

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 Marlene Wiebe and family in your prayers.

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).
- Please pray for **Emmanuel Mennonite Church** as they continue to serve Winker with their gifts. Having longer term pastoral leadership who work with and are guided by a strong lay leadership group has led to health and stability at Emmanuel. It has also provided a foundation to explore new emphases such as a new model of youth ministry, an intentionality about being intergenerational in all phases of our church life, the willingness to explore additional ways of engagement and interaction in our worship services, and an emphasis on how we interact with and bless our community.

Our World

- South Korea Witness worker Bock Ki Kim will lead peace lectures from April 2 to 9. Approximately 25 school teachers have invited him to present about peace theology and restorative justice. Each session is planned for two hours in length. Pray that the Holy Spirit leads both Bock Ki and the audience.
- Pray for the Witness workers as they learn more about the Witness Support Team concept from Mennonite Mission Network staff (MC USA) and invite passionate people to participate in their WSTs.
- *If you would like to add or remove any prayer requests, please contact Dan Kehler or the church office.*

From the Pastor:

This Lenten Season, we will be exploring C.S. Lewis' world of Narnia. Dr. Roan Williams, the former Archbishop of Canterbury commends those who would enter Narnia during Lent. He says that C.S. Lewis does a wonderful job of helping us look at the images of God - both the familiar, and the uncomfortable ones - in his stories of Narnia. He says that when Lewis was a young man, he gave up believing that God existed at all and at the same time was angry at God for not existing. Lewis would later come to realize that the God he no longer believed in was the God of his making and not the God of the cosmos.

Each week, we will enter Narnia through Lewis' *The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe*. The themes we explore are taken from the story so if you want the fullest experience of Lewis in Lent, I encourage you to read or reread the book.

April 14 (Palm Sunday) – Aslan – Spring comes to break the spell of winter. The sign that Aslan is on the move is that spring arrives in Narnia for the first time in 100 years. Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Matthew 21:1-11

April 19 (Good Friday): Aslan – No Greater Love. Aslan gives himself as the sacrifice in place of Edmond for his betrayal. John 15:9-17, John 19:17-30

April 21 (Easter): Aslan – The New Beginning. As the prophecy on the Stone Table is fulfilled, Aslan comes back to life. But the battle rages on for control of Narnia. Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; John 20:1-10; 1 Corinthians 15:19-26

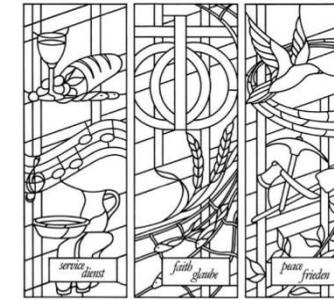
Altona Mennonite Church

Vision

God calls us to be followers of Jesus Christ and by the power of the Holy Spirit to grow as communities of grace, joy and peace so that God's healing and hope flow through us to the world.

Purpose

*We seek to know God through Jesus, the center of our faith.
We seek to follow God in community, through worship, fellowship, and interpreting the Scripture from a Christ-centered point of view, in the Anabaptist tradition.
We seek to obey God by working toward peace and reconciliation, in the spirit of Jesus, reconciling all people to God, to each other, and to the world around them.*



Altona Mennonite Church

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

VOLUME LVIII No. 12

April 7, 2019

Lent: Peter Refined By Fire

GATHERING

Prelude
Gathering Hymn STJ #4 You've got a place
Welcome, Announcements
Instrumental Pause
Call to Worship
Prayer of Invocation
Hymn of praise STJ #17 Halle, halle, hallelujah!

LISTENING

The Prophet: Malachi 3:2-4
Story Time: Peter and the Wolf
Scripture Readings: James 1:2-4, 1 Peter 1:3-9
Message: Holy Suffering - Dan Kehler

RESPONDING

Hymn HWB #545 Be thou my vision
Congregational Sharing
Prayer of Intercession
Offering

SENDING

Hymn STJ #96 I'm pressing on the upward way
Blessing/Benediction
Hymn v. 4
Postlude

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.

Worship Leader: Margruite Krahn
Song Leader: Kevin Neufeld
Accompanist: Nancy Ratzlaff

WORSHIP & MEETING EVENTS at AMC

April 11 2:30 pm Book Study, Chap. 10, 11, 12
April 14 9:30 am Christian Education
11:00 am Worship Service
Scripture: Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Matthew 21:1-11 *Theme:*
Aslan – Spring comes to break the spell of winter *Worship*
Leader: June Schwartz *Song Leader:* Marilyn Houser Hamm
Accompanist: Sylvia Klassen *Sound:* Greg Heinrichs *Coffee:*
Wayne & Tracy Bergen
April 15-17 Red River Valley Festival of the Arts - Piano
April 18 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Communion Service
April 19 10:30 am Good Friday Service
April 21 9:30 am Easter Breakfast
11:00 am Worship Service
April 25 2:30 pm Book Study, Chap. 13, 14, 15

AMC ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Dave and Hildie Regehr are in Ukraine. They update their blog regularly. To read what they are doing during their seven week stay, check out the blog at regehrsukraine.blogspot.com

- **Easter Morning Breakfast** – 9:30 am. Bring hard cooked eggs, paska, fruit. Serving and Cleaning groups will be called.

- **From the treasurer:** The first quarter donations are due, and we will go seriously into our line of credit. This is not uncommon, but still uncomfortable. There have been 3 ways to donate to AMC: Sunday morning offering, online giving if you are Access members (simply add Altona Mennonite Church to your payees and use your 7 digit phone number as your account), and setting up automatic withdrawals. There is now a 4th way to donate: sending an etransfer. Our email address for this transfer is amchurchdonations@gmail.com and you just keep the security question "what service is provided". So the act of giving has never been easier; the rest is up to you! Thank you.

Birthdays: April 10 – Hilda Elias
Anniversaries:

COMMUNITY & MISC. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Thursday, April 11 from 7:00 – 9:00 pm** - You are invited to hear Dr Gordon Neufeld (author of *Hold on to Your Kids*) on for a presentation titled "**Raising Children in the Digital Age**" at Ecole Charleswood School in Winnipeg and tickets are available online at: edenhealthcare.ca. Early bird tickets are \$25/person until March 31.

- **April 13, 14 - Southern Manitoba Choral Society** under the direction of Madeleine Friesen will present spring concerts on **Saturday, April 13** @7:00pm at Morden Mennonite Church and on **Sunday, April 14** @3:00 pm at Altona Bergthaler Mennonite Church. An offering will be taken. Everyone is welcome.

- **April 28 – 7 pm – Eden Health Care Services presents** a concert with the Eastman Male Choir and Winkler Community Male Choir at Winkler Mennonite Church. Donations will be accepted in support of those on a mental health journey.

- **Calling all high school students!** MCC Manitoba is excited to co-sponsor sixpoineteight - **a peacebuilding conference at CMU on April 29**. High school students will hear stories of reconciliation, finding refuge in Canada and the reality of poverty and homelessness. Find out more at cmu.ca/sixpoineteight.

- **#churchtoo manitoba - Online registration is open**

This important conference on dealing with and preventing sexual misconduct in the church is for all pastors and church leaders. It is hosted by MCM, Mennonite Brethren Church Manitoba, CMU and MCC Manitoba. May 31-June 1, 2019 at CMU. [More info and registration on the MCM website.](#)

- **We are in need of Head Cooks** at both Assiniboia and Koinonia for the spring and summer months. Contact Matt Heide at campkoinoniamatt@gmail.com or David Hogue at assiniboia@campswithmeaning.org for more information.

- **The camp community is not complete without support staff** to work on site as maintenance and kitchen staff, health officers and camp pastors. If you have time to spend a week at camp this summer, please contact Jesse at 204-895-2267 or camps@mennochurch.mb.ca.

- On March 15, Cyclone Idai destroyed 90 per cent of Beira, one of Mozambique's largest cities, and affected nearly 3 million people in its path with widespread flooding up to six metres high. It's one of the worst tropical cyclones ever to hit the southern hemisphere.

On April 1, the government of Canada announced it will match dollar-for-dollar every donation up to \$2 million dollars

to the Humanitarian Coalition and its members, including MCC through our account with Canadian Foodgrains Bank.

Your gift will help MCC and our partners provide emergency assistance to those in dire need. You can donate online. Donations can also be made by calling 1-888-622-6337 or by contacting us at 204-261-6381.

Fundraising Banquets:

- **April 9 – 6:30 pm –Gideon Banquet** at the Altona EMMC church, at 6:30. Tickets are complimentary; phone Tamara at 324-9724. Rosemary Siemens will be our musical guest.

- **Tuesday, April 16th, 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.** Annual Palliative Care Soup & Pie Fundraiser at the Altona Bergthaler Church. Bring a friend. All are welcome! All proceeds go towards Palliative Care. Sign up sheet is in the lobby.

- With the weather slowly warming, Dan thought this poem might delight those who can't wait to get some soil under their finger nails.

From "Enriching the Earth" Wendell Berry

To enrich the earth I have sowed clover and grass
to grow and die. I have plowed in the seeds
of winter grains and of various legumes,
their growth to be plowed in to enrich the earth.
I have stirred into the ground the offall
and the decay of the growth of past season
and so mended the earth and made its yield increase.
All this serves the dark. I am slowly falling
into the fund of things. And yet to serve the earth,
not knowing what I serve, gives a wideness
and a delight to the air, and my days
do not wholly pass. It is the mind's service,
for when the will fails so do the hands
and one lives at the expense of life.
After death, willing or not, the body serves,
entering the earth. And so what was heaviest
and most mute is at last raised up into song.

Source: Wendell Berry, *Farming: A Hand Book* (Counterpoint, 2011)