

- Colourful Faith an experiential exhibition of Yoruba art, culture and Christian faith by Segun Olude and Gibril Bangura opens Sunday, Sept. 24 at 2:30. Sept. 24 – Nov. 18. MHC Gallery, [600 Shaftesbury Blvd.](#)

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

- Newsletters / updates
- Nurturing and -Sustaining Safe Communities – Eden Health Care Services, 2017 Lecture Series – October 3, 2017
- **xplore KEEP THINKING-** CMU 6 week enrichment programs.
- Bible study on the book of Job at SPMB Church
- 2017 Mennonite Studies Conference Oct. 19-21 At U of W
- Steve Bell concert at Krahn Barn – Oct. 28
- Eden Health Care 50th Anniversary Gala with guest speaker Margaret Trudeau

PRAYER AND PRAISE

Our Church family

- Pray for Tim Wiebe and family as they heal.
- Pray for strength and calm for those with parents in transition.

Our Community

- Pray for MC Manitoba Executive Director – Ken Warkentin and Canada General Secretary – Willard Metzger

Our World

Call to Prayer for MC Canada Special Assembly:

Mennonite Church Canada and Area Church leaders are requesting that all congregations in MC Canada set aside time to pray for the Future Directions: Covenant New nationwide restructuring process on the Sundays of October 1, as well as October 8 & 15. We invite your prayers for Calvin Quan as he moderates the Special Assembly, for others who are providing Assembly leadership or support and for delegates who participate. The special Assembly is an important juncture in our life together as a denomination. It will shape how we engage together in our common mission. Pray for the Assembly participants as they discern the wisdom of the Spirit, as we seek to align our church structures with how God is at work among us and in the wider world.

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

From the Pastor:

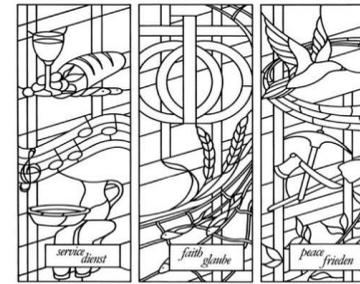
In the October 2017 issue of Mennonite Church Canada's PrayerNet, Coordinator Deborah Froese writes...

A few years ago, I took part in a gratitude challenge and made note of three things daily that inspired thankfulness. Sounds simple, right? Some days, it was. On other days, I struggled—but that struggle was a blessing in disguise. It forced me to pay closer attention to each moment, and in doing so, I came to recognize grace in unexpected places. A smile from a stranger offered at just the right moment. The scent of freshly brewed coffee. The joy of stepping out of a blizzard into a warm home.

Acknowledging these small graces helped me appreciate to a greater degree the life God has blessed me with. It helped me pay closer attention to the people in my life and become more appreciative of them.

This year, we celebrate Thanksgiving on October 9. Why limit thankfulness to a single day? If you don't already practice the discipline of gratitude, I challenge you to try it out for the month of October. Each day, list three things you are grateful for. If you'd like to take it one step further, consider why you are grateful for the people in your life and encourage each of them by sharing your thoughts. Then, offer a silent word or prayer of thanks to God.

I plan to do the challenge this October. If you want join me, let me know and maybe we can meet and talk about our experience of being more intentional about being grateful has shape our living. If there are enough participants, we might even make a "pop up" small group for October.



Altona Mennonite Church

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

VOLUME LVI No. 39

October 1, 2017

Thanksgiving and World Communion Sunday

GATHERING IN PRAISE & THANKSGIVING

Prelude

Hymns HWB #98 Sing to the Lord of harvest
HWB #81 For the beauty of the earth

Call to worship: Psalm 133

Hymn SJ #37 Miren que bueno/How good and pleasant it is

Invocation

Welcome & Announcements

RECEIVING THE WORD

Song SJ#3 Jesus call us here to meet him

Children's time

Hymn HWB#307 Will you let me be your servant

Scripture Reading: Hebrews 1:1-4; I Cor. 12:12-27

Message Loving Our Christian Neighbours Dan Kehler

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Hymn HWB #420 Heart with loving heart united

Prayer of Confession

Coming to the Table of Christ

Songs to be sung during communion celebration:

SJ #4 You've got a place at the welcome table

SJ #37 Miren que bueno

SS #123 Let us talents and tongues employ

HWB# Ubi caritas

Pastor: Dan Kehler

Office Hours:

Wed. & Thur. 9:30 am to noon

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Altona Mennonite Church is on Treaty One Territory.

Prayers of the People
Offering

SHARING IN OUR THANKSGIVING MEAL

Cong. Hymn
Table Blessing
Recessional and meal in church lower level.
All are welcome to share in the meal and fellowship together.

Worship Leader: Marilyn Houser Hamm
Song Leader: Kevin Neufeld
Accompanist(s): Nancy Ratzlaff, Kevin Neufeld, Dara Neufeld

WORSHIP & MEETING EVENTS at AMC

Oct. 8 9:30 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service
Scripture: Psalm 136, Philippians 4:4-6, Isaiah 25 *Theme:* Are you Thanks-Living?
Speaker: Dan Kehler *Worship Leader:* Lori Hiebert *Song Leader:* Lori Hiebert *Accompanist(s):* Loren Hiebert *Sound:* Nathan Loewen *Coffee:* Don & Ang Enns
October 15 9:30 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service
October 22 – Service with Altona United Church in their sanctuary, followed by potluck lunch

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **NEW! Large Print Hymnal Worship Book, Sing the Story and Sing the Journey are available at back of church. Please return to the back after the service.**

- Henry Rempel has an important request. Due to his leukemia and the treatments involved, his immune system is compromised. When you greet him in church, please refrain from handshakes or other contact. And if you are not feeling 100% yourself a friendly wave from a distance is appreciated.

- If you are interested in purchasing items for hygiene kits to be donated to the Refugee Reception Centre in Gretna, the items currently needed are Travel size deodorant and shampoo, wash cloths and bath towels (approx. size 24 x 40 inches) Other items are in good supply. Contact Marge Friesen for details 204 327 5400

- **FALL WORSHIP SERVICE THEME:** The worship committee has selected the theme for worship for fall of, "**Who is My Neighbour?**"

On **October 22**, a joint worship service is planned with the Altona United Church at the United Church, 45 3rd Ave SE, at 11:00 am followed by a potluck lunch. The theme:

Who is our neighbour will explore United / Mennonite commonalities as well as uniqueness and celebrate our friendships. Stay tuned for details and opportunities to participate in the service as well as details about the lunch.

October 29 – Neighbours from other countries – Highlighting newcomers experiences in Canada

November 5 will be a Sunday focusing on **Mental Health**. With 1 in 3 people expected to encounter mental health issues at some point in their lives we will look at how we support our neighbours facing these challenges as well as how we as a church can support good mental health and care for ourselves.

November 12 - Peace Sunday- Harry Huebner will be our guest addressing peace from a global perspective.

Birthdays: Oct. 3 – Mark Sawatzky, Julia (Myron) Thiessen; Oct. 6 – Sam Kehler

Anniversaries:

COMMUNITY & MISC. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Minds in Motion** is an 8-week program which combines physical activity, socialization and mental stimulation for people living with early to moderate symptoms of dementia, and their caregiver/family/friend. Sessions run one morning per week Oct. 12th – Nov. 30th (Thursdays). Call Grace @ Gardens at 204-324-8945 to register.

- **Eden Health Care Services** invites you to the 2017 Lecture Series on Tuesday, October 3. See poster on bulletin board, or visit edenhealthcare.ca for more information.

- **October 4th**, some of Altona church's youth groups will take part in **the FCC "Drive Away Hunger" food drive**. They will start collecting food around 6PM for the Altona food bank. Please be prepared.

- **The Eastview Place Fall Bazaar** will be held Thursday, Oct 5, 1:30 – 3:30 pm. Join us for a lovely afternoon of coffee and dainties, the best bake sale in Altona, and enter the raffle for wonderful prizes. All proceeds go to improving the quality of life for the residents of Eastview.

We are encouraged to donate 8 items for the bake sale, and 4 pans of dainties for the Silver Tea. Any finished craft items, plants, preserves and jams may be donated as well, drop off the morning of the Bazaar. See the sign up sheet.

- **Grand Opening of the Mennonite Heritage Archives.** CMU, MC Canada, and the Centre for Transnational Mennonite Studies, via the Plett Foundation, are partnering to launch a new era. Opening, Reception, and Lecture on **Thursday, October 5 at 7:00 pm** in the Archives and Gallery at CMU. Dr. Royden Loewen will offer a lecture entitled 'Hoax and Reality: Climate Change and the Mennonite Farmer in Global Context'.

- **Pembina Counselling Centre** presents Comedian / Illusionist Greg Wood with More Than Meets The Eye on Friday, Oct 6th at 7:30pm at the P.W. Enns Centennial Concert Hall. Tickets are \$25 and available online at winklerconcerthall.ca or at the door."

- On Saturday, October 14th, at 7:00 pm, The Lumber River Quartet from North Carolina will be performing at Buhler Hall in Gretna. Come hear wonderful music and some testimonies from some fine Christian gentlemen. Admission by donation.

- **sixpointeight is a NEW youth, peace event** rooted in the call of Micah to 'do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with God'. High school youth from across Manitoba and beyond are invited for a day of worship, fun, learning, and community – motivating youth to be peace-builders in the way of Jesus. Be inspired by Kathy Giesbrecht and Lloyd Letkeman, and creative TED Talk-style presentations focused on Self, Neighbours, Creation, and God. This event takes place **Sunday, Oct. 15, 2017, 2:00–8:00 PM at CMU**. Full details and **online registration** www.cmu.ca/sixpointeight.

- **Theatre of the Beat** presents *Yellow Bellies* at Buhler Hall in Gretna on Sunday, October 15 at 7:00pm. *Yellow Bellies* is a historical drama that highlights the experiences and public response to Mennonite Conscientious Objectors during WWII. This episodic tale takes audiences across Canada, featuring verbatim interviews, fictionalized scenes, and live music from an often overlooked chapter of Canadian history. Tickets will be available at the door. \$18 for adults or \$10 for Students.

- You are invited to attend **The Gardens on Tenth AGM** on Thursday, October 19 at 7:00 PM at The Gardens. Your board representative will be looking for delegates to represent your church so please talk to him/her if you are interested.