

PRAYER AND PRAISE

Our Church family

- Pray for Tim Wiebe and family as they heal.

Our Community

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

- Yesterday the delegates of Mennonite Church Manitoba meet to given direction and offer support for the board and staff of MC Man. Pray for courage and wisdom as they seek to faithful to the collective wisdom offered and the discernment that took place.

Our World

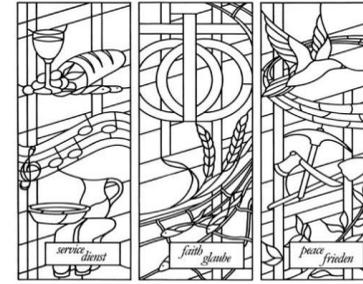
- **Tom & Christine Poovong (who are Witness workers in Thailand)** shared recently that they have been working with the Blu tribal people in northern Thailand. These mountain people are subsistence farmers mostly and are treated lower than “second-class citizens” in Laos and Thailand. Tom said that in his recent visit to a village of the Blu people, he saw a need for water – more wells to be dug; more adequate sanitation given that there are many sanitation-related diseases and for prayer, these mountain people are persecuted and treated as outsiders, even as criminals. Tom and Christine have a heart for sharing Christ with the Blu people and already envisioning how they can mobilize other Christians and organizations to provide some of the basic human needs of these people. Please pray along with the Poovongs for the Blu mountain people and for this new opportunity to demonstrate the love of God.

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

From the Pastor:

We have entered the liturgical season of Lent. The name comes from old English word meaning 'lengthen' as Lent is observed in spring when the days begin to get longer. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and continues for 40 days before Easter. Traditionally the 40 days of Lent symbolize Jesus 40 day wilderness experience after his baptism in preparation for ministry. For Anabaptists, Lent has become a season of reflection and preparation as we approach the darkness of the cross on Good Friday and anticipate the celebration of Easter resurrection.

The theme that will guide our worship in Lent is **Between Me and You**. It highlights God's covenant with all of God's creation. It refers to the relationship between us and God and includes our relationship with others and also our relationship with creation. Through the Old Testament stories of covenant making and New Testament stories of God's promises fulfilled we will explore how God's love is manifest in the past and how it is experienced today. The covenants that God makes with the people of God provide hints at the nature of the relationship intended between God and creation, as well as guidelines for how we are to relate to God and to one another. We start the Lenten journey discovering how vastly inclusive God's covenant is and that it is extended from generation to generation. As humans, though, we struggle with barriers getting in the way and are in need of constant reminders of God's covenant love for all God's creation. As we approach Holy Week, we are invited to lay down the barrier of our preconceived understandings and expectations, and to realize the good news that in Jesus' death and resurrection there is no longer anything in between us and God. May this Lenten season be for you a time of reflection and transformation as together we enter our theme: **Between Me and You**.



Altona Mennonite Church

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

VOLUME LVII No. 8

March 4, 2018

Lenten Theme: Between Me & You

Lent 3: Between Me & You and in all we go through, God's promise and God's love grow stitch by stitch.

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Hymn HWB #14 Come, we that love the Lord

Call to Worship

Leader: Come rule makers, rule breakers, and you who are still finding your way. Come. Whether you speak with wise words or with wisecracks, you are made in the image of God. Come into God's house. Hear God's Word. Prepare to meet your Maker and your match. For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is greater than human strength.

People: Some of us like certainty and structure. Some of us don't. We come by different roads, yet we are here together. We want to know God, and to be known by God. We are here to worship the Lord.

Leader: Jesus said "Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there." We are here and Christ Jesus is here. We join our hearts in worship.

Prayer of Invocation

Hymn HWB #46 I sing the mighty power of God

Pastor: Dan Kehler

Office Hours:

Wed. & Thur. 9:30 am to noon

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Altona Mennonite Church is on Treaty One Territory.

Confession and Words of Assurance

Confession

**Words of assurance: The Lord's rules can be trusted.
They make plain people wise.**

Covenant Illustration

Hymns STJ #52 Jesus, help us live in peace
Insert Between Me & You

Scripture Readings: Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19

Sermon An Harmonious Community

Hymn STS #65 Open my eyes

Prayers of the Congregation

Offering

Benediction

Hymn HWB #433 Go, my children

Worship Leader: Norma Thiessen

Song Leader: Kevin Neufeld

Accompanist(s): Gina Enns

AMC ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Two pairs of boots were left at camp last Sunday – Sorrels size 11, Columbia size 7. Check general office.

- Altona is expecting another newcomer family, from Rwanda via Uganda, in March and Build a Village is asking for help in gathering together supplies. This family has only one small child so the needs are not many. Here is a list that AMC has been asked to gather. They would like these items by March 14th. Let Elaine Loewen know if you can provide any of these items. Thanks.

List-- 1 kitchen garbage can, Shower Curtain & hooks, Soap holder, Toothbrush holder, pkg. of light bulbs, 4 boxes of Kleenex, 1 men's deodorant, 1 woman's deodorant, 1 body lotion, 2 chapsticks, 2 pairs men's socks, 2 pairs women's socks, 1 pair of men's gloves/mitts

Birthdays: March 6 – Madelyn Mierau-Friesen; March 8 – Nicole Wood, Ryan Schwartz; March 9 – Paul Hiebert, Felicity Mullet; March 10 – Irv Giesbrecht

Anniversaries: March 10 – Albert & Sylvia Klassen

WORSHIP & MEETING EVENTS at AMC

March 7 10:00 am Men's Coffee

March 8 2:30 pm Sin of Certainty Book Study

March 11 9:30 am Christian Formation & Education
11:00 am Worship Service

Scripture: Numbers 21:4-9; Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22; Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3:14-21 *Theme:* Me & You & Darkness in View
Worship Leader: Peggy Martens *Song Leader:* Loren Braul
Accompanist(s): Edna Zacharias *Sound:* Henry Rempel
Coffee: Robert & Peggy Martens

March 18 9:30 am Christian Formation & Education
11:00 am Worship Service

March 22 2:30 pm Sin of Certainty Book Study

COMMUNITY & MISC. ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Town Hall Meeting: Read Between the Pipelines
Tuesday, March 6th, 7 pm at the Gretna Prairie Centre**

The pipeline corridor running past Morden and Gretna and on to the US is the single largest conduit of oil into the States. One of the lines is set to be replaced and expanded. What does this new oil infrastructure mean for our communities? Is this progress, or a step away from a climate-friendly energy future, or something else? With brief presentations by David Scott, Swan Lake First Nation; Laura Cameron, Manitoba Energy Justice Coalition; Melanie Kauppila, United Church of Canada; Terry Mierau, Cedar Lane Farm; Rachel Krause, Canadian Mennonite University
Sponsored by Manitoba Energy Justice Coalition

- **Camps with Meaning online registration is open!** This is our ministry together as Mennonite Church Manitoba. Please visit www.campswithmeaning.org to register for summer camp. We want all families to afford camp. Note our new Campership Fund, which assists families at a much higher level than before. Brochures are on the lobby table.

- **March 4, 7 pm** - The Pax Cantata Chorus, a CMU Alumni choir, presents 'My Heart is Inditing', including Handel Coronation Anthem No. 4 and more, with chamber orchestra accompaniment, and featuring soloist Adam Sperry. Sunday March 4, 7pm at Sargent Avenue Mennonite Church. Tickets are \$10.00 from choristers or at the door.

- **March 5, 7 pm** - CMU is honoured to host **Senator Murray Sinclair** as he shares stories and insights of Canadian communities, churches, and educational institutions responding to the TRC 94 Calls to Action. Senator Sinclair will speak on 'The TRC, Calls to Action, and the Mountain before Us: Stories of Hope and Challenge'. Join us in **Marpeck Commons**. An in-person and live-streamed event.

- **March 8, 9, 10** - Mennonite Collegiate Institute in Gretna invites you to attend their musical performance of "Footloose" at 7:30 and Saturday Matinee March 10 at 2:00 PM in Buhler Hall. Tickets available at www.mciblues.net, or by calling MCI (204)327-5891. In addition, MCI invites prospective students from grade 5-11 to attend Open House, 1 Hour before all Musical show times. Prospective students will receive a FREE ticket to Footloose, to reserve your spot please contact MCI or by emailing kaylagiesbrecht@mciblues.net.

- **March 11, 7:00 pm -Southern Manitoba Choral Society and W.C.Miller Chamber Choir** will present a spring concert in the Altona Bergthaler Church. All are welcome. Freewill offering.

- **March 16, 7 pm** - Exhibit Openings featuring Anthony Chiarella and Faye Hall, inspired by Malcolm Guite at MHC Gallery, [600 Shaftesbury Blvd.](http://600-Shaftesbury-Blvd), south campus Canadian Mennonite University. Exhibits run until May 5.

- **March 17** - CMU presents "**Journeying Together: Accompanying the Aging**", a one-day workshop for deacons, caregiving teams, pastors, and Christians working in health care or other caregiving roles. Join John H. Neufeld, Heather Campbell-Enns, Kathleen Rempel Boschman, Charlene Epp, and more as we explore what it means for Christians to journey together with the aging. Mar. 17th, 2018. For more information, and to register, please go to cmu.ca/pastorsworkshops.