



MCEC Report on Ministry 2010

Extending the Peace of Jesus Christ: Forming Leaders

A glimpse into leadership development . . .



Growing in Faith Together (GiFT) was a new program this past year that brought twelve pastors from different cultural backgrounds together to engage in mutual learning, relationship building, and discovering what it means to be church together in our multicultural setting in MCEC.

“We have 13 - 14 “ethnic” churches but we have limited chances to meet together,” said Yoel Masayawong, pastor at Grace Lao Mennonite Church. “Some pastors involved in GiFT have more experience and some are new to MCEC. I think this provided a great opportunity to have biblical discussion with different backgrounds.”



Bible Quizzing, a long-standing MCEC program, provides youth with an opportunity for leadership development and in-depth Bible study, while testing their knowledge against other youth across MCEC. Leadership is largely provided by former quizzers who continue to nurture Bible literacy opportunities for MCEC youth.

“Bible Quizzing is a great way to get youth into the Bible, engage the text, and have some fun with it,” stated Matthew Isert-Bender, pastor at Nith Valley Mennonite Church, former quizzer, and now coach. “I can’t draw a direct line between Bible quizzing and becoming a pastor, but it was definitely part getting me to where I am now.”



As immigrants arrive in Canada, some are looking to the Mennonite church to find a new faith home. MCEC is answering that need by providing faith communities for new refugees in Canada through existing congregations, newer congregations, and church plants in. For instance, Markham Christian Worship Centre is a new Tamil congregation that recently joined MCEC.

“I’ve had many conversations with new congregations who are looking to connect with or become Mennonite.” shared Brian Bauman, MCEC Mission Minister. “There is an overwhelming sense that people are looking for and are interested in Anabaptist/ Mennonite beliefs and teachings.”



Tending the Soul of Individuals and Congregations: Training in Spiritual Formation is an MCEC supported initiative. It was birthed this past year as people hungering for a deeper relationship with God met to seek God’s direction. The first of six training retreats has taken place for 28 participants from across MCEC.

“As we tend to our own souls,” Barb Smith-Morrison, director of Tending the Soul explained, “we begin to experience a deeper relationship with Jesus. We become more aware of listening to where God is at work in the world and are more aware to attend to the souls of others.”



Thank you for the support that your congregation gives towards MCEC ministries. The consultation that we held with congregations this fall was very helpful and insightful in discerning priorities for the future. We are now in the process of making decisions that will maintain a strong, healthy financial base within MCEC so that the congregations, area church, and national church will thrive and be able to pursue the ministry to which God has called us. We are grateful for your congregation’s commitment to this ministry both through your prayers and your financial partnership. Thank you!

David Martin, MCEC Executive Minister

Extending the peace of Jesus Christ

• making disciples • growing congregations • forming leaders



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