



“PLEASE THANK THE WOMEN IN CANADA”

Mennonite women from around the world asked to pass on thanks to you for the beautiful cards they received at the Mennonite World Conference (MWC) in Asuncion, Paraguay July, 2009.



You gave a blessing to approximately 540 women with these cards. Recipients responded in writing, with notes like the following: *“Thanks so much for sending a special gift for us. I will be praying for who made my card. Many blessings, Lizette”*; or *“Liebe Sylvia Regier, Danke für die Karte. Bin Anita Regier, Filadelfia, Chaco. Ob wir verwandt sind?”* And *“Helen Klassen - thank you for taking the time to create and send such a lovely greeting. Warm regards from Paraguay!”* We received 88 heartfelt notes like these written in English, Spanish, German, and Low German.

We never know how, where or when God will work. A young woman picked up a card made by Katie, a Canadian woman, which read “Dream” on the outside. She started to cry when she read on the inside “God has your dreams in His hands”. This woman had been going through depression and the doctor told her to now look to the future and dream.

She said God sent that card to her and it will be kept in her Bible as a constant reminder of God’s Spirit working.



Making cards for Paraguay at Mennonite Women Canada annual meeting in Saskatoon, June 2009.

Angela wrote, *“Thank you very much for your card. I’m Brazilian, and I’m a missionary in Mozambique. Now I’m in medical treatment for depression, but I’m starting to dream again to be back in Africa. Your card is beautiful. I love it. God bless you. Angela.”*

Naomi Unger, member of the MWC executive, at our Annual Meeting in Saskatoon noted that the Apostle Paul always sent greetings to the churches and that these cards were likewise greetings of love and peace.



Handing out cards and writing responses in Paraguay at Mennonite World Conference, July, 2009.



ANNUAL MEETING NOTES

We Have A New Name

Some time ago I suggested that the well loved coat that is Canadian Women in Mission might be in need of updating. As part of this updating, a 2/3's majority ballot vote at our Annual Meeting June 5, 2009 declared our new name to be MENNONITE WOMEN CANADA.

For more information, see the article "A new name and a new life" in the June 22, 2009 issue of *Canadian Mennonite* (page 9) or online at www.canadianmennonite.org.

Also during the meeting, an offering was taken. The proceeds of \$1,145 were shared between Saskatchewan campership program and our international ministry in Colombia.



Ruby Harder, President, Saskatchewan Women in Mission relaxing after hosting the annual meeting, with Shirley Redekop, left, and Ruth Jantzi, right.

*Photos courtesy of Waltrude Gortzen & Alf Koop
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Please keep Mennonite Church Canada international workers Anne Garber Kompaore (Burkina Faso) and Hinke Loewen Rudgers (Holy Land) in your prayers.

"As each has received a gift, employ it for one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace." 1 Peter 4:10

NEWS:

- The Nominations Committee is looking for a **President-Elect, Secretary and Treasurer for July 2010**. The committee consists of Ev Buhr, Alberta, Chair, Ruby Harder, Saskatchewan and Shirley Redekop, Ontario.
- **Mennonite Women Canada** donated \$2,500 to Mennonite Church Canada's Christian Witness ministry designated for resources and workshops to address spiritual needs of seniors.
- Look for the **TASK FORCE SURVEY** that will arrive at your congregation, and/or your women's group this fall. We encourage you to discuss this Survey in groups and respond as soon as possible.
- Visit our **redesigned and updated web site** at <http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/mwc/>.
- Kara Carter, Milverton, Ontario and Virginia Gerbrandt, Leamington, Ontario are receiving financial assistance for Seminary training for the school year 2009/10.

LOOKING AHEAD:

- **October 16-17:** Saskatchewan Women in Mission Retreat at Shekinah Retreat Centre. ***God Working in the World***. Women pastors participating in IMPaCT (International Mennonite Pastors Coming Together, a program of Mennonite Church Canada) will be visiting.
- **October 16-18:** British Columbia Mennonite Women's Ministries Retreat at Camp Squeah. ***Women Who Walked with Jesus***. Guest speaker: Sheila Klassen-Wiebe, Professor at Canadian Mennonite University.
- **October 24:** Women of Mennonite Church Eastern Canada Enrichment Day at Listowel Mennonite Church. ***Following Christ in our Time***. Guest speakers: Hedy Sawadsky & Barbara Martens.

♥ *Mennonite Women Canada is pleased to receive gifts in recognition of women who have been important to you.* ♥

<http://mennonitechurch.ca/mwc/>