

Check the bulletin board for more info on these...

- Newsletters / updates
- xPlore – Keep Thinking – enrichment courses for 55+
- Westminster Organ Series concert – Feb. 19
- Synagogues in Germany – MHC Gallery Jan. 29-Mar. 4 with detailed schedule of tours and lectures.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

Our Church family

- Condolences to Cheryl Koop and Jonathon Sawatzky on the passing of Jon's sister Kathy.
- Our annual meeting is this afternoon. Pray for this time of reporting and visioning about our future together. May it be a time of reflection and renewal.

Our Community

- MC Manitoba Executive Director – Ken Warkentin
- Pray for Canada General Secretary – Willard Metzger
- Eden Health Care Services is looking for a new CEO as James Friesen has retired. Pray for this search.
- Water is essential to life. For Indigenous peoples, that makes water sacred. Pray that the Holy Spirit will stir our communities to discern what the protection of sacred waters and defence of Indigenous land rights means to all of us. Pray for those seeking to protect water sources along the path of the Dakota pipeline at Standing Rock in North Dakota. For a deeper understanding of these issues, see the latest issue of *Intotemak, Yours, Mine, Ours: Unravelling the Doctrine of Discovery* (<http://www.commonword.ca/go/974>).

Our World

- Three Mennonite Church Canada Witness worker couples are continually at work to stay connected to their adult children who are residing in different countries. We give thanks for Dann and Joji Pantoja (Philippines), Bock Ki Kim and Sook Kyoung Park (South Korea), and Mike and Cheryl Nimz (United Kingdom; Mike is a resource worker with Mennonite Trust). May they find meaningful ways to stay connected with their children across the miles.
- *If you would like to add or remove any prayer requests, please contact Dan Kehler or the church office.*

From the Pastor

A quote from American writer and theologian Frederick Buechner on begin truly human...

"What we hunger for perhaps more than anything else is to be known in our full humanness, and yet that is often just what we also fear more than anything else. It is important to tell at least from time to time the secret of who we truly and fully are . . . because otherwise we run the risk of losing track of who we truly and fully are and little by little come to accept instead the highly edited version which we put forth in hope that the world will find it more acceptable than the real thing."

Altona Mennonite Church

Vision

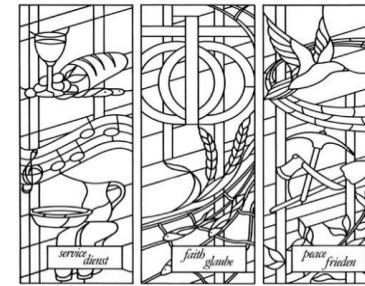
God calls us to be followers of Jesus Christ and by the power of the Holy Spirit to grow as communities of grace, joy and peace so that God's healing and hope flow through us to the world.

Purpose

We seek to know God through Jesus, the center of our faith.

We seek to follow God in community, through worship, fellowship, and interpreting the Scripture from a Christ-centered point of view, in the Anabaptist tradition.

We seek to obey God by working toward peace and reconciliation, in the spirit of Jesus, reconciling all people to God, to each other, and to the world around them.



Altona Mennonite Church

Sunday School – Adults & Children: 9:30 am
Sunday Worship Service: 11:00 am

VOLUME LVI No. 7

February 12, 2017

Strengthening Through Weakness

Prelude

Welcome/Announcements

Hymn HWB #149 Great God of wonders, vs.1,2,4
Call to Worship
Prayer of Invocation

Hymn HWB #301 Joys are flowing like a river
Words of Confession from Psalm 102
Prayer of Confession

Offering our Gifts
Children's Time

Hymn HWB #352 Gentle Shepherd, come and lead us
Scripture Readings:
Romans 5:1-5; James 1:2-4; 2 Peter 1:3-11

Sermon Opportunities For Growth Dan Kehler

Hymn SS #71 Gentle God, when we are driven

Sharing and Prayer

Hymn HWB #553 I am weak and I need thy strength
Benediction
Hymn HWB #553 vs. 3

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Worship Leader: Norma Thiessen
Song Leader: Lori Hiebert
Accompanist(s): Loren Hiebert

WORSHIP & MEETING EVENTS at AMC

This Afternoon at 2:00 pm Annual General Meeting

Feb. 14 2:00 pm Book Study, ready Chapters 12 & 13

Feb. 19 9:30 am Sunday School

11:00 am Worship Service

Scripture: Psalm 145; Mark 2:1-12 *Theme:* Stretcher Bearers

Worship Leader: Ray Hamm *Song Leader:* Kevin Neufeld

Accompanist(s): Nancy Ratzlaff *Sound:* Perry Batchelor

Coffee: Paul & Margruite Krahn

Feb. 26 9:30 am Sunday School

11:00 am Worship Service

Noon **Lunch at church, and tobogganing**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Rejoice! books for March – May are here

- **Pop up small group – an experiment.** Book Study group is reading *Naked Spirituality: A life with God in 12 simple words* by Brian McLaren. We meet at 2:00 PM at the church. Read Introduction to Complexity section and Chapters 12 & 13 for Tuesday.

Sunday February 26 - Lunch together and tobogganing

at the nature park in the afternoon. Please bring sandwiches, veggies and desserts to share. Looking for volunteers to make pots of soup. Contact Andrea Hildebrand.

AMC Auxiliary Members - please consider making a designated donation to auxiliary for our MCC Global Family commitment. Thank you.

Anniversaries: Feb. 18 – Chris & Carolyn Regehr

COMMUNITY & MISC. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Canadian Blood Services **Donor Clinic** will be held at Altona Rhineland Pioneer Centre, Main Floor Hall on Thursday, February 16, 2017 from 2 – 7 pm

- **Camps with Meaning** is looking for a volunteer nurse for the ADV Winter Retreat at Camp Assiniboia February 20-22. If you or someone you know can help please call 896-1616 ext. 254 or email sklassenkoop@mennochurch.mb.ca

- Lowe Farm Bergthaler Church invites you to take part in a Mission Fest weekend February 24-26. Beginning Friday evening at 7:30 pm Henry and Gerald Neufeld will be speaking. Saturday afternoon from 3 pm -5 pm, Steve Heinrichs will be leading the proceedings followed by a soup and bread supper at 5:30 pm with an evening concert at 7 pm with Kim Thiessen and Darryl Neustaedter Barg. Sunday morning church begins at 10:40 am with another message by Steve Heinrichs concluding with a potluck lunch. Please bring something for the potluck if you plan on attending. We hope to see you there.

- All are welcome to attend Strings in Concert with Shirley Elias, presented by Douglas Kuhl School of Music string ensembles. Concert pianist Shirley Elias, Post Road Strings, all levels of DKSM string ensembles and guest students from Sistema Winnipeg will perform on Saturday, Feb. 25, 7:00 pm at Emmanuel Mennonite Church, Winkler. Freewill offering will be taken. www.douglaskuhlschoolofmusic.com

- Mennonite Church Manitoba gathering will be happening at Emanuele Church in Winkler over March 3,4. March 3rd will have worship and March 4th will have business.

- **Xplore: Keep Thinking:** enrol in CMU's 55-Plus Enrichment Program, offered Wednesday mornings at CMU from March 8 – April 12. Courses include **Disorientation and Delight: Biblical Wisdom and the Presence of God** with Gordon Matties (*Professor Emeritus of Biblical Studies & Theology*). For information and to enrol go to cmu.ca/explore.

- MCI presents the musical production "Seussical" March 9, 10 & 11 at 7:30 pm with a Saturday matinee at 2:00 pm. If you are a student in Grade 5-11, you may be eligible for a free ticket! To purchase tickets visit our website at www.mciblues.net or to inquire about a free ticket call us at (204)327-5891.

- Rosemary Siemens in concert with Ray St. Germain, March 18, 7 pm in Buhler Hall hosted by Mennonite Collegiate

Institute. Visit www.mciblues.net to purchase your ticket or call MCI at (204)327-5891.

- **Camps with Meaning** registration is now open for all three locations! For details visit www.campswithmeaning.org

- Save the date! The Camps with Meaning "Raise the Roof" Song-a-thon will be March 18th from 1-9 PM!

- **Mennonite Collegiate Institute, located in Gretna, Manitoba, is searching for a principal** to start in August 2017. Please visit www.mciblues.net to find out more about this exciting position. Applications close March 31st, 2017.

- *Synagogues in Germany: A Virtual Reconstruction* at the MHC Gallery, 600 Shaftesbury Blvd. Lecture and tour schedule at <http://gallery.mennonitechurch.ca/upcoming> Detailed schedule attached to poster on bulletin board.

- The General Board of Mennonite Church Canada has set the date for a final review of Future Directions proposals to re-organize national and area church bodies. Mennonite Church Canada delegates are invited to a special assembly Oct. 13-15 in Winnipeg, Man. The event will begin with a dinner on Friday and conclude with worship on Sunday. The venue, costs, and other details are pending.

- New documents outlining the re-vitalization of Mennonite Church Canada and Area Churches as a result of our Future Directions process have been posted at futuredirectionsmc.ca/the-proposal.