Regina SK
Secondary School Room 202

What can a small congregation do? Who can they be? Participate in the exciting opportunities God has invited us to through hosting international students, study tour visitors, pastors on sabbatical, and involvements in Christian social and justice ministries in Saskatchewan, Canada, Thailand, Cambodia, and Ukraine.

- **Chaplains or Leaders – What is the Role of Pastors?**

Ray Friesen, Emmaus Mennonite Church, Wymark SK
Secondary School Room 204

Chaplains focus on pastoral care, the rituals of our faith, and preaching. Leaders focus on vision, inspiration, empowerment, and ensuring that the congregation fulfills its mission. Which of these should be a pastor's *primary* role? This workshop will be a forum for the *discussion* of this question along with related questions like: Why chaplain or why leader? Where do we find our models? If a change in pastoral paradigms is needed, how do we go there?

- **African Mission...Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow**
Siaka and Claire Traore, Burkina Faso
Secondary School Room 206

New trends are emerging within African society. As development and economic growth occur, people are more transient. These demographic shifts are impacting local cultures and faith traditions as people bring with them their theological perspectives. The Church in Africa is experiencing this as a new trend. This new form of mission has both advantages and disadvantages that will be discussed in this seminar.

- **The Changing Face of the Christian Church: Connecting East and West**
Tim Buhler and Samson Lo,
Mennonite Church Canada
Middle School Room 224

Within 20 years one third of all the Christians in the world will be Chinese. Connections are developing between MC Canada congregations and churches in China. Join us in a seminar that celebrates God's faithfulness with our Chinese brothers and sisters in Canada, Hong Kong, Macau and China.

- **The Need for Speed**
Steve Plenert,
Springstein Mennonite Church,
Springstein MB
Middle School Room 204

Some call it "immortality syndrome" and some just call it stupid, but young people love taking risks like extreme sports or driving fast. Jesus was a risk taker as well, but the scriptures don't talk about mountain biking or board riding. How do we follow the risk-taking path of Jesus and stretch the envelope as Christians?

- **Be Your Self**
Gareth Brandt, Columbia Bible College
Middle School Room 201

This workshop will help participants on the journey of self-discovery and self-acceptance so each one can celebrate their unique way of relating to God and others.

- **Evangelism Isn't a Dirty Word**
Stefan Cherry,
Floradale Mennonite Church, Floradale ON
Secondary School Room 237

In today's pluralistic, post-modern, post-Christian society, where does the role of evangelism fit within a genuinely Christian Mennonite perspective? Mother Theresa, or was it St. Francis, said that we should proclaim the Gospel always, and when necessary, use words. Come and discuss different ways that we can share our faith in a non-threatening, non-judgmental way to friends, family members and the world.

- **MennoSearch**
Ron Rempel and Kathy Shantz,
Mennonite Publishing Network
Secondary School Room 104

Participants in this seminar will be introduced to the latest Mennonite Publishing Network resources in a fun and interactive way. Come and learn about the new resources for leaders, families, church libraries and individuals from Faith and Life Resources and Herald Press.

- **Being Good Stewards of the Earth's Energy**
Darren Kropf, MCC Ontario, Jane Snyder, Greening Sacred Spaces, and Mennonite Creation Care Network
Middle School Room 134

How can your church respond to the call to faithful environmental stewardship? Join us to explore practical ways to green our churches through reducing energy consumption. Also, learn about the Mennonite Creation Care Network and how you can be a part of it. Together, we'll challenge and inspire each other to make our own emission reduction targets and support the Mennonite Church in responding to this important justice issue.

- **Using that Time Between: Intentional Interim Ministry**

Ken Bechtel, Nutana Park Mennonite Church,
Saskatoon SK and Harold Peters-Fransen,
Mennonite Church Manitoba
Secondary School Room 106

So your pastor is leaving! The time between pastors can be a fruitful time of preparation for new pastoral relationships and new ministry. This seminar will focus on this period's dynamics and opportunities and the ways in which this somewhat newer approach works at maximizing its potential benefits.

- **!Explore: God is Calling, Are You Listening?**

Jonathan Neufeld, Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary
Secondary School Room 102

By July 2007, 105 senior high youth from across North America will have been through the !Explore experience. !Explore is a program of AMBS which seeks to affirm, challenge and train youth who may be discerning God's call to leadership in the church, who are passionate about the community of faith, or who love to engage questions of faith. If you are interested in the possibility of !Explore for yourself, or you have someone in mind you would like to recommend the experience to, come to learn about !Explore: A Theological Program for High School Youth.

Words: traditional liturgical
Music: South African; arr. D. Dargie

AMENI

steadily

Ba ba ba ba bam, ba ba ba ba bam, ba ba ba ba

bam ba bam ba bam ba ba ba bam. A - me - ni, a -

- me - ni, a - men, a - men, a - men, a - me - ni. - men.

last time

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GIA Publications, Inc. from
There is One Among Us:
Shorter Songs for Worship
by John L. Bell and the Wild
Goose Worship Group (1999).

REACHING UP to God our Creator



Drawing by Cree artist Nicole Lea, Matheson Island, Manitoba

Native Ministry and Christian Education staff of Mennonite Church Canada are collaborating to develop “REACHING UP to God our Creator,” a six-session curriculum for older children and adults in our MC Canada and Aboriginal Christian congregations. The sessions are being developed by Mennonite leaders with Cree, European, Métis and Ojibway roots.

This project, which is rooted in respect and grounded in our common love for and redemption by Jesus Christ, strives to highlight the common ground between Aboriginal spirituality and the Bible. Each session is designed for use in a variety of settings and honours Jesus Christ as the fulfillment of Aboriginal sacred teachings as well as the Hebrew Scriptures.

Phase 1 of this project is complete and we plan to release the “REACHING UP to God our Creator” curriculum boxes in 2008. We will produce boxes for circulation in each area church (conference) as well as in Aboriginal communities.

We thank Canadian Women in Mission for their interest in this project and the gift they gave for the editing work needed to bring this project forward.

Watch for more information in the months to come!

*–Neill and Edith von Gunten, Co-Directors of Native Ministry
Elsie Rempel, Director, Christian Education and Nurture*



Invites you to a

FREE BREAKFAST

When: Thursday, July 5, 7:30 AM

Where : MEI Elementary School Gymnasium

Come prepared for a hearty breakfast and a short report on the work of Mennonite Men and the JoinHands Church Building Program.

Everyone is Welcome!



Admission is **LIMITED**, so *please look for volunteers in hard*

hats handing out work gloves as your ticket of admission.

THURSDAY, JULY 5

7:30-8:30 am

Free Breakfast

Sponsored by JoinHands Church Building Program,
a program of Mennonite Men

Elementary School Gym

Shuttle service not available. Check in advance at JoinHands display table for car pooling arrangements. Admission is open to anyone able to produce a work glove as provided by a JoinHands volunteer. JoinHands volunteers (under a white hard hat) will be handing out gloves at the ice cream social on Tuesday evening and at coffee break on Wednesday while quantities last. Opportunity will be given to learn more about JoinHands and how you can get involved.

8:30-8:45 am

Congregational singing

Secondary School Gym

8:45-9:30 am

Joint Worship Service for adults, youth and children

Secondary School Gym

Order of Worship – Built through Community

Welcome and Prayer of Invocation

“Built to Last” Liturgy

Congregational Singing

“Who is God’s Family?” – A Scientific Experiment with the Children

Congregational song

Scripture Reading

Story Teller – Dann Pantoja

Congregational Song

Announcements

Blessing for the Day

9:30-10:00 am

Break

Middle School Foyer and Second Floor Mezzanine

10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Discernment

(see agenda on p. 104-105 of Report Book)

Middle School Gym

10:00-11:15 am

Seminar Option for Non-delegates

I CAN READ! Literacy Work and Bible Translation in Burkina Faso

Lillian and Norm Nicolson, Mennonite Church Canada.
Middle School Room 202

Lillian and Norm will share the exciting story of how the Siamou language group is learning to read – a tremendous story of gaining access to a skill that is empowering people for a whole new life. The next step is the translation of selected Bible passages and engineering recordings of these Bible passages for mass distribution. It is an important time of new steps and expanding work in Burkina Faso.



12:00-1:15 pm

Lunch (pre-registration required)

Elementary School Gym

1:15-3:30 pm

Nature Walk sponsored by Mennonite Creation Care Network

Shuttle service not available. Sign up for the walk and for car pooling back to accommodations at the Mennonite Creation Care Network display booth. Participants meet at 1:15 in front of the Elementary School at the end of the parking lot near the swing set and play area.

The walk will follow foot trails through treed urban greenspace from MEI to Fishtrap Creek Park and back to MEI, approximately 4 kms round trip. Enjoy creation and informally discuss creation care from biblical and pragmatic perspectives. There will be several facilitators (Stan Olson, Gareth Brandt, David Clements, Rick Faw, Darren Kropf, David Neufeld, Jon Nofziger and Jane Snyder) interspersed among the group to engage in discussion along the trails and to lead a brief discussion during a break in the park.

1:00-5:00 pm

Tours (pre-registration required)

Additional tickets may be available. Check with the Information Desk for ticket availability and descriptions for the following tours:

- **The Dynamic Sikhs of Abbotsford**
(Dress code applies. No shorts permitted.)
- **Westminster Abbey, Mission BC**
(Dress code applies. No shorts permitted.)
- **Minter Gardens**
- **Golf at Chilliwack Golf and Country Club**
- **Mountain Hike**

5:30-9:00 pm

Barbecue (pre-registration required) and activities for adults, youth and children

Trinity Western University, 7600 Glover Road, Langley

Free shuttle service between the Assembly hotels and Trinity Western University available. Watch the daily newsheet and listen to daily announcements for more details. If you haven't registered for the barbecue, please bring your own meal or come for the activities.

FRIDAY, JULY 6

8:30-8:45 am

Congregational singing
Secondary School Gym

8:45-9:30 am

Joint Worship Service for adults, youth and children
Secondary School Gym

Order of Worship – Built for Purpose

Welcome and Prayer of Invocation

“Built to Last” Liturgy

Congregational Singing

Scripture Reading

Congregational Song

Time with the Children - “Blessed to be a Blessing”

Hand Washing Ceremony and Congregational Singing

Announcements

Blessing for the Day

9:30-10:00 am

Break
Middle School Foyer and Second Floor Mezzanine

10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Discernment
(see agenda on p. 104-105 of Report Book)
Middle School Gym

10:00-11:15 am

Seminar Option for Non-delegates

The Conversation for Peace in the Middle of Civil War – Mindanao, Philippines

Daniel and Joji Pantoja, Mennonite Church Canada
Middle School Room 201

Part of a coalition of groups, the Pantojas’ ministry is building “peace houses” in the conflict zones of Mindanao. Dynamic conversations take place which invite creative solutions to long standing civil war. They will engage you in how their ministry with both Christians and Muslims is transforming how people see each other. Your imagination will be sparked with what God can do when we are willing witnesses for peace.

12:00-1:15 pm

Lunch (pre-registration required)
Elementary School Gym

1:15-2:30 pm

Seminars
(see following pages)

2:30-3:00 pm

Break
Middle School Foyer and Second Floor Mezzanine

3:00-5:30 pm

Discernment
(see agenda on p. 104-105 of Report Book)
Middle School Gym

5:30-7:00 pm

Dinner (pre-registration required)
Elementary School Gym

5:30-7:00

CMBC/CMU Alumni and Friends Gathering (pre-registration required)

Emmanuel Mennonite Church
3471 Clearbrook Road, Abbotsford
Shuttle service available



6:45-7:00 pm

Congregational Singing
Middle School Gym

7:00-8:30 pm

Closing Worship Service
Middle School Gym

Order of Worship – Built to Last

Welcome and Prayer of Invocation

Call to Worship

“Built to Last” Liturgy

Congregational Singing

Special Music – Conference Choir

Prayer

Offering

Congregational Singing

Scripture Reading – Matthew 16:15 and Revelation 21:1-6

Message – Janet Plenert

Congregational Song of Response

Communion

Special Music – Conference Choir

Commissioning

Congregational Song

Benediction

Sending Song

Seminars (for Friday, July 6)

The complete list of youth and adult seminars offered during this time is included here. Go to whatever interests you and enjoy meeting some of the youth attending the assembly!

- **An Education Built to Last**

Aaron Roorda, Columbia Bible College, Mary Brubaker-Zehr, Conrad Grebel University College, and Stephen Redekop, Canadian Mennonite University
Middle School Room 202

Are you looking for adventure? Do you want to dig deeper? Seeking to build a framework for your life? Explore your options in Mennonite Christian higher education that is built to last. Hear about quality education options at Columbia Bible College, Conrad Grebel University College, and the Canadian Mennonite University.

- **Sing the Story**

Marilyn Houser Hamm
Secondary School Chapel

Sing the Story is the second supplement to Hymnal a Worship Book. The first supplement, *Sing the Journey*, focuses on the life and mission of the church. This second worship book sings the story of Jesus from advent and birth through his ministry, death and resurrection, ending with Pentecost. The seminar will introduce you to the songs and worship resources that your congregation will come to love. Bring your copy with you!

- **The Conversation for Peace in the Middle of Civil War – Mindanao, Philippines**

Daniel and Joji Pantoja, Mennonite Church Canada
Middle School Room 201

Part of a coalition of groups, the Pantojas' ministry is building "peace houses" in the conflict zones of Mindanao. Dynamic conversations take place which invite creative solutions to long standing civil war. They will engage you in how their ministry with both Christians and Muslims is transforming how people see each other. Your imagination will be sparked with what God can do when we are willing witnesses for peace.

- **Introducing the New Pastor and Congregation Evaluation Packet**

Sven Eriksson, Mennonite Church Canada
Secondary School Room 242

Evaluation of the leadership and ministry of a congregation is natural and desirable. Evaluation happens, and a carefully designed evaluation process is vital for the health and growth of both pastor and congregation. What is involved in a healthy evaluation process? Is there an approach to evaluation that fits your congregation? This workshop will introduce the new packet and explore the challenges of doing an evaluation.

- **Does God Care about Global Warming?**

Betty Pries, Mennonite Church Canada Faith and Life Committee
Secondary School Room 106

What do Mennonite scientists and theologians think is the most pressing environmental issue facing us today? What can the dialogue between science and theology teach us about the way ahead? Using a panel presentation involving both scientists and theologians, this workshop will explore these and other questions. Opportunity will be given for comments and questions from workshop participants.

- **Disaster Preparedness for Congregations**

Leonard Klassen, Mennonite Disaster Service
Middle School Room 133

"Built to last"... are you sure? Come out to hear about what you and your congregation can do to be prepared for disaster in your community. Is your building safe, secure, and prepared? Do your members know what to do in a disaster situation - both while at church and in their homes? Does your congregation have a plan to take care of vulnerable congregants during disasters? What about a pandemic - does the local congregation have a place in preparing for this possible disaster? Materials prepared by MDS and other respected organizations will be handed out and discussed.

- **Honouring Scripture in Worship**

Arlyn Friesen Epp, Mennonite Church Canada
Middle School Room 134

Scripture "telling" is at the heart of worship, the focus from which our response in song, prayer and sermon grows. This workshop will look at the special ministry role of the "teller", offer practical tips for the teller's own preparation and delivery of the text, and examine the place of scripture in shaping our worship experience.

- **GAMEO: What's in it for You?**

Richard Thiessen, Columbia Bible College and Alf Redekopp, Mennonite Church Canada
Secondary School Room 202

You will be introduced to the Global Anabaptist Mennonite Encyclopedia Online (GAMEO). GAMEO makes reliable information on Anabaptist-Mennonites freely available on the web. It receives over 1300 visitors a day (April 2007). You will learn about the information already available (over 7000 articles), and how you can become part of the ongoing project.

- **Friends, Partners and Faith: An Emerging Partnership Model for Native Ministry**

Henry Kliewer, Mennonite Church BC and Neill and Edith von Gunten, Mennonite Church Canada
Secondary School Room 204



Hear the story of four partners: Mennonite Church Canada Native Ministry, Mennonite Church BC, Church of the Way – Granisle BC and the Aboriginal group living in the region working together. Be inspired by a partnership model for ministry in our Canadian context! Can we imagine opportunities together?

- **You Can't Take it With You: Charitable Giving and Estate Planning**

Sherri Grosz, Mennonite Foundation of Canada and Evelyn Buhr, Canadian Women in Mission
Middle School Room 203

Sherri Grosz will help participants think about gifting of money, making wills, and estate planning. This time together with Sherri will be an opportunity to consider these important aspects of managing resources.

- **Christian Faith and Other Faiths: An Optimistic View**

Jim Pankratz, Conrad Grebel University College
Secondary School Room 206

This seminar will explore the biblical, theological and historical basis for being optimistic about the interactions between Christians and people of other faiths. Jesus Christ can be Good News in a religiously plural world.

- **On Becoming a Global Church**

Ray Brubacher, Mennonite World Conference and Janet Plenert, Mennonite Church Canada
Secondary School Room 237

One of MC Canada's three priorities is becoming a global church. Why is that important? How do we know when we are getting there? What role can Mennonite World Conference play in achieving that goal? In what ways can the world assembly in Paraguay in 2009 help us on this journey?

- **Co-creating with God: A Heart to Heart Experience**

Douglas Horst, Eglise Evangelique Mennonite de Joliette, Joliette QC
Secondary School Room 239

Is God still creating today? Does He still want to share his heart with us? Let us seek together to think God's thoughts, pray God's prayers and do God's works that will be built to last. Practical tools and life experiences will be shared about God co-creating in Joliette QC.

- **Second-Hand Pants**

Gareth Brandt, Columbia Bible College
Secondary School Room 241

This workshop is a Bible study that will challenge participants with alternatives to the consumer lifestyle.

- **The Problem (?) of Evil in Revelation**

Mike Perschon,
Holyrood Mennonite Church, Edmonton AB
Middle School Room 204

A look at the book of Revelation which lets the sensationalism get 'Left Behind' and focuses on the hope and promise of the message. This seminar seeks to study the mysterious symbolism of the book to both illuminate and retain the mystery of this wonderful apocalyptic writing.

- **SEX!!!**

Kyle and Ashley Penner,
Springfield Heights Mennonite Church, Winnipeg MB
Secondary School Room 104

Got your attention, didn't it? Sex sells. Discipleship doesn't. Come explore the gifts of spirituality, sex, your body and relationships. Let's talk about something that is everywhere in our world but rarely talked about in healthy ways.

- **Your Freedom is Bound up with Mine**

Jon Nofziger, Mennonite Central Committee BC
Secondary School Room 102

Service – what comes to mind? A one-way action? What about the reciprocal effect? This seminar will explore insights on how service is a tapestry of relationships in which both the server and the person served (perhaps with others in between) give and receive.

Supplement to Report Book

Caring for Creation is the Will of God

God longs for the well-being and health of the whole world, for all of creation is bound together and belongs to God, who has created and who preserves all things. Our concern for faithfulness and discipleship should also lead us to care for creation. We believe that we are called to commit ourselves to be good stewards of the earth.

Such a call invites the church to consider several questions:

(1) To whom does creation belong?

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it; for he had founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers. Ps. 24:1-2 (See also Gen. 1:12, 18, 21, 25, 31; Gen. 9:12-13; Lev. 25:8-12; Ps. 19:1; Ps. 24:1-10; Job 39-41; Matt. 6:26-29; Rev. 21:1-4).

(2) What is the rightful place of humanity in creation?

God blessed them, and God said to them. Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth. Gen. 1:28 (See also Gen. 1:26-28; Ps. 8; Phil. 2:1-11).

(3) What does the care of creation have to do with God's plan of salvation?

For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross. Col. 1:19-20 (See also 2 Cor. 5: 17-19; Rom. 8:18-25)

(4) How is creation care an expression of justice and peacemaking and the love of my neighbour?

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength... [and] you shall love your neighbour as yourself. Mark 12:30-31 (See also Exod. 23:1-12; Isa. 52:7; Luke 4:18-19).

(5) What is the future of creation?

For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. Rom. 8:19-21 (See also Rev. 21:1-2)

(6) What is our future?

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult. Ps. 46:1-2 (See also Matt. 6:26-29)

—Rudy Baergen, Chair, on behalf of Faith and Life Committee



Additional Nominee

GENERAL BOARD

Gordon Peters, Saskatoon SK (Nutana Park Mennonite Church)

Occupation: Proprietor, GFP Business Services

Local church involvements: Served as church treasurer for 6 years and participated on many other community boards, both in Saskatoon and in the Arctic. Our family is involved in many community and church activities.

Other vocational and volunteer experience: Bachelor's Degree of Science in Agriculture Economics. Taught vocational agriculture in Tanzania with MCC. Managed a small Inuit run co-op in Holman, NWT and Kugluktuk, Nunavut for Arctic Co-operatives. Directed Ten Thousand Villages program for MCC Saskatchewan. Now runs GFP Business Services providing bookkeeping, business support and personal income tax services. Married to Geraldine Balzer, father of two daughters in high school and junior high.

Special interests: Music is very important, both performing and listening to it.

Vision/Goal for MC Canada: The treasurer's job is easiest if the programming put together by MC Canada meets the needs and aspirations of its members. MC Canada is still working at creating its own identity as a "young" organization. These can be exciting times and full of challenges. As MC Canada deals with the issues the congregations are facing on a regular basis, MC Canada needs to find a way to respond to them and support their journeys.



Looking for the Right Tool?



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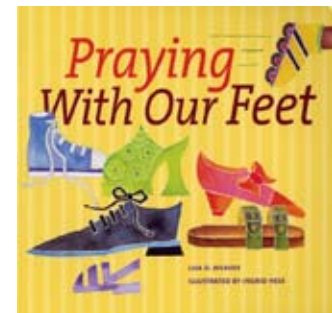
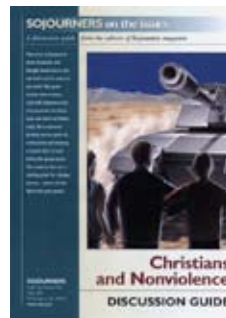
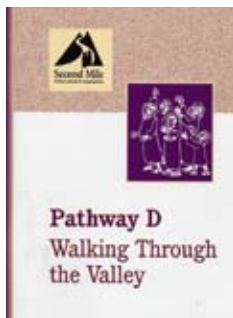
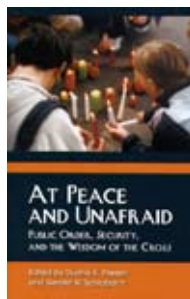
Peace Resources

Mennonite Church Canada
Resource Centre

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www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/184

Including:



Alternative Service website: www.alternativeservice.ca

MCC "Armed and Ready" website: <http://mcc.org/canadaarmed/>

Conscience Canada website: www.consciencecanada.ca

Member of Parliament Contact Information: www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/358

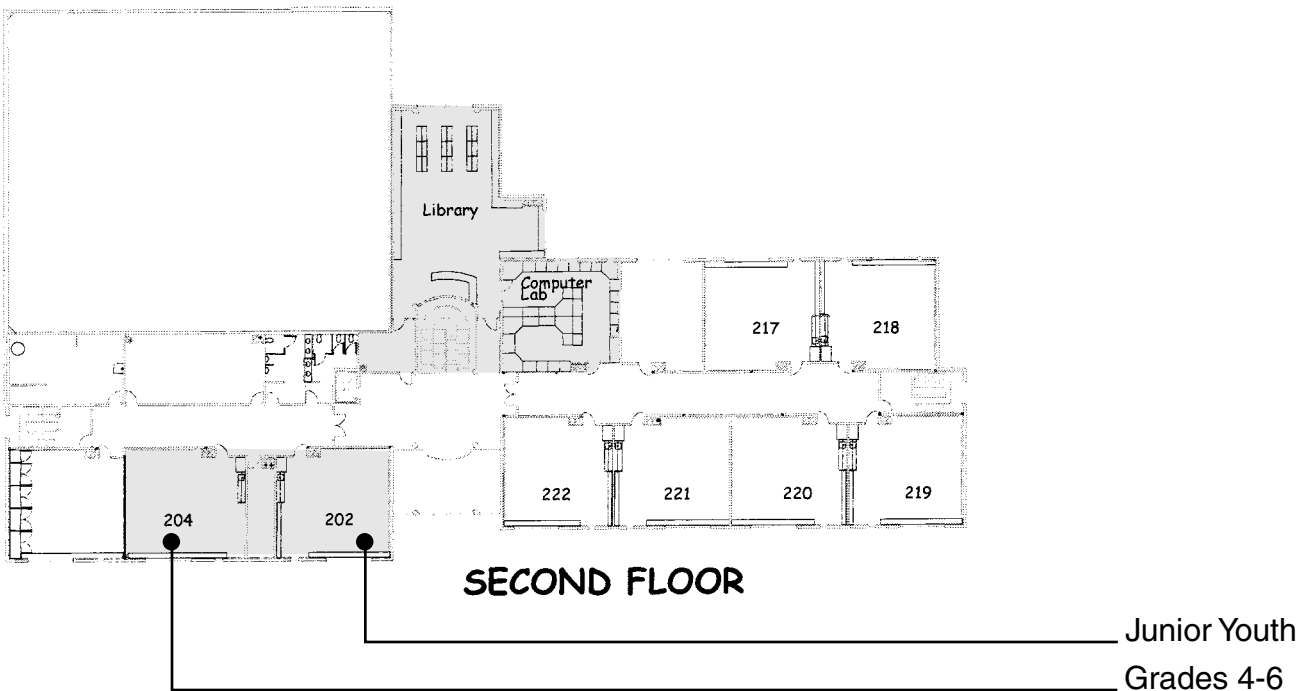
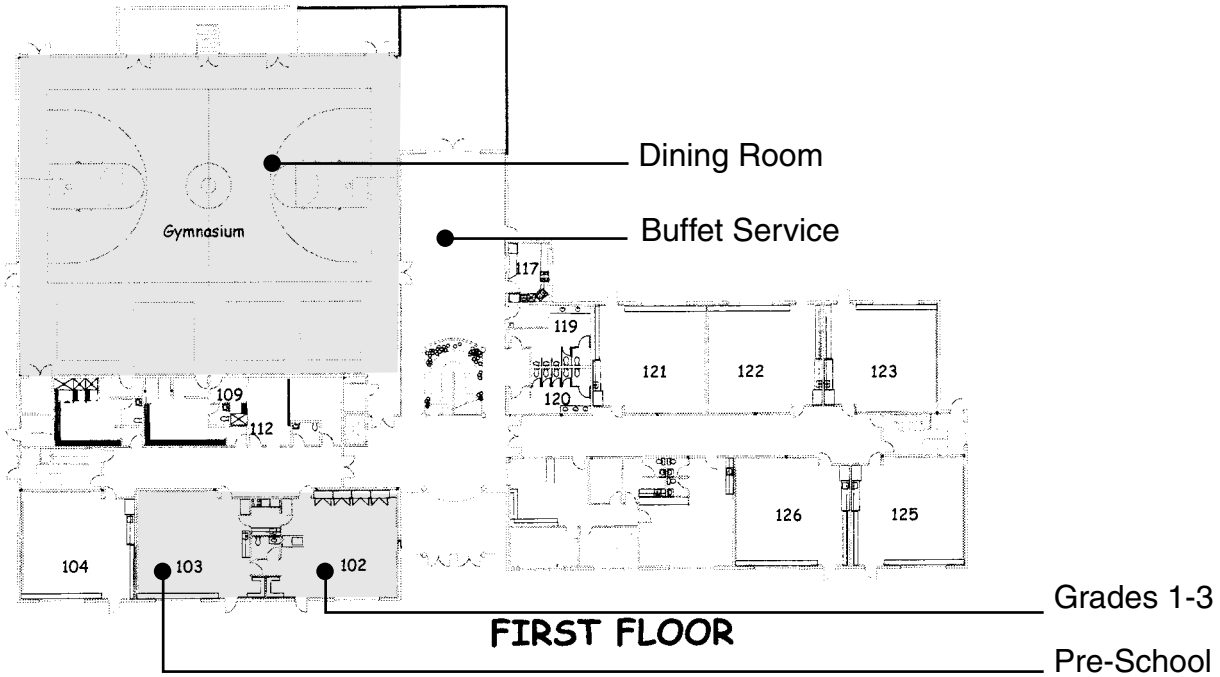
Mennonite Church Canada Resource Centre
600 Shaftesbury Blvd, Winnipeg, MB R3P 0M4
1-866-888-6785 x 152 (888-6781 in Wpg)

resources@mennonitechurch.ca

online catalogue: www.mennonitechurch.ca/resourcecentre

Loan items are free for Mennonite Church Canada constituents; a \$10.00 annual membership fee applies to others
Many additional items for sale and free download

MEI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



MEI MIDDLE SCHOOL

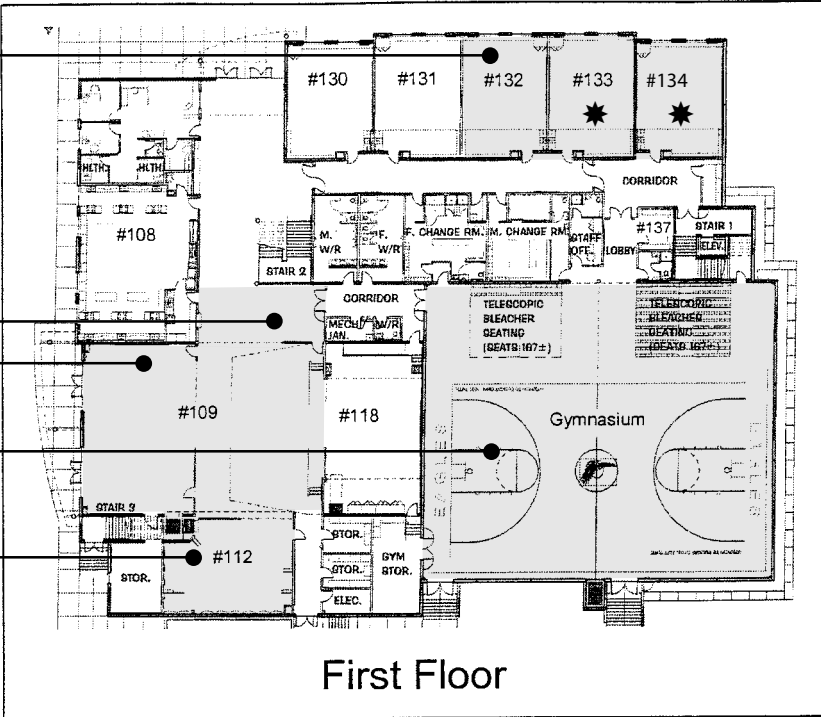
Nursery
 * Seminars

Registration and Information

Displays

Discernment and Evening Worship

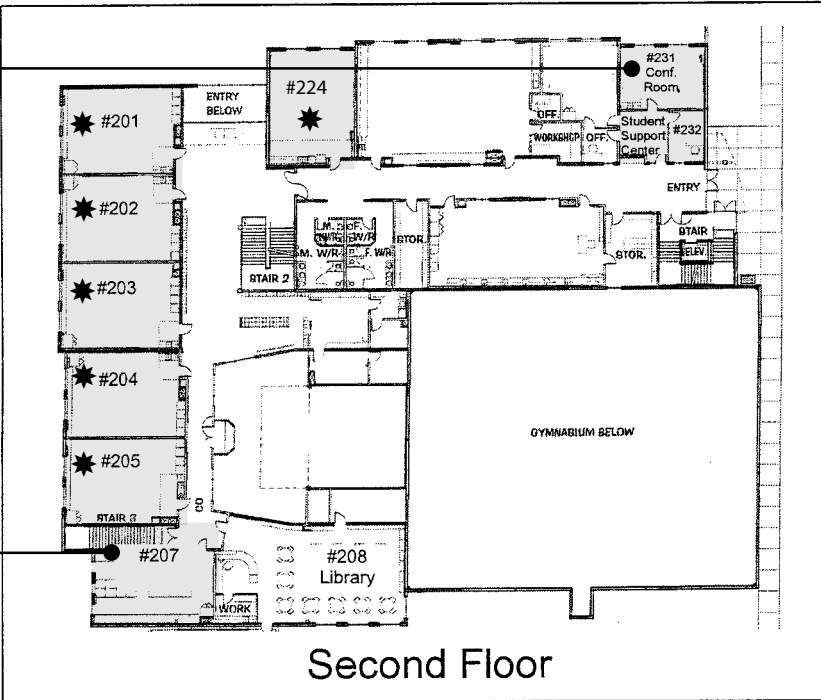
Bookstore



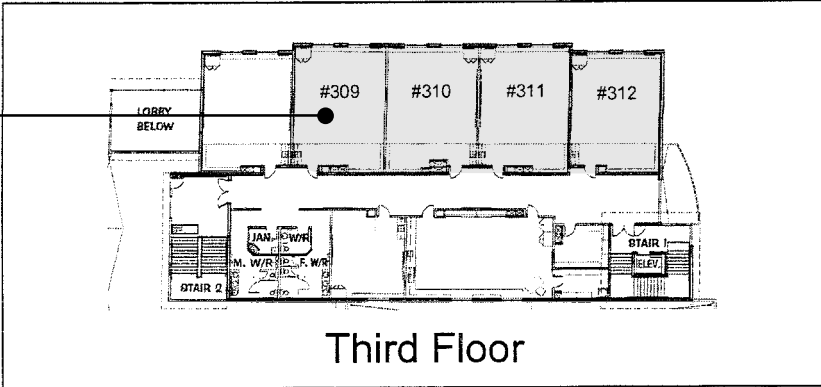
MC Canada Office

* Seminars

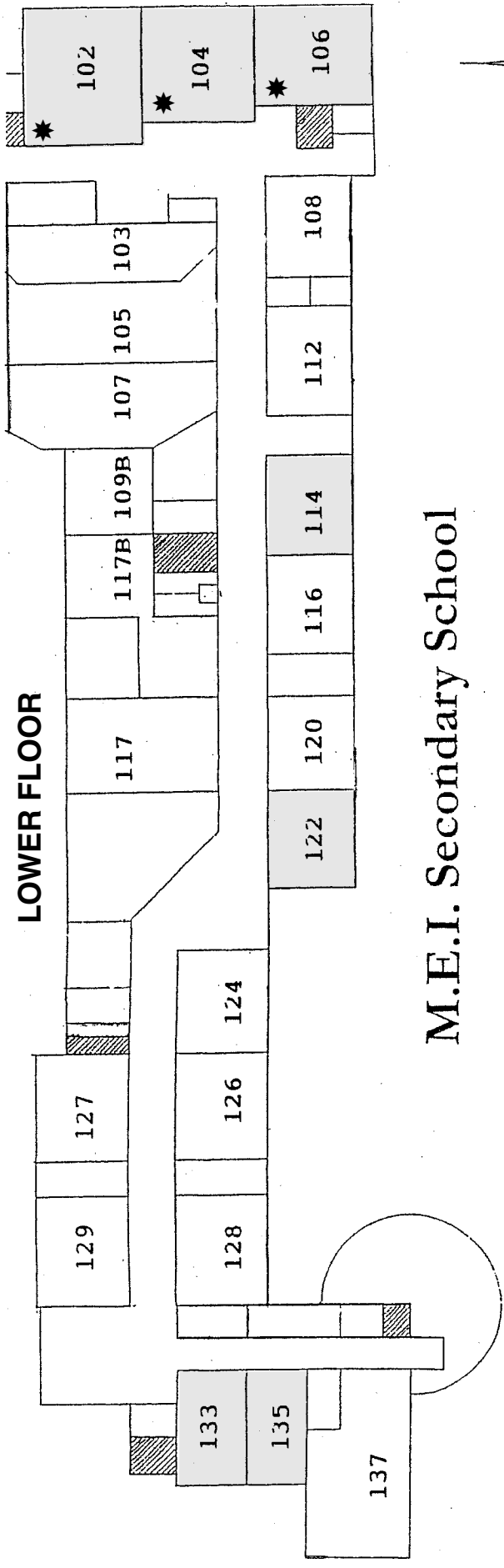
Computer Lab hours:
 1 pm - 6 pm



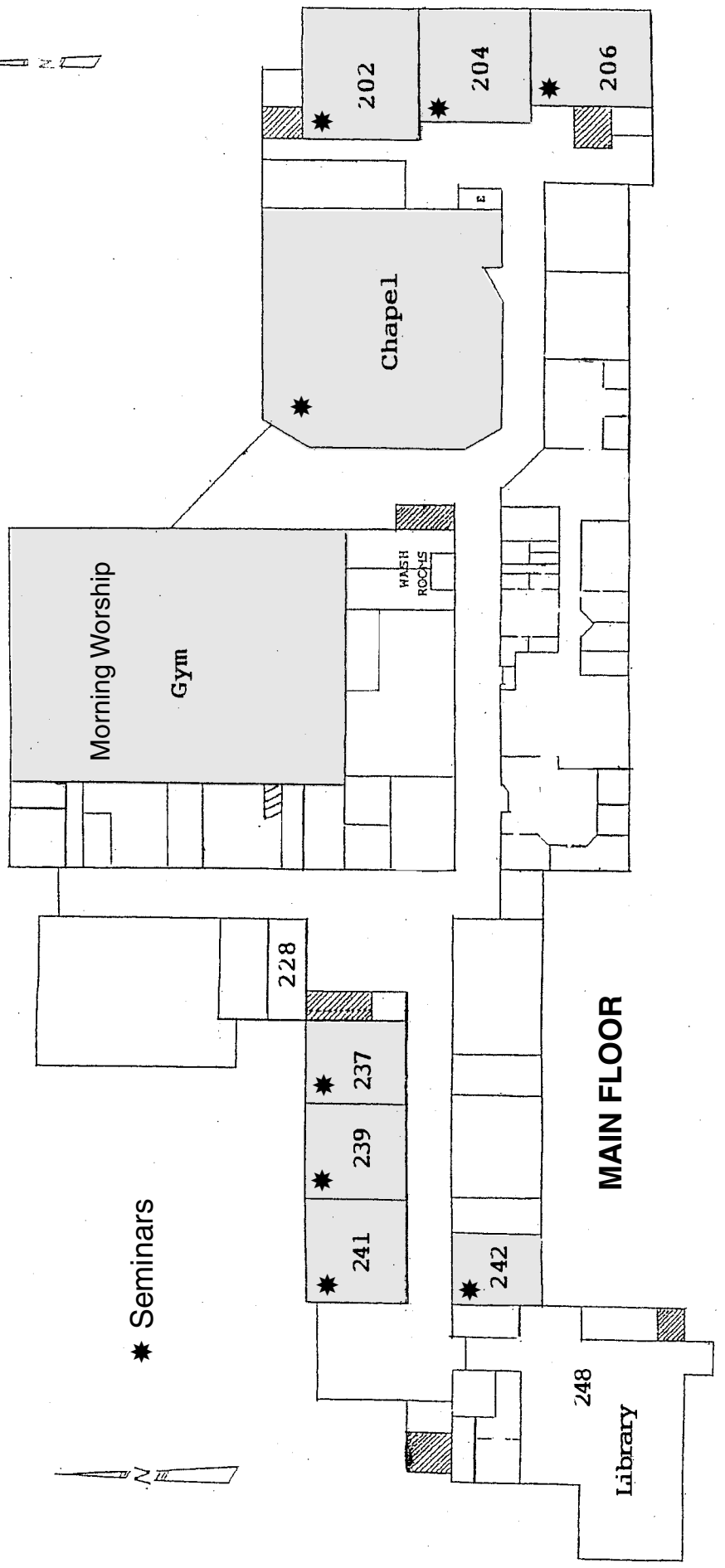
Prayer Space



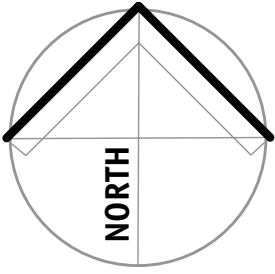
MEI SECONDARY SCHOOL



M.E.I. Secondary School

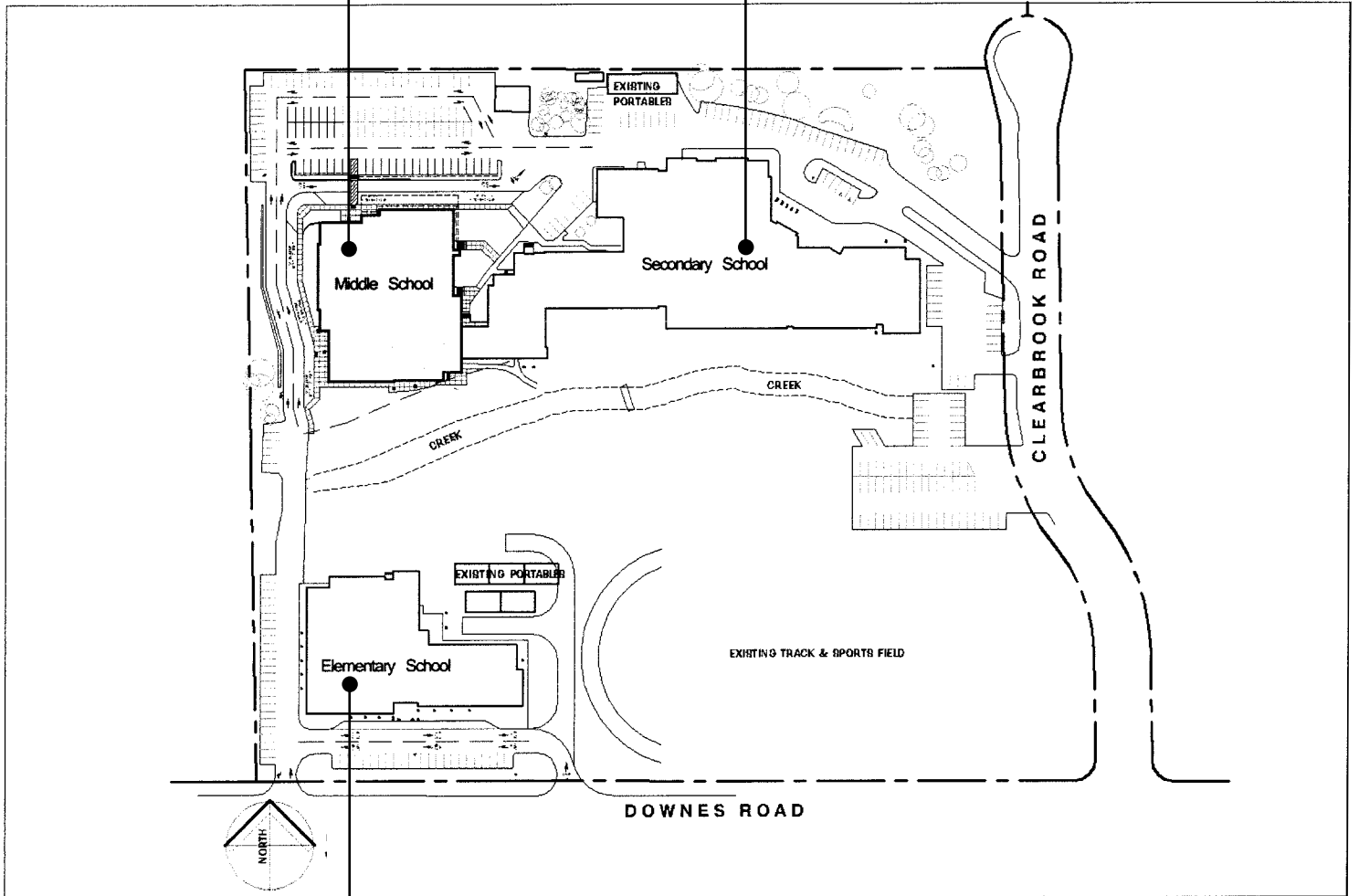


MEI SITE PLAN



- Discernment
- Evening Worship
- Registration/Information
- Displays & Bookstore
- Seminars
- Nursery

- Youth Assembly Area
- Morning Worship
- Seminars



- Meals
- Kids Assembly for Pre-School, Elementary and Junior Youth