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May 2009, *Equipping* #96



## Let go and let God

It is often assumed that MC Canada's priority of becoming a global church will be an effort led by MC Canada Witness, and specifically, our International Ministries department. In reality we work at this priority in a variety of ways, in every part of MC Canada. One of the most surprising ways I think we work at this is to 'let go and let God'. Let me explain.

In the book of Acts we read of God's plan for the spread of the church, empowered by the Holy Spirit, "in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (2:8). At some point Paul received a vision to "come over to Macedonia and help us" (16:9) He immediately went, together with Silas. We don't know what all happened, but we have recorded in Romans 15:26 that the believers in Macedonia have collected an offering for the poor in Jerusalem! So the generous giving of resources goes full circle.

While MC Canada has a history of over 100 years of international ministry, younger churches, several of which God called us to help start, have more recently heard their 'Macedonian call', and are now going out, in faith, with the little they have, convinced that 'God has called (them) to proclaim the good news.' (16:10)

The Global Mission Fellowship is a global Anabaptist mission networking body whose purpose is to facilitate the collaboration, cooperation and mission vision from everywhere to everywhere. MC Canada is a member of the GMF, along with 70 other national churches and mission agencies from nearly 40 countries. Part of our 'becoming a global church' is to offer our financial and administrative support to the GMF, in a sense getting out of the way and letting other 'Macedonian' churches connect with each other so that mission can happen more efficiently, effectively, and cooperatively from Africa to Asia, and Latin America to Europe, and Asia to Latin America and in every other direction. It is a way of sharing our significant gifts of mission history and finances, and also affirming and empowering younger, vibrant, passionate churches to take their place at the global mission table. And in so doing, we see that we are not the hub of global Anabaptist mission. God is. We can only humbly offer our best gifts, for the sake of the kingdom. And we do so alongside our Macedonian sister churches.

—Janet Plenert, Executive Secretary, Witness

*Mennonite Church Canada contributes financial resources to the GMF, as well as the staff time for Janet Plenert. Janet has chaired the GMF since 2006, and is leading the process for the GMF to become the mission Commission of Mennonite World Conference during the MWC Assembly and GMF Gathering in Paraguay this summer.*

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