

January 2005, *Equipping*

Please insert these prayer requests and notes into your bulletin. Remember, you can also find these at www.mennonitechurch.ca/equipping for easy "cut and paste" insertion.

Date	Prayer Requests: Please pray for the work of the Church!	Announcements: Stay in tune with the wider church	Witness Notes: This is how your financial support of Mennonite Church Canada WITNESS is ministering... from across the street to around the world!
Jan 2, 2005	O generous God who has blessed with the salvation of Jesus Christ, help us in this new year to be so energized by Christ's power and so moved by Christ's compassion that as a church we will be hospitable and welcoming to all who hunger and thirst for God's love.	This is the time of year when many congregations practice the tradition of devoting themselves to a sustained period of prayer. To help guide you, check out the Prayer Week materials at http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/resources/prayer/pw05.htm	As churches look at the year(s) ahead and consider what impact they might have in our communities across the nation and around the world, Mennonite Church Canada WITNESS Congregational Partnership staff are available to work with churches in visioning. Your support assists churches in their visioning and planning process.
Jan 9, 2005	Robert J. Suderman, Executive Secretary for Mennonite Church Canada WITNESS, is taking a professional development study leave until early April. A part of this time will be spent in church leadership training and leading a learning tour in Cuba. Please pray for Janet Plenert and Kathy Fast who carry on the work of Christian Witness during his leave.	This is the time of year when many congregations practice the tradition of devoting themselves to a sustained period of prayer. To help guide you, check out the Prayer Week materials at http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/resources/prayer/pw05.htm	Seven pastors and evangelists are participating in a new three year program of study at the Benin Bible Institute which offers Biblical and theological courses as well as training in agriculture and technology to permit them to supplement their meager income. Your financial gifts to Mennonite Church Canada support Bruce Yoder & Nancy Frey as teaching staff at BBI.
Jan 16, 2005	Pray for Omar Cortes-Gaibur, Mennonite Church Canada WITNESS worker in Chile, who was elected as the Executive Secretary of the Latin American Theological Fraternity in this last year. Pray for him and the influence this group can have across the region.	There is still time to help grow and fulfill our Mennonite Church Canada Ministry commitments for the 2004-2005 fiscal year. Your gifts are celebrated around the world!	Abi, a 15 year old girl who has never gone to school, is just learning to read and helps Lillian Haas, Mennonite Church Canada WITNESS worker in Burkina Faso, test the literacy lessons she is creating. Your support develops the ability to read the Scriptures as they are translated into the Siamou language.
Jan 23, 2005	Werner & Adelia Neufeld Wiens and Evelyn Peterson, Mission Associates with Mennonite Church Canada WITNESS, are teaching at Rosslyn Academy in Nairobi Kenya. Pray for them and the multi-national staff and students as they interact and find opportunities to share their faith.	There is still time to help grow and fulfill our Mennonite Church Canada Ministry commitments for the 2004-2005 fiscal year. Your gifts are celebrated around the world!	Cheryl Woelk, Mennonite Church Canada WITNESS worker in South Korea, has set up a new English Peace Education program at the Korea Anabaptist Centre. Children and parents are learning about peace together. Your support helps share God's message of reconciliation around the world.
Jan 30, 2005	In the cold, bleak darkness of mid-winter, remember those in your congregation who struggle with depression. Pray that they might be encouraged and strengthened by the One whose light and love streams into every dark corner of our world.	There is still time to help grow and fulfill our Mennonite Church Canada Ministry commitments for the 2004-2005 fiscal year. Your gifts are celebrated around the world!	The weekly youth and young adult meetings being held in a new church plant in Bari, Italy, are encouraging because their excitement in serving and sharing God's love with others is evident. Your support provides leadership through Jason & Donna Martens, Mennonite Church Canada WITNESS workers who are involved with the emerging congregation.