

COs and alternative service." Eventually we heard that 'the Constitutional Court of Korea declared that the Military Service Act must include legal provisions that detail alternative service routes for conscientious objectors in a ruling in Seoul on June 28.' "Although we have to prepare and develop the various alternative services before December 31, 2019, today's decision has become the milestone for Korean Cos," said Bock Ki. This is a big change in Korean history although there are many things that we still have to work for. Please keep praying for us and this military issue and the way of preparing alternative services in the future.

[http://english.hani.co.kr/arti/english\\_edition/e\\_national/851090.html](http://english.hani.co.kr/arti/english_edition/e_national/851090.html)

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

### From the Pastor:

The following description of paradox is written by Parker J. Palmer. It is from the introduction to the 2008 edition of "The Promise of Paradox: A Celebration of Contradictions in the Christian Life."

The promise of paradox is the promise that apparent opposites can cohere in our lives, the promise that if we replace either-or with both-and, our lives will become larger and more filled with light. It is a promise at the heart of every wisdom tradition I know, not least the Christian faith. How else can I make sense of the statement "If you seek your life, you will lose it, but if you lose your life, you will find it"? Or "The first shall be last and the last shall be first"? Or the affirmation that Jesus Christ was fully human and fully divine? Or the notion that we know there is a God but we cannot claim to know the God that is?

The capacity to embrace true paradoxes is more than an intellectual skill for holding complex thoughts. It is a life skill for holding complex experiences. Take, for example, our encounter with "the other," with the person who sees a different reality from ours because he or she stands in a different place. To some extent, the other contradicts not only our thoughts but also our lives, and that can be threatening. If we lack the capacity to allow this contradiction to segue into a paradox—a both-and that has the potential to open our minds and hearts to something new—we will most likely fall back on

our hard-wired "fight or flight" response. But if we understand the promise of paradox, our encounters with "the other" have the potential to make our world larger, more generous, more hopeful.

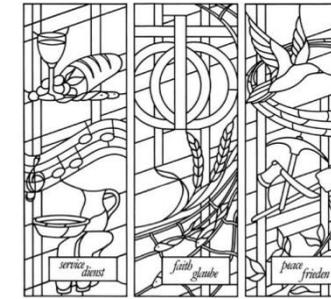
If BY [RUDYARD KIPLING](#)

If you can keep your head when all about you  
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you,  
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,  
But make allowance for their doubting too;  
If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,  
Or being lied about, don't deal in lies,  
Or being hated, don't give way to hating,  
And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise:

If you can dream—and not make dreams your master;  
If you can think—and not make thoughts your aim;  
If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster  
And treat those two impostors just the same;  
If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken  
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,  
Or watch the things you gave your life to, broken,  
And stoop and build 'em up with worn-out tools:

If you can make one heap of all your winnings  
And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss,  
And lose, and start again at your beginnings  
And never breathe a word about your loss; If you can force  
your heart and nerve and sinew  
To serve your turn long after they are gone,  
And so hold on when there is nothing in you  
Except the Will which says to them: 'Hold on!'

If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,  
Or walk with Kings—nor lose the common touch,  
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you,  
If all men count with you, but none too much;  
If you can fill the unforgiving minute  
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run,  
Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,  
And—which is more—you'll be a Man, my son!



# Altona Mennonite Church

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

VOLUME LVII No. 26

July 15, 2018

when NMOD EDISdN is RIGHT-SIDE UP

*Paradox of Life: Life is found in losing it.*

### Gathering

Welcome and Announcements  
Call to Worship & Invocation

**L:** We come to worship this morning from different places.

**P: Oh God, do not be far from us.**

**L:** We come to worship this morning for different reasons.

**P: Oh God, do not be far from us.**

**L:** We experience the presence of the Spirit in different ways.

**P: Oh God, do not be far from us.**

**L:** We hear Jesus' words with different ears.

**P: Oh God, do not be far from us.**

**L:** "Deny yourselves."

**P: Oh God, do not be far from us.**

**L:** "Take up your cross".

**P: Oh God, do not be far from us.**

**L:** "Follow me".

**All: Oh God, we thank you for drawing near to us in this place, in our lives. Amen.**

Hymn HWB #6 Here in this place

### Listening

Scripture Readings: Matthew 16:21-26, John 12:23-26

Children's time

Hymn STS #56 Unless a grain of wheat

Message: *The Life We are Meant to Live*

## Responding

Hymn STS #111 For me to live is Christ  
Offering  
Prayers of the people

## Sending

Hymn HWB #514 Lord, I am fondly, earnestly  
Benediction

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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.*

Worship Leader: Peggy Martens  
Song Leader: Marilyn Houser Hamm  
Accompanist(s): Gina Enns

## WORSHIP & MEETING EVENTS at AMC

July 22 10:30 am Worship Service  
*Scripture:* Luke 6:20-26; Matthew 6:19-24; Proverbs 13:7  
*Theme:* Paradox of Wealth (Mammon): The Luxury of Poverty  
*Worship Leader:* Mary Costen *Song Leader:* Lori Hiebert  
*Accompanist(s):* Loren Hiebert *Sound:* Kevin Neufeld  
July 29 Sunflower Festival, Worship Service at the park  
August 5 10:30 am Worship Service  
August 12 Outdoor Service Braul/Dueck yard

## AMC ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **From the Treasurer:** We enter the summer months already in our line of credit, with 2nd Quarter donations due to Conferences. Please remember to give regularly. Thank you.

- When you see a tent in a church, or something else out of the ordinary, remember to make your donation to the Food Bank. Did you know that each month, over 850,000 people in Canada turn to food banks for help; more than one-third are children and youth.

- 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](mailto:wiebesteven6@gmail.com)

**Birthdays:** July 18 – Darlene Klassen, Gina Enns; July 20 – Sydney Hildebrand

**Anniversaries:** July 19 – Rudy & Elfie Krahn, Albert & Marilyn Bergen; July 20 – Don & Ang Enns

## COMMUNITY & MISC. ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CMU Blazers Summer Sports Camps 2018!

-Aug. 7-9: Junior (grades 4-7) futsal camp  
-Aug. 13-17: Youth (grades 8-10) volleyball and basketball  
-Aug. 20-24: Junior High (grades 6-8) volleyball and basketball  
For details visit [cmu.ca/sportscamps](http://cmu.ca/sportscamps), phone 204.487.3300, or email [sportscamps@cmu.ca](mailto:sportscamps@cmu.ca)

### The Garden on Tenth is looking for volunteers

Someone to set, serve and clear lunch once a month for 1.5 hrs at the Apartments. If there are any other ways you would like to help please contact Sara or Grace 204-324-8945 or email [admin@gardensontenth.ca](mailto:admin@gardensontenth.ca)

**August 26, 3:00 pm – Hymn Sing Reunion Concert** – A reunion is being organized for August, and as part of that, a concert by the Hymn Sing Alumni Chorus will be presented at Bethel Mennonite Church, 465 Stafford St. Tickets available at McNally Robinson Booksellers.

### September 15, 2018 - 2nd annual Bike For Kids Event

The ride will take place from W.C. Miller to Gretna and back down the Trans Canada trail. All proceeds for this event goes towards Big Brothers Big Sisters and the programming done here in Altona. Make it a ride for yourself, your kids, family, or put a team together from work! Prizes for early registration. <https://pembinavalley.bigbrothersbigsisters.ca/event/bike-for-kids/>

- **September 27 – 7 pm – MCC Manitoba Annual Meeting** at North Kildonan Mennonite Church (1131 Roch St.) Refreshments at 6 pm. Schedule is on the bulletin board in the general office. We are allowed one voting delegate per 50 members.

- **Save the date! Saturday, September 29<sup>th</sup> 2018** is the **Ride for Refuge event**. Mennonite Church Canada is once again inviting its congregational family to participate in this fun, nationwide bike-a-thon/walk in support of our international Witness ministry. The Ride for Refuge is a family-friendly cycling and walking fundraiser that supports charities who provide refuge and hope for displaced, vulnerable and exploited people everywhere." Please visit the Ride website: <https://rideforrefuge.org/charity/mennonitechurchca>

## PRAYER AND PRAISE

### Our Church family

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

### 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.

- We invite all congregations and members of Mennonite Church Canada to join with us in prayer as we seek an EXECUTIVE MINISTER

- Please pray for our Camps with Meaning staff, that they may continue to live out their faith and grow together throughout the business of summer camp.

## Our World

- **Court ruling for South Korean COS - Bock Ki Kim** reported from his recent travel to Seoul to visit the constitutional Court of Korea: "Today was a very special and meaningful day for Mennonite Church South Korea and many conscientious objectors who have prayed for many years to bring good news about the alternative service." Bock Ki added: "In fact many COs and their families want to see a different result from this government. As you already know, the Korean government and president show different attitudes towards