For the eighth consecutive year, we welcomed back a group of university students from Concordia University College of Alberta. This year we had the privilege of training, supporting, and sending out 20 young adults. This larger group was broken down into four smaller teams and sent four different directions: Ahousat, Bella Bella, Ehattesaht/Zeballos, and Klemtu.

These teams went prepared with games, daily Kid’s Club materials, tons of energy and a passion to make new friends and share the love of God through their actions, words, and deeds.

For you to get a better taste of what the experience was like, we asked Jessica Pixner, to share her mission experience and how it impacted her and those around her.

“I've done mission trips to Honduras and Nicaragua throughout high school and never really participated in Concordia's mission trip to B.C. before this year. I always kind of thought, "Well I need a break from everything over reading week so I wouldn't be stressed out coming back to school." But I thought, "I miss missions" and when you’re doing God's work for the right reasons, everything else will fall into place.

Clearly it was in God's plan for me to go on the mission trip and direct it because I got the job as Missions & Service Director at Concordia University and was blessed with some amazing team members and leaders who helped me in planning both physically and spiritually for the trip. They all worked so hard with me in fundraising and planning the curriculum. They were all very willing to help me out if I needed anything.

Going to Ahousaht was such a great experience for me. I had never been to a First Nations community before, so I was quite excited to go and get a feel for the culture. Some of my favourite parts of the trip were going to the elementary school and working with the preschoolers.

Another part that I really enjoyed was the musical ministry we did with the residents of the community. We sang at one lady's house with her and 4 other family members. We just worshipped by singing our hearts out for a few hours along with them sharing some of their life stories with us. It felt so good to know that they trusted us as a team enough to share personal stories and talk about their past with us.

I never imagined how life changing a mission trip within our own country could be and how much a sense of community existed among my team as well as in Ahousaht. I grew so much in my faith, as a person and in my personal relationships with my teammates and with those in the community as well.”

Thank you to Ahousat, Bella Bella, Ehattesaht/Zeballos, and Klemtu for letting us be a part of your communities for that week and the amazing time we all had while making God’s love known!
Outreach Worker Update - Rhonda Kelman

Last November, I found out that I would need to return to Concordia University in Edmonton, AB in January of 2010 if I wanted to finish my Education degree without retaking courses I had taken a couple years previously. Because of this, I decided to take a four month leave of absence from the BC Mission Boat Society to return to university.

This semester has been really busy with all my classes and finals in a nine week period and starting a four week teaching practicum. For this semester’s practicum, I am student teaching in a Grade 5 classroom in an Edmonton inner city school. With my practicum nearly completed I will return to the classroom as a student until April 19. When this I all completed I will be driving back out to Parksville, BC to continue my work as the Outreach Worker for the BC Mission Boat Society until the end of August.

I will then be returning to Concordia University for one more year and will be graduating with my teaching degree in April 2011!

Through this whole process, I really feel like God is leading me to come back and teach somewhere along the coast after I graduate. Sometimes it is challenging not knowing really what is going to happen in the future. God has reminded me to continue to listen to Him and that He will use me, to share His love, no matter where I am. I am so excited to be coming back to the west coast soon! I am also excited for all that God has in store this summer for the BC Mission Boat Society and me!

Thank you for your continued prayers and support!

Join us on one of our mission trips this summer!

Kathy Bender: Update and Prayer Request - Tammy Koebernick

Kathy has had a memorable year; she has experienced God’s beautiful creation in different parts of the world as she travelled with her children, family and friends. We thank our Lord for blessing her with the ability to have had this cherished time with loved ones and we ask that He continues to bless her in the battle with cancer.

Kathy has been experiencing a lot of pain since Christmas time, and the reason for this is that the cancer has caused several lesions in her body. She currently has them on her spine, skull, both hips, and knee. She will have radiation treatment in April to help relieve the pain the lesions cause.

This difficult journey has also recently confirmed that she is no longer in remission; blood tests in early March have revealed this. Decisions will be made after Easter as to the next steps in treatment.

Words from Kathy, “Prayers are asked for at this time, for strength in body and faith, for peace, patience and for guidance to the doctors and medical professionals helping me with this journey.”
Summer 2010: BC Mission Boat Trips

Connecting people in coastal British Columbian communities with God’s love.

Summer Mission Boat Trips

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date Range</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 10 - 17</td>
<td>Gilford Island</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 17 - 24</td>
<td>Klemtu</td>
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<td>July 24 - 31</td>
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<td>July 31 - August 7</td>
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<td>August 7 - 14</td>
<td>Bella Bella</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 14 - 21</td>
<td>Gilford Island</td>
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Our boat schedule is tentative due to circumstance and weather. The boat will also visit communities along the way, including Port Neville, Echo Bay, Namu, Bull Harbour and Sullivan Bay.

Crew Volunteer Information

- Crew sign on for a one week mission trip. Each team is created of 4-6 crew, a crew leader and boat captain. Crew members live and travel aboard our 46 ft boat.
- In 2010, the Boat will be running weekly, Saturday to Saturday, from July 10th through August 21st.
- Minimum age is 16, while there is no maximum age; good health and agility are required.
- The suggested donation is $800/person, which includes all boat provisions, food, accommodation, mission materials and administration fees.
- Crews are responsible for their own travel arrangements and getting to Parksville, BC on the east side of Vancouver Island.

Look for us! The BC Mission Boat has a maroon flag with our logo flying on the 46’ Tyee-J. When you see us, come visit us for coffee, tea, hot chocolate and cookies: we love to have visitors aboard!
Marvelous Easter!

The Easter message, new life from death, is illustrated in nature all across Canada. For me the most dramatic, even more so than the heroic migration of salmon back to their spawning grounds, is the annual herring spawn once again colouring the ocean waters here a milky green. Of the 20,000 eggs every mature female herring is producing, it is estimated 2 will grow to be a mature adult. 10,000 sacrificed ... for 1 to live.

In many communities, up and down the coast, some of those 10,000, carefully harvested and processed, will be providing some real BC Coastal delicacies. (Make sure you save lots for Marcus!) But in Parksville, they will produce a fragrant reminder of life that burst forth (for a moment) amongst us, as the mounds of eggs washed up on shore ... ripen. The smell of ... Easter. And it is good.

Easter. Loving sacrifice .. to bring life to another. This can be seen in communities all across Canada. Seen in the goodness of loving parents sacrificing what they want, so their children can have what they need. Seen in the goodness of loving grandparents sacrificing what they thought would be their years of freedom, to give grandchildren the stability they need. Seen in communities of all kinds, sacrificing in all kinds of ways, so that the helpless can be helped. The sight of Easter. And it is very good.

And it reaches its conclusion in the sound of Easter. The women go with their fragrances to anoint the dead body of the Lord, and angels marvel “why do you seek the living amongst the dead?” The men, disbelieving the women, run to the tomb, and marvel at the sight of its emptiness. And on that third day - better than the completion of all the heavens in all their vast array - the sound of our risen Lord saying ..

“PEACE BE WITH YOU”

Marvelous Easter joy. Jesus bursts forth in life from death. One sacrificed, risen for all to live. The writer of Hebrews tells us Jesus endured the cross for the joy set before him (Hebrews 12:2). The joy of the angels (Hebrews 12:22). The joy of the marvelous possibilities for new life the cross would open up for you, for me, for all (Hebrews 12:24). The joy that is at the heart of all the BC Mission Boat Society is about. The joy in the sound of “Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!” The joy all of us on the Board and in the BCMBS office have for you. So on behalf of all, I say to you “Marvelous Easter!”

- Pastor Craig Tufts

Update - New Office Administrator

The BC Mission Boat Society is proud to introduce our newest staff member, Tammy Koebernick. Tammy is our new Office Administrator and it is such a joy to have her in the office with all the great talents, gifts, and energy that God has given her.

Below, Tammy shares a little bit about what God has been doing in her life and how she came to be part of the BCMBS family.

“I have always wanted to work in a Christian environment and I was certain, up until very recently, that I never would have the opportunity to. I easily forget that God works in mysterious ways... He has taken a woman who was always asking herself, ‘What do I want to do for the rest of my life?’ ‘Is there a job or career out there that I am passionate about?’ Do you know what my answer always was? Always, ‘No, there is not a job I can envision myself doing for the rest of my working days- that is such a long time!’

At times the stresses of life can take away any hopefulness, but God is continuing to show me to trust in Him. He has brought me to where I am today; my position with the BCMBS is a gift and I am thankful for the opportunity. Over the years the BCMBS has been a part of me and my families’ lives in many ways; Pastor Bob was my father-in-law, as I am married to his son Matthew, and Kathy Bender is a close friend that I love very much.

Does God know what He is doing in my life and can I fully trust Him? Absolutely!! I just need to remember this every day, not only in the difficult times. I am so grateful to Our Lord for taking care of my family and for all the blessings He has given us.

I am enthusiastic about my journey here, and I look forward to talking or meeting you in the future.”

- Tammy Koebernick

Join us on Monday, May 10 at 3:00pm (PST) as we host our Annual General Meeting. It’s a great opportunity to meet our Board of Directors, Executive Director and hear more about what our ministry is doing and where we are going. Please contact us for more information.