

June 2009, *Equipping* #97



Pastors and Congregational Leaders,

I greet you all as sisters and brothers in Mennonite Church Canada.

In these last weeks, we have celebrated God's power of redemption via an unlikely instrument - an ugly, brutal, and cruel cross, - and the immense power for abundant life revealed by God in the resurrection. It is indeed a miracle that we have been grafted into the family of God, and I am grateful for this.

I am writing today with a particular "family of God" item in mind, namely the upcoming annual Assembly 2009 in Saskatoon (June 5-7, 2009). Because of circumstances having to do with conflicting schedules with the Mennonite World Conference Assembly in Asuncion, Paraguay, we decided for this year only to shift the dates of our Assembly to this earlier June date. We also shortened the time required for the Assembly.

Our Saskatoon Assembly is just days away. We are seeing that registrations are coming in more slowly than usual.

We would appreciate if you could encourage persons from your congregation to consider coming as delegates. We suggest two avenues:

1. There are persons who have registered for the Assembly, but have not registered as delegates of a congregation. If these persons could be asked to consider going as delegates, that would be a very significant advantage for us.
2. Many congregations, so far, are sending less than their full complement of delegates or none at all. We would encourage more delegates to come.

Thank you very much for highlighting this need within your congregation. There will be significant discussion, inspiring worship, and important decision-making. The Report Books are already in the congregations and can be downloaded from www.mennonitechurch.ca/events/saskatoon2009/.

Please remember that on-line, mail in, and fax in registrations can only be processed from the office until Thursday, May 21st. However, you are still welcome to come: Registrations that arrive after May 21 will be collected and processed on site in Saskatoon.

May God bless our work in this part of God's family.

In Christ,

Robert J. Suderman, General Secretary, Mennonite Church Canada