



Altona Mennonite Church

Sunday School – Adults & Children: 10:00 am
Sunday Worship Service: 11:00 am

VOLUME LX No.11

March 14, 2021

Deep in the wilderness: Called to deep healing

Prelude

Welcome

Prayer

Hymn VT #309 Fill Us with Your Feast

Numbers 21:4-9

Announcements

John 3:14-17

Musical Interlude VT #644 Healer of Our Every Ill

John 3:18-21

Meditation Susie Fisher

Hymn VT #737 Breathe on Me, Breath of God

Sending Prayer

Postlude

Worship Leader: Margruite Krahn

Scripture Reader: Steven Wiebe

Musicians: Loren Brault, Gina Enns

Recording engineer: Kevin Neufeld

AMC Contact information:

Pastor: Dan Kehler amcpastordan@gmail.com 204-324-6773

Office Hours: Wednesday & Thursday 9:30 am to Noon

Secretary: Lori Hiebert: C: 204-324-5952

altonamennonite@gmail.com

Custodians: Dale Klassen 204-324-7458 Sandra Klassen 204-324-1475

Altona Mennonite Church is on Treaty One Territory.

Deep calls to Deep Lent 2021

The world of isolation and virtual connection has become our reality. Suddenly the wilderness of Lent is all too real, as we are stripped of our usual surroundings, activities, and circles of relationship. In these months we along with the world experience both deep grief and invitations to a new spaciousness of time, as we needed to release so much of what usually fills our lives. The Scriptures for this season of Lent are filled with stories, songs, and promises that calls us to identify what is essential, what really matters, who we are at our core, and what God asks (and doesn't ask) of us. In the Scriptures and the traditions of Lent, we find a scrubbing away of the excess to get to the core of our Christian journeys and of ourselves. Lent 2021 becomes a season for renewed questioning of what we have discovered to be the deepest and truest parts of our lives and our journeys with God.

The call to go deeper can be frightening or overwhelming when we feel we are not ready and do not know what we will find. We keep much of our pain in our depths. The theme "Deep calls to deep" (Psalm 42:7) arouses in us God's calling out from a deeper place than the areas that we might think we can plan and control. God's call echoes in a deep place within us; a place where the words of love spoken to Jesus at his baptism dwell: "You are my Beloved; with you I am well pleased." might be lived deeply throughout Lent.

~ Adapted from "Deep calls to deep" *Leader* Winter 2020-21

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The Lenten theme for 2021 is DEEP CALLS TO DEEP.

The worship committee has chosen to use paintings as part of the visual enrichment for this theme. The two abstract paintings are by a Chilean woman, Lucy Regueme. She has entitled the green painting, "Land is our livelihood" and the orange one, "When sharing the bread with the hungry, your light will shine in the darkness".

Margruite Krahn's paintings are titled: Experimental Lakes, Ontario - 2006, Red Pine Stand, Dryberry Lake, Ontario - 2000, I travel along a path that is unknown to me, I travel between fear and hope... - 2018

Thanks to Harry Wiens for contributing four of his paintings and to Margruite Krahn for contributing the one.

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.

Birthdays: March 15 – Marlene Wiebe; March 17 – Ashlyn Loewen; March 18 – Lauren Martens; March 20 – Marlene Dyck

Worship & Meeting Events at AMC

March 21 Worship Service – Fifth Sunday of Lent

Theme: Deep in the Earth: Called to deep growth *Scripture:* Jeremiah 31:31-34; John 12:20-23; Psalm 51:1-12; Hebrews 5:5-10 *Speaker(s):* Dan Kehler *Worship Leader:* Lori Hiebert *Musicians:* Loren & Lori Hiebert *Sound:* Henry Rempel

March 28 Worship Service – Palm Sunday

Information re Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Sunday services will come in the next week or two.

AMC ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Congratulations** to Andrea Hildebrand who was elected to the Mennonite Church Manitoba general board at the meeting this weekend. Our prayers for wisdom and joy are with you.

- From the treasurer:

Thank you again for supporting the work of the Church. You may contribute online if you bank at Access (using your 7-digit phone number as your account number) make an e-transfer to amchurchdonations@gmail.com, or send or bring a cheque to AMC (Box 1237, Altona, R0G 0B0)

WIDER COMMUNITY & MISC. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Thursday, March 25** at Altona – Rhineland Pioneer Centre, Main Floor Hall 227 10th Ave NW. Clinic time is from 2:00 – 7:00 pm. **Please call** 1-888-236-6238 to book your appointment - **NO WALK INS** please.

- **Mennonite Church Canada invites applications for the position of executive assistant**, beginning May, 2021. This position is full-time and located in Winnipeg, Man. Applicants from across Canada are invited to apply. Go to: <https://www.mennonitechurch.ca/article/11096-help-us-spread-the-word-were-hiring> for the full job description.

- Camps with Meaning Summer Staff applications are on the CW M website. Visit www.campswithmeaning.org and follow the Summer links.

- **Looking for a get-away? Camp Assiniboia has beautiful family cabins** that are available for individuals or groups who live in the same household. For rental information, please contact Linda Dueck 1-204-864-2159 ext. 2, or email: carentals@campswithmeaning.org

- **Mennonite Women Manitoba announced its new name and logo this week.** Check out their FB page, [Woven](#), to see their new logo and postings. Email woven.mcm@gmail.com to ask to be added to their Email List to receive Book Club and Conversation Circle announcements.

- **A CMU Podcast: So What? – Episode 3: Treaty** – What are treaties and why do they matter? This Podcast episode, coming out of a CMU Face2Face conversation entitled *Whose Neighbour Am I? Treaty One and Mennonite Privilegium*, features Niigaan James Sinclair and Hans Werner, reflecting on treaties signed by First Nations and Canadian Mennonite settlers. How might we live into Treaty as ongoing relationship with mutual benefit, and not a one-time exchange of land? Listen as Jonas Cornelsen (CMU alumnus living in Calgary) leads you through a fascinating and important 20-minute conversation. Visit www.cmu.ca/sowhatpodcast to listen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

- Greg Costen is recovering at home after a fall. He has a cracked vertebrae and is in a neck brace. Pray for healing and patience.

- Jim & Marlene Dyck are settling in at Katherina Courts where they will be until their house is repaired. They are grateful for the prayers, emails and phone calls they have received. They are doing well.

- Pray for Pastor Dan as he resumes full time pastoral duties.

- Pray for Ken & Marianne Braun and Mike Tarnick who are at Eastview.

- Ken Hamm is back at the Health Science Center (since Feb 21) in Winnipeg. Pray for return of strength and peace.

- Pray for all those for whom mental health makes daily life a struggle. The current situation increases anxiety for many.

- Pray for those who experience physical pain, and for friends and family who help with their care.

- Many of our church family have other people they are concerned about. Pray for healing, strength and calm for all.

Prayer for Our Community

- Pray for ALL the teachers, students and staff as they navigate all the regulations and requirements.

- Pray also for the Health Care Providers.

- Pray for Doug Klassen (MCCanada's Executive Minister) and for church leaders at all levels of our conference.

- Michael Pahl is the new MCManitoba's Executive Minister.

Prayer for the World

- The MCCanada Palestine-Israel Network requests prayers that the elections scheduled for March 23 be fair and free for all citizens of the state of Israel (i.e., not including the occupied Palestinian territories), both for Jewish Israelis and for the Palestinian minority. We ask that God will guide the elections so that justice, equality and peace may come to the land.

- Pray for the Maliwan Mennonite Church in Khon Kaen, Thailand, and for Christine and Tom Poovong as they give leadership to this congregation. Pray that believers who have come to faith in the last couple of months grow to become a strong support for this group and a blessing to their communities.

- Praise God for the 12 farming families that began the six-month training by the Inclusive Development Consulting Team of PeaceBuilders Community and Coffee for Peace. Pray for Joji and Dann Pantoja and their colleagues as they plan and train.

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