

Points of Connection

Northwest Mennonite Conference Newsletter

November 2010

Featured church: **Edson Mennonite Church**

Edson Mennonite Church is pleased to have Noel Dwarika as their part-time Interim Pastor. Noel and his wife Melanie had moved to Edson and heard that the Mennonite Church was without a pastor and needed weekly speakers. Noel has ministry education and experience and was prepared to help out.

After speaking a couple of times and becoming somewhat acquainted with the group, he felt led to send in his resume for a part-time interim position. He felt there was a need that he could fill. Noel began officially on August 1, and Conference Minister Mal Braun led an Installation Service on September 26th.

Noel is from Trinidadian background, but was born in Montreal. In his later teens he felt the need to

return to an active faith in God, and as part of a step of commitment he moved to Edmonton. Here he attended Steele Heights Baptist Church, where he became actively involved. In 2002 he became a youth intern there, and eventually he held several Associate Pastor positions in other churches working with children and youth. He plays guitar, drums and other instruments.

He met and married Melanie at Steele Heights Baptist. Melanie is a physiotherapist who is presently on maternity leave after the birth of their son, Luke, in October. Luke has an older sister Adelya.

The Edson Church has appreciated his leadership, and Moderator Glen Kauffman is seen here welcoming him to their fellowship.



Tofield Visioning Seminar

Salem Mennonite Church in Tofield held a Visioning Seminar for their elders on November 5 and 6th led by Conference Minister Mal Braun. It was held on Friday night and all-day Saturday. Topics included the Leader and his Character, Mission, Vision and Discipleship as well as discussion of some of the signs of healthy and unhealthy churches. Serious discussion was punctuated with lots of laughter.

The Northwest Conference offers weekend courses to our churches which include Leadership Visioning Seminars and LIFE Weekends. Courses are listed on our website at nwmc.ca. Smith and Tofield have LIFE Weekends planned for February and Duchess is planning a Visioning Seminar for March. Smith will be taking How we got the Bible and Tofield will be taking Early Church History.

The Truth Project...

is a DVD-based small group study of twelve one-hour lessons put out by *Focus on the Family*. It is designed to give a comprehensive biblical worldview and to teach discernment. Each week Dr. Del Tackett deals with God's truth in a different area such as history, science, philosophy, ethics, family, arts and media, etc. It is especially helpful for young adults.

The Conference has purchased a set of the DVDs and they are available for your use. Contact Mal Braun for more information.



Did you know...

***West Zion Mennonite Church** in Carstairs AB now has 2 services on Sunday morning. Their attendance has continued to increase.

***Our annual Pastor/Spouse Retreat** was held at Gull Lake Centre on October 14-16. The topic was Leadership Lessons from Nehemiah.

***The Medicine Hat Iglesia** is planning a missions trip to Guatemala in March, 2011 through the agency "Great Commission".

***Please pray** for our churches in Bluesky, Calgary, Red Deer and Edson who are seeking permanent pastors.

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