

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.

- Bill C-262 goes before Parliament for its second reading in November. If passed, this Bill will see that the laws of Canada are harmonized with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. To find out how Mennonite Church Canada is supporting Bill-C-262 and how you can help, see <http://pfir.ca/>. Please pray for healing and the promise of reconciliation between settlers and Indigenous people in this land.

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

A Report From Madelyn Mierau-Friesen

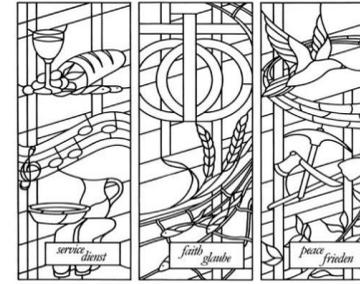
Hi all! I hope your autumn season has started off well, that your hearts are full from summer adventures, and that you feel ready to take on the colder fall/ winter months. I spent another summer working at Camps with Meaning, specifically at Camp Koinonia and Camp Moose Lake and would like to share about my experience.

This summer was particularly challenging for me. I was feeling burnt out from finishing high school and nervous about the big transition to university. I felt as though I wasn't approaching my summer at camp with the right mindset, but I went with the hope that I would find energy and peace of mind within the community. My second week working, I helped lead a canoe trip with three other staff. We had five canoes full of 13-year olds, which as you can imagine, is a terrifying thought in itself. But I was feeling excited and ready. I wanted to make connections with my campers and was hoping to be refreshed by a few days outside. The week ended up being terribly challenging. Though some connections were made with the

campers, many of them needed to be disciplined constantly. The other staff and I were burnt out at the end of each day. It felt as though it was a week of trying not to snap at the campers who knew just which buttons to push, trying to keep spirits up when no one seemed to be enjoying themselves, and counting down the days until the week was over. In the evenings I would go to other staff, with hopes of unloading the challenges of the day. Through conversation, I slowly began to understand our campers a bit more. I realized there were reasons why people act the way they do. They hurt others because they've been hurt. They seek attention because they've been forgotten. They are angry because someone has done them wrong. When I realized this, I began to find compassion. I ended up having the most powerful, touching moments with the campers who I had the hardest time with. One night I was having such trouble with a camper that I thought I couldn't take it anymore. But less than twenty minutes later she asked for a hug, and it felt like I had never been frustrated with her. By the end of the week, I was still struggling with many campers, and there was no beautiful moment of sudden connection and unity. But now, two months or so later, I think of the impact those campers had on me. I hardly ever think of how frustrated I was, but of how I grew in my understanding of other people. My campers that week taught me that everyone is deserving and in need of love, whether you like them or not. We don't have to get along with everybody, but we do have to find compassion. When we can find empathy for our neighbours we can find a little glimpse of God's Kingdom, and we open ourselves up to giving love and being loved in return.

Thank you for supporting me throughout my camp experience! It always feels incredibly comforting to know I have a congregation on my side while I go throughout my summer. Have a happy Thanksgiving!

Peace,
Madelyn



Altona Mennonite Church

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

VOLUME LVI No. 40

October 8, 2017

WE GATHER

Prelude

Hymn HWB #86 Now thank we all our God

Welcome / Announcements

Thanksgiving Litany: Your Mercy Endures (from Psalm 136)

One:...we bring our thanks, good Lord:

Many: your mercy endures for ever.

WE RECEIVE THE WORD

Hymn HWB #90 For the fruit

Children's Time – Two Powerful Words

Scripture Philippians 4:4-6; Isaiah 25:1-10a

Meditation Uneasy Gratitude

Hymn SJ #93 Wehrlos und verlassen sehnt sich, vs. 1,2

Meditation Thanks Living

WE RESPOND

Offering Hymn HWB #385 What gift can we bring

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn HWB #79 Lord with devotion we pray

Prayers of the people

Hymn HWB #386 As saints of old, vs 3 after benediction

Benediction

Postlude

Pastor: Dan Kehler

Office Hours:

Wed. & Thur. 9:30 am to noon

Tel: 204-324-6773 (Church office)

Tel: 204-324-5178 (home)

email: amcpastordan@gmail.com

Secretary: Lori Hiebert

T: 204-324-6773 (church office)

T: 204-324-5952 (home)

email: altonamennonite@gmail.com

www.altonamennonitechurch.ca

Altona Mennonite Church is on Treaty One Territory.

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

WORSHIP & MEETING EVENTS at AMC

October 15 9:30 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service
Plans needed to change, so Scripture and Theme are TBA
Speaker: Worship Leader: Norma Thiessen Song Leader: Gina Enns Accompanist(s): Sylvia Klassen Sound: Greg Heinrichs
Coffee: Lloyd & Lorrie Wiebe
October 22 – Service with Altona United Church in their sanctuary, followed by potluck lunch
October 29 – 9:30 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service

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

- Cornie & Hilda Elias have moved. New address is 11-343 3rd St., Winkler, MB, R6W 2Z6 The move went well.

- **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. 9 – Ray Hamm; Oct. 11 – Evan Ratzlaff; Oct. 12 – Marge Friesen; Oct. 13 – Matthew Kehler

Anniversaries: Oct. 11 – Ray & Marilyn Hamm

COMMUNITY & MISC. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **October 14, 7 pm** - The Lumber River Quartet from North Carolina will be performing at Buhler Hall in Gretna. Admission is by donation.

- **October 15, 2:00 – 8:00 PM at CMU.** - **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**, Full details and **online registration** www.cmu.ca/sixpointeight.

- **October 15, 7 pm - Theatre of the Beat** presents *Yellow Bellies* at Buhler Hall in Gretna. *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.

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

- **October 22 at 3 pm** - Attend **Reformation 500**, a concert featuring the CMU Alumni Choir and the Mennonite Community Orchestra in a performance including Mendelssohn's *Reformation Symphony* and two Bach cantatas

in the Loewen Athletic Centre. Adults \$15, students \$5, under 12 free. For more information see cmu.ca/events.

- **November 3**, Mennonite Collegiate Institute in Gretna, invites you to the annual Soup & Pie (5:00pm), followed by the Annual General Meeting (6:30pm) and Fall Concert in Buhler Hall at 7:00pm.

- **November 4, 5:30 pm** - Mennonite Church Manitoba Camps with Meaning will be hosting the annual Fundraising Celebration Banquets at Emmanuel Mennonite Church in Winkler; and Sunday, November 5th, 5:30 p.m. at Douglas Mennonite Church in Winnipeg. **We invite you to attend as a participant, host or sponsor of a table.** For reservations email camps@mennochurch.mb.ca or call the camp office at (204) 895-2267. Participants will be invited to share in a free will offering.

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

- Newsletters / updates
- **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
- Oct. 29 – Salem Home Fasha, fellowship & song
- Nov. 9 - Eden Health Care 50th Anniversary Gala with guest speaker Margaret Trudeau
- Nov. 12 – Canzona concert

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.
- Condolences to Tracy Mullet and family. Tracy's father Bernie Penner passed away. The funeral was Friday.
- Cornie Elias has been in BTHC since Tuesday.

Our Community

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