



Prayer, notes and news

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July/August 2003, *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: Consider praying for the work of the Church!	Announcements: Stay in tune with wider church events	Witness Notes: This is how your financial support of Mennonite Church Canada WITNESS is ministering... from across the street to around the world!
For Sunday, June 22 & 29, 2003		Some Mennonite Church Canada assembly materials may note conflicting times for the joint youth/adult worship on Saturday evening (July 12). Please note that worship will begin at 7:30 PM. All are invited to attend any of the assembly worship times!	
For Sunday, July 6, 2003	Pray for the Mennonite Church Canada Assembly this morning as participants gather this coming week to worship and praise God. Ask God to guide delegates and leaders as they discern the ministries and mission of MC Canada into the future.	Please repeat the June 22nd and 29th announcement (above). Prayer, notes and news is a compilation of the resources that we have been sending out under the names "Witness Notes" and "Prayer Requests."	Jake & Dorothy Unrau, who have worked 5 years in Zaporizhzhya, Ukraine, are completing their assignment and returning to Canada for the summer months, before beginning new work in Germany. The church in Zaporizhzhya has found a local couple, Ivan & Violetta Duschenko to take over the leadership. Your support of the ministries in Ukraine is still needed as MC Canada WITNESS provides assistance to the Duschenko's ongoing work.
For Sunday, July 13, 2003	Today we close the annual assembly of Mennonite Church Canada in St. Catharines. Please pray for the safe return of travelers, and for volunteer leaders newly elected to Council, Committee, and General Board posts. Pray that they may be enthused, energized, and engaged in their work. Pray also for those who are continuing their appointments. Thank God for the gifts and talents of the many committed workers in congregations and in the wider church.	Using this format, all requests for prayer, announcements, as well as ministry updates can be found in one place in <i>Equipping</i>. Let us know how this works for your congregation!	This past week, Congregational Partnership staff was involved in a number of workshops at the Mennonite Church Canada Annual Assembly in St. Catherines. Your gifts to MC Canada WITNESS assists in connecting congregations with each other and with WITNESS ministries and workers.
For Sunday, July 20, 2003	Today just over 60 people are gathered in Pinawa, MB for the final day of the Mission Seminar, where International Mission Workers, MC Canada Witness and Mennonite Mission Network staff have been learning from each other as they look ahead at what God has set before them. Pray for God's continued guidance and strength as each one of them steps out in faith – to be God's ambassadors, sharing our Saviour's reconciling love.	For Manitoba Congregations: Caribbean Celebration. View art and crafts from throughout the Caribbean and by Caribbean-Canadian artists from across Canada at the MHC Gallery, 600 Shaftesbury Blvd. from July 25 – August 1.	Today is the last day of the Witness Mission Seminar, where new MC Canada WITNESS workers who are leaving for an assignment and returned International workers get together for five days of orientation. Your support of MC Canada WITNESS International Ministries assists in preparing our mission workers as they reach out and work in cross-cultural settings.

Date	Prayer Requests	Announcements	Witness Notes
For Sunday, July 27, 2003	Lillian Haas, MC Canada Witness worker in Burkina Faso, has returned to her village after 7 months of language study, has begun developing a writing system (orthography) for the Siamou language, and is creating literacy materials. Praise God that a helper has come forward to assist in this literacy project. Pray for an openness to the Gospel and for effective resources to be developed.		Glen Witmer, MC Canada WITNESS worker in Israel, has helped set up an intern program over the summer months for students to experience and participate in Mennonite ministries among Palestinian & Israeli Christian, Muslim and Jewish people. Your gifts to MC Canada WITNESS work at keeping the different groups in dialogue – seeking ways to bring about reconciliation and peace in Israel.
For Sunday, Aug. 3, 2003	Cliff and Natasha Dueck, MC Canada Witness workers in Ukraine, are involved in Bible studies with youth on a weekly basis. Natasha works with a group of girls and Cliff with the boys. Pray that the time they spend with these young adults will be fruitful as they disciple them to become followers of Jesus.	For Der Bote readers: The Aug 6, #16 issue of <i>Der Bote</i> features two Bible meditations and questions for reflection. These are suitable both for personal use and Sunday school classes or study groups.	Pat & Rad Houmphan of Thailand, and Rudy & Elsie Frose, recently returned from Brazil, are presently in Canada speaking in churches across Canada and the US. Your financial gifts to Mennonite Church Canada Witness will help them connect you with stories of healing and hope in many parts of the world.
For Sunday, Aug. 10, 2003	About 5,000 delegates and visitors from around the world will converge on Bulawayo, Zimbabwe this week for the Mennonite World Conference Assembly. Pray for God's Spirit to be poured out on all as they gather, worship, visit, sing and praise God.		Samson Lo, director of Multi-Cultural Ministry with MC Canada WITNESS, is working at connecting leadership in churches newer to MC Canada with Anabaptist teachings. Samson provides workshops and resource materials translated into different languages. Your financial support helps build up these churches and links them with the larger church body.
For Sunday, Aug. 17, 2003	Bonnie Klassen, Mission Associate to Mennonite Church Canada Witness, writes from Bogotá, Colombia about the atrocities that people suffer. Pray for the peace witness for the church in Colombia as they work in the midst of this violent context. Pray that God's desire for peace and reconciliation becomes a reality.		Janet Plenert, Executive Director for International Ministries with Mennonite Church Canada WITNESS, will attend the Global Mission Fellowship in conjunction with Mennonite World Conference. Your support helps realize new potential for mission as leaders partner with each other around the world.
For Sunday, Aug. 24, 2003	The third session for the Leadership in a Missional Church course will be taking place in two weeks. Pray for the resource people as they prepare, and for the participants as they gain a clearer understanding of how the church's mission and our Anabaptist identity seek to align all parts of the church with God's purpose and mission in the world. Pray also that the participants will feel enabled to assist our congregations in a similar process.		Glyn Jones and Susan Allison-Jones, with their two daughters, have just begun their language study and work in Botswana this month where they will be providing leadership training with the African Indigenous Church leaders in a region struggling to fight against AIDs. Your financial gifts assist Glyn and Susan and local churches to respond as God's ambassadors to the daily realities in these communities.
For Sunday, Aug. 31, 2003	Pray today for Mennonite Publishing Network as they work with Mennonite Church USA and Mennonite Church Canada in discerning essential resources for the church in Canada and the USA. Remember Eleanor Snyder, recently appointed as Director of Faith and Life Resources for Mennonite Publishing Network, as she guides this process.		Cheryl Woelk has been working in Korea this past year with the Korean Anabaptist Center under the Internship program of MC Canada WITNESS. She has renewed her commitment to continued development of the peace program at the Korean Anabaptist Centre. Your support helps build up resources for a people seeking Christ's way of peace.