

California Mennonite Historical Society Annual Meeting

Saturday, April 18, 2009

Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary, 4824 E. Butler Ave., Fresno, CA

Afternoon program:

Through the Desert Goes Our Journey

In 2007 James Juhnke led a historical tour group that retraced the steps of Mennonites who migrated from Ukraine to Central Asia in the 1880s. He spoke about what they learned on this trip at our 2008 annual meeting. *Through the Desert Goes Our Journey* is a one-hour video about that trip.

4:00 p.m. in the Manitoba Room

Dinner & Business Meeting

6:00 in the British Columbia Lounge

Tickets for the dinner are \$10.00 for Historical Society members; \$15.00 for non-members. New memberships (\$25) paid at the door will qualify for the member ticket price. There is no charge for the afternoon video or for the 7:30 program alone. Reservations for the dinner must be made by April 11. Call 559-453-2225 for reservations.

*This year's
featured program*



“Missing the Point”: The Development of Mennonite Brethren Church Building Design, 1880-1960

Kevin Enns-Rempel

(7:30 in the seminary chapel)

“Material culture” — the study of things that people create to accomplish everyday tasks and to express themselves — can tell us much about the beliefs and values of any group. For religious groups, perhaps the most profound expression of material culture is found in the structures they build in which to worship.

Kevin Enns-Rempel, Archivist at the Center for Mennonite Brethren Studies in Fresno, California, will present an illustrated lecture exploring the development of North American Mennonite Brethren church building design through the middle of the 20th century. The story of Mennonite Brethren buildings during this era is one of adapting to the dominant architectural culture of North America, but doing so in a selective way that expressed their beliefs through the spaces in which they worshiped.