

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

- While in Canada for his itineration ministry, **Bock Ki Kim** shares the following prayer requests: 1. Prayer for his safe itinerary travel in each city and to develop good relationships with people. 2. For Sook Kyoung (his wife) as she provides good care for children in her classes. Sook Kyoung is also having a good time with Daniel (their son) while he visits South Korea until end of August. 3. Mennonite Church South Korea: That the church planting ministry in Seoul can grow well as they rely on God while Bock Ki is away from the group during his itinerary trip. MC South Korea members will participate in a peace protest in Seoul particularly for the petition for CO (Conscientious Objectors) on May 12 (Sat) 2:00 pm. They will gather at the gate of the Korean constitution building with bike riding and marching to the Congress or parliament building because the petition was instituted in the constitution building and will pass by Congress building. This is an annual protest that the Korea Anabaptist Center and MC South Korea participate in. Please pray for this event.

- *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

This sonnet was inspired by MCI principal Bernie Loepky's FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK article in the most recent MCI Crossroads newsletter. Bernie notes that strengths and weaknesses are a mutual part of Christian community. God's grace is sufficient for us. We grow in humility and hope as we receive God's grace and share our gifts with the body of Christ. Tim Wiebe

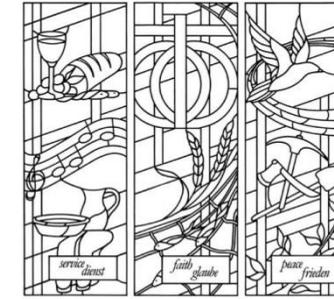
Our Compassionate Place

Our gifts, our needs in mutual friendship meet
When we in three ways fully try to live:
Faith, hope, and love are ours from God to greet
Each day with brightness, lightness, strength to give

Or receive. Weakness abides in us on days
When we feel distant from salvation's grace;
'Tis then that we draw from the strength that prays
Its way to help us practically face,

Overcome such limits, through our shared delight.
Obedience, discipleship, graceful, gentle peace,
Walk with us: Holy Spirit's *gelassenheit*;
A shared, sustaining, always-inviting feast.

We praise our Maker for sufficient grace
To find, each day, our compassionate place.



Altona Mennonite Church

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

VOLUME LVII No. 19

May 20, 2018

Pentecost: Holy Spirit, Come with Power

Prelude *Come, Holy Spirit, our Lord and God* Buxtehude

Welcome & announcements

Hymn STJ #3 Jesus calls us here to meet him

Call to worship

Leader: A mighty wind has blown,

People: and tongues of fire have danced!

Leader: The Spirit is with us,

People: just as Jesus promised.

Leader: God's Spirit moves among us and gathers us together.

People: God's Spirit gives us power and calls us to serve the world.

All: God's Spirit is poured out upon us. Worship God with Joy!

Prayer of invocation

Hymn STJ #79 As I went down to the river to pray

Scripture reading - Luke 24:44-49, Acts 2:37-45

Message The Disciple's transition from followers to leaders and apostles Dorothy Fontaine, Director of Mission, Mennonite Church Manitoba

Pastor: Dan Kehler

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Wed. & Thur. 9:30 am to noon

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Altona Mennonite Church is on Treaty One Territory.

Hymn HWB #349 Spirit of the Living God
Communion: The Upside-down Table

Prayers of Congregation

Offering *Holy Spirit, Come with Power* Held

Benediction

Leader: Come, Holy Spirit

People: Come as Holy Fire and burn in us.

Leader: Come as Holy Wind and cleanse us within.

People: Come as Holy Light and lead us in our darkness

Leader: Come as Holy Truth and dispel our ignorance

People: Come as Holy Power and overcome our weakness

Leader: Come as Holy Life and dwell in us.

**All: Send us, abide with us, use us,
that the Father may be glorified
and our joy be made full. Amen**

Hymn HWB #366 God of grace and God of glory

Worship Leader: Ang Enns

Song Leader: Marilyn Houser Hamm

Accompanist(s): Nancy Ratzlaff

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.

Birthdays: May 20 – Harv Heinrichs, Naomi Bailie; May 22 – Michelle Gerbrandt, Liam Geirnaert; May 23 – Henry Rempel; May 26 – Lorraine Heinrichs

- **May 30, 7:30 at Roseau Reserve** - an evening of listening and conversation with Charlie Nelson and Peter Atkinson and others. Bring some cookies or cake; they will provide coffee. Contact Ray Hamm for carpooling or for directions.

- Ray Hamm is interested in creating an afternoon or evening, or a series of meetings, on a weekend in fall for AMC, and maybe for the community, about Medical Assistance in Dying (MAID) Eden Health Care Services has been developing policies on MAID and people from Eden could be involved here. Please call 204 324 4115 or send an email (rmhamm@icloud.com) if you have ideas about this or if you could help in shaping the event.

WORSHIP & MEETING EVENTS at AMC

May 27 11:00 am AMC Picnic at New Bergthal

May 30 7:30 pm Coffee at Roseau River

June 3 11:00 am Worship Service

Food Bank and Coin Collection Sunday

Scripture: Theme: Worship Leader: Ang Enns Song Leader:

Accompanist(s): Sound: Coffee:

June 5 6:00 pm Formation Council

June 6 10:00 am Men's Coffee at AMC

COMMUNITY & MISC. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **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 or tractor treks, 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

- **July 14** – **Visit the Villages Tractor Trek** – register at www.edenhealthcare.ca

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 enters her new role as chaplain.

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