

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

- Newsletters / updates
- THE ALZHEIMER JOURNEY – Gardens on 10th, next session on May 25 @ 2pm
- May 7 – Eastman Male Choir for MCC
- MDS Family Project information re Camp Wildwood, NB

PRAYER AND PRAISE

Our Church family

- The plan to provide temporary housing in Gretna to the refugee claimants has raised the anxiety of many about harbouring strangers in our midst. As God's people we are called to care for the foreigner who is in our land and not to deny them justice (Jeremiah 22:3). Let us hold our guests in prayer and be ready to respond with glad and generous hearts should the opportunity to help arise.

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.

Our World

- Pray that the translation and publishing ministry of Bock Ki Kim and Sook Kyoung Park, Mennonite Church Canada Witness workers in Seoul, will encourage the faith, resilience and relationships of Mennonites and Anabaptists in South Korea.

- If you would like to add or remove any prayer requests, please contact Dan Kehler or the church office.

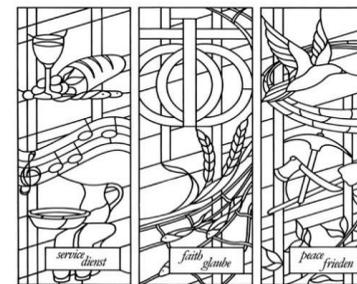
From the Pastor:

If you were with us in worship last week, I shared about my passion for cycling. Since I started seriously embracing the simplicity of a cycling lifestyle, I have logged over 53,000 kilometers. That is about 1 and 1/3 times around the earth at the equator. This year I have set a goal of 7000 kilometers, which works out to about 19 kilometers per day. My lifetime goal is to ride the equivalent to the moon at its average distance from the earth which according to google is 384,400. So I am about 13.7% there.

However, not all is rosy with my obsession. I am about to retire one of my all-time favourites bikes. You might recognize it as that rusty single speed with the pop bottle fender extension that you often see parked outside. The trouble is not that it is about to rust through – it is as solid as the day I got it nearly 10 years ago. It is that I am aging. My knees are giving me the word that is it time to move on to a bike that has the advantage of modern physics; one with gears. You see there is considerable force needed to get a single speed going up to speed from a standstill and that torque is too much for my aging knees, especially in the winter. And because I want to ride as long as I can as I age, it is time to let go of my well used single speed.

But this is not as easy as it sounds. It will be difficult for me to retire this bike. It may not look like it to the ill-informed but that is a sought after bike. It is a mid-80's Norco Magnum SE; a classic in the bike world. To have it look as it does with all the rust and still have the original brazed on badge on the front with faded gold decals, and to be set up as a single speed is a sign of prestige in my world. Add to that the nearly 12,000 kilometres I have ridden it and there is a considerable emotional attachment. When you spend that much time on a bike there are many adventures to remember; epic rides with friends, classic wipeouts to recall, grand times of fun and frustration, so it won't be easy to retire.

Letting go is a part of life. So rather than deny my knees, and let my need for prestige get the better of me, I am going to let go of my beloved Mangum SE this summer. I am working on an equally cool bike with gears to replace it in the near future. But in the mean time I am savouring each time I get on it and ride to church, or into town, or to the park. But when the time comes to finally let it go, I will celebrate its goodness to me with my biking mates. I will take the wheels and other bits that are worth salvaging and give them to someone who can use them. I will hang the frame on a wall in my home as a piece of bike art – that is until Crystal says otherwise. And while I know it won't be the most difficult thing to let go of in my life time, I will use the whole experience as practice. So that when the time comes to let go of weightier things, I have learned to fall into the abundant goodness of God's great grace upon grace.



Altona Mennonite Church

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

VOLUME LVI No. 19

May 7, 2017

We Gather

Prelude

Hymn HWB #114 In thee is gladness

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship and Prayer of Invocation

Hymn HWB #559 O thou, in whose presence

Words of Confession and Assurance

We Hear

Children's Time Giving Thanks

Scripture John 10:1-10

Hymn SR #128 'Tis the Gift to be Simple

Scripture Acts 2:42-47

Sermon Glad and generous hearts Dan Kehler

We Respond

Hymn HWB #602 Lift up your hearts

Prayers of the People

Offering

Hymn HWB #597 Oh, how happy are they vs.1-3

Benediction followed by vs 4.

Postlude

Worship Leader: Lori Hiebert

Song Leader: Lori Hiebert

Accompanist(s): Loren Hiebert

Pastor: Dan Kehler

Secretary: Lori Hiebert

Office Hours: T: 204-324-6773 (church office)

Wed. & Thur. 9:30 am to noon T: 204-324-5952 (home)

Tel: 204-324-6773 (Church office) email: altonamennonite@gmail.com

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WORSHIP & MEETING EVENTS at AMC

May 8 7:00 pm Education Meeting

May 14 9:30 am Sunday School

11:00 am Worship Service

Scripture: Acts 7:55-60; Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16; 1 Peter 2:2-

10; John 14:1-14 *Theme:* Do not let your hearts be troubled

Worship Leader: Marlene Wiebe *Song Leader:* Kevin Neufeld

Accompanist(s): Marilyn Houser Hamm *Sound:* Henry

Rempel *Coffee:* Kerry & Gina Enns

May 15 5:30 pm Auxiliary Greenhouse outing

May 21 9:30 am Sunday School

11:00 am Worship Service

May 23 7:00 pm Church Council meeting

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Baptism** with water is an indication of one's desire to identify with the life giving way of Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit. It is the symbol of our covenant with God and other followers of Jesus made in community signifying desired participation in the Body of Christ. If you would like to explore Baptism as an expression of your faith contact Pastor Dan.

- **Congratulations to Derrick & Emily Giesbrecht** on the birth of their son Keon Hendrix Giesbrecht, born April 26, 2017. Derrick is the sports director, and facility coordinator at Canadian Forces Base, Wainwright. He also works as a trainer. Emily operates a hair salon on the base. Keon's grandparents are Irvin & Cheryl Giesbrecht and Grant & Nettie Wiebe. Keon's great grandparents are Ted & Darlene Klassen, and Henry & Trudy Wiebe. We invite your prayers for the new family unit.

- **Auxiliary Greenhouse Outing** – Monday, May 15. We'll leave from the church at 5:30 pm and head to Sunshine Greenhouse. Contact Lori Hiebert if you wish to attend.

Birthdays: May 10 – Paul Krahn; May 11 – Rachel Geirnaert, Emily Wiebe; May 12 – Dan Kehler, Ken Penner, Finnick Wood

"God's Word is like headlights in dark times, because it is full of promises we need to keep us from driving our lives into the ditch of bitterness and despair".

COMMUNITY & MISC. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **MHC Gallery:** "160 Acres: the Geography of Home," a multimedia exhibition by Darlene Derksen. **Opening May 5 at 7:30 pm.** Runs May 5 to June 17. 600 Shaftesbury Blvd, Wpg.

- **Altona Health Care Auxiliary Spring Tea and Bake Sale** will be held Friday, May 12, 1:30 – 3:00, at Eastview Place with Crocus Auction. Donated baked items are welcomed. Proceeds towards Care Home/Hospital projects. All are welcome.

- **MCC Manitoba Annual General Meeting** - MCC Manitoba's AGM will be held on Thursday, June 8, 7 pm at Emmanuel Mennonite Church in Winkler. Join us to hear about developments in our program work and plans as well as a keynote address focused on experiences of trauma and resilience in migration. Member congregations may appoint one voting delegate per every 50 members but anyone is invited to attend. For more information and to register delegates, visit <http://mccmb.ca/agm> or contact Nikki Hamm at 204-261-6381 or nikkihamm@mccmb.ca. Please register delegates by June 2.

- **Laughter is Sacred Space; The Human Faces Tour is coming to Winnipeg!** Saturday May 13th 7:00pm at the Douglas Mennonite Church. Free admission with offering taken for Eden Mental Health. Hosted by MCM Youth Groups and Leadership Ministries this Ted&Co production tells the true story about the joy and pain of a life full of paradoxes as Ted walks us through his journey working with a comedic partner struggling with bipolar disorder; and after Lee's death, performing Biblical stories while experiencing the profound absence of God. Evening includes; Performance, Q&A with Ted and Youth Group Hosted Snack Tables.

- **Camps with Meaning** is seeking volunteers as health officer, kitchen help, or maintenance help for a week this summer. Please email camps@mennochurch.mb.ca or call (204) 895-2267 if you are interested.

- **Camp Assiniboia** is looking for people to join our Volunteer Maintenance Crew. If you would like to help us with woodworking projects, carpentry projects, repairs, grounds keeping, or gardening (vegetable and flower) then please contact David Hogue [204 864 2159 ext 100](tel:2048642159). Join us in building our vision for Camp.

- **Spring Fest at MCC Manitoba** – May 26, 27 at Ten Thousand Villages on 134 Plaza Drive, Winnipeg. See poster.

- **IronMan Golf Tournament** – June 19, 2017 at the Winkler Centennial Golf Course in support of Eden Foundation. Register on-line at <http://edenhealthcare.ca>

- **Cycle Clear Lake** - Calling all cyclists! Come out to Riding Mountain National Park for a beautiful trail ride in support of MCC's education work in Haiti on Saturday, July 1. Registration deadline is June 13. For more information and to register online visit <http://mccmb.ca/cycleclearlake> or phone Reinhold at 204-729-8335. – Poster on bulletin board

- **MCC Manitoba Golf Tournament - July 12, 2017, 10 River Road, Starbuck** Join us at Bridges Golf Course for our 15th annual golf tournament in support of MCC's local work with vulnerable youth. For more information and to register, visit <http://mccmb.ca/golf> or call 204-261-6381. Register by June 12 to meet our early bird deadline. – Poster on bulletin board

- MCI (Gretna) invites applicants for the following term positions available for the 2017-2018 school year: ½ time Art teacher, ¼ time Dance instruction. Ability to contribute to co-curricular programmes, including our musical theatre production, is an asset. Please send resume and cover letter to Cheryl Braun at principal@mciblues.net or Box 250 Gretna, R0G 0V0, due date May 15. For more information call MCI @ [204-327-5891](tel:2043275891).

- MCI is also seeking applicants for Male Dean. This full-time position is part of the Residence Staff Team. Primary responsibilities involve supervising the res. life of the school and fostering spiritual, personal, and social growth of students. Experience in Camp, Youth or Discipleship Ministries is an asset. For more information, contact Director of Student Life, haroldschlegel@mciblues.net or call MCI @ [204-327-5891](tel:2043275891).