



HERE IS WHAT WE ARE NOTICING AT THE MINISTRY CENTRE . . .

- **We have an unprecedented number of new pastors on track toward ordination.** This has been going on for two years. At this point it's too early to tell if it's a blip or a trend. Either way MEGaP (the group that oversees our pastors) has never been so busy. This year and next they will be at their limit interviewing and guiding these new pastors. This size of group is all on a scale that we haven't seen in recent memory or perhaps ever in Canadian history. So, what does God have in mind for this group of men and women? What are they all being trained to do?
- **We are seeing a developing ability to respond to the diversity of Canada.** Thanks to the openness of existing churches and the planting of new kinds of churches, Canadians from all walks of life, from all income levels, and from all parts of the globe are finding a home among us. This is not the result of some well planned strategic movements drafted at the Ministry Centre (although we do work for this kind of stuff). If this trend of openness and effective cultural response continues, it will change the face of our denomination. Imagine a General Conference in the future where all the cultures of Canada are represented.
- **We are seeing deeper, more personal, and lasting connections to projects and people beyond Canada's borders.** Churches have increased their giving of money, time, and energy to overseas projects. What role is God preparing for us to play in the wider world?

Whether we expected it or believed it ourselves, God is preparing us for something big. If we want to be ready we are going to need: bigger dreams (we need to have something inspiring for all those new pastors to do), increased prayer support (join others across the country as the Bishop leads us monthly in fasting and prayer), more courageous giving (last year we had less than half of what was needed by our new churches), and to live fearlessly devoted lives as we participate in God's mission to Canada. Are you ready?

Church Development 2007 Goal
[for all projects] \$50K



The Free Methodist Church in Canada
www.fmc-canada.org



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