

Our Community

- Pray for MC Manitoba Executive Director – Ken Warkentin as he goes on sabbatical; and MC Canada Executive Director – Willard Metzger who will be leaving his position in October.

Our World

- **Tom & Christine Poovong’s** prayer request is that the Lord will continue to use them to be a blessing to: their home church, their partner churches, to the wider Mennonite church to their families and friends. As we're doing the Lord's work in His field and teach other people about our Anabaptist/Mennonite faith, we pray that many people will become Jesus’ disciples living and walking with him every day. Our prayer is that for the next three years we will have one thousand disciples in Thailand and Laos. Tom relates the following story: *“Just a few weeks ago I was at the photo shop to take my passport photo the owner asked me where I am going. When I told her I am a Mennonite Christian she was surprised and told me that she never knew any Asian Mennonites. So I had a chance to tell her my great story about our Anabaptist/Mennonite history including my own - how I became a Mennonite Christian. I believed we need to tell people more about our Mennonite faith including Asian Mennonite.”* Thank you Tom and Christine for reminding us that we all have a great story to tell!
 - *If you would like to add or remove any prayer requests, please contact Dan Kehler or the church office.*

From the Pastor:

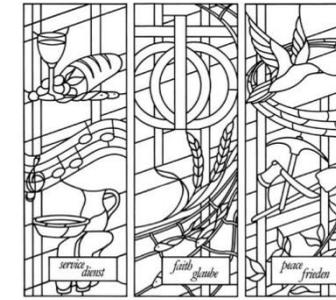
A paradox is a seeming contradiction that reveals a truth. Poet G. K. Chesterton said paradox is “truth standing on its head to gain attention.” It is commonly a literary device or a play on words that prompts some amusement. “Deep down, he’s really shallow.” “To make money, spend it.”
 The Christian faith is often expressed with these seeming contradictions. At the very heart of our faith lies paradox: Death leads to life. In fact, our sacred story is more of a triple paradox: a God who is three in one, who embodies his divinity in humanity, and who dies to bring life.
 The paradoxes within our faith unfurl even more from there. In the kingdom of God, the first are last, and the last are first. The meek inherit the earth. Divine wisdom is foolishness to the world. The apostle Paul says, “When I am weak, then I am strong” to emphasize the sufficiency of God’s grace. Jesus taught that in order to grow up we must become like children, challenging our self-serious pride. He described

enemies as neighbors to demonstrate the radicalness of his kind of love. The list of biblical paradoxes is long. By leaning deeper into paradox, we come closer to the heart of both our faith and our God.

Why explore such mindbenders? They have the potential to draw us deeper into the mysteries—and the playfulness—of Christ’s kingdom. Paradoxes require a double-take and mess with our ironclad sense of logic in order to loosen us from our rigid thinking and move us into a place where our sense of clarity, certainty, and control are shaken. The goal is to move us into the surprise, scandal, and surrender of worshipping an awesome God.

- Condensed from Peter Schuurman’s writing

<p>The Fury of Overshoes</p> <p>They sit in a row outside the kindergarten, black, red, brown, all with those brass buckles. Remember when you couldn't buckle your own overshoe or tie your own overshoe or tie your own shoe or cut your own meat and the tears running down like mud because you fell off your tricycle? Remember, big fish, when you couldn't swim and simply slipped under like a stone frog? The world wasn't yours. It belonged to the big people.</p>	<p>Under your bed sat the wolf and he made a shadow when cars passed by at night. They made you give up your nightlight and your teddy and your thumb. Oh overshoes, don't you remember me, pushing you up and down in the winter snow? Oh thumb, I want a drink, it is dark, where are the big people, when will I get there, taking giant steps all day, each day and thinking nothing of it?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Anne Sexton</p>
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Altona Mennonite Church
 Christian Formation & Education - all ages: 9:30 am
 Sunday Worship Service: 11:00 am

VOLUME LVII No. 18 May 13, 2018

when UPSIDE DOWN is RIGHT-SIDE UP

Paradox of Growth: To become mature, we must become like children

Prelude
 Welcome and announcements
 Hymn HWB #489 O little children, gather
 Call to Worship
 Hymn HWB #622 Wonder of wonders

Child Dedication
 Rosetta Lynn Braul, February 13, 2017
 parents: Lori Dueck & Loren Braul
 Finnick Danial Wood, May 13, 2016
 parents: Judge & Nicole Wood
 Hymn STJ #90 Lord, we bring to you our children
 Prayer/Poem - Arise ye Christian Mothers
 Children’s Story

Scripture Reading: Matt 18:1-5; 23:11
 Message Don’t Grow Up Dan Kehler
 Hymn HWB #389 Take my life
 Offering and offertory

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
Tel: 204-324-5178 (home)	www.altonamennonitechurch.ca
email: amcpastordan@gmail.com	

Altona Mennonite Church is on Treaty One Territory.

Hymn HWB #341 Jesus loves me

2. *Jesus loves me! This I know, as He loved so long ago,
Taking children on His knee, Saying, "Let them come to me"*

3. *Jesus loves me still today, walking with me on my way,
Wanting as a friend to give light and love to all who live.*

Benediction

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

AMC ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Need some help around the house? Yard work, house work... Steve Wiebe is looking for odd jobs to do this spring. Email Steve at wiebesteven6@gmail.com

- You are invited to our Church picnic! 11:00 am Sunday, May 27 at the Neuberghal community centre. Worship time, followed by lunch & fellowship. Please bring your own plates, cups/mugs, cutlery, lawn chairs, baseball gloves and outside games. Hotdogs, and drinks will be provided. Bring chips, veggies and desserts to share with others.

- We would like to recognize all AMC graduates this year. Please notify Andrea Hildebrand of your graduation or family's graduate. The recognition date will be determined.

- This Sunday May 13 is the last Sunday of the Children's Education time (Sunday School). We will resume in September.

- If you are interested in being part of a pop-up committee to plan a social event with the Altona United Church, let Dan Kehler know.

Birthdays: May 13 – Finnick Wood; May 17 – Kim Hamm

WORSHIP & MEETING EVENTS at AMC

May 15 7:30 pm Leadership Council Meeting

May 18/19 rehearsal and wedding rental

May 20

11:00 am Worship Service with Communion

Guest Speaker: Dorothy Fontaine, Mennonite Church Manitoba

Scripture: Luke 24:44-49; Acts 2:37-45 *Theme:* The Disciple's transition from followers to leaders and apostles

Worship Leader: Ang Enns *Song Leader:* Kevin Neufeld

Accompanist(s): Nancy Ratzlaff *Sound:* Henry Rempel

Coffee: Ted & Darlene Klassen

May 27 AMC Picnic at New Bergthal

COMMUNITY & MISC. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **May 13, 2:00 pm** Golden West Radio will air highlights of the Faith & Life Spring Concerts on CFAM/CHSM.

- **May 16, 4 – 7 pm Spring Open House at Camp Assiniboia.** Are you thinking of coming to camp this summer? Campers, families, friends, volunteers – all are welcome! Come meet some the leadership staff, roast a hot dog, try an activity, and take a look around at Camp Assiniboia .

- **SpringFest 2018 - May 25 & 26, 2018 - 134 Plaza Drive, Winnipeg** Join us for our annual SpringFest with a quilt show and sale, BBQ lunch, plant sale and more. Proceeds will provide relief kits to families whose lives have been disrupted by conflict and disasters around the world. For more details visit mccmb.ca/springfest or call us at 204-261-6381.

- **May 27, 7 pm** - Maestros Yuri Klaz and Mel Braun, together with the choirs of Sargent Mennonite Church and First Mennonite Church, invite you to a free SPRING CHORAL CONCERT at First Mennonite Church, 922 Notre Dame Avenue in Winnipeg.

- **May 29, 6 pm** - Interested in learning more about Mennonite Collegiate Institute? We invite prospective students and families to join us at MCI in Gretna, MB, for dinner, followed by an MCI Information night at 7pm. Information will focus on Faith-based learning, Music program, Athletics and Finances. Please register for dinner by emailing kaylagiesbrecht@mciblues.net or calling the school at (204)327-5891, or feel free to come at 7pm for the Information Night.

- **June 3, 10:30 am,** MCI in Gretna welcomes you to Saengerfest, with a worship service followed by lunch and a **2:00 pm concert.** Lunch is available by donation. Join the MCI community as we worship and fellowship together!

- **June 6-8 at CMU** - Plan to attend the **inaugural Canadian Conference on Ecclesiology and Ethnography.** Join academics, students, and practitioners in exploring the dynamic relationship between theological reflection and the lived experience of the church. For more information see cmu.ca/eandeconference.

- **June 10, 3 – 8 pm - Camps with Meaning Fun-a-thon: Carnival and Concert** to raise funds for a new shop at Camp Assiniboia at Fort Garry Mennonite Fellowship. Afternoon fun for all ages including: petting zoo, competition seed spitting, games for kids; followed by a variety of great music. Visit www.campswithmeaning.org/funathon for more info.

- **June 12, 2018** – Eden Health Care presents Men's Mental Health Center Stage, Finding the lighter side of darkness. Speakers: Dr. Michael Dyck, Keven Breel, Big Daddy Tazz, Dr. Larry Klassen. See poster on bulletin board. Brochures are there as well.

If you play golf or like long bike rides, read on and check the bulletin board!

- **June 2** – MCI's 4th Annual Golf Classic at Oakview Golf Club in Gretna, MB. Registration begins at 10am, Shotgun start at 11am. \$100/person. Register today at info@mciblues.net

- **June 18** – Eden Foundation IronMan Golf Tournament Fundraiser at Winkler Centennial Golf Course – see ehcs@edenhealthcare.ca for information

- **July 7** – MCC's Cycle Clear Lake – mccmb.ca/cycleclearlake

- **July 11** – MCC Manitoba Golf Tournament at Bridges Golf Course – mccmb.ca/golf

PRAYER AND PRAISE

Our Church family

- We rejoice with Tim Wiebe as again the MRI shows no brain tumor! and Pray for Marlene Wiebe as she prepares for her new role as chaplain.

- Pray for those for whom mental health makes daily life a struggle.