

Have Any CESLM Library Books Checked Out?

The CESLM Library will be open at the Networking breakfast. Come reconnect with old and new friends and bring your library books along.

New External Job Postings

There are three new job postings on the External Job Postings page on our website.

- **Agape Language Centre** is looking for a Director.
- **Ethnicity Catering** is looking for a Program Facilitator.
- **Cambrooks College** is looking for a Part Time Coordinator.

If you are interested in any of these positions, or know someone who would be, please see our website for complete details.

www.eslcooperative.ca
Click on Resources, then External Job Postings.

CESLM Upcoming Events!

Don't miss these great upcoming events!

- 2013 Networking Event
- Treacherous Heart

See our website for more information:
www.eslcooperative.ca



Join Us For Our 2013 Networking Breakfast

On **Saturday, February 23**, Cooperative ESL Ministries is hosting our annual networking breakfast, **please join us for this inspirational and informative event!** With a wide variety of immigrant-serving community agencies and ministries represented, this event will equip you with fresh ideas and necessary tools to gear up for vibrant, intercultural ministry in Calgary!

Our theme this year is *From Isolation to Integration: Welcoming Newcomers into Community*, addressing issues of how we can work together to empower newcomers to Canada, helping them find ways to integrate into community—whether at church, local community or city levels.

We have lined up some excellent speakers who will be addressing the topic from various perspectives as well as hearing from immigrants who have been recipients of the love and help given by you. Other Calgary immigrant serving agencies will be present to share resources as well, as there will be time for networking and sharing stories of how God is working in your ESL ministries.

Our speakers this year are:

- **Patricia Love**, Pastor of Intercultural Ministries, Foothills Alliance Church; plus a newcomer story
- **Bethany Matchullis**, Assistant Coordinator, Community Connections for Newcomers Calgary Catholic Immigration Society; plus a newcomer story
- **Kathryn Fasegha**, TH Productions (Kathryn is the director of *Treacherous Heart*, which is being shown at Harvest Hills Alliance on March 1st. See page 2 for details and ticket information.)

This event encourages fruitful networking between churches that offer programs to support immigrants, and immigrant-serving agencies and other supportive community organizations. Our goal is to foster connections that will support newcomers in their personal lives so they can experience positive and healthy integration into Calgary communities



WHO SHOULD COME?

This event is ideal for pastors, teachers, ESL leaders and community and church volunteers—anyone who is touched by and interacts with newcomers on a regular basis.

From Isolation to Integration: Welcoming Newcomers into Community

Saturday, February 23, 2013

**Marlborough Park Community Centre
6021 Madigan Drive NE, Calgary**

9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
(registration begins at 8:45 a.m.)

Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity to learn, make new connections and encourage one another.

Did we mention there's breakfast?

\$15 pre-registered, \$20 at the door. Includes breakfast. **Pastors: Don't forget to use the special coupon code emailed last week.**

To register, email: register@eslcooperative.ca



What is Easter? What is Lent?

by Gisela Rohde and James Edel

What is Easter and why does the date change from year to year?

Easter is the celebration of Jesus Christ's death and resurrection. We celebrate his death (for us) on "Good Friday" and his resurrection (coming alive again) on "Easter Sunday". Easter is always on a Sunday, but it can come as early as March 21 or as late as April 25.

Easter was first celebrated according to the ancient Jewish calendar—the Roman calendar used today. For a long time, Christians celebrated Easter at the same time that Jews celebrated Passover, which can begin on Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday, or Saturday. Many Christians wanted Easter to always be on Sunday since they believed Jesus rose from the dead on the first day of the week. In the year 325, they decided that Easter would be on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the spring equinox on March 20th. (In 2013, the full moon is on March 27th, and Easter Sunday is on March 31st.)

What is Lent?

The word "Lent" comes from an old word for spring, "lengthentide"—for when the days are lengthening (growing longer). It is the time each year when Christians prepare themselves for Easter by fasting (not eating) and with special times of prayer. It is the 40 days (not counting Sundays) from Ash Wednesday to Easter Saturday. The 40 days remind Christians of the time Jesus spent praying and fasting in the wilderness. Sundays are not counted because each one is considered a "mini-Easter". Lent begins in February or early March depending on the date of Easter Sunday. (February 13 - March 30, 2013)

A long time ago Christians followed strict rules of fasting during Lent. They did not eat anything with eggs, milk, meat, or animal fat in them. The rules are less strict today. As a sign of their faith, some people give up something for Lent, usually a favorite food (like chocolate, ice-cream, or meat) or an activity (like watching TV, or going on Facebook).

Many Christian churches have special Ash Wednesday services at the start of Lent. In some churches, ashes are used to mark small crosses on the foreheads of the people. Ashes are an ancient symbol of sorrow. They remind people to be sorry for their sins during Lent and of their need for a savior. The ashes used in churches on Ash Wednesday are often made by burning the palm branches used in the Palm Sunday celebration the year before. Palm Sunday was the Sunday before Easter, when many people waved Palm branches to welcome Jesus as he rode into Jerusalem on a donkey.

What is Shrove Tuesday?

Shrove Tuesday is the day before the beginning of Lent (on Ash Wednesday). "Shrove" is an old word that means "to confess sins". This means that you agree with God that you have done wrong things. On Shrove Tuesday people used to go to church, confess their sins, and then go home for a big meal of pancakes to use up their last milk, eggs, and fat in the house. Now, many people eat pancakes on this day, and some churches or other groups have pancake suppers on Shrove Tuesday. Sometimes it's called "Pancake Day".

What is Mardi Gras?

"Mardi Gras" (MAR-dee grah) is French for "Fat Tuesday" (another name for Shrove Tuesday). It is the name for a festival before the beginning of Lent. The Mardi Gras celebration began in France. It is the day that ends a season of parades, parties, and carnivals. It dates from the time when Christians had to use up all animal fat before Lent. From early January until the night before Ash Wednesday, the French people would celebrate. The biggest festival of all was on "Fat Tuesday."

What does Carnival have to do with Lent?

The word, "carnival" comes from two Latin words, "carne" and "vale" meaning flesh farewell, or goodbye to meat. Carnivals are now elaborate pageants or celebrations lasting until the Tuesday before Lent, or Mardi Gras.

Today, Mardi Gras carnivals are popular in many European cities and in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, among others. The Mardi Gras festival in New Orleans is the most famous one in North America. There are parades for many days with bands and giant floats until the final ones on Mardi Gras.

Lent and other Cultures:

Sometimes Lent is called the "Christian Ramadan" because it resembles the well-known Muslim month of fasting.

Ethiopian Orthodox students who practice LENT in a traditional manner may fast for 55 days before Lent. They actually fast a total of 196 days [wow!] during the year. Rather than giving up chocolate, meat, Facebook, etc., they are vegans during their fasting (no meat, dairy, eggs), and they wait until 3:00pm every day before they start eating anything. Drinking water is fine during this 55-day fast (but no alcohol or milk). (From personal correspondence with Michael Misker - owner of Marathon Ethiopian restaurant on Kensington Road/10th Ave.)

Do you know other Lenten traditions?

FYI: James has decided to forego brown sugar in his porridge, desserts, and meat before 3. He wonders if he could be a vegan for 40 days.

Gisela is also giving up sweets.

Whatever those of you who practice Lent decide, don't lent your participation in CESLM's upcoming activities!

TREACHEROUS
Heart

MISSED IT THE FIRST TIME?
CESLM is proud to present a second screening!

Friday, March 1st at 7:00 p.m. at Harvest Hills Alliance
10099 Harvest Hills Blvd NW, Calgary

Tickets are \$15 each or 2/\$25 in advance, \$15 each at the door
Purchase tickets at Harvest Hills Alliance or online at www.eslcooperative.ca

Director Kathryn Fasegha will be speaking at our 2013 Networking Event. Don't miss this opportunity to hear Kathryn speak. See page 1 for details.

