

July-August, 2004, *Equipping*



Enough for all and leftovers:

The theme for the Mennonite Church Canada Winkler Assembly/04, taken from Jesus' feeding of the 5000, is "**Enough for all.**" The text actually goes beyond "enough" to "leftovers." The movement in the text (John 6) is startling. It goes from nothing - to a little bit - to enough - to leftovers. The story moves from scarcity to abundance.

What makes this movement possible? Several clues are given:

- There was significant ministry going on: people were healed, and people noticed;
- Some resources were discovered (loaves and fish);
- There was organization (seating, blessing, distribution, gathering up);
- There was thanksgiving and sharing;
- There was enough;
- There were leftovers.

These elements remind me of some of the recent learning tours Mennonite Church Canada Witness has led.

- Our eyes are opened to significant ministry that is going on.
- We become aware that some resources are available.
- There is heightened interest in the organization needed to make healthy use of what is available.
- There is thanksgiving, celebration, and sharing.
- In some cases, our budgets for those ministries are met and even "over-subscribed."
- We are amazed by what is possible when small things are shared for common ministry.

We are tentatively planning additional opportunities to experience the multiplication of ministry first-hand. Please be informed of the following possibilities:

- MennoProject: to Colombia: late January to mid-February/05;
- Get-to-know-the-church-tour to Cuba: late January to mid-February/05;
- Learning tour to Southern Africa: spring of 2005;
- Learning tour to China: fall of 2005.

The number of participants, in each case, is limited.

We look forward to seeing you all in Winkler, in July/04. There will be additional information available for those interested in exploring these opportunities.

