

eccwwomen@gmail.com

www.canadacovenantchurch.org
 "Women Ministries"

Facebook: "[Women in Touch](#)"

Looking for someone who loves facebook and knows the "ins and outs" of making it a fun connection I NEED YOUR HELP ... contact Trudy at the email above...asap :) Thank you!



Jenell Plum

WM: Judy Nelson, Trudy McIntosh, Korleen Stapleton, Lila Freysteinson
AND YOU!



Where did the summer go already???

School's in once again, Moms are busy with new schedules. Many of us are busy with Women's Fall Retreat planning, other activities are well underway. How's your Fall shaping up?

I've invited a number of college students who are here from China to join us for Thanksgiving dinner this year, one of them is living with us. We also are enjoying a new granddaughter, her name is Chaeli and she's 4 weeks old. Looove being a grandma!

Our WM team is excited to announce that we have a Ministry Coach—many of you will know her already, the rest of you will enjoy meeting her!!! It's Jenell Plum, former teacher and missionary, mom of 3, grandma of 5 . She and her husband presently reside on the farm near Wetaskiwin, AB.

Jenell was recently trained as a Ministry Coach at the Women Ministry Triennial in Washington, D.C. Ministry Coaches can come along side of a leader or small core group of women who want to start a women's ministry in their church, make changes to their women's ministry group, or actually stop, re-evaluate and re-start a new ministry. Coaching helps leaders in their own context to evaluate their own people, church, community, and passion for serving. It helps address the issues of connecting women in transformational relationships that unite them in Christ to impact their world.

How about you...where do you fit? Do you enjoy mentoring? Do you have ideas and wish you could effectively put them to work to encourage groups of women? There's an opening on our team in the **Equipping and Growth** area. Do you feel the pain of injustice and abuse? Want to do something about it? Head up efforts of **Compassion, Mercy and Justice**, and help women take a strong stand! Email us! Let's talk! We would love to hear from you!

Snippets of "Triennial"

Triennial is once again behind us. Three years will pass till the invitation goes out again... As I look back it looks like a dazzling kaleidoscope... welcomed by the penetrating summer heat of America's capital city, entering the cool beauty of the hotel, joining with over 900 women gathered for one purpose. Joyful worship, a mingling of cultures, early morning coffee, tours of the city, all coaxed us into a rhythm of creative energy. An invitation was woven gently, yet persistently, throughout the event, trust Him, love Him; surrender the walls that keep you from intimacy with God. Shared rooms, two women to a bed, (was I snoring?), warm water out of the cold water tap, whispered conversations till the wee hours in the morning; result? friendships cemented. There was a sense that life is good! Because God is present with us! Trudy McIntosh

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Triennial was a wonderful surprise for me. I was so challenged by the speakers and their heart for women to be on fire for the Lord and to be in the forefront of change in our world where there is a need for compassion, justice and mercy. The people who are speaking out and involved in the New Day home for rescued women out of the sex trafficking really impressed me and convicted me to get involved in some way in my own community. The young, all women, worship team was superb and they led us in a way that the Lord was glorified and present in our midst. Jenell Pluim

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Triennial XIII had many highlights for me: worship with 900 other women, gifted speakers, and a time of fellowship. Two events were especially poignant for me. The first was the service in which our international guests shared their testimonies and answered the questions, "How are Christians perceived in your culture?" and "What are you and your Christian sisters doing to be Christ's hands and feet in your culture?" The representative from the Democratic Republic of Congo gave thanks for the last 80 years of support. "You have set the women of Congo free!" Seminars on the value of women and education have been life-changing in Congo. Other countries represented were Asia, Czech Republic, Colombia, India, Sudan, Thailand, Spain, Mexico, and Ja-

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pan. All the women found it a great challenge and often a hardship because of persecution to be "Christ's hands and feet". The woman from Sudan expressed the strong desire of Sudanese Christian women to help others. When they each shared a very personal prayer request, I was deeply moved and felt a close kinship with them. The second event that especially moving was the "Hall of Justice". Four women at a time moved through a series of seven curtained rooms. Each room focused on an aspect of justice, for example: racism, world hunger, human trafficking, and courtroom justice, physical, sexual or emotional abuse. There was an opportunity to give personal examples of racism and pin them to the wall. The experience was sobering and overwhelming. Triennial XIII was a time to fellowship, reflect, and pray. Carolyn Stone



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Two things attracted me to this particular conference:
Location - I'd never been to my own country's capital and here was my chance. What a high! Being there, where so many momentous decisions occurred in my lifetime.
The Social Justice Tour - This tour gave us disturbing glimpses of the power of evil in the world; then introduced us to some of the organizations and individuals whose focus is alleviating the suffering caused by that evil.

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It was thrilling to see so many young, smart professional adults, who could be earning big money, using their expertise in this battle. (No "Big Money" here). It was reassuring to see the reliance on prayer that backs these efforts. We - Covenant women- are partnering in some of these efforts.
The tour was followed by Keynote Speakers who reminded us of our inheritance-being made in the image of God-which empowers us to take action against evil. The tour followed this message; it was a life-changing experience. Jennie Seibold

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There are many things I enjoyed and remember about Triennial, but I think the one thing that stands out in my mind is my conversation with the two women who have attended all thirteen Triennials. What outstanding 80 year old Christian women these two were. They are well travelled women and it was interesting to hear about their journeys. One lady stated she had been to Russia several times to visit her family. When she said this, her friend said to me: "You know, she has come to all the Triennials with me and she isn't even a Covenanter - she is Russian Orthodox. This surprised me and has stayed with me and made me think, what a blessing she is to our denomination, even though she is not a member, she has attended all these gatherings and has continued to encourage other women to attend. The two friends are planning to be at the next Triennial, God willing. What an inspiration to all of us! May God continue to bless them and keep them hale and hearty so they can attend Triennial XIV in San Diego in 2011. Lila Freysteinson

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I think that the most amazing moment for me was during worship... with 800 + voices singing... "In Christ alone my hope is found... He is my light, my strength, my song... Here in the love of Christ I stand." Joy! Elaine Johnson

A Chance Encounter? The brochure had promised TXIII would "... feature outstanding speakers, wonderful tours, luxurious hotel accommodations, warm fellowship, an eclectic marketplace, soulful prayer opportunities, revitalizing worship, and challenging interactive justice displays that will stimulate your faith and send you home renewed and recommitted to serving Christ in your community."



And so it was! But what I never expected was a "chance encounter" with Joan. It was late. The Natalie Grant concert had been great and I should have headed back to my room following the reception for Ruth Hill but I couldn't resist returning to the Marketplace. It was buzzing with women. Every 10 minutes a fresh special was announced and women rushed across the room to the latest bargain. As I was gazing at the exquisite African handwork I heard a voice behind me trying to decide which Thai silk bag she would take home. I know that voice . . . I listened more intently. I know that voice from *somewhere*. Turning, I gazed at the name tag of the petite woman with the slightly hunched shoulders. "Joan" "Joan Morrow" I couldn't believe my eyes. Now her sparkling eyes looked at my tag and she firmly grabbed my shoulders. We embraced tightly and longingly. Neither of us could believe how God had arranged for us to meet on the last night - she from California, me from British Columbia, meeting for the first time since the 8 weeks we'd spent together in P.R. of China teaching English 17 years ago! After the shock wore off we chatted about our lives. The moments just melted away. Thankful we both didn't suddenly turn into pumpkins, we made hurried plans to meet for brunch the next morning. As my head hit the pillow I thought about all the things I wanted to talk about tomorrow. These were precious moments - a gift from God not mentioned on the brochure. Chance encounter? We think not. Korleen Stapleton

There you have it ...snippets...small windows into experiencing Triennial. It doesn't have to be 900 + women... If 10, 15, 30, whatever number of women gather for retreats, encouragement and friendship building it's worth the effort and cost... join one this fall... organize one in your area... don't forget if you would love to and don't know where to begin contact Jenell... at eccwwomen@gmail.comso, till next time.... may you sense the presence of God ever so real in every way in your life! Your sis in Christ, Trudy