



NEWSLETTER

CANADIAN WOMEN IN MISSION PAGE IN CANADIAN MENNONITE

Have you noticed our Canadian Women in Mission (CWM) news page in the *Canadian Mennonite* magazine? To date we have had three: the first was last November on the Pennies & Prayer Inheritance Fund (PIIF); the second in January on how stories shape us by Lois Siemens; and the third by Ev Buhr on being a young mother and in the workplace.

Last spring Tim Miller Dyck invited CWM to have a full page 6 times a year in this paper. This is a great opportunity to share our stories and it comes at no charge to us. Thank you Tim.

THE PEOPLE'S SUMMIT WINNIPEG, JULY 2008

The joint assembly of Mennonite Church Canada and Mennonite Church USA is scheduled for July 7 to 10, 2008 at Canadian Mennonite University.

Something New for CWM

On July 9, between 3 and 7 p.m. look for the CWM tent "Freely You Have Received, Freely Give". We will be part of the Intergenerational celebration with activities, entertainment and BBQ that is part of the Summit. Manitoba Women in Mission are planning for a number of interesting activities to take place under our tent.

In keeping with the theme of freely receiving and freely giving, apples will be given away. In return, recipients may pen a greeting card, which will be given to someone at the Mennonite World Conference in Paraguay, July 2009. The tent theme builds on the CWM 2007 Study Guide by the same title.

Other activities being planned are:

- Comforter-tying for people of all ages
- MCC HIV/AIDS Kit on display — donations welcomed
- "Prayer Shawl" demonstration

No Regular CWM Meeting in 2008

CWM usually has its annual meeting over tea or lunch during the Mennonite Church Canada Assembly. This year, because of the schedule of the bi-national People's Summit, it isn't possible for us to follow our usual format. Consequently, we are asking you to vote by ballots and these are found on the back page of the CWM Report Booklet, along with instructions for submitting them.

Farewell to Audrey Mierau Bechtel

Audrey has served as President of Saskatchewan Women in Mission since April 2005. We have appreciated her good humour and keen insights which speak to a deep and abiding faith. Thank you, Audrey. Our best wishes to you and Ken as you continue on the journey of life.

Photo by Dan Dyck



CWM Executive: (l-r) Erna Neufeldt, Evelyn Buhr, Ruth Jantzi, Audrey Mierau Bechtel, Betty-Anne Hildebrand, Shirley Redekop.

THANK YOU TO:**Ingrid Janzen Lamp**

This March, the German newspaper *Der Bote* ceases to be published. For many years Ingrid Janzen Lamp worked for *Der Bote* in various roles including being the editor for the past 6 years. One of her roles was to translate English articles into German for the Women's Page in *Der Bote*. Her service was appreciated by many readers whose first language was German.



CWM paid \$1500 per year to Ingrid to help cover some of her costs. On this point, you will see in the 2008-2009 budget *Der Bote* is still listed but the amount designated is only \$375. This amount covers January, February and March 2008 for Ingrid's time.

Tobi Thiessen

This is the sixth Newsletter with which my daughter Tobi has helped me (Erna Neufeldt). Tobi weaves her magic in ensuring pictures are included, aligned and everything laid together to make a pleasing and readable piece. I have appreciated her help. It is a new and special experience to work with her in this area.

**Presidents/Secretaries**

Thank you for completing the Activities Report Forms. Filling in a form can feel like a thankless job but the information is valuable and makes for inspiring reading.

NEWS:

- Laurel Koop from Winkler, MB completed a 12 month practicum in Jamaica. Her days were spent at the Mandeville Women's Center teaching and counseling teen mothers. CWM assisted Laurel through the Service & Internship Program.

- Emily Loewen from Langley, BC. spent 6 weeks in New Orleans last summer helping tear down houses that were inhabitable after Hurricane Katrina. Emily even helped build new homes. CWM assisted Emily through the Service & Internship Program.
- We are able to donate \$4000 to assist with travel expenses for pastors to attend the International Mennonite Pastors Coming Together event April 24-May 6, 2008 in Eastern Canada.
- We are able to donate \$3000 to Christian Formation Council for translation of core Anabaptist materials for Mennonites with other languages.
- The 2008 Bible Study Guide on stewardship of money, written by Patricia Burdette should be ready for distribution in early June.

LOOKING AHEAD:

- **April 12:** Saskatchewan Women in Mission Enrichment Day "Service and Song".
- **April 19:** Women of Mennonite Church Eastern Canada Enrichment Day "Where He Leads I Will Follow".
- **May 2-4:** Alberta Women in Mission Retreat "Relax, Refresh, Renew".
- **May 3:** Manitoba Women in Mission Enrichment Day "Oil in my Lamp".
- **May 4:** British Columbia Mennonite Women's Inspiration Day at Eben-Ezer Church, Abbotsford, BC.
- **July 9, 3 – 7 p.m.:** CWM Activities Tent "Freely You Have Received, Freely Give" on the Canadian Mennonite University campus.