

From the Worship Committee:

The weeks following Advent/ Christmas are identified as the Season of Epiphany- the Season of Light. After the church has long awaited the coming of the Messiah it is time to celebrate the coming of the Light and its movement toward God's Shalom. The journey for AMC this year has been discerned by the Worship Committee to be God's Shalom: Pathways to Reconciliation.

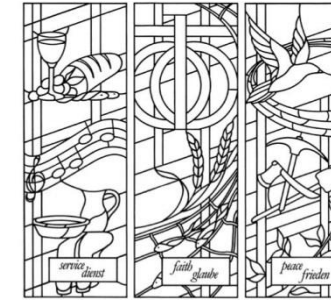
We are delighted that Dr. Michael Pahl, pastor of Morden Mennonite Church, is with us this Sunday to open the concept of Epiphany for us and begin our series. Pastor Dan will ground us biblically in understandings of God's Shalom January 13, from which we will explore Pathways of Reconciliation:
Jan 20 - with our Indigenous neighbors
Steve Heinrichs, MC Canada Indigenous/ Settler Relations

Jan 27- with ourselves

February 3 - with "the other"
Harry Huebner, Emeritas Professor of Interfaith Studies, CMU

February 10 - with one another- AMC Annual Meeting

We look forward to the coming weeks with much anticipation. Further details will follow as we move through our journey.



Altona Mennonite Church

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

VOLUME LVIII No. 1

January 6, 2019

Welcoming the Light

GATHERING

Prelude
Welcoming One Another
Call to Worship
Hymn SS#30 Arise, your light is come!
Invocation

RECEIVING THE WORD

Scripture Reading: Matthew 2: 1-12
Hymn Insert We Three Kings
Children's Time
Song SS# 32 Oh, beautiful Star of Bethlehem
Scripture Reading: Isaiah 60: 1-6; Ephesians 3: 1-13
Message Arise, Shine! Your Light Has Come! Michael Pahl

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Hymn SJ #54 Longing for light
Offering
Prayer Time, ending in the Lord's Prayer

SENDING

Hymn SS#31 Jesus, be the centre
Benediction
Postlude

Pastor: Dan Kehler

Office Hours:

Wed. & Thur. 9:30 am to noon

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Altona Mennonite Church is on Treaty One Territory.

Worship Leader: Marilyn Houser Hamm
Song Leader: Kevin Neufeld
Accompanist(s): Sylvia Klassen

We welcome Michael Pahl to our service today. Michael Pahl is lead pastor at Morden Mennonite Church. His wife Larissa serves as an associate pastor at MMC as well, and they have four children ages 12 to 20. In addition to his pastoral experience in Edmonton and Morden, Michael has a PhD in Theology and has several years of academic teaching experience. The Pahls are originally from Alberta but are now glad to call southern Manitoba home.

WORSHIP & MEETING EVENTS at AMC

Jan. 7 7:15 pm Christmas Decoration Take Down
Jan. 13 9:30 am Christian Education resumes
11:00 am Worship Service

Scripture: Theme: Season of Light - Pathways to Reconciliation
Worship Leader: Elaine Loewen
Song Leader: Gina Enns
Accompanist(s): Nancy Ratzlaff
Sound: Greg Heinrichs
Coffee: Ken & Elaine Loewen

Jan. 15 7:00 pm Formation Committee Meeting
Jan. 16 Deadline for Reports for AGM
Jan. 20 Guest speaker Steve Heinrichs
Jan. 22 7:30 pm Leadership Council Meeting
Feb. 10 AGM

AMC ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **From the Treasurer: We can celebrate!** On Sunday \$6500 was needed to pay our expenses and fulfill obligations for 2018. Just over that amount was donated in Sunday morning and on-line donations. Thank you to all who contributed throughout the year.

- **January 7, 7:15 pm** - Gather at the church to take down the Christmas decorations. I'm sure someone will make coffee.

- **January 16** – If you are the one responsible for a report for the AGM report book, Jan. 16 is the deadline to get it in to the office. Thanks.

Birthdays: Jan. 6 – Ken Braun, Teresa Braun; Jan. 7 – Ryan Ratzlaff, Nathan Klassen, Devan Gerbrandt; Jan. 10 – Karen Martens

COMMUNITY & MISC. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Southern Manitoba Choral Society invites all singers to join the choir on Tuesdays for its winter/spring season. First rehearsal is January 14, 7:00-8:45 pm in the W C Miller Collegiate music room. Registration is \$35.

- Are you getting tired of the cold and dark of winter? Join us for The Gardens on Tenth theme night 'Cabin Fever' on Thursday, Jan 17 at 5:00, with Johnny Cash (Corny Rempel). Join us for comfort food and warm entertainment for only \$20/person. Bring a friend who also needs to get out! Call 204-324-8945 for tickets by Jan 11th.

- Prospective students (and their parents) -- consider these opportunities to explore what CMU has to offer: **Friday, Feb. 2 Campus Visit Day** (a day to explore campus, learn about CMU programs, attend a class and interact with professors) and **Saturday, Feb. 9 Discover Outtown** (CMU's unique discipleship, travel, service and learning program). For information go to cmu.ca/campusvisit.

- **Enrol in a CMU evening course** – for credit or audit. Options include: History of Indigenous Peoples in Canada; The Art of Preaching; Fundamentals of Marketing; The Detective in Fiction and Film; Principles and Paradigms of Youth Ministry... Seniors and alumni audit fees available. Go to cmu.ca/timetable for details.

Check Bulletin Board for Posters about...

- Bible Land Israel Tour Feb.5-14/19
- classes, newsletters.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

Our Church family

- Pray for those for whom mental health makes daily life a struggle.
- Pray for those who experience physical pain, and for friends and family who help with care.
- Keep Tim and Marlene Wiebe and family in your prayers as they deal with an aggressive return of Tim's cancer.
- Condolences to Lois Siemens (former pastoral intern). Her father, Jakob Siemens passed away this week. The funeral was yesterday.

Our Community

- Pray for Ken Warkentin (MCM's Executive Minister), and all our church leaders at all levels of our conference.
- Pray for Doug Klassen (Mennonite Church Canada's Executive Minister).

Our World

Maria Rosa Triana Lopez, Coordinator of the Mennonite Biblical Seminary of Colombia ("Seminario Biblico Menonita de Colombia") recently shared some of the difficulties and challenges facing the seminary: the economic situation of the country affects the possibility of students attending the SBMC and the ongoing challenge to promote programs and activities of the SBMC. Pray that the different ecclesial communities to become involved with the seminary and for wisdom and perseverance in the face of these difficulties.

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