

PRAYER AND PRAISE

Our Church family

- Pray for Margaret Rempel as she recovers from surgery.
- Pray for Matthew Molnar as he recovers from surgery.
- Please pray for Tim Wiebe who has an MRI scheduled for June.
- Pray for Marlene Wiebe as she enters her new role as chaplain.
- Pray for those for whom mental health makes daily life a struggle.

Our Community

- Mark Tiessen-Dyck will transition from Assoc. Pastor at Sargent Avenue Mennonite Church, Winnipeg, to Lead Pastor at Altona Bergthaler Mennonite Church in September.
- 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.
- We invite all congregations and members of Mennonite Church Canada to join with us in prayer as we seek an EXECUTIVE MINISTER. We invite applications and nominations for an individual who will work cooperatively with the Executive Staff Group to nurture, represent and inspire a unified vision of MC Canada.

Our World

- Hippolyto and Miriam Tshimanga report in their recent newsletter the gratitude of Pastor James Gayiya of the Colesburg congregation. Gayiya testified in a joint worship service in May how thankful "to the Lord he was because his congregation is now busy making bricks for the construction of their house of prayer." Pastor Gayiya continued to express his gratitude by sharing with those in attendance "about the many nights, over the years, that he had spent worrying and praying the Lord asking for the ways to build a house of prayer for his congregation. He spoke to them about the brick making press and the other tools that the concerted effort of a few Mennonite institutions, namely Mennonite Church Canada, Africa Inter-Mennonite Mission (AIMM), Mennonite Mission Network (MMN), and Mennonite Central Committee (MCC), had facilitated for the Grace Community church. The Pastor also spoke of the brick making phase in which the congregation is now engaged. This has been invigorated in the last three months thanks to donations made by both MMN and Mennonite Church Canada, respectively."

Hippolyto and Miriam also invite prayer "for the Grace Community Church so that the Lord may keep her faithful in unity as she is still struggling to build herself as a Pentecostal Peace Church and a strong member of Mennonite World Conference in South Africa."

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

From the Pastor:

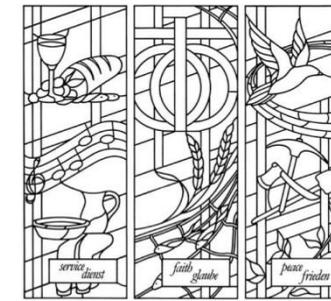
A paradox is a seeming contradiction that reveals a truth. Poet G. K. Chesterton said paradox is "truth standing on its head to gain attention." It is commonly a literary device or a play on words that prompts some amusement. "Deep down, he's really shallow." "To make money, spend it."

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 worshiping an awesome God.

- Condensed from Peter Schuurman's writing



Altona Mennonite Church

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

VOLUME LVII No. 21

June 10, 2018

Gathering

Prelude

Opening Hymn HWB #12 Come, let us all unite to sing
Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

L: Let us prepare our hearts for worship.

P: Creator God, we come to worship this morning, old and worn.

L: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation, the old has passed away.

P: Reviving God, we come to worship this morning, awaiting something new.

L: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation — everything has become new!

P: Forgiving God, we come to worship this morning, with our sins before us.

L: God reconciled us to himself through Christ, not counting our sins against us.

All: Loving God, we come to worship this morning, to be made new, to be forgiven, to be reconciled, and to hear your call to be ambassadors of reconciliation. Let us worship the Lord our maker and redeemer.

Prayer of Invocation

Pastor: Dan Kehler

Office Hours:

Wed. & Thur. 9:30 am to noon

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Altona Mennonite Church is on Treaty One Territory.

Praising

Hymn of Praise HWB #46 I sing the mighty power of God
Psalm 100
Offering our Gifts, Tithes and Offerings

Hearing

Scripture
Hymn HWB #407 We are people of God's peace
Meditation – Darnell Barkman

Responding

Affirming Faith HWB #711
Hymn SJ #56 Make me a channel of your peace
Sharing and Prayer

Sending

Benediction
L: If anyone is in Christ, they are a new creation, the old is gone, the new has come! God reconciled us through Christ and entrusts this message of reconciliation to us. Therefore, we are Christ's ambassadors. So let us go in peace, to live God's message of reconciliation into the world.

All: AMEN

Closing Hymn STS #57 Go, my friends, in grace
Postlude

Worship Leader: Dan Kehler
Song Leader: Gina Enns
Accompanist(s): Edna Zacharias

We welcome Darnell Barkman to AMC. He and his wife Christina, were Witness Workers in the Philippines.

AMC ANNOUNCEMENTS

- When you see a tent in a church, or something else out of the ordinary, remember to make your donation to the Food Bank.
- 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

Birthdays: June 11 – Paige Mierau-Friesen; June 12 – Peter Bailie, Ted Klassen; June 14 – Anne Loewen

- 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

June 17 11:00 am Worship Service
Scripture: Mark 9:33-37; Matthew 23:1-12 *Theme:* Paradox of Greatness: The first are last and the last are first *Worship Leader:* Elaine Loewen *Song Leader:* Dave Regehr
Accompanist(s): Hildie Regehr *Sound:* Nathan Loewen
Coffee: volunteer needed
June 24 11:00 am Worship Service
June 26 8:00 pm Leadership Council
July 1 Worship Service
July 4 10:00 am Men's Coffee

COMMUNITY & MISC. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Canadian Mennonite** connects more than 10,000 households with the voices, ideas, stories and news of Mennonites across the country. Subscriptions are available in print and digital formats to anyone who attends AMC. To subscribe, or to add email delivery to an existing subscription, please contact Lori Hiebert at altonamennonite@gmail.com. Subscriptions are paid for collectively through the church.

- **The Eden Health Care Services Executive** is very pleased to announce that Ken Kroeker, of Morden, a former employee of Eden and of Southern Health-Sante Sud, has been appointed Interim CEO of Eden until such time as we are able to hire permanently into this position. Please welcome Ken as we continue to serve our constituency and our region. We are grateful for your continued support and covet your prayers in this important work of recovery for those with mental health issues and concerns.

- **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.

- **June 13 – Walk for Alzheimer's** at Eastview Place. Register at 9:30 am. Program at 10 am with walk to follow.

- **June 13, 5:30 – 7:30 pm** – Salem Home Ladies Auxiliary BBQ and Dessert Auction at the Salem Home. Entertainment by Ed Wayne and the North Border Band. At 7 pm, 12 delicious desserts will be auctioned. Bring your lawn chairs.

- **June 13: 7 pm, Marpeck Commons, CMU - Dr. Fernando Enns**, a Mennonite theologian of significance in today's world, is offering a **Public Lecture on A Transformative Spirituality for Peacebuilding**. Dr. Enns's involvement in the Mennonite church in Germany and the global church as a member of the World Council of Churches Central Committee, is noteworthy.

- **June 15, 5 – 7 pm - CMU Alumni and friends** are invited to **"One Last Dinner with Ted"** at CMU Dining Hall. Ted is retiring (and this will be an opportunity to bid farewell) but he is excited to prepare one more dinner of his famous chicken fingers and fries and conference cookies. Gluten free and vegetarian options also available. Admission by donation to the CMU Alumni Bursary Fund. RSVP to aapp@cmu.ca by 5:00 PM on Friday, June 8.

- **June 21, 2 – 7 pm Canadian Blood Services** - will hold a Community **Blood Donor Clinic** at the Rhineland Pioneer Center in Altona.

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

- **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