

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.

-Last week, the delegates of Mennonite Church Manitoba met to give 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

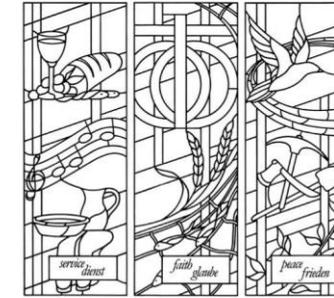
Mike & Cheryl Nimz (Witness partners – United Kingdom) are working at developing an online community platform where isolated folks throughout the UK who are interested in Anabaptist thought and spirituality can be brought together for mutual support and encouragement. Mike and Cheryl are coming in contact with people who feel alone in their pursuit of understanding and Anabaptist approach to Christianity. They have been talking about how to put together a community of people who are dispersed. With current technology, it seems that this may be easier than they thought. When the Nimzes put out a question to see if people would be interested they found that a good number of people were. They will be putting together an online community that can meet through Zoom which is much like Skype and will allow for large numbers of people to meet altogether for extended periods of time. Join Mike and Cheryl in praying for the creation of this online community.

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

From the Pastor:

This prayer from Thomas Merton fits well with today's theme. It exemplifies struggling with faith in the midst of suffering. It is found in *Thoughts on Solitude*.

My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think that I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you. And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire. And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road though I may know nothing about it. Therefore will I trust you always though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone. Amen.



Altona Mennonite Church

Christian Formation & Education - all ages: 9:30 am
Sunday Worship Service: 11:00 am

VOLUME LVII No. 9

March 11, 2018

*Lenten Theme: Me & You & Darkness in View
Lent 4: Between You & Me, even in darkness, God's promise
and God's love grow all around us.*

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to worship

Leader: Who comes in the name of God? Step into the light and be known.

**People: We are coming, through darkness and fear.
We come into the light by the power of God.**

Leader: People of God, God has heard your cries and is opening a way for you.

**People: We are here, through darkness and fear.
We come into the light of this day by the power of God.**

Leader: You are here, and God is here. What will you do?

People: Together we will worship our God.

Prayer of Invocation

Hymn HWB #13 Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

Prayer of Confession

Words of assurance: Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress.

Pastor: Dan Kehler

Office Hours:

Wed. & Thur. 9:30 am to noon

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Altona Mennonite Church is on Treaty One Territory.

Covenant Illustration

Hymn - Between Me and You - insert

Scripture readings:

Numbers 21: 4-9

Psalm 107:1-3, Responsive reading

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord because he is good.

People: His faithful love continues forever.

Leader: That's what those who have been see free by the Lord should say.

People: He set them free from the power of the enemy.

Leader: He brought them back from other lands.

People: He brought them back from east and west, from north and south.

John 3: 14-21

Sermon Always in the Wilderness Dan Kehler

Hymn HWB #401 This Little Light of Mine

Prayers of the congregation

Offering

Benediction

Hymn HWB #570 We Walk by Faith

Worship Leader: Peggy Martens

Song Leader: Loren Braul

Accompanist(s): Edna Zacharias

AMC ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 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 12 – Bryson Loewen; March 15 – Marlene Wiebe; March 17 – Ashlyn Loewen

Anniversaries:

WORSHIP & MEETING EVENTS at AMC

March 18 9:30 am Christian Formation & Education

11:00 am Worship Service

Guest Speaker – Harold Schlegel

Scripture: Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 51:1-12; Hebrews 5:5-

10; John 12:20-33 *Theme:* Me & You & Covenant New

Worship Leader: June Schwartz *Song Leader:* Lori Hiebert

Accompanist(s): Loren Hiebert *Sound:* Kevin Neufeld *Coffee:*

Henry & Marge Rempel

March 21 7:00 pm Formation Committee

March 22 2:30 pm Sin of Certainty Book Study

March 25 9:30 am Christian Formation & Education

11:00 am Palm Sunday Worship Service

March 29 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Communion Service

March 30 10:30 am Good Friday Service

April 1 9:30 am Easter Morning Breakfast

11:00 am Worship Service

COMMUNITY & MISC. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Altona TEN THOUSAND VILLAGES is looking for a part-time manager.** This is a paid position with 6-8 hours per week. Duties to include purchasing and unpacking products, organizing and supervising volunteers as needed and some bookkeeping. Computer skills are an asset. Apply, with resume, to Corny Fehr at the Altona MCC Gift and Thrift Shop.

- **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 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.

- **March 22, 7 pm** CommonWord Bookstore and Resource Centre presents an evening with Donald Stoesz, Thursday, at CMU's Marpeck Commons. Stoesz will be launching his new book **Canadian Prairie Mennonite Ministers' Use of Scripture: 1874-1977**. Join Stoesz as he presents the findings of his research and the evidence of a "Mennonite canon within the biblical canon." For more information go to commonword.ca/go/1475.

- **March 27** - Prospective students and their parents are invited to **CMU Open House**. Meet faculty, student council, athletics staff, student life staff, and current students. Attend a class or chapel, enjoy free gelato, and learn about the printing press with students from Spy Tower Press. For more information see cmu.ca/campusvisit.

- On **Thursday, Apr. 5, 7:00 PM**, plan to attend "**Spring at CMU**," an evening of celebration in support of CMU. Featured: CMU PAX Award to Steve Bell; music by Steve Bell and CMU Singers; short reflections from faculty, alumni, and students. Contact Joyce Friesen at jfriesen@cmu.ca to reserve a seat or cmu.ca/springatcmu for more information.

- **April 15, 3:30 pm** - Salem Foundation invites you to enjoy an afternoon of "Faspa, Fellowship and Song" at the Winkler Bergthaler Church. Music by Winkler Community Male Choir. Faspa follows the concert at 4:30 pm. Proceeds from the freewill offering are for Salem Home Resident Room Blinds – All Care Areas.